

YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

Yupit Piciyarait Cultural Center, Bethel
November 6-8, 2019

Invocation:

Mary Matthias of Orutsararmiut Native Council gave an invocation.

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Quorum Establishment:

The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, November 6 at 11:20 AM after inclement weather delays. Council members James Charles, William (Charlie) Brown, John Andrew, Carl Maxie, Phillip Peter, Richard Slats, James Landlord, and Alissa Nadine Rogers were present in person. Raymond Oney participated by teleconference. Robert Aloysius was not present and was excused. With nine out of ten seated Council members present (Council has three vacant seats) quorum was established on the morning of November 7 after delayed flights arrived.

Attendees:

In person:

Yupik Translation, Bethel: Pat Samson, Sophie Evan
Office of Subsistence Management, Anchorage:
Eva Patton, Tom Kron, Suzanne Worker, Frank
Harris, Robbin La Vine
Orutsararmiut Native Council, Bethel: Mary
Mathias, Janessa Esquible, George Guest, Pat
Samson, Robert Lekander
Bethel Regional High School, Bethel: Anson
Jimmie, Sean Lupie, Sarah Lupie
Kuskokwim River Intertribal Fish Commission:
Mary Peltola (Bethel), Robert Lekander
(Bethel), Charlene Erik (Cherfornak)
Association of Village Council Presidents,
Bethel: John Orr, Paige Jones
Inuit Circumpolar Council, Bethel: Ben Charles
Bethel: Alice Olsen
KYUK News, Bethel: Anna Rose McArthur
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Yukon Delta
National Wildlife Refuge, Bethel: Ray Born,

Chris Tulik, Aaron Moses, Gary DeCossas,
Aaron Webber, Matt McDonald
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Bethel:
Patrick Jones
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Bruce Butler
(Anchorage), Vince Mathews (Fairbanks),
Gerald Maschmann (Fairbanks)
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Anchorage: Glenn
Chen
Bureau of Land Management, Anchorage:
Bonnie Million, Walter Gusse

Via teleconference:

Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Palmer:
Mark Burch, Rick Merizon; *Anchorage:* Deena
Jaalen, Nicholas Smith; *Fairbanks:* Jeff
Estensen, David Runfola
Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association,
Homer: Wayne Jenkins
Western Alaska Conservation Cooperative,
Anchorage: Danielle Stickman

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Kenai Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office, Kenai: Jeff Anderson
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, Dillingham: Andy Aderman
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Migratory Birds, Anchorage: Rob Kaler

Kasigluk Traditional Council, Kasigluk: Sam Dietrick
Intertribal Fish Commission, Aniak: Gerald Kameroff
St. Mary's: Bill Alstrom

Review and Adopt Agenda:

Motion #1 by Mr. Andrew, seconded by Mr. Slats, to adopt the agenda with the changes to present agency reports as information updates at the beginning of the meeting prior to quorum being established. Motion #1 passed unanimously.

Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes:

Motion #2 by Mr. Landlord, seconded by Mr. Charles, to approve the winter 2019 meeting minutes with the following modifications: name-spelling corrections for Janessa (page 6) and for Catherine (pages 18-19), and a request to spell out all acronyms throughout the future minutes. Motion #2 passed unanimously.

Council Member and Chair Reports:

Richard Slats of Chevak reported hunting geese in the middle of October, while normally they are hunted in August or September. Mr. Slats stressed that all of the changes: the early spring, late fall, warmer winter temperatures causing freezing rain, lack of winter snow cover, and thin ice cause treacherous travel conditions. Traditionally, Chevak residents would dipnet for tomcods on the sloughs but have not been able to do that for at least five years due to thin ice. The winter shore sea ice near Chevak does not freeze solid anymore. It moves out and high windstorms cause waves to batter the coast like never before. Mr. Slats is very concerned about all the dead fish being reported by fishers in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Region. He reported seeing dead fish too, and the slough and river waters are now warm to the touch. Mr. Slats is also very concerned about seabirds dying and observed flocks of sick common murrelets that behave oddly and do not fly off when approached. Mr. Slats expressed great concern about the future of their subsistence way of life and culture, if the fish and animals they depend on start dying off. Elders said that these times are some of the toughest they have experienced in their life. It can be considered a state of emergency for their homeland. Mr. Slats worries that hunger is coming and management needs to keep the subsistence users in mind because of the current changes in the environment.

