

Federal Subsistence Board July  
2017 Work Session  
Supplemental Materials

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Hunter Ethics  
Education for the  
Eastern Interior  
Region

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# Hunter Ethics Education for the Eastern Interior Region *A Proposal*



# Topic

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Development of an education & outreach strategy for a pilot program with the goals to:

- Reduce user conflict between user groups;
- Promote understanding & tolerance for different cultural hunting values;
- Encourage respect in the field.



## Issue

Understanding & tolerance for different cultural hunting values as means to reduce waste & work towards better hunter ethics in the field

Eastern Interior Council (Council) outlined several major ongoing problems in the region:

- Waste, accidental or deliberate, of edible meat, organs & bones valued by local communities;
- Lack of knowledge on how to take care of meat in Western and/or traditional practice;
- Lack of respect for the values of local people;
- Insufficient knowledge about possibilities of sharing harvested animal parts with local communities:
  - What parts can be shared;
  - How to properly harvest them;
  - Whom to contact locally to share;
- Land ownership awareness;

# Background

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## 2009 - 2010

In 2009 the Council became increasingly concerned regarding user conflicts & wanton waste, & voiced a need for hunter ethics education.

- **2009 annual report & reply** – Impacts of non-rural users issue, *Supplemental 1*.
- **Fall 2010 meeting** – in a letter to OSM, the Council outlined a need for an educational program designed to provide cultural sensitivity education to non-rural users, *Supplemental 2*.
- **2010 annual report & reply** – Impacts of non-rural users issue comes up again, *Supplemental 3*.





# Background

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2011 - 2012

- **Winter 2011 meeting** – OSM outreach specialist began working with the Council on identifying issues & developing goals & messages.
- **Fall 2011 meeting** – the issue was discussed again after a testimony of the Yukon Air Service owner.



# Background

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## 2013 - 2014

- **Fall 2013 meeting** – the Council stressed that the issue is of great importance to them & wanted the USFWS & State of Alaska to collaborate on it.
- **2013 Council’s annual report & reply** – Hunter ethics & educational outreach topic was included in the report, *Supplemental 4*.
- **Fall 2014 meeting** – the Council passed a motion to write a letter to OSM, ADF&G, Big Game Commercial Service Board, & local Native tribal organizations to begin a process of forming a group to work on the issue.

# Background

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## 2015-2016

The Council:

- emphasized their diverse membership
- suggested to move forward in a positive way to improve understanding between local subsistence, & sport/commercial users.

- **Winter 2015 meeting** – the issue discussed at a joint meeting with Western Interior RAC;
- **2015 annual report & reply** – Hunter ethics & education topic is included again, *Supplemental 5*.
- **Winter 2016 All Council meeting** – break out session “Outreach Challenges” took place.
- **Fall 2016 meeting & 2016 annual report** – “Understanding & tolerance for different cultural hunting values,” *Supplemental 6*.

# Background

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## Winter 2017 meeting

- A lengthy discussion of hunter ethics & education issue occurred during the meeting.
- It was suggested to write an invitation letter to the State of Alaska to work on developing a hunter ethics education program on culturally sensitive aspects of resources' use to be provided to all user groups, federally qualified & non qualified.
- A work group comprised of OSM, State, & Council representatives convened for a break out session during lunch.
- The Council voted to adopt hunter ethics education as a regular agenda item for future Council's meetings.

## FSB Directive

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From the Board  
response to the  
Eastern Interior  
2015 annual report  
(*Supplement 5*):

“The Board fully  
supports this effort  
and looks forward to a  
successful program.”



# Hunter Education in Alaska

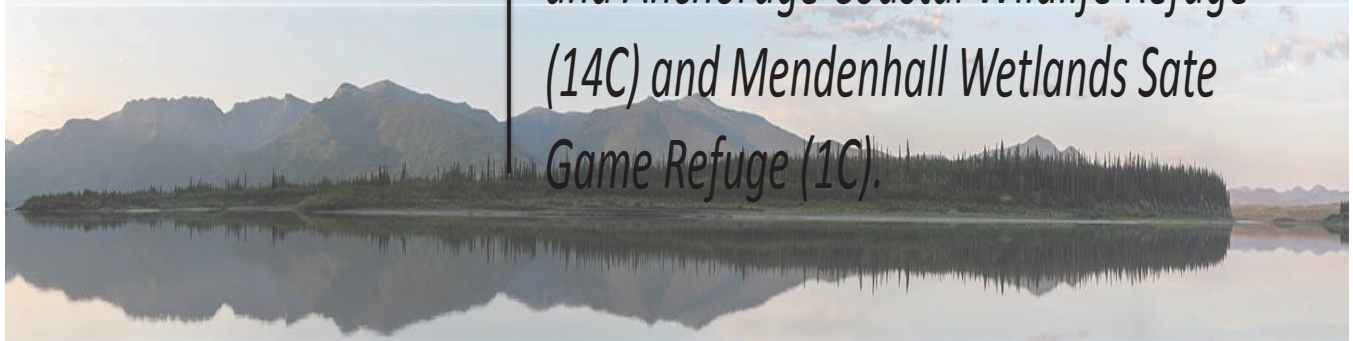
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Currently ADF&G offers four types of certification courses:

- Basic Hunter Education;
- Bowhunter Education;
- Crossbow Education;
- Muzzleloader Education.

State requirement: *If you were born after January 1, 1986 and are 16 years old or older, you must have successfully complete a Basic Hunter Education course before you hunt in the Units 7, 13, 14, 15, & 20.*

*All hunters must successfully complete a Basic Hunter Education course before hunting in Eagle River, Eklutna Lake, and Palmer/Wasilla Management Areas (14C), and Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge (14C) and Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge (1C).*



# Hunter Education in Alaska

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Hunter Ethics  
Education included  
in State's study  
materials

**Study Guide for State's Hunter Education  
Certificate includes Unit 6: *Be a  
Responsible and Ethical Hunter***

- Topic 1: Why Do We Have Hunting Laws?
- Topic 2: Hunter Ethics
- Topic 3: Alaska's Native Peoples and Their Hunting Culture

However, the information provided in this study Unit is very brief and limited.



