

# SOUTHEAST SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

## Meeting Minutes

Cape Fox Lodge

Ketchikan

November 5 – 7, 2019

### Invocation:

Lee Wallace, President of the Organized Village of Saxman, gave an invocation before the meeting.

### Call to Order, Roll Call, and Quorum Establishment:

The meeting was called to order Tuesday, November 5, 2019, at approximately 8:40 a.m. Council members Elijah Winrod, Frank Wright Jr., Mike Douville, Harvey Kitka, Bob Schroeder, Don Hernandez, Ronald Leighton, Harold Robbins, John Yeager, Larry Bemis Jr., and Cathy Needham were present in person. Due to a weather delay, Council member Patty Phillips physically joined the Council on the second day. Council member Albert Howard was not present and was excused. With 12 out of 13 seated Council members present, the quorum was established.

### Attendees:

#### *In person:*

- *Office of Subsistence Management (OSM), Anchorage:* Orville Lind, Scott Ayers, Greg Risdahl, Pippa Kenner
- *U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Anchorage:* Tom Whitford; *Juneau:* Melinda Burke, Raeanna Wood, Chad VanOrmer; *Ketchikan:* Frank Sherman, John Autrey, Jon Hyde, Emily Jackson, Robert Lynn, Ben Limle, Susan Howle; *Sitka:* Justin Koller, Terry Suminski; *Washington, D.C.:* Chris French
- *Bureau of Indian Affairs, Anchorage:* Pat Petrivelli
- *Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G), Sitka:* Ross Dorendorf; *Juneau:* Tom Schumacher
- *Organized Village of Saxman:* Lee Wallace
- *Alaska Native Brotherhood:* Richard Jackson, James \_\_\_\_\_, Sr.
- *Ketchikan Indian Community:* Gloria Burns, Tony Gallegos, Randy Williams, Irene Dundas, Cynthia Haven, Sam Navtokas
- *HCA:* Toni Bitonti
- *University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) /Sitka Community Schools:* Heather Bauscher
- *UAS / Sitka High School:* Tava Guillory, Darby Osborne, Adelaide Poulson, Cora Dow
- *Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SACC):* Gabriel Canfield, Heather Evoy, Dan Cannon
- *Public, Ketchikan:* Norman Areola, Donald Westlund, Matt Allen, Loren Stanton, Shania Murphy, Gianna Willard \_\_\_\_\_, Diane Willard
- *Public:* Eric Stone, James Lee Stuck

***Via teleconference:***

- *OSM, Anchorage:* Lisa Maas
- *National Park Service (NPS), Anchorage:* Joshua Ream
- *USFS, Craig:* Jeff Reeves; *Yakutat:* Susan Oehlers; *Sitka:* Robert Cross
- *ADF&G, Juneau:* Ryan Scott; *Palmer:* Mark Burch

**Review and Adopt Agenda:**

Motion by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Kitka, to adopt the agenda with the following changes:

- Add ADF&G Wildlife Management Implementation Report to “Old Business”
- Move presentation of Service Award to around 1 p.m., just before the roadless presentation
- Schedule a specific time for presentation by Roadless Team (set for 1 p.m. Tuesday)
- Add Action Item under “Old Business” to discuss/act on drafting a Public Comment Letter on the Alaska Roadless Rulemaking issue
- Move WP20-16/17 to be the first Wildlife proposal due to availability of a biologist
- Remove NPS Regional Report as no one will be available on Nov 7 to present a report

Motion passed unanimously.

**Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes:**

Motion by Ms. Needham, seconded by Mr. Kitka, to approve the winter 2019 meeting minutes with the following modifications: On Page 4, remove verbiage under Mr. Bemis’s member report about the community purchasing a camera. Motion passed unanimously.

**Council Member and Chair Reports:**

*John Yeager of Wrangell* reported concerns about wild and hatchery salmon stocks and the community doubts their ability to support households or livelihoods with salmon. Subsistence Sockeye season was shut down two weeks early and, combined with no directed subsistence fishery for King Salmon on the Stikine River, some households did not get adequate Sockeye for the upcoming winter. There is a growing concern about the over-fishing of halibut in the subsistence program. Concerns continue with transboundary mining. The decisions made on the Roadless Rule and the Central Tongass management plan could affect the wilderness areas directly used for subsistence in the Wrangell area. This past year showed a great berry harvest season and, currently, deer hunting seems to be going well in the area.