William (Charlie) Brown of Eek is thankful to be in good health to be able to attend the meeting before he retires from the Council. Mr. Brown reported that fishing season this summer went well; his family caught enough of fish and were able to fish in June when the weather was good for drying fish. People were thankful for the opportunity to fish when the openings coincided with good weather and low humidity for drying the fish well. He felt the management went smoothly and most communities were satisfied with their salmon catch. Mr. Brown stressed that everyone working together as good partners, especially the State, Federal, and Tribal agencies, is a good model to ensure people catch the fish they need and encouraged everyone to keep working together cooperatively for salmon conservation. He stressed that salmon are a

main food and essential to our communities. Mr. Brown reported observations, including his own, of salmon die-off on the Kuskokwim River and Bay this year. He would like biologists to research the cause for this unprecedented mortality. He is very concerned about murre and other sea bird die-offs and wonders if this is related to hot weather and warm waters. He does not recall climate change ever directly affecting their ability to gather food. Mr. Brown recalled the Elders teachings to take care of the river and environment. He is worried about all organisms that depend on water being affected by the climate changes, and not just the fish. Mr. Brown is concerned that children and future generations will not have these subsistence foods available to them. He is happy that the moose moratorium worked and now there are moose available to hunt again, and he is glad to see photos of youth in the local newspaper harvesting their first moose.

James Charles of Tuntutuliak reported that winter rain and ice storms are causing problems for travelling to subsistence areas and meetings. Mr. Charles is also very concerned about the fish die-off. Red salmon are more abundant now than when he was a kid; even from a distance you can tell them by the color of their flesh hanging on drying racks. He wonders about the effect of hot temperatures on fish, noting that King and Chum salmon swim deeper in the river but Red salmon like to jump near the surface or out of the water. He hopes that everyone upriver and downriver gets the salmon they need for their families. Mr. Charles wants to ensure the resource is shared with everybody.

John Andrew of Kwethluk, who was named after his paternal grandfather's Yupik name, has been a hunter and trapper ever since he was a boy and people have always called him Trapper John. Mr. Andrew is grateful for everyone who came to the meeting, especially for the Elders. Mr. Andrew is thankful for the Chairwomen Alissa Rogers, whose grandfather is the late John Hanson, a longtime Council member and respected Elder. Mr. Andrew highlighted that Mr. Charles and Mr. Brown, longtime Council members, plan to retire and celebrate their many years of serving together. Mr. Andrew is very concerned about warm temperatures and fish die-off. When he boated from Kwethluk to Bethel throughout July in 80-90° temperatures, he saw dead fish floating down the river – mostly Reds and some Chinook. He also saw a lot of dead Red Salmon and some Chinook floating dead or dying 15 miles up Kwethluk River. The water temperature in the river was well above 70°. Water levels were also very low through the end of summer, and he observed fish not being able to get through beaver dams, and dead Humpback and Broad whitefish where the water was too low and warm. Chums, Reds, and Coho runs were late. He started catching Coho Salmon at the end of August and in September when the rains came. Low water also prevented people from getting to their usual moose hunting grounds, ruining their boat props, and moose were not moving in the warmer temperatures. Warm temperatures and low water are affecting subsistence by having negative impacts on fish and wildlife, as well as economic impacts resulting from additional time and resources needed to be successful.

James Landlord of Mountain Village reported that the temperature rose to over 80° around Mountain Village this year, which is about 10° above the hottest record. This year the water in the Yukon River was warm to the touch and dead salmon, pike, and Sheefish were floating down river. Mr. Landlord said that climate change is being experienced everywhere along the Yukon River and Y-K Delta Region. He serves on the Yukon River Intertribal Watershed Council, which includes 77 Tribes from Canada to the Yukon Delta in Alaska, and climate change

effects has been a topic of discussion. His Tribe is working on a long-term plan to address the impacts of climate change on Mountain Village after seeing what coastal communities are currently experiencing.

Carl Maxie of Napaskiak reported that overall this has been a good year for subsistence with moose in the area and a good fishing season. Most people seem to be satisfied with their subsistence fishing and its schedules, and he has seen many smiling faces. Mr. Maxie is concerned about dying fish and sick seals and walrus. He suggests that government agencies conduct an environmental study to determine what the cause is in order to prevent any further harm to the environment and important subsistence resources in the future. Mr. Maxie reported seeing changes in the environment where he hunts and fishes. The area where he usually fishes for whitefish is now mostly full of pike, and perhaps pike are taking over other fish species in the area.