# Timeline

	Activity	Period of implementation
<b>Stage 1</b>	Forming	
	Form a brainstorming group of collaborators & conduct an initial scoping meeting	Present to November 2017
<b>Stage 2</b>	Planning	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scope &amp; developing key points</li> </ul>	Nov 2017 to Feb 2018
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine appropriate methods for target audiences</li> </ul>	Nov 2017 to Feb 2018
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop outreach strategy and milestones</li> </ul>	Feb to Nov 2018
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek collaboration and/or input from potential partners</li> </ul>	Feb to Nov 2018
<b>Stage 3</b>	Performing	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop pilot program</li> </ul>	Nov 2018 to Feb 2019
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Test pilot program &amp; report</li> </ul>	Feb to Nov 2019



# Plan of action

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## Stage 1: Forming

*Present to Nov 2017*

Form a brainstorming group of collaborators lead by a facilitator & conduct an initial scoping meeting

- Form a working group representing:
  - OSM;
  - USFWS
    - Refuges;
    - Law enforcement;
    - Educators;
    - Refuge Information Technicians;
  - BLM;
  - NPS;
  - ADF&G, State of Alaska;
  - Eastern Interior RAC, two reps;



# Plan of action

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## Stage 2: Planning

*Nov 2017 – Feb 2018*

- Identify target audiences – user groups;
- Scoping – collect facts & perspective from each user group & solicit their input:
  - Develop a needs analyses survey & interview members of target groups;
  - Analyze survey & have discussion with user groups at Council’s meeting ;
- Develop 2-3 consistent key points;
- Determine appropriate methods to reach target audiences
- Develop draft outreach strategy and identify milestones;

# Plan of action

## Stage 2: Planning

*Feb to Nov 2018*

Seek collaboration or input from potential partners on draft outreach strategy (to get a buy-in) & finalize it

### Potential partners or stakeholders:

- Tanana Chiefs Conference
- Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments
- Denakkanaaga, Inc.
- Doyon, Limited
- Ahtna, Inc.
- State Local Advisory Committees
- Alaska Board of Game Representative(s)
- US Military
- Subsistence Resource Committees (NPS)
- Commercial guides
- Sports hunters
- Subsistence hunters (under both State & Federal regulations)
- Safari Club Alaska Chapter
- Fish & Wildlife Safeguard
- University of Alaska
- Resident Hunters of Alaska
- Transporters
- Alaska Outdoor Council



# Plan of action

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## Stage 3: Performing

*Nov 2018 to Feb 2019*

- OSM staff works with individual group members to develop content for a pilot program:
  - Potential programs:
    - Work with US Military Installations & their hunter orientation program in Fairbanks area;
    - Develop educational materials to be included with Federal & State regulations (for example: a CD with information resources, web based materials);

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*Feb to Nov 2019*

- A pilot program is tested out;
- Evaluation: Indicators of change such as complaints or positive feedback from user groups, observed behavioral changes, harvest waste reports & sharing are monitored, enforcement action statistics.



# Resources

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## Staff time

- OSM
- USFWS
- BLM
- NPS
- State of Alaska
- Volunteer Council members



# Resources

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## Potential production funding

- USFWS funding the Alaska Region Connecting People with Nature (CPWN):
  - Internal grant competition with end of year money with focus on:
    - Prepare or engage people of any age in outdoor recreation (e.g. hunting, fishing, fish/wildlife viewing, photography, interpretation);
    - Provide learning opportunities for people of any age
  - This year's theme (2017) is *Breaking New Ground with State and Tribal Partnerships*.
  - OSM already submitted a proposal *Building Partnerships through Understanding and Trust: Bridging the Cultural Gap by Promoting Responsible and Ethical Hunting Practices in Alaska* to CPWN for funding.



# Resources

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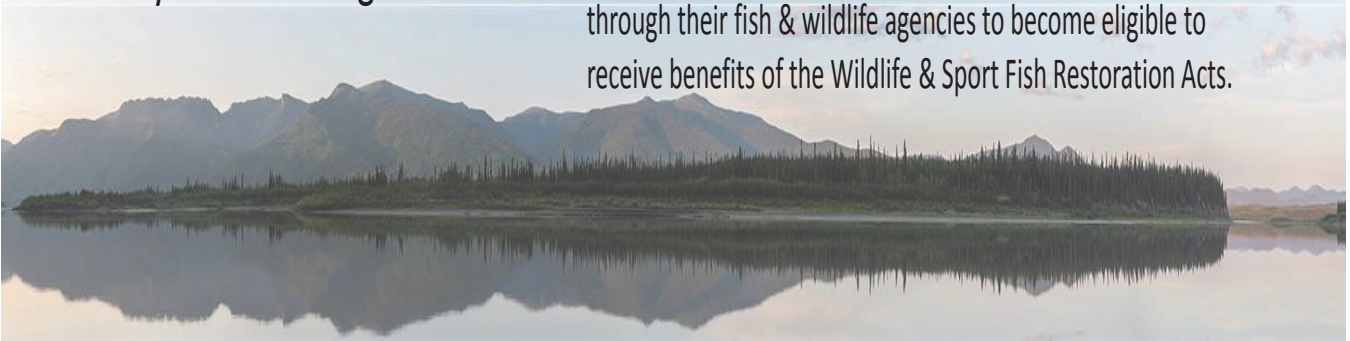
## Potential production funding

- Possible outside funding sources:
  - Wildlife Restoration Fund (Pittman-Robertson Act, USFWS Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration Program):
    - Eligible grantees:
      - all state/territory fish & wildlife agencies with assent legislation\*;
    - Eligible projects:
      - Basic hunter education to teach the skills, knowledge, & attitudes to become a responsible hunter.
      - Enhanced Hunter Education.
  - Cabela's Outdoor Fund (\$10,000,000):
    - The Fund supports education – teaching the next generation of hunters, anglers, campers, & recreational shooters.
    - The Fund has an interest in programs that recruit, retain, & re-activate hunters.
  - Other funds TBD
- Any OSM funding – ??

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### \*Assent Legislation –

Legislation that must be passed & maintained by States acting through their fish & wildlife agencies to become eligible to receive benefits of the Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration Acts.



# Resources

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## Existing resources:

Utilize and/or adapt for Eastern Interior Region's needs materials that have already been developed

- Hunter education aids created by the State
  - Handouts
  - Videos
  - Field-to-Freezer Meat Care
- Outreach programs and materials created for other regions
  - For example, adapt material developed by GMU 23 Working Group (Hunter orientation, Pilot orientation, Information about donating meat, etc.)





# Questions? Suggestions?



**Supplemental materials**  
for  
**Hunter Ethics Education for Eastern Interior Region**  
**A Proposal Presentation to**  
**the Federal Subsistence Board**

## Supplemental 1

**Excerpt from 2009 EIRAC Annual Report Reply  
(FWS/OSM 10068/AW)**

*Dated July 22, 2010*

**Issue 2: Impacts of Non-rural Users**

*Rural residents are impacted by non-rural user groups in a number of ways and the Council would like those impacts adequately identified and evaluated. For example, some users may lack the knowledge to properly care for wild resources once they are taken. These practices often offend rural users when they observe meat in poor condition or wasted due to the lack of experience in processing the resource. The Council recommends that the Board develop educational materials and a method of outreach to deliver those materials to rural and non-rural hunters. The curriculum could include caring for the harvest in the field and methods of harvest.*

**Response**

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has developed materials addressing proper meat care, caring for harvest in the field, and related issues. These are available to the public through the 2010 hunting regulations "handy dandy" book (page 22), and also through the ADF&G website. In addition, two videos, "Field Care of Big Game" and "Is this Moose Legal?", are available and are required viewing for some nonsubsistence hunts. These videos are on the following website: <http://www.wildlife.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=pubs.video>. There also is information on "Field-to-Freezer Meat Care" on the State's website: <http://www.wildlife.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=hunting.meatcare>.

