

NORTHWEST ARCTIC SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Teleconference November 8, 2024

Convening at 9:00 AM

Originally scheduled for October 28-29, 2024, in Kotzebue, this meeting will now be held virtually on November 8 due to the recent storm's damaging impact on the community. Given the reduction to a one-day meeting, the agenda has been streamlined to focus on essential updates and action items. Additional topics and reports will be addressed as time permits, with any remaining items rescheduled for the Council's winter meeting.

TELECONFERENCE: call the toll-free number: **(833) 436-1163**, then when prompted enter the phone conference ID: **403-765-249#**

MS TEAMS: [Click Here to Join Meeting \(microsoft.com\)](#)

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Public comments are welcome for each agenda item and for regional concerns not included on the agenda. The Council appreciates hearing your concerns and knowledge. The Chair will identify the opportunities to provide public comments. If attending in person, please fill out a comment form to be recognized by the Council Chair. Time limits may be set to provide opportunity for all to testify and keep the meeting on schedule. Written comments may be emailed to subsistence@ios.doi.gov.

PLEASE NOTE: The agenda is subject to change. Contact staff for the most up to date schedule. Evening sessions are held at the discretion of the Chair.

AGENDA

*Asterisk identifies action item.

1. **Invocation**
2. **Call to Order** (*Thomas Baker Chair*)
3. **Roll Call and Establish Quorum** (*Lisa Hutchinson, Council Coordinator*) 4
4. **Meeting Announcements** (*Council Coordinator*)
5. **Welcome and Introductions** (*Chair*)
6. **Review and Adopt Agenda*** (*Chair*) 1
7. **Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes*** (*Chair*)
 - a. Winter 2024 NWARAC Meeting Minutes 5
 - b. Winter 2024 Quadrilateral Council Meeting on WP24-28/29 Minutes 14
 - c. Winter 2024 Joint Council Meeting Minutes..... 18
8. **Reports**
 - a. Council Member Reports
 - b. Chair's Report

9. Public and Tribal Comment on Non-Agenda Items (available each morning)

10. Western Arctic Caribou Herd Updates and Climate Action Plan Report

- a. Western Arctic Caribou Herd Update (*Alex Hansen, Wildlife Biologist, ADF&G Division of Wildlife*) 27
- b. Western Arctic Parklands, Wildlife Report Update (*Dr. Raime Fronstin, Wildlife Biologist, Western Arctic Parklands*) 32
- c. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - i. Climate Action Plan Presentation and TEK Discussion (*George Yaska, Indigenous Knowledge Liaison, Science Applications Program*)

11. Action Items (*Chair*)

- a. 2026 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program and PINs development* (*Karen Hyer, Fishery Biologist, OSM; Dr. Hannah Voorhees, Anthropologist, OSM*)
- b. Partner for Fisheries Monitoring Program (*Karen Hyer, Fishery Biologist, OSM*)
- c. Annual Report*
 - i. Board FY2023 Annual Report Replies – Summary (*Council Coordinator*) 49
 - ii. Identify Issues for FY2024 Annual Report* (*Council Coordinator*)..... 132
- d. Subsistence Resource Commissions (updates) (*Dr. Kim Jochum*)
 - i. Kobuk Valley Update and Confirm Appointment* Tab 2
 - ii. Cape Krusenstern Update
- e. Future Meeting Dates* (*Chair*)
 - i. Confirm winter 2025 meeting date and location..... 133
 - ii. Confirm fall 2025 meeting date and location..... 134

12. Other Business (*Chair*)

- a. 805(c) Report – Summary (*Council Coordinator*) 139
- b. Rule in Alaska National Preserve (*Dr. Kim Jochum NPS*) 138
- c. Statewide sheep discussion (*Council Coordinator*)..... 144
- d. Correspondence policy and correspondence update (*Council Coordinator*)..... 151
 - i. Council, All Council, and Quad Council letters to Board 193-227
 - ii. SRC reappointment letters 228-235
 - iii. OSM supports outreach and engagement with RACs regarding Chum Salmon bycatch letter Tab 3
 - iv. YK Delta and Eastern Interior RAC letter to Board requesting elevation of appeal to urgent revision of the Magnuson-Stevens Act Tab 4
- e. 2025 Council application/nomination open season (*Council Coordinator*)
- f. DOI declining balance cards for Council members (*Council Coordinator*)
- g. Update for Office of Subsistence Management (*Robbin Lavine, Policy Coordinator*)

If Time Allows:

13. Agency Updates

- a. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - i. Selawik National Wildlife Refuge Update (*Wil Weise or Brittany Sweeney*)
- b. National Park Service (NPS) and United State Geological Services (USGS).
 - i. Update for the Western Arctic National Parklands 135
 - ii. Update for Gates of the Arctic National Park (*Marcy Okada, Subsistence and Outreach Coordinator*) Tab 1
 - iii. Final rule to strengthen Alaska Tribal representation to FSB Tab 5
- c. OSM: Proposed changes to wildlife delegate authority (*Tom Plank, Wildlife Biologist*)48
- d. Alaska Department of Fish and Game

14. Closing Comments

15. Adjourn (*Chair*)

The following items and reports were originally scheduled for the fall meeting on October 28-29. However, due to the rescheduling and a one-day reduction in meeting length, these topics and reports as well as any agenda items not covered above, will be deferred to the Council's winter meeting in March 2025 if possible.

- 1. Council Training – Delegation of Authority
- 2. FRMP Current Projects Updates
 - Chum Salmon Abundance Estimate in Kotzebue Sound and Noatak River (*Luke Henslee, Fishery Biologist, ADF&G Division of Commercial Fisheries, Nome*)
 - Dolly Varden Northwest Arctic Populations (*Joe Spencer, ADF&G, Division of Sport Fisheries*)
 - Sheefish Population in the Selawik River (*Bill Carter, Fishery Biologist, Selawik NWR, Kotzebue*)
 - Regional FRMP and Other Subsistence Project Updates (*Helen Cold, Subsistence Resource Specialist, Division of Subsistence*)
- 3. Other Project Reports:
 - National Park Service (NPS) and United States Geological Service (USGS) Thawing Tundra, Rusting Rivers, and Effects on Aquatic Ecosystems: (*Dr. Jonathan O'Donnell, Ecologist, NPS, Arctic Network*); *Dr. Michael Carey, Research Fish Biologist (USGS, Alaska Science Center)*.

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Reasonable Accommodations

The Federal Subsistence Board is committed to providing access to this meeting for all participants. Please direct all requests for sign language interpreting services, closed captioning, or other accommodation needs to Lisa Hutchinson 907-310-4097, lisa_hutchinson@ios.doi.gov; or 800-877-8339 (TTY), by close of business on October 16, 2024.