Phillip Peter of Akiachak thanked the Federal Subsistence Board and staff, Kuskokwim River Intertribal Fish Commission, the Kuskokwim Salmon Management Working Group, and the State of Alaska staff. He expressed the challenges of working with two governments: State and Federal. The sovereign tribes have the right to negotiate with both governments, since they have been here from time immemorial. All the people in Kuskokwim River communities are alive because of salmon. At one time when there were no regulations or closures, subsistence fishers knew their limits, controlled their catch, and looked to Elders for advice. Mr. Peter is concerned that in communities where he used to see 50 active fish camps, he now sees only 10 or 15 fish camps because people are afraid of breaking regulations or their gear being confiscated so they don't fish at all. There used to be many muskrat and fox around communities and now there are hardly any and few people hunt them. Mr. Peter heard good news this year from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that the Chinook escapement was good so, hopefully, people can continue to fish for the rest of their lives.

Raymond Oney of Alakanuk thanked Mr. Charles and Mr. Brown for their long service on the Council advocating for subsistence and the Y-K Delta people and wished them well in their retirement. Mr. Charles and Mr. Brown passed to new generations their lifetime of Yup'ik knowledge of hunting on the land, working at fishcamp, subsisting throughout the four seasons, and learning from their Elders. Mr. Oney also grew up this way spending a whole summer out at camp and only coming back to the village for basic supplies. He said there is a resourcefulness and humbleness in this traditional way. Mr. Oney reported another early breakup on the Yukon River, which seems earlier every year. He has seen changes in the weather in the last ten years, and the ice starts to melt in place rather than a main breakup that pushes the ice out. The water is warmer, and this past summer he saw the fish die-off. He is concerned about the effects of no Bering Sea ice this past summer on fish and the seals. Mr. Oney feels people need to be observant of these changes in the environment and keep in their hearts the way that they grew up utilizing resources through the seasons. There are many moose along the Yukon River and the population is expanding to areas they never used to be 20 years ago. The presence of moose is bringing in bears and wolves around his community, which is a safety concern.

Alissa Nadine Rogers of Bethel reported that this was a good summer. Everything came in on time and there were lots of birds, mosquitos, and gnats in the springtime. Sheefish came in great this year and so

did smelt, although smelt had worms in them that she had never seen before. There were lots of beavers and muskrats this spring too. Ms. Rogers reported that the summer was good until the heatwave hit and then everything went wonky. She recalled many wasps this summer, which she had never seen before. Salmon came in good, but some of the fish had a strange decaying smell and tasted odd. The water was so warm this year that fish had to be put on ice immediately after catching them to keep them from spoiling. Reports of all the dead fish floating down the river due to the warm water temperatures are very concerning. Her family still met their subsistence salmon needs this year.

Ms. Rogers reported that things were a little late in the fall, but there were many ducks and even snow geese near her yard. Coho came in good but the humidity made it very difficult to keep them from spoiling. Even after drying fish in the garage with fans the first batch became dogfood. She was grateful the weather cleared a bit to dry a second batch of Coho outside and get it in to the smokehouse before it rained again.

Public Comment on non-agenda items:

Pat Samson of Bethel addressed the Council about increasing safety concerns for winter travel due to warmer winters, thin ice, increasing winter storms, and the need to establish better trail makers for snowmachine travel on traditional trails in the region.

Motion #3 by Mr. Peter, seconded by Mr. Maxie, to write a letter to the Federal Subsistence Board and Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge managers asking to allow snowmachine trail markers for safety purposes on Federal lands within the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Region. Motion #3 passed on a unanimous vote. The Council provided justification for the importance of snowmachine trail markers to increase the safety of winter travel on existing trails for subsistence activities between villages and reduce the possibility of death or injury from people becoming lost or breaking through thin ice from hazardous conditions caused by warmer winter weather. Trail markers would also assist search and rescue operations across the region dominated by Federal lands.

New Business:

Wildlife Proposals:

Regional Proposals:

WP20-32/33: Rescind the closure, establish a season, and revise the hunt area for moose in Unit 18.