The Board suggests adding your concern regarding the impacts of nonsubsistence users on subsistence users as an agenda item for further discussion at the Council's 2010 Fall meeting. Additional discussion would help to elucidate what areas the Council is concerned about and what kind of educational materials the Council is interested in. Staff is available to provide information to the Council and to assist with developing recommendations to the Board.



Eastern Interior Alaska  
Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1011 E. Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
Susan Entsminger, Chair

October 14, 2010

Mr. Pete Probasco  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Office of Subsistence Management  
1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199

Dear Mr. Probasco

The Eastern Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council has identified a need for an educational program designed to provide cultural sensitivity education to nonrural users when they are traveling, hunting and fishing in rural areas. The Council reviewed the 2009 Annual Report reply from the Board during the October 13 and 14 Council meeting in Fairbanks and wishes to continue the dialog with the Board and the Office of Subsistence Management. This issue has the potential to negatively affect the relationships between subsistence uses and others that share our resources.

The Council appreciates the efforts by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to provide written and on-line instructions on the correct methods to process game. However, the primary issue is not necessarily a standard method of care of meat in the field. There are two closely related concepts that require attention. The first is the recognition that failure to abide by appropriate harvest practices may not only be an inefficient use of those resources but may be offensive to the cultural practices of some residents. The second is that subsistence harvest limits, seasons, harvest methods and use of those resources are often much less restrictive than rules governing recreational activities targeting some of those same resources. A lack of understanding of the reasons for those differences may result in a lack of support for the continuation of subsistence uses and unnecessarily result in antagonism toward subsistence users.

The Council requests that a member of your staff attend the winter Council meeting to become more familiar with Council concerns and assist the Council in developing a strategy for improved outreach opportunities, including the use of radio, television and print media. The Council is interested in all alternative methodologies and the cost of these programs.

Sincerely,

Sue Entsminger

## Supplemental 3

**Excerpt from 2010 EIRAC Annual Report Reply  
(FWS/OSM11083.TJ)**

*Dated September 20, 2011*

**Issue 8: Impacts of Non-rural Users**

*The Council respectfully notes that it is aware that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game provides materials related to hygienic and legal care of game meat, but maintains that the practices and actions of non-rural and non-local resource users continue to be a concern that includes, but extends beyond, inept meat salvage. The Council is working with Office of Subsistence Management staff to better articulate behaviors of concern to subsistence users and to suggest specific educational outreach mitigation strategies to recommend to the Board. The Council looks forward to the Board's consideration and support of these strategies. Contribution of resources from Board agencies may be necessary to accomplish outreach goals.*

**Response**

In response to the Council's concerns regarding the impacts of non-rural users, the Office of Subsistence Management made its outreach coordinator available to facilitate further discussion on the issue. Several particularly interested Council members met informally with the outreach coordinator to discuss cultural sensitivity concerns, outreach strategies and possible partners for outreach efforts, with summaries provided to the participants. Four issues were identified:

- 1) Non-rural users can have a negative impact on rural users' ability to meet their subsistence needs because of direct competition for resources and disturbance of resources.
- 2) Non-rural subsistence users may not understand the dependence that rural residents have on wild resources.
- 3) Non-rural users sometimes leave meat in the field or demonstrate poor meat handling practices. There is a sense that meat is wasted and that this is meat that otherwise could have been used to feed families in rural communities.
- 4) Hunters trespass on private property when hunting.

The Board encourages the Council to continue to develop outreach plans to address these issues. Once the plans are completed, Board members can consider what type of support might be provided by their respective agencies.

**Excerpt from 2013 EIRAC Annual Report Reply  
(FWS/OSM 14081.CJ)**

*Dated August 06, 2014*

**4. Hunter ethics and educational outreach to generate better understanding and reduce conflict between users.**

*The Council has heard many proposals and extensive public discussion over the years that focus on user conflicts among various resource users. The Council feels education and outreach initiatives should be developed to generate better understanding between user groups that hunt and fish common resources on Federal public lands. Proactively providing information may help avoid conflicts that stem from activity in sensitive cultural areas, Native lands, or lack of awareness of local etiquettes and values when outsiders engage in hunting and fishing near rural communities or in traditional hunting areas. The Council would like to see the Federal Subsistence Management Program and its Federal land managers make an effort to develop educational initiatives in collaboration with the State where needed for known conflict/problem areas identified through the Regional Advisory Council meetings or Tribal consultation process. Fostering understanding and respect may help greatly in co-management efforts and reduce stress experienced by some due to conflicts around hunting and fishing activities.*

*The Eastern Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council itself contains a diverse membership and may be able to assist in developing approaches to education and outreach initiatives. The Council suggests that possible solutions include providing education materials in the Federal and State fish and wildlife regulatory books and/or education flyers that can be distributed along with relevant hunting permits. Information could include maps of Native lands, local cultural information by region, and notations regarding local etiquette, such as donation of meat to local communities and elders. Contact information for more details or questions could also be provided.*

**Response:**

The Board finds your ideas outstanding. OSM has helped facilitate this type of outreach in the past. The Board will refer this to the applicable land managers to develop maps or educational flyers with the assistance of OSM and any input the Eastern Interior Council would like to provide. Similar efforts have been made in other areas of the State. In Unit 23 for instance, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, along with a variety of user groups, formed the "GMU 23 Working Group" in 2008. Their focus is on finding solutions to fall hunting user conflicts in the area. It is a 20-member group that includes representatives of local and Tribal governments, land management agencies, hunting and guiding interest groups, and both the Alaska Board of Game and the Federal Subsistence Board. They are tasked with finding solutions to hunting conflicts that will help to both preserve traditional native hunting practices and hunting opportunities, while also providing reasonable opportunities for non-local hunters to hunt in the unit. An equivalent working group could be formed in the Eastern Interior Region, with the land managers taking the lead, and with assistance from OSM and the Council. And while funding may be limited, if available at all, the Unit 23 Working Group may have materials or ideas that could assist in this effort.

Your Subsistence Council Coordinator is available to help the Council coordinate these educational efforts.