*Larry Bemis of Yakutat* reported a change in fisheries resulting in poor escapement numbers in most of the streams. The Situk River had a good show of Sockeye, King, and Coho salmon. There has been an increase in Sockeye; however, their run pattern has not been normal for the last four to five years. Extreme temperatures were experienced this summer and water temperatures in the ocean were affected. Fish stayed in the deep waters and didn’t school up and feed off shore before going into the river as usual. The moose hunting season was open earlier and was long and allowed more people to participate. This resulted in the area not having nearly the pressure as previously experienced.

*Elijah Winrod of Klawock* reported that the deer population is a hot topic on Prince of Wales Island. Few deer and many wolves are observed in the area, which creates a concern that deer populations are headed in a poor direction. Salmon have been on a decline. Mr. Winrod's brothers are seiners who informed him that because there was no rain in the Cordova Bay area the fish were not up in the bay by the stream, leading them to believe that it had been over-fished before the fish had a chance to get close to the stream.

*Harold Robbins of Yakutat* reported that the Klukshu River had an extremely abundant escapement. The Sockeye and King salmon run exceeded the upper limits by almost double. The temperature of the water may have made the difference as the Klukshu River is an ice water river. Moose hunting is still open and 20 of the 30 animals have been harvested.

*Robert Schroeder of Juneau* reported continued resource depletion and that each year it becomes more difficult to harvest fish, to the extent that the King Salmon derby is something of a historical note at this moment. Likewise, there is a very poor ability to harvest Coho Salmon, and people who get Sockeye Salmon would most likely go to the directed personal use fishery at Sweetheart Creek. King Crab harvest has been mostly closed for quite a few years. Suspected causes include climate crises affecting all fish resources, including halibut, and cruise ship industrial tourism, which creates a demand on resources. Mr. Schroeder is concerned whether data and information used in proposal analyses are current, as studies cited were done 30 years ago. The Council needs to have solid data that compliments traditional ecological knowledge and knowledge from communities to do its regulatory work. Tribal governments have a much greater capacity to document current subsistence use patterns. There is a concern about cutbacks that limit the State and Federal management of natural and subsistence resources.

*Harvey Kitka of Sitka* reported that Sitka continues to experience problems with the herring fishery and is concerned about the depletion of this forage fish. In Sitka Sound they no longer see the big fish that are traveling throughout Southeast Alaska. Now, one must get out to the 100 fathom area and Gulf of Alaska to find the bigger fish. There is a concern about the commercial fishermen 'shaking' small King Salmon from the net and increasing the risk of mortality. The Sitka Tribe is supporting the residents of Kake and Prince of Wales Island on the Roadless Rule issue; however, some people in the Tribe believe there are opportunities for kids and grandkids to work in the forest. Observations of climate change were more drastic this year and a lot of the streams dried up and the salmon couldn't come in. A lot of fish died sitting in the ponds waiting to get up the river to spawn. Abalone are starting to show up again.

*Cathy Needham of Juneau* reported that for the last four years, waters in Hetta Creek were warm and very low, and it is believed that this is causing fish to hold off shore. This resulted in a complete change in run timing for salmon in that creek, and it is pushing subsistence harvesters to other systems, further away from their communities. For three years, there has been no harvest of Sockeye Salmon out of the Eek system because of low escapement. Congress appropriations and contributions from the area tribes made it possible to collect water quality monitoring data in the region, including gathering information on the transboundary rivers. The groundwork and data collected will be important for understanding the potential threats to water bodies across the region. Ms. Needham has worked with tribal cooperating agencies and local tribal governments on trying to effectively understand the Roadless Rulemaking

process. Everyone is looking forward to hearing testimony at the upcoming subsistence hearings. That information can help produce effective comments during the comment period.

*Michael Douville of Craig* reported that there are less deer on Prince of Wales Island and that it is taking a lot of effort for hunters to harvest deer. He has a concern about the upcoming wolf season because, even though it will be more liberal, there doesn't seem to be a good reason for the count going down by 60 wolves. The biggest concern is the Roadless Rule. All tribes are against overturning the Roadless Rule, and it is believed that the core old growth area in Unit 2 is necessary to provide deer habitat and other subsistence resources such as bark and firewood.

*Patricia Phillips of Pelican* reported that several Black Cod fishermen told her that cruise ships are affecting their livelihood by discharging sewage water within three miles from shore, which was evident after gear inspection. She shared her observations of the coast from Pelican to Esther Island and reported that there were good showings of deer. The rebounding deer population may be due to the less severe winters in the area. There are a lot of bears. Some of the streams had low returns of salmon, so the bears were eating grasses and vegetation, or chasing after deer until they could feed on fish around the end of July. Due to the poor returns of Sockeye Salmon in some of the streams, subsistence fishermen had to fish in different systems. Some of the streams had abundant returns but there was heavy competition with the charter boat fleet.