Motion # 4 by Mr. Charles, seconded by Mr. Andrew, to support WP20-32/33. The motion passed on a unanimous vote. The Council supported the opportunity to hunt moose in this area now that the population has grown enough to support a subsistence hunt. The Council believes that the proposal as presented with the plan to issue registration permits only in Quinhagak could effectively provide a Federal subsistence priority for rural residents in the hunt area.

WP20-34: Extend the trapping season for mink and weasel in Unit 18. Motion #5 by Mr. Maxie, seconded by Mr. Charles, to support WP20-34. Motion passed by unanimous vote. The Council supported this additional Federal subsistence opportunity to trap mink and weasel by extending the season until at least March 31. Trapping mink and weasel used to be much more prevalent in the region, and, since there

is currently no conservation concern, the extended season might help to encourage continuation of traditional cultural practices. Mink and weasel have been observed to be abundant around their communities. The winter season is a good time to trap and extending the season into the end of March may encourage youth to participate in trapping and get involved with fur arts and crafts through the local school in the spring. Mink and weasel are often the first animals children learn to trap and practice their subsistence skills. An extended season would provide additional opportunity to continue a traditional way of life and help generate income through traditional skills such as making parkas.

WP20-35: Establish a winter season for moose in a portion of Unit 18. Motion #6 by Mr. Oney, seconded by Mr. Charles to support WP20-35. The motion failed on a unanimous vote. The Council discussed the current moose population and management in Kuskokwim River zones 1 and 2 and opposed opening a winter hunt at this time due to conservation concerns. The Council submitted this proposal; however, the current biological data indicated it would be too soon after the Kuskokwim moose hunt moratorium to open up an additional season. The Council believes the moose population should have an opportunity to recover fully in order to sustain the subsistence hunt into the future. Hunt pressure in Zone 1 could dramatically increase in the winter since travel by snowmachine would greatly increase access to area. Also, since the bulls typically drop antlers by mid-December, the Council felt a winter hunt would risk accidental harvest of cow moose, further jeopardizing the recovery of moose in the area. Icy winter conditions and thin ice on rivers and lakes with warmer winter temperatures in recent years can create hazardous conditions for moose if pursued. Overall, the Council expressed it would be best to avoid undue stress on the moose in this area until the population recovers sufficiently to sustain additional harvest.

Crossover Proposals:

WP20-27 to allow use of snowmachines to assist in the take of caribou in Unit 17. Motion #7 by Mr. Oney, seconded by Mr. Peter, to support WP20-27. The motion failed on a 1 to 8 vote. The Council opposed proposal WP20-27 due to overriding concerns about the recent dramatic decline of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. The traditional way to hunt is to approach the caribou very slowly and carefully in order to take a clean shot without stressing the animals. However, in recent years there have been reports of younger hunters moving fast, causing the herd to run, and causing serious stress to the caribou in the process. The Council would be willing to revisit this proposal in support of the Bristol Bay region in the future when the caribou population recovers. However, at this time the overriding concern is to support the Mulchatna caribou recovery and avoid any further harm to the herd that could be caused by stress from being pursued by snowmachines.

WP20-28/29: Extend the bull season and establish an antlerless season for moose in Unit 17A. Motion #8 by Mr. Peter, seconded by Mr. Charles, to support WP20-28/29. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. The Council fully supported this additional subsistence moose hunt opportunity in Unit 17A. The data showed that the moose population in the area is healthy and can sustain additional harvest. It also reduces regulatory complexity by aligning State and Federal regulations for moose in Unit 17A.

WP20-26: Allow use of snowmachines for positioning wolf and wolverine in Units 9B, 9C, 17B, and 17C. Motion # 9 by Mr. Oney, seconded by Mr. Peter, to support WP20-26. The motion passed on an 8 to 1 vote. The Council supported this proposal because it would increase the opportunity for subsistence hunters to harvest a wolf or wolverine. With the decline of Mulchatna caribou, any increased subsistence harvest from the wolf and wolverine population in the area may help to reduce predation pressure on the caribou herd. Snowmachines are a means of transportation for hunters and fishers. This proposal would allow additional opportunity to harvest wolf or wolverine for furs when encountering them during winter travel.