## Supplemental 5

**Excerpt from 2015 EIRAC Annual Report Reply  
(FWS/OSM 16083.CJ)**

*Dated September 14, 2016*

**5. Hunter ethics and education to reduce user conflict and promote understanding**

*The Council has heard many proposals and extensive public discussion over the years that focus on user conflicts among various resource users. The Council feels education and outreach initiatives should be developed to generate better understanding between user groups that hunt and fish common resources on Federal public lands. Proactively providing information may help avoid conflicts that stem from activity in sensitive cultural areas, Alaska Native lands, or lack of awareness of local etiquette and values when outsiders engage in hunting and fishing near rural communities or in traditional hunting areas. The Council would like to see the Federal Subsistence Management Program and its Federal land managers make an effort to develop educational initiatives in collaboration with the State where needed for known conflict/problem areas identified through the Regional Advisory Council meetings or Tribal consultation process. Fostering understanding and respect may help greatly in co-management efforts and reduce stress experienced by some due to conflicts around hunting and fishing activities.*

*The Council possesses a diverse membership and may be able to assist in developing approaches to education and outreach initiatives. The Council suggests that possible solutions include providing education materials in the Federal and State fish and wildlife regulatory books and/or education flyers that can be distributed along with relevant hunting permits. Information could include maps of Alaska Native lands, local cultural information by region, and notations regarding local etiquette, such as donation of meat to local communities and elders. Contact information for more details or questions could also be provided.*

*The Council met with the Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council during the winter 2015 meeting cycle and worked jointly to develop ideas and solutions to address these user conflict issues. The Council also discussed these potential collaborative options with Alaska Department of Fish and Game representatives at the same meeting and has been pursuing avenues that could be facilitated by Council member involvement in other resource advisory groups. The Council has also drafted a letter outlining several suggestions, which is enclosed with this report. To have an effective education and outreach program will require the collaboration and support of the Federal Subsistence Management Program. The Councils seeks feedback and confirmation from the Federal Subsistence Management Program on what type of programmatic, technical, and monetary resources the program may be able to contribute to the effort and a plan for possible next steps in order to proceed.*

**Response:**

The Board appreciates the Council's continued ideas and collaborative efforts to develop an education and outreach program that can reduce hunter conflicts in the region. Such a program could particularly help local hunters in rural areas who rely heavily on fish and wildlife resources for

subsistence. The Board recognizes that this is a critical concern not only for your Council but several other Councils, including Western Interior.

Member Andy Bassich from Eagle effectively captured and presented the Council's concerns during a facilitated Outreach Challenges session held at the All Council's Meeting in March. The ideas and suggestions from the session will provide a baseline for **the development of an OSM outreach strategy to reduce user conflicts and educate local and visiting hunters. A pilot project would be carried out in the Eastern Interior region to test the strategy.** Karen Deatherage and Katerina Wessels are OSM council coordinators who have extensive outreach and communications background. They will both be working to initiate a pilot outreach program to address the concerns of Council on this matter. **The Board fully supports this effort and looks forward to a successful program.**



## Supplemental 6

**Excerpt from 2016 EIRAC Annual Report  
(RAC EIRAC 17010.KW)**

*Dated April 04, 2017*

**1. Understanding and tolerance for different cultural hunting values as means to reduce waste and work towards better hunter ethics in the field**

*The Eastern Interior Region has several areas where ongoing user conflicts among various groups of resource users create stress and misunderstanding, resulting in waste of valuable resources. This issue is one of the major concerns for many other Councils' areas, for example Western Interior. The Council brought the user conflict issue before the Board in its 2014 and 2015 annual reports but had not seen much progress made on developing solutions it. Some discussion regarding hunters' education occurred during an Outreach Challenges break-out session held at the All Council's Meeting in March of 2016; however, none of the suggestions made during this session were implemented and no Office of Subsistence Management (OSM) outreach strategy to reduce user conflict and educate hunters has yet been developed.*

*The Council would like to advocate for the acceptance and teaching different sets of values that the hunters of different backgrounds – both rural subsistence and urban sport – have. Very often ignorance and misunderstanding of these values result in animal waste. Some of the urban hunters would like to share with subsistence users animal body parts that they do not consume but they need to be educated on how to process and store them correctly.*

*The Council encourages the Board to set up a timeline for developing the strategy and testing it out. The Council suggests that OSM creates a small working group in partnership with other agencies and the State of Alaska to address the issues of user conflict and waste of subsistence resources. The goal of this group should be to develop strategies for hunter education and outreach programs both statewide and regionally. The developed strategies should be tested out through a pilot program focused on the Eastern Interior Region. Additionally, the Council suggests that one specific group of users – the military – should be targeted for delivery of hunter ethics and meat care education programs. The military has been very receptive to public concerns and requires their personal to go through a hunter orientation course before going hunting.*

*The Council also suggests that the Board directs OSM to develop an educational publication on different cultural values of various user groups and opportunities and procedures for sharing animal body parts to reduce waste and achieve better hunting ethics in the field.*

Excerpt from 2016 EIRAC DRAFT Annual Report Reply

**DRAFT Board Response:**

[DRAFT] The Board acknowledges the Council's continuing concern regarding ongoing user conflict in the Eastern Interior Region, potentially stemming from misunderstanding each user groups' traditions, way of life, and ethical standards. The Board appreciates the Council's emphasis on moving forward in a positive way to improve understanding of and tolerance for different cultural hunting values between local Federal subsistence users, non-local subsistence users, and sport/commercial user groups and the desire to create a collaborative network that will include State and Federal agencies, tribes and Native organizations, rural community representatives, and hunting organizations. For this effort to be successful, it is very important to take into account various perspectives and consider agency mandates and authorities.

The Board is pleased to report to the Council that, in accordance with the Board's recommendation outlined in the reply to the fiscal year 2015 annual report, the Office of Subsistence Management (OSM) developed a draft plan of action that will guide the development of an outreach strategy and potential pilot project to improve understanding between users. A draft timeline was also created to help guide achievement of realistic goals for the pilot project. The plan of action was presented to the Interagency Staff Committee in May of 2017 and subsequently to the Board during its work session in July of 2017. OSM plans to continue working with State and Federal agencies and Council representatives, with the intent to form a working group of collaborators that will identify target audiences and goals for the project and develop key messages by the Council's winter 2018 meeting. The Board is aware that two Council members, Susan Entsminger and Andy Bassich, have already agreed to be Council representatives on such a group.

OSM will present the plan of action and timeline to the Council during its fall 2017 meeting to solicit further comments and ideas. After the working group is formed during the Council's fall meeting, it will work with other valuable stakeholders to solicit input and collaboration in developing a pilot project that will be presented to the Council during its winter 2018 meeting. Your Council Coordinator will lead this initiative, and OSM will commit other staff time on a as-needed basis. The Board will also request that representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management are assigned to participate in the initial working group.