*Frank Wright, Jr. of Hoonah* reported that for the last two years rainfall has been less than usual and the rivers have been dry so the salmon were not getting up into the rivers. In addition to the effects of half a million cruise ship tourists expected in his community next year, of grey water in fishing areas, and building structures in the community to accommodate the people, he is concerned about effects on the tribal existence of the Hoonah people. Altering the beach will change the people of Hoonah who depend upon it because it is taking away a part of their culture. Fishing was so bad last year that there was a disaster relief fund created; however, the amount of money that will be received will not even pay a light bill. Sea otters transplanted in the area are having an effect on the Dungeness harvests. Cockle shells are much thinner than in the past, which he believes is a sign of environmental changes. He talked about these changes with a United Nations delegation that came to Glacier Bay to discuss marine waters of the world. He informed the Council of his experiences of past meetings/consultations held between the tribes and Federal government entities, stating that if the government seeks a tribe's input then the tribes need to be heard and their testimony should not be just 'a stamp.'

*Ronald Leighton of Thorne Bay* reported that his community is also observing a lack of deer in the area and a dramatic decrease of does with fawns. For the last three years, he has seen a decline of deer, especially on the beaches, and Kasaan Tribal members are concerned about this and also about an overkill of the deer population by predators, like wolves. Kasaan Tribe supports increasing the harvest of wolves in Unit 2. Bear sightings have increased, and he believes that perhaps bear hunting should be reopened. Herring is still a major concern as salmon and halibut depend on herring, and marine mammals may feed on crab and salmon if there is a lack of herring. His community supports no change to the Roadless Rule. He understands there is a push to bring out the timber industry but he is hoping that old growth trees are not targeted. He noted the challenges of obtaining cultural logs for canoes and poles and suggested that prior to the sales of timber, that the Tribe should have first choice to find and mark cultural logs.

*Donald Hernandez of Point Baker* concurred with fellow Council members' observations on Prince of Wales Island. He felt it was significant to point out that a lot of what has been reported is inter-connected. He stated that this past season was the worst Sockeye Salmon fishery that he's ever seen. The various runs of different salmon species throughout the Southeast were very weak and there was even a closure of the Stikine River subsistence fishery this year, which is a major wake-up call. He saw that many people migrated from fishing wild stocks to going to the hatchery sites to try to make their seasons. There is a real sense of unease happening in his subsistence community. He reported that it is getting more difficult for local people to harvest their deer and people hunting the road systems on the north end of the island are not seeing deer. There is a concern about possible changes to the current Roadless Rule as the community has been depending more and more on going to roadless areas to meet their deer hunting needs. He has noticed the severe infestations of hemlock sawfly and, along with the warming climate, the health of our forest is at stake.

Mr. Hernandez then gave his Chair Report. He advised the Council of the Federal Subsistence Board's (Board) decisions on the Southeast Alaska fishery proposals. He also highlighted the Council's proposed change in the customary and traditional use determination proposals, stating that those proposals resulted in major simplifications of a highly fractured kind of customary and traditional use determination.

### **Old Business:**

The Council heard the status of these issues:

- 805(c) Report
- Implementation of new ADF&G Wolf Management Strategy in Unit 2
- Alaska Roadless Rule – Draft Environmental Impact Statement release
- Proposed items for Public Comment on the Alaska Roadless Rule from the Working Group

### **New Business:**

#### ***Wildlife Proposals:***

##### **Regional Proposals:**

*WP20-01: Eliminate the hunt for moose in Unit 1C, Berners Bay*

Motion by Mr. Yeager, seconded by Mr. Kitka, to support WP20-01. The Council felt it had previously considered the issues surrounding a Berners Bay moose hunt very carefully in the last wildlife cycle. The Council considered the request for rural priority in Proposal WP18-11 and the Council voted for a Federal preference on a portion of this hunt. Since there was no new information to warrant a reconsideration or a change of the resulting regulation from WP18-11, the Council felt Proposal WP20-01 was not necessary. The Council added that its fall 2017 meeting discussion and the Chair's testimony at the Board meeting on WP18-11 showed the effort and consideration made in formulating its recommendation for a 25% subsistence priority for permits. The Council believed that this priority did not unnecessarily restrict other users. Right now, all rural residents in Units 1 through 5 have a customary and traditional use in Unit 1C, which includes Berners Bay. The Council felt that it was perfectly legitimate to afford a priority to rural users on this Federal public

land as long as moose were available. The Council also requested that the previous justification for WP18-11 be incorporated into its justification for WP20-01 by reference. Motion failed on a unanimous vote.

