

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Subsistence Division

Review of Arctic Area Subsistence Division Projects

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Presentation to the Northwest Arctic RAC

March 6-7, 2022



Arctic Beaver Observation Network

- **Funding Agency:** National Science Foundation (NSF)
 - RSA with University of Alaska Fairbanks
- **Purpose:** Document indigenous knowledge of beaver ecology and impacts of beaver presence on fish, subsistence access, and Arctic communities
- **Focus area:** Shungnak, Kotzebue and Noatak
- **Methods:**
 - Ethnographic interviews with mapping component
 - Participant observation
- **Project timeline:**
 - Project Start 10/2021, project end 09/2026
 - Interviews conducted annually (2022-2025)
 - Data management plans developed with all 3 communities,
- **Future work:**
 - Planning for ethnographic interviews and participant observation underway.





Western Arctic Caribou Herd Harvest Assessment

- **Funding Agency:** Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
 - Research partnership among 8 study communities, ADF&G Subsistence, ADF&G Department of Wildlife Conservation
- **Purpose:** conduct household large mammal harvest surveys in 8 communities within the range of the Western Arctic caribou herd
- **Focus area:** Communities of Golovin, White Mountain, Shishmaref, **Selawik, Shungnak, Noatak, Deering and Kobuk**
- **Methods:**
 - Household surveys, ethnographic interviews with mapping, and participant observation
- **Project timeline:**
 - Project Start 03/2019, project end 06/2024
 - 4 years of surveys - each community is surveyed twice, once every 2 years
 - Spring 2022 visited Shungnak, White Mountain, Selawik and Golovin
- **Future work:**
 - Visit Deering, Kobuk, Noatak and Shishmaref spring 2023 for second round of surveys/final year of data collection





Kiana Community Subsistence Harvest Assessment

- **Funding Agency:** National Park Service (NPS)
- **Purpose:** update baseline data on the customary and traditional uses of fish and wildlife by residents of Kiana
- **Focus area:** Kiana
- **Methods:**
 - Household Surveys
 - Ethnographic interviews with mapping component
 - Participant observation
- **Project timeline:**
 - Project Start 06/2020, project end 09/2023
 - 1 year of surveys focusing on harvests of all subsistence resources
 - Household surveys and interviews conducted in person March/April 2022
- **Future work:**
 - Additional interviews spring 2023