The Board would like to note that due to the current Federal budget uncertainties OSM cannot commit specific funding for this initiative but will leverage OSM staff time dedicated to the pilot project to network on a collaborative path forward and actively seek alternative funding from other sources. [DRAFT]

*Delegation of Authority  
Letters*

# Delegation of Authority Letters

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FISH and WILDLIFE SERVICE  
 BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
 BUREAU of INDIAN AFFAIRS

## Federal Subsistence Board

1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121  
 Anchorage, Alaska 99503 - 6199



FOREST SERVICE

OSM 17056.JH

Wrangell District Ranger  
 Tongass National Forest  
 PO Box 51  
 Wrangell, Alaska 99929

Dear Wrangell District Ranger:

This letter delegates specific regulatory authority from the Federal Subsistence Board (Board) to the Wrangell District Ranger of the Tongass National Forest (District Ranger) to issue emergency special actions if necessary to ensure the conservation of a healthy fish population, to continue subsistence uses of fish, for the continued viability of a fish population or for public safety reasons, as stipulated in 36 CFR 242.19 and 50 CFR 100.19. This delegation only applies to Federal public waters subject to the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) Title VIII within the Wrangell Ranger District of the Tongass National Forest.

It is the intent of the Board that Federal subsistence fisheries management by Federal officials be coordinated, prior to implementation, with Regional Advisory Council (Council) representatives, the Office of Subsistence Management (OSM), and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), to the extent possible. Federal managers are expected to cooperate with managers from the State and other Federal agencies, the Council Chair, and applicable Council members to minimize disruption to resource users and existing agency programs, consistent with the need for emergency special action.

### DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

**1. Delegation:** The District Ranger is hereby delegated authority to issue emergency special actions affecting fisheries in Federal public waters as outlined under the **Scope of Delegation** below. Although a public hearing is not required for emergency special actions, if deemed necessary by you, then a public hearing on the emergency special action is recommended. Special actions are governed by regulation at 36 CFR 242.19 and 50 CFR 100.19.

Wrangell District Ranger

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**2. Authority:** This delegation of authority is established pursuant to 36 CFR 242.10(d)(6) and 50 CFR 100.10(d)(6), which state: "The Board may delegate to agency field officials the authority to set harvest and possession limits, define harvest areas, specify methods or means of harvest, specify permit requirements, and open or close specific fish or wildlife harvest seasons within frameworks established by the Board."

**3. Scope of Delegation:** The regulatory authority hereby delegated is limited to the issuance of emergency special actions as defined by 36 CFR 242.19(a) and 50 CFR 100.19(a). Such an emergency action may not exceed 60 days, and may not be extended.

This delegation permits you to open or close Federal subsistence fishing periods or areas provided under codified regulations. It also permits you to specify methods and means; to specify permit requirements; and to set harvest and possession limits for Federal subsistence fisheries.

This delegation also permits you to close and re-open Federal public waters to non-subsistence fishing, but does not permit you to specify methods and means, permit requirements, or harvest and possession limits for State-managed fisheries. This delegation may be exercised only when it is necessary to conserve healthy populations of fish or to ensure the continuation of subsistence uses.

In addition, you may open or close Federal public waters on transboundary rivers to the taking of fish for subsistence or nonsubsistence uses to comply with the terms of the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

Comment [HJA1]: New language

All other proposed changes to codified regulations, such as customary and traditional use determinations or requests for special actions greater than 60 days, shall be directed to the Board.

The Federal public waters subject to this delegated authority are those within the Wrangell Ranger District of the Tongass National Forest within the Southeastern Alaska Area. You will coordinate all local fishery decisions with all affected Federal land managers.

**4. Effective Period:** This delegation of authority is effective from the date of this letter and continues until superseded or rescinded.

**5. Guidelines for Review of Proposed Special Actions:** You will use the following guidelines to determine the appropriate course of action when reviewing proposed special actions.

- a) Does the proposed special action fall within the geographic and regulatory scope of delegation?
- b) Does the proposed action need to be implemented immediately as an emergency special action, or can the desired conservation or subsistence use goal be addressed by deferring the issue to the next regulatory cycle?

Wrangell District Ranger

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- c) Does the supporting information in the proposed special action substantiate the need for the action?
- d) Are the assertions in the proposed special action confirmed by available current biological information and/or by affected subsistence users?
- e) Is the proposed special action supported in the context of available historical information on stock status and harvests by affected users?
- f) Is the proposed special action likely to achieve the expected results?
- g) Have the perspectives of the Council Chair or alternate, OSM, and affected State and Federal managers been fully considered in the review of the proposed special action?
- h) Have the potential impacts of the proposed special action on all affected users within the drainage been considered?
- i) Can public announcement of the proposed special action be made in a timely manner to accomplish the management objective?
- j) After evaluating all information and weighing the merits of the emergency special action against other actions, including no action, is the proposed emergency special action reasonable, rational, and responsible?

**6. Guidelines for Delegation:** You will become familiar with the management history of the fisheries in the region, with the current State and Federal regulations and management plans, and be up-to-date on stock and harvest status information.

You will provide subsistence users in the region a local point of contact about Federal subsistence fishery issues and regulations and facilitate a local liaison with State managers and other user groups. For in-season management decisions and special actions, consultation is not always possible, but to the extent practicable, two-way communication will take place before decisions are implemented. You will also establish meaningful and timely opportunities for government-to-government consultation related to pre-season and post-season management actions as established in the Board's Government to Government Tribal Consultation Policy (Federal Subsistence Board Government to Government Tribal Consultation Policy 2012).

You will review emergency special action requests or situations that may require an emergency special action and all supporting information to determine (1) consistency with 36 CFR 242.19 and 50 CFR 100.19, (2) if the request/situation falls within the scope of your delegated authority, (3) if significant conservation problems or subsistence harvest concerns are indicated, and (4) what the consequences of taking an action may be on potentially affected subsistence uses and nonsubsistence uses. Requests not within your delegated authority will be forwarded to the Board for consideration.

Wrangell District Ranger

4

You will maintain a record of all special action requests and rationale of your decisions. A copy of this record will be provided to the Administrative Records Specialist at OSM no later than sixty days after development of the document. You will fully consider the perspectives of the Council Chair or alternate, OSM, and ADF&G during the review of the proposed emergency special action.

You will immediately notify the Board through the Assistant Regional Director for the OSM, and coordinate with the Chair or alternate of the affected Council, local ADF&G managers, and other affected Federal conservation unit managers concerning emergency special actions being considered.

If the timing of a regularly scheduled meeting of the affected Council permits without incurring undue delay, you may seek Council recommendation on the proposed emergency special action.

You will issue decisions in a timely manner. Before the effective date of any decision, reasonable efforts will be made to notify Council representatives, the public, OSM, affected State and Federal managers, and law enforcement personnel. If an action is to supersede a State action not yet in effect, the decision will be communicated to Council representatives, the public, OSM, and State and Federal managers at least 24 hours before the State action would be effective. If a decision to take no action is made, you will notify the proponent immediately.