*WP20-02: Remove harvest limit restrictions on non-Federally qualified users for deer in Unit 2*

Motion by Mr. Douville, seconded by Mr. Kitka, to support WP20-02. The Council generated a proposal for harvest limit restrictions on non-Federally qualified users for deer in Unit 2 in 2017 after hearing local testimony, which included traditional ecological knowledge that people were struggling to get their subsistence needs met. At the 2019 regulatory meeting, the Council heard testimony from the Ketchikan Indian Community and Prince of Wales Island (POW) residents that POW rural residents were still unable to meet their subsistence needs. The Council looked closely at the data presented in the analysis and noted the potential reasons for the limited numbers of deer could be: out-of-balance buck-to-doe ratios; stem exclusion inhibiting productive deer habitat; an abundance of road access to almost every area on the island; and high wolf and bear populations. The analysis showed that harvest by non-local hunters averaged less than two deer and that overall harvest was below harvest objectives, even though there was a recent reduction of 1,300 hunters. The Council found that because subsistence users are still not meeting their needs, there is a conservation concern for this resource and the potential exists for a dire conservation concern in the future if action is not taken now to conserve the population. Motion failed on a unanimous vote.

*WP20-03: Eliminate doe harvest for deer in Unit 2*

Motion by Mr. Yeager, seconded by Mr. Douville, to support WP20-03. The Council considered the doe harvest to be a use of customary and traditional resources in Unit 2. At one point, the use of harvest tags was implemented in Unit 2 on Forest Service lands, which provided accountability for does harvested. It showed that this take does not create any conservation concerns. The Council stated that eliminating doe harvest would take away harvest opportunities from Federally qualified subsistence users and unnecessarily restrict them. The Council noted that Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) specifically gives a priority to subsistence uses and, if it is necessary to restrict the taking of wildlife population, all other uses shall be restricted first. Motion failed on a unanimous vote.

*WP20-04: Revise harvest limit for deer in Unit 2*

Motion by Mr. Yeager, seconded by Mr. Kitka, to support WP20-04. The Council felt that while it is possible to put a regulation in place that would only apply for two seasons, this was an unusual request and not a normal part of the Council's business or wildlife management. There are mechanisms in ANILCA Title VIII to eliminate all other users should the resource become diminished to the point where a restriction is required and bag limits would then be limited for local rural users. It is expected that biologists and people with traditional ecological knowledge will monitor this so it never gets to that point. The Council also noted that much of the analysis points given in its justification for recommendation on WP20-02 would apply to this proposal as well. Motion failed on a unanimous vote.

*WP20-05: Establish a doe registration permit for deer in Unit 2*

Motion by Mr. Douville, seconded by Ms. Needham, to support WP20-05. The Council believes that using "Tag 5" is an adequate way to keep track of doe harvest and to regulate legal harvest. The hunter has a responsibility to know where it is legal to hunt, and most people know and understand that. Currently, there is adequate

accounting for overall data on doe take through the deer harvest form, which provides managers with good information. Therefore, this proposal would place an unnecessary burden on hunters, and since a hunter can currently utilize “Tag 5” for harvest of a doe, this permit is not necessary. Motion failed on a unanimous vote.

*WP20-06: Shorten season for deer in Unit 2*

Motion by Mr. Yeager, seconded by Mr. Kitka, to support WP20-06. The Council believed that shortening this deer season would put more pressure on rural hunters to be able to get game within a shorter timeframe. Most hunters are finished hunting by Christmas, but there are some that are still hunting and need to get deer. A hunter may need that additional month to get his/her subsistence needs met, and decreasing the hunt by a month may put undue pressure on individuals. The Council is aware that some hunters have limited or no access to electricity and use of a freezer. During the winter months, deer can hang outside for a long time and, if the harvest season is shortened, the meat may not be preserved as long without a freezer. The Council recommended maintaining the Federal rural priority and, though it recognized that it is sometimes prudent to align regulations with the State, it is not always practical. Unnecessary restrictions should not be placed on the rural user. Motion failed on a unanimous vote.