Statewide Proposals:

WP20-08 to require traps and snares to be marked with a name or State identification number for all furbearers in all units. Motion #10 by Mr. Oney, seconded by Mr. Charles, to support WP20-08. The motion failed on a unanimous vote. The Council opposed marking of all traps and snares because it would cause unnecessary burden to subsistence hunters and trappers. The Council relayed challenges of finding a way to label hundreds of traps and snares and the cost to subsistence hunters. Marking traps and snares is unnecessary because traditionally hunters maintain their own trapping boundaries and jurisdictions, which are respected locally. People know who's trapping area it is or it may be marked by a hatchet mark on a tree to identify the trapline. Some Council members relayed that over a lifetime of active trapping they had purchased thousands of traps and given them away to younger family members or shared them with others. Individual identification would hamper this open sharing of subsistence equipment.

2020 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program:

The Council discussed the 2020 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program proposed projects for funding and had two general recommendations for improvement. The Council suggested the customary trade project on the Yukon River be expanded to include representative communities from along the Yukon River so that it is not targeting just one section of the river, which has the potential to inflame upriver-downriver tensions over salmon harvest. The Council recommended that similar type projects on the Kuskokwim River coordinate their work and not duplicate effort by asking similar questions of subsistence fishers. The Council stressed that the information is very important, but people get weary of being asked the same questions over and over again by different groups. The Council discussed research priorities of interest they would like to see investigated in the next call for Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program proposals and will follow up on this at their winter 2020 meeting.

Identify Issues for FY2019 Annual Report:

- Climate change impacts to subsistence fish, wildlife, and habitat
- Climate change impacts to subsistence activities, travel, and access to resources
- Continue information updates and research to address and mitigate climate change impacts in the Y-K Delta region
- Ongoing concerns about seabird die-offs and sick seals, request for continued informational updates on marine environment integral to subsistence

- Concerns about observed song bird declines in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region
- Concerns about Donlin Mine development impacts to subsistence
- Council member travel and ample time for full participation and sharing of traditional knowledge at Council meetings
- Expanding moose population on the Yukon River and management strategies
- Subsistence management strategies to address changing subsistence resources and changing access to resources due to changing environment
- Importance of appointing Yukon River representatives for balanced representation on the Council

Alaska Board of Game Proposals:

The Council reviewed and made recommendations on the following Alaska Board of Game statewide and Unit 18 wildlife proposals:

Proposal 1: Prohibit nonresident hunting of moose or caribou under intensive management in the Western Arctic/Western Region until harvest or population objectives are met. Motion #11 to support Proposal 1 by Mr. Charles, seconded by Mr. Landlord. The motion passed on a unanimous vote. The Council supported the plan to have a moose and caribou hunt closed to non-residents in the event moose or caribou populations decline enough to warrant intensive management. This would help provide for local communities' needs until the harvest or population objectives are met.

Proposal 2: Establish intensive management programs for bear across the Western Arctic/Western Region. Motion# 12 to support Proposal 2 by Mr. Slats, seconded by Mr. Maxie. The motion passed on a 5-1 vote. The bear population is increasing across the Yukon-Kuskokwim region with many reports of bears prevalent in and around local communities causing safety concerns. Bears are increasingly getting into fish camps and eating subsistence fish that takes so long to preserve.

Proposal 6: Add muskox to the list of species that can be taken under a cultural education permit for Unit 18. Motion #13 to support Proposal 6 with modification to include both Nunivak and Nelson Island schools by Mr. Charles, seconded by Mr. Maxie. The motion as amended passed unanimously. The Council supported this cultural education opportunity for youth to be able to harvest muskox and learn traditional skills associated with the hunt and preparation of meat and hides. The Council believes that this should also be open to Nelson Island and Nunivak Island since they traditionally hunt muskox.

Proposal 7: Change the opening date for the registration moose hunt, RM615 in Unit 18 from September 1 to September 5. Motion #14 to support Proposal 7 by Mr. Oney, seconded by Mr. Maxie. The motion passed on a unanimous vote. The Council supported pushing back the start of the moose season in the zone 1 Kuskokwim moose hunt so that the start of the hunt begins under better weather condition later in the season when it is not so hot and humid. The hunt would only be open until the harvest quota is met so there would not be a conservation concern, only a more effective hunt for subsistence hunters when weather is cooler and better for meat preservation and the moose are more active. The Council suggested that if the later opening date is adopted that outreach would be very important to ensure everyone is aware that the moose hunt will not be opening on September 1, as most are accustomed to, so that they don't hunt out of season by mistake.