You may defer an emergency special action request, otherwise covered by the delegation of authority, to the Board in instances when the proposed management action will have a significant impact on a large number of Federal subsistence users or is particularly controversial. These options should be exercised judiciously and only when sufficient time allows. Such deferrals should not be considered when immediate management actions are necessary for conservation purposes. The Board may determine that an emergency special action request may best be handled by the Board, subsequently rescinding the delegated authority for the specific action only.

**7. Reporting:** You must provide to the Board, through the Assistant Regional Director for the OSM, a report describing the pre-season coordination efforts, local fisheries management decisions, and post-season evaluation activities for the previous fishing season by November 15. A summary of emergency special action requests and your resultant actions must be provided to the coordinator of the appropriate Councils at the end of the calendar year for presentation during regularly scheduled Council meetings.

**8. Support Services:** Administrative support for your local fisheries management activities will be provided by the Office of Subsistence Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.



Wrangell District Ranger

5

Should you have any questions about this delegation of authority, please feel free to contact the, Assistant Regional Director for the OSM, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, at toll-free 1-800-478-1456 or (907)786-3888.

Sincerely,

Anthony Christianson  
Chair

Enclosure

cc: Federal Subsistence Board  
Interagency Staff Committee  
Chair, Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council  
Special Agent in Charge, Law Enforcement and Investigations FS, Region 10  
Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Forest Supervisor, Tongass National Forest  
Assistant Regional Director, Office of Subsistence Management  
Administrative Record



FISH and WILDLIFE SERVICE  
BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
BUREAU of INDIAN AFFAIRS

OSM 17057.JH

## Federal Subsistence Board

1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503 - 6199



FOREST SERVICE

Yukon River Subsistence Fisheries Branch Chief  
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Fairbanks Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office  
101 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Room 222  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Subsistence Fisheries Branch Chief:

This letter delegates specific regulatory authority from the Federal Subsistence Board (Board) to the Yukon River Subsistence Fisheries Management Branch Chief (Branch Chief) to issue special actions when necessary to ensure the conservation of a healthy fish population, to continue subsistence uses of fish, for the continued viability of a fish population or for public safety reasons. This delegation only applies to Federal public waters subject to the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) Title VIII in the Yukon River Drainage, including the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

It is the intent of the Board that Federal subsistence fisheries management by Federal officials be coordinated, prior to implementation, with Regional Advisory Council (Council) representatives, the Office of Subsistence Management (OSM), and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), to the extent possible, as stipulated in 36 CFR 242.19 and 50 CFR 100.19. Federal managers are expected to cooperate with managers from the State and other Federal agencies, Council Chairs, and applicable Council members to minimize disruption to resource users and existing agency programs, consistent with the need for emergency special action.

### DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

1. **Delegation:** The Branch Chief is hereby delegated authority to issue emergency special actions affecting fisheries in Federal public waters as outlined under the **Scope of Delegation** below. Although a public hearing is not required for emergency special actions, if deemed necessary by you, then public hearing on the emergency special action is recommended. Special actions are governed by regulation at 36 CFR 242.19 and 50 CFR 100.19.

Subsistence Fisheries Branch Chief

2

2. **Authority:** This delegation of authority is established pursuant to 36 CFR 242.10(d)(6) and 50 CFR 100.10(d)(6), which state: "The Board may delegate to agency field officials the authority to set harvest and possession limits, define harvest areas, specify methods or means of harvest, specify permit requirements, and open or close specific fish or wildlife harvest seasons within frameworks established by the Board."

3. **Scope of Delegation:** The regulatory authority hereby delegated is limited to the issuance of emergency special actions as defined by 36 CFR 242.19(a) and 50 CFR 100.19(a). Such an emergency action may not exceed 60 days, and may not be extended.

This delegation permits you to open or close Federal subsistence fishing periods or areas provided under codified regulations. It also permits you to specify methods and means; to specify permit requirements; and to set harvest and possession limits for Federal subsistence fisheries.

This delegation also permits you to close and re-open Federal public waters to non-subsistence fishing, but does not permit you to specify methods and means, permit requirements, or harvest and possession limits for State-managed fisheries. This delegation may be exercised only when it is necessary to conserve healthy populations of fish or to ensure the continuation of subsistence uses.

In addition, you may open or close Federal public waters on transboundary rivers to the taking of fish for subsistence or nonsubsistence uses to comply with the terms of the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

Comment [HJA1]: New language

All other proposed changes to codified regulations, such as customary and traditional use determinations or requests for special actions greater than 60 days, shall be directed to the Board.

The Federal public waters subject to this delegated authority are those within the Yukon River Drainage, including the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (as described in the Subsistence Management Regulations for the Harvest of Fish and Shellfish on Federal Public Lands and Waters in Alaska). You will coordinate all local fishery decisions with all affected Federal land managers.

4. **Effective Period:** This delegation of authority is effective from the date of this letter and continues until superseded or rescinded.

5. **Guidelines for Review of Proposed Special Actions:** You will use the following guidelines to determine the appropriate course of action when reviewing proposed special actions.

- a) Does the proposed special action fall within the geographic and regulatory scope delegation?
- b) Does the proposed action need to be implemented immediately as an emergency special action, or can the desired conservation or subsistence use goal be addressed by deferring the issue to the next regulatory cycle?

Subsistence Fisheries Branch Chief

3

- c) Does the supporting information in the proposed special action substantiate the need for the action?
- d) Are the assertions in the proposed special action confirmed by available current biological information and/or by affected subsistence users?
- e) Is the proposed special action supported in the context of available historical information on stock status and harvests by affected users?
- f) Is the proposed special action likely to achieve the expected results?
- g) Have the perspectives of the Council Chair or alternate, OSM, and affected State and Federal managers been fully considered in the review of the proposed special action?
- h) Have the potential impacts of the proposed special action on all affected subsistence users within the drainage been considered?
- i) Can public announcement of the proposed special action be made in a timely to accomplish the management objective?
- j) After evaluating all information and weighing the merits of the special action against other actions, including no action, is the proposed emergency special action reasonable, rational, and responsible?

**6. Guidelines for Delegation:** You will become familiar with the management history of the fisheries in the region, with the current State and Federal regulations and management plans, and be up-to-date on stock and harvest status information.

You will provide subsistence users in the region a local point of contact about Federal subsistence fishery issues and regulations and facilitate a local liaison with State managers and other user groups. For in-season management decisions and special actions, consultation is not always possible, but to the extent practicable, two-way communication will take place before decisions are implemented. You will also establish meaningful and timely opportunities for government-to-government consultation related to pre-season and post-season management actions as established in the Board's Government to Government Tribal Consultation Policy (Federal Subsistence Board Government to Government Tribal Consultation Policy 2012).