*WP20-07: Reduce harvest limit for deer in Unit 2*

Motion by Mr. Douville, seconded by Mr. Yeager, to support WP20-07. The Council mentioned that two proposals, WP20-03 and WP20-07, put forward by the East Prince of Wales Advisory Committee, contradict each other. (WP20-03 proposes to harvest 5 antlered bucks, and WP20-07 proposes to harvest 4 deer and no more than one may be a doe.) The Council stated that there is no conservation concern at this time and the adoption of WP20-07 would impose unnecessary restrictions on Federally qualified subsistence users, which is not in accordance with Title VIII of ANILCA. The Council also pointed out that in many communities high harvesters provide food to other people and an unnecessary reduction of the bag limit would make subsisting in these communities more difficult. These proxy hunters are good providers for themselves and others, and they hunt legally in accordance with Federal regulations. This tradition is a part of customary and traditional life in Southeast Alaska. Motion failed on a unanimous vote.

*WP20-09: Revise trapping season dates for beaver in Units 1 – 4*

Motion by Ms. Needham, seconded by Mr. Schroeder, to support WP20-09. The Council supported this alignment of Federal and State regulations as harvest levels of beaver have decreased significantly. Although observations and data in the analysis showed that the population has decreased in recent years, there was no evidence to support any concerns for beaver populations. In fact, this proposal may assist in the survival of smolt in certain systems. The Council supported the proposal to avoid possible user confusion. Motion passed on a unanimous vote.

*WP20-12: Revise hunt areas, season dates and harvest limits for deer in Unit 3*

Motion by Mr. Hernandez, seconded by Mr. Douville, to support WP20-12. The Council supported this proposal because there was no conservation concern, even though the deer population in Unit 3 is smaller. The proposal is supported biologically, will benefit subsistence users, and not have any effect on other users. In addition, it will also align Federal regulations with less restrictive State regulations. Motion passed on a unanimous vote.

*WP20-16/17: Extend the sealing period and eliminate the harvest quota for hunting and trapping, and liberalize the hunting harvest limit for wolf in Unit 2*

Motion by Mr. Douville, seconded by Mr. Yeager, to support WP20-16/17. This proposal is the result of many years of discussion between the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the Council, and subsistence users on POW. The Council supported this proposal based on information from these sources with a caveat that the Council wanted to see how the management scheme worked and how it would be implemented (re: year lapse in DNA sampling and incorporating traditional ecological knowledge (TEK). It is hoped that in future years the State and Federal programs will examine the population estimates from the DNA methods. The estimates will be adjusted up or down based on TEK and reports from local hunters/trappers before the season lengths are set. Wolf trapping on POW has been extremely controversial for decades. This proposal appears to be a good move forward in providing opportunities for harvest and for protecting the wolf resource. There was no conservation concern for the species as the biological information in the analysis is well supported. The Council believed this proposal would be beneficial to subsistence users and non-subsistence users as it clarifies the rules for hunting/trapping and does not restrict anyone. The Council believes the increase in the hunting harvest limit is necessary because whether the harvester is hunting or trapping both groups should have the same harvest limit. A 'no limit' for hunters would not create a conservation concern as it is a small number of people who engage in hunting wolves and the numerous challenges of hunting wolves make it hard for them to be successful; thus, making it difficult for too many wolves to be hunted. Based on information presented in the analysis, the Council believes that the science is finally catching up with TEK in the area. Motion passed on a unanimous vote.

*Southeast Customary and Traditional Use Determination Proposals*

*The Council submitted five proposals for customary and traditional use (C&Ts) determinations. In addition to any further justifications listed below in each proposal, the following justification applies to each C&T proposal submitted by the Council:*

“The Council submitted the proposal with the intent to essentially continue to make good, rational, C&T use determinations. This required good analysis of the uses of this resource throughout the region. Now that this information has been received, the Council could use it to make a solid, informed decision in line with previous work this Council has done in past years on this issue. The analysis recognized that C&Ts were inherited from a regulations structure in place when the State administered the program. The Council did not agree with this structure and felt it did not fulfill the intent of ANILCA. Lastly, the Council believed that this proposal would simplify regulations, clearly set out the eligibility criteria for participation, and it would be beneficial to subsistence users. The proposal increases opportunities for subsistence users throughout the Southeast and the thorough analysis justified this recommendation. ”

*WP20-10: Revise the customary and traditional use determination for black bear in Units 1, 2, 3, and 5*  
Motion by Mr. Hernandez, seconded by Mr. Yeager, to support WP20-10. Motion #11 passed on a unanimous vote.