Proposal 11 and 12: Establish a minimum caliber rifle to be used to harvest moose in Unit 18 by restricting use of rifles .224 caliber and smaller and require a minimum of .243 or 6 mm caliber centerfire rifles for the harvest of moose in Unit 18. Motion #15 to support Proposals 11 and 12 by Mr. Charles, seconded by Mr. Maxie. The motion passed on a unanimous vote. The Council supported encouraging ethical moose hunting and salvage practices by mandating .243 caliber and larger, which will provide a better chance of a clean shot. The Council stressed anything smaller is not sufficient to effectively hunt large animals such as moose.

Proposal 13: Prohibit the sale of antlers from moose harvested in Unit 18. Motion #16 to support Proposal 13 by Mr. Charles, seconded by Mr. Oney. The motion passed on a unanimous vote. The Council supported this proposal due to increasing concerns over wanton waste and harassment of moose in order to obtain antlers for sale. The Council felt a regulation would help to start monitoring antlers shipped out of the region and ensure that moose are not killed just for their antlers while the meat goes to waste. Some communities have reported antlers stolen from properties now that the value is so high.

Proposal 15: Address customary and traditional use findings for Alaska hares in Unit 18 and modify season and bag limit for Alaska Hares from no closed season, no bag limit to 2 Alaska hares per day, 6 total and an Aug. 1 – May 31 season. Motion #17 to support Proposal 15 by Mr. Oney, seconded by Mr. Charles. The motion passed 5 to 1. The Council is supportive of some harvest limits being placed on Alaska hares (locally referred to as jackrabbits) until more is known about the hare population.

Proposal 16: Extend the hunting seasons and bag limits for brown bear in Unit 18. Motion #18 to support Proposal 16 by Mr. Charles, seconded by Mr. Maxie. Motion #19 to amend the proposal and extend the season further from Sep. 1 – Jun. 30 to Sep. 1 – Jul. 31 by Mr. Landlord, seconded by Mr. Charles. Motion #19 to amend passed on a unanimous vote. The motion # 18 to support Proposal 16 as amended passed on a unanimous vote. The Council supported extending the brown bear season into July so that bear could be hunted when they are encountered around fish camps in the summer.

Agency Reports:

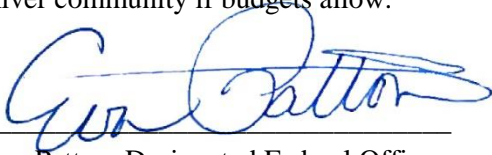
- Office of Subsistence Management 2020 Wildlife Proposals and Wildlife Closure Review presented by Suzanne Worker
- Office of Subsistence Management Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program and Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program updates presented by Frank Harris and Robbin La Vine
- Orutsarmiut Native Council updates and Partners Program updates presented by Mary Matthias and Janessa Esquible
- Native Village of Napaimute updates and Partners Program update presented by Dan Gillikin
- Association of Village Council Presidents report presented by John Orr and Paige Jones
- Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association updates and FRMP reports presented by Wayne Jenkins
- Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission updates presented by Mary Peltola, Robert Lekander, and Charlene Erik

- 2019 Yukon River Salmon Season Summary presented by Gerald Maschmann, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Deena Jaalen and Jeff Estensen, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
- 2019 Kuskokwim River Salmon Season Summary presented by Ray Born, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Nicholas Smith, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
- Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge updates presented by Ray Born and Aaron Moses
- Togiak National Wildlife Refuge updates presented by Andy Aderman
- Bureau of Land Management updates presented by Bonnie Million and Walter Gusse
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program project reports presented by David Runfola
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Wildlife updates presented by Patrick Jones and Rick Merizon
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Migratory Birds, Seabird Die-off update presented by Robb Kahler
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Native Youth Ambassador Program presented by Vince Mathews

Future Meeting Dates:

The Council reconfirmed February 11-12 for winter 2020 meeting dates to be held in Bethel.

The Council selected September 22-23 for fall 2020 meeting dates with a request to meet in a Yukon River community if budgets allow.



Eva Patton, Designated Federal Officer
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence Management



Alissa Nadine Rogers, Chair
Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

These minutes will be formally considered by the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council at its winter 2020 meeting in Bethel, and any corrections or notations will be incorporated in the minutes at that meeting.

A more detailed report of this meeting, copies of the transcript and meeting handouts are available upon request. Call Eva Patton at 1-800-478-1456 or 907-786-3358, email eva_patton@fws.gov.