You will review emergency special action requests or situations that may require an emergency special action and all supporting information to determine (1) consistency with 36 CFR 242.19 and 50 CFR 100.19, (2) if the request/situation falls within the scope of your delegated authority, (3) if significant conservation problems or subsistence harvest concerns are indicated, and (4) what the consequences of taking an action may be on potentially affected subsistence uses and nonsubsistence uses. Requests not within your delegated authority will be forwarded to the Board for consideration.

Subsistence Fisheries Branch Chief

4

You will maintain a record of all special action requests and rationale of your decisions. A copy of this record will be provided to the Administrative Records Specialist at OSM no later than sixty days after development of the document. You will fully consider the perspectives of the Council Chairs or alternates, OSM, and ADF&G during the review of the proposed emergency special action.

You will immediately notify the Board through the Assistant Regional Director for the OSM, coordinate with the Chair or alternate of the affected Councils, local ADF&G managers, and other affected Federal conservation unit managers concerning emergency special actions being considered.

If the timing of a regularly scheduled meeting of the affected Councils permits without incurring undue delay, you may seek Council recommendations on the proposed emergency special action.

You will issue decisions in a timely manner. Before the effective date of any decision, reasonable efforts will be made to notify Council representatives, the public, OSM, affected State and Federal managers, and law enforcement personnel. If an action is to supersede a State action not yet in effect, the decision will be communicated to Council representatives, the public, OSM, and State and Federal managers at least 24 hours before the State action would be effective. If a decision to take no action is made, you will notify the proponents of the request immediately.

You may defer an emergency special action request, otherwise covered by the delegation of authority, to the Board in instances when the proposed management action will have a significant impact on a large number of Federal subsistence users or is particularly controversial. These options should be exercised judiciously and only when sufficient time allows. Such deferrals should not be considered when immediate management actions are necessary for conservation purposes. The Board may determine that an emergency special action request may best be handled by the Board, subsequently rescinding the delegated authority for the specific action only.

**7. Reporting:** You must provide to the Board, through the Assistant Regional Director for the OSM, a report describing the pre-season coordination efforts, local fisheries management decisions, and post-season evaluation activities for the previous fishing season by November 15. A summary of emergency special action requests and your resultant actions must be provided to the coordinator of the appropriate Councils at the end of the calendar year for presentations during regularly scheduled Council meetings.

**8. Support Services:** Administrative support for your local fisheries management activities will be provided by the Office of Subsistence Management, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

Subsistence Fisheries Branch Chief

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Should you have any questions about this delegation of authority, please feel free to contact the Assistant Regional Director for the OSM, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, at toll-free 1-800-478-1456 or (907) 786-3888.

Sincerely,

Anthony Christianson  
Chair

Enclosures

cc: Federal Subsistence Board  
Chair, Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council  
Chair, Western Interior Subsistence Regional Advisory Council  
Chair, Eastern Interior Subsistence Regional Advisory Council  
Superintendent, Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve and Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve  
Manager, Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge  
Superintendent, Denali National Park and Preserve  
Manager, Koyukuk/Nowitna/Innoko National Wildlife Refuge Complex  
Manager, Kanuti National Wildlife Refuge  
Manager, Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge  
Manager, Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge  
Manager, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge  
Manager, Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge  
Assistant Regional Director, Law Enforcement, U.S. Fish Wildlife Service  
Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Northern District Office,  
Steese National Conservation Areas and White Mountain National Recreation Area  
Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Assistant Regional Director, Office of Subsistence Management  
Administrative Record



FISH and WILDLIFE SERVICE  
 BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
 BUREAU of INDIAN AFFAIRS

## Federal Subsistence Board

1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121  
 Anchorage, Alaska 99503 - 6199



FOREST SERVICE

OSM 17058.JH

Refuge Manager  
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
 Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge  
 P.O. Box 346  
 Bethel, Alaska 99559

Dear Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Manager:

This letter delegates specific regulatory authority from the Federal Subsistence Board (Board) to the Manager of the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge Manager) to issue emergency special actions when necessary to ensure the continued viability of a fish population, to continue subsistence uses of fish, for the continued viability of a fish population or for public safety reasons, as stipulated in 36 CFR 242.19 and 50 CFR 100.19. This delegation only applies to Federal public waters subject to the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) Title VIII in the Kuskokwim Area, including the Goodnews and Kanektok Rivers.

It is the intent of the Board that Federal subsistence fisheries management by Federal officials be coordinated, prior to implementation, with the representatives from Regional Advisory Councils (Councils), the Kuskokwim River Inter-tribal Fish Commission (KRIFC), the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group (KRSMWG), the Office of Subsistence Management (OSM), and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), to the extent possible. Federal managers are expected to cooperate with managers from the State and other Federal agencies, Council Chairs, and applicable Council members to minimize disruption to subsistence resource users and existing agency programs, consistent with the need for emergency special action.

**Comment [HJA1]:** New language – Associated with changes stemming from FP17-05

### DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

**1. Delegation:** The Refuge Manager of the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge is hereby delegated authority to issue emergency special actions affecting fisheries in Federal public waters as outlined under the **Scope of Delegation** below. Although a public hearing is not required for emergency special actions, if deemed necessary by the Refuge Manager, then a public hearing on the emergency special action is recommended. Special actions are governed by regulation at 36 CFR 242.19 and 50 CFR 100.19.

Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Manager

2

**2. Authority:** This delegation of authority is established pursuant to 36 CFR 242.10(d)(6) and 50 CFR 100.10(d)(6), which state: “The Board may delegate to agency field officials the authority to set harvest and possession limits, define harvest areas, specify methods or means of harvest, specify permit requirements, and open or close specific fish or wildlife harvest seasons within frameworks established by the Board.”

**3. Scope of Delegation:** The regulatory authority hereby delegated is limited to the issuance of emergency special actions as defined by 36 CFR 242.19(a) and 50 CFR 100.19(a). Such an emergency action may not exceed 60 days, and may not be extended.

This delegation permits you to open or close Federal subsistence fishing periods or areas provided under codified regulations. It also permits you to specify methods and means; to specify permit requirements; and to set harvest and possession limits for Federal subsistence fisheries.

This delegation also permits you to close and re-open Federal public waters to non-subsistence fishing, but does not permit you to specify methods and means, permit requirements, or harvest and possession limits for State-managed fisheries. This delegation may be exercised only when it is necessary to conserve healthy populations of fish or to ensure continuation of subsistence uses.

All other proposed changes to codified regulations, such as customary and traditional use determinations or requests for special actions greater than 60 days, shall be directed to the Federal Subsistence Board.

The Federal public waters subject to this delegated authority are those within the Kuskokwim Area as described in 36 CFR 242.3(b)(4); \_\_\_27(e)(4) and 50 CFR 100.3(b)(4); \_\_\_27(e)(4). The Refuge Manager will coordinate all local fishery decisions with all affected Federal land managers.