*WP20-11: Revise the customary and traditional use determination for brown bear in Units 1, and 3-5*  
Motion by Mr. Yeager, seconded by Mr. Kitka, to support WP20-11. Motion #12 passed on a unanimous vote.

*WP20-13: Establish a customary and traditional use determination for elk in Unit 3*  
Motion by Mr. Yeager, seconded by Mr. Hernandez, to support WP20-13. Written public testimony illustrated the misunderstanding of the elk hunting situation. The Council was informed that if there is no C&T determination, then all rural residents of Alaska are eligible to hunt elk, and most hunters may not know this. The proposal would increase opportunities for subsistence users throughout the Southeast and the analysis justifies this recommendation. The Council supports this proposal to make regulations clearer for the public. ANILCA Section 802 does not address any difference between introduced or natural wildlife. ANILCA Section 804 establishes a Federal subsistence priority: all ungulates are ungulates, and therefore, this resource should be available for Southeast rural residents. This proposal narrows hunter eligibility down from all rural residents of the State of Alaska to rural residents of Southeast Alaska. Since the analysis showed that 90 percent of the harvest came from rural residents of Southeast Alaska already, this proposal recognized an established C&T practice in Southeast. The C&T use determination reflects what people actually do in Southeast Alaska. Motion passed 11-1.

*WP20-14: Revise the customary and traditional use determination for mountain goat in Units 1, 4, and 5*  
Motion by Mr. Yeager, seconded by Mr. Kitka, to support WP20-14. Motion passed on a unanimous vote.

*WP20-15: Revise the customary and traditional use determination for moose in Units 1 and 3*  
Motion by Mr. Hernandez, seconded by Mr. Leighton, to support WP20-15. This proposal would spread out the hunting season to take the pressure away from local subsistence hunting. The Council remarked that they would like to revisit this issue once an aerial survey is done and the moose population can be assessed, because Unit 5 was excluded from this proposal. Motion passed on a unanimous vote.

#### *Statewide Proposals:*

*WP20-08: Require traps or snares to be marked with name or State identification number for all furbearers in all units*

Motion by Mr. Yeager, seconded by Mr. Douville, to support WP20-08. The Council believed that this proposal intended to fix a problem that does not exist. The Alaska Board of Game rescinded a regulation requiring marked traps a few years ago and no clear issues concerning unmarked traps have been recently presented through staff reports nor have there been any similar recommendations of marking traps from Federal or State biologists. The Council opposed this proposal as a statewide proposal because it covers too broad an area. Motion failed on a unanimous vote.

#### ***2020 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program:***

Scott Ayers, OSM, provided information on the 2020 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program. The Council took no action on this matter.

***Identify Issues for FY2019 Annual Report:***

- Request to the Federal Subsistence Management Program (FSMP) to explore funding for consistent youth engagement opportunities
- Request to the FSMP to explore funding for wildlife research management projects
- Request to assign staff to attend the Council's meetings in person at the pre-2017 staffing levels
- Request to the Board for review of its Correspondence Policy and revise it to include levels of accountability and to set parameters of edits done at OSM
- Inform the Board about the Council's recent advocacy for ANILCA 810 hearings regarding the Alaska Roadless Rulemaking
- Thank the Board for its guidance and suggestions regarding a letter to the Alaska Board of Fisheries on subsistence shrimp stock and the Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction process

**Agency Reports:**

- USFS Special Actions report presented by Terry Suminski
- USFS Prince of Wales Landscape Level Analysis update presented by DeAnna Perry
- USFS Central Tongass Project update presented by Susan Howle
- USFS Ketchikan-Misty Fjords District Project Updates presented by Susan Howle and Jon Hyde
- USFS Subsistence Program Updates presented by Tom Whitford
- OSM program updates presented by Greg Risdahl

**Future Meeting Dates:**

The winter 2020 Council meeting was set for February 25 – 27, 2020, in Juneau.

The fall 2020 Council meeting was set for October 20 – 22, 2020, in Sitka.

---

DeAnna Perry, DFO  
USFWS Office of Subsistence Management

---

Donald C. Hernandez, Chair  
Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

These minutes will be formally considered by the Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council at its winter 2020 meeting in Juneau, and any corrections or notations will be incorporated into the minutes at that meeting.

A more detailed report of this meeting, copies of the transcript and meeting handouts are available upon request. Call DeAnna Perry at 1-800-478-1456 or 907-586-7918, email: [deanna.perry@usda.gov](mailto:deanna.perry@usda.gov).