**4. Effective Period:** This delegation of authority is effective from the date of this letter and continues until superseded or rescinded.

**5. Guidelines for Review of Proposed Special Actions:** You will use the following guidelines to determine the appropriate course of action when reviewing proposed special actions.

- a) Does the proposed special action fall within the geographic and regulatory scope of delegation?
- b) Does the proposed action need to be implemented immediately as an emergency special action, or can the desired conservation or subsistence use goal be addressed by deferring the issue to the next regulatory cycle?
- c) Does the supporting information in the proposed special action substantiate the need for the action?
- d) Are the assertions in the proposed special action confirmed by available current biological information and/or by affected subsistence users?



Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Manager

3

- e) Is the proposed special action supported in the context of available historical information on stock status and harvests by affected users?
- f) Is the proposed special action likely to achieve the expected results?
- g) Have the perspectives of the Council Chair or alternate, the KRITC, the KRSMWG, OSM, and affected State and Federal managers been fully considered in the review of the proposed special action?
- h) Have the potential impacts of the proposed special action on all affected subsistence users within the drainage been considered?
- i) Can public announcement of the proposed special action be made in a timely manner to accomplish the management objective?
- j) After evaluating all information and weighing the merits of the special action against other actions, including no action, is the proposed emergency special action reasonable, rational, and responsible?

**6. Guidelines for Delegation:** You will become familiar with the management history of the fisheries in the region, with the current State and Federal regulations and management plans, and be up-to-date on stock and harvest status information.

You will provide subsistence users in the region a local point of contact about Federal subsistence fishery issues and regulations and facilitate a local liaison with State managers and other user groups. For in-season management decisions and special actions, consultation is not always possible, but to the extent practicable, two-way communication will take place before decisions are implemented. You will also establish meaningful and timely opportunities for government-to-government consultation related to pre-season and post-season management actions as established in the Board’s Government to Government Tribal Consultation Policy (Federal Subsistence Board Government to Government Tribal Consultation Policy 2012).

By [INSERT DATE] of each year, you will convene a meeting of representatives from the Yukon Delta NWR, the Kuskokwim River Intertribal Fish Commission, and other Federally sanctioned entities to determine, in consultation with the OSM and ADF&G, if conditions warrant Federal management of subsistence fisheries on the Kuskokwim River. By [INSERT DATE] of each year, you will submit a written report to the Board documenting the outcome of this determination process, as well as outlining the in-season collaborative decision making process adopted by the group to include input from the KRIFC, the KRSMWG, the OSM, and ADF&G, proposed strategies for in-season management, and agreed upon guidelines for issuing emergency special actions via delegated authority.

**Comment [HJA2]:** Date to be determined through full review process (i.e., ISC, Councils, KRITFC, FSB).

**Comment [HJA3]:** Date to be determined through full review process (i.e., ISC, Councils, KRITFC, FSB).

**Comment [HJA4]:** New language – Associated with FP17-05

In addition to any guidelines collaboratively established for issuing emergency special actions via this delegated authority, you will review emergency special action requests or situations that may

**Comment [HJA5]:** New language – Associated with FP17-05

require an emergency special action and all supporting information to determine (1) consistency with 36 CFR 242.19 and 50 CFR 100.19, (2) if the request/situation falls within the scope of your delegated authority, (3) if significant conservation problems or subsistence harvest concerns are indicated, and (4) what the consequences of taking an action may be on potentially affected subsistence uses and nonsubsistence uses. Requests not within your delegated authority will be forwarded to the Board for consideration. You will maintain a record of all special action requests and rationale of your decisions. A copy of this record will be provided to the Administrative Records Specialist at OSM no later than sixty days after development of the document. You will fully consider the perspectives of the Council Chairs or alternates, the KRITC, the KRSMWG, OSM, and ADF&G during the review of the proposed emergency special action.

**Comment [HJA6]:** New language – Associated with changes stemming from FP17-05

You will immediately notify the Board through the Assistant Regional Director for the OSM, and coordinate with the Chairs or alternates of the affected Councils, the KRITC, the KRSMWG, local ADF&G managers, and other affected Federal conservation unit managers concerning emergency special actions being considered.

**Comment [HJA7]:** New language – Associated with changes stemming from FP17-05

If the timing of a regularly scheduled meeting of the affected Councils permits without incurring undue delay, you may seek Council recommendations on the proposed emergency special action.

You will issue decisions in a timely manner. Before the effective date of any decision, reasonable efforts will be made to notify Council representatives, the KRITC, the KRSMWG, the public, OSM, affected State and Federal managers, and law enforcement personnel. If an action is to supersede a State action not yet in effect, the decision will be communicated to Council representatives, the KRITC, the KRSMWG, the public, OSM, and State and Federal managers at least 24 hours before the State action would be effective. If a decision to take no action is made, you will notify the proponents of the request immediately.

**Comment [HJA8]:** New language – Associated with changes stemming from FP17-05

**Comment [HJA9]:** New language – Associated with changes stemming from FP17-05

You may defer an emergency special action request, otherwise covered by this delegation of authority, to the Board in instances when the proposed management action will have a significant impact on a large number of Federal subsistence users or is particularly controversial. These options should be exercised judiciously and only when sufficient time allows. Such deferrals should not be considered when immediate management actions are necessary for conservation purposes. The Board may determine that an emergency special action request may best be handled by the Board, subsequently rescinding the delegated authority for the specific action only.

**7. Reporting:** In addition to the report describing the outcome of collaborative decision making described under **Guidelines for Delegation**, you must provide to the Board, through the Assistant Regional Director for the OSM, a report describing the pre-season coordination efforts, local fisheries management decisions, and post-season evaluation activities for the previous fishing season by November 15. A summary of emergency special action requests and your resultant actions must be provided to the coordinator of the appropriate Councils at the end of the calendar year for presentation during regularly scheduled Councils meetings.

**Comment [HJA10]:** New language – Associated with changes stemming from FP17-05

Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Manager

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**8. Support Services:** Administrative support for your local fisheries management activities will be provided by the Office of Subsistence Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the interior

Should you have any questions about this delegation of authority, please feel free to contact the Assistant Regional Director for the OSM, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, at toll-free 1-800-478-1456 or (907) 786-3888.

Sincerely,

Anthony Christianson  
Chair

Enclosures

cc: Federal Subsistence Board  
Chair, Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory  
Chair, Western Interior Subsistence Regional Advisory Council  
Superintendent, Lake Clark/Katmai National Parks and Preserve  
Superintendent, Denali National Park and Preserve  
Manager, Togiak National Wildlife Refuge  
Manager, Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge  
Assistant Regional Director, Law Enforcement, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Assistant Regional Director, Office of Subsistence Management  
Administrative Record