

NORTH SLOPE SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

Via teleconference
November 3-4, 2021

Invocation given by Gordon Brower

Call to Order, Roll Call and Quorum Establishment

The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, November 3 at 9:20 a.m. Chair Gordon Brower and Council members Steve Oomittuk, Martha Itta, Peter (Earl) Williams, Wanda Kippi, and Edward Rexford, Sr. were present via teleconference. Newly appointed Council member Billy Blair Patkotak, Jr. of Wainwright was not present and was excused. The Council has three vacant seats. A quorum was established with six of seven seated Council members participating by phone.

Attendees participating via teleconference:

- Office of Subsistence Management (OSM): Eva Patton, Dr. Hannah Voorhees, Kendra Holman, Dr. Brent Vickers, Karen Hyer, Lisa Grediagin, Robbin La Vine, Orville Lind, and Pippa Kenner
- Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve: Marcy Okada, Kyle Joly, Will Deacy
- National Park Service, Anchorage: Kim Jochum, Victoria Florey
- USFWS Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Fairbanks: Steve Berendzen
- US Fish and Wildlife Service Utqiagvik Field Office: Ernest Nagiak
- US Fish and Wildlife Service, Anchorage: Jill Klein
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Fairbanks: Shelly Jones, Debbie Nigro, Heather Savage, Katie Drew; Anchorage: Chris McKee, Beth Mikow
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Anchorage: Dr. Glen Chen
- Forest Service, Anchorage: Greg Risdahl
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Palmer: Mark Burch, Rick Merizon; Utqiagvik: Carmen Daggett; Kotzebue: Alex Hansen, Giorgianna Phillips; Fairbanks: Brooke McDavid, Caroline Brown, Beth Lenart, Shawna Karpovich; Juneau: Ryan Scott
- North Slope Borough Wildlife Department, Utqiagvik: Brian Person
- Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope, Utqiagvik: Doreen Leavitt
- Neil DeWitt, Anchorage

Review and Adopt Agenda

Motion by Mr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Itta, to adopt the agenda as a guide and be flexible to ensure quorum was present for action items. The Council confirmed that all relevant wildlife updates would be presented to the Council prior to taking action on wildlife regulatory proposals. The motion passed unanimously.

Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion by Mr. Oomittuk, seconded by Mr. Williams, to approve the winter 2021 meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member and Chair Reports

Martha Itta of Nuiqsut reported that she still has a lot of old concerns that she is going to keep bringing up because a lot of questions remain unanswered. Fishermen are very concerned about sick fish that they are still catching and it seems to be getting worse. It appears that something is eating the flesh of the fish. The community remains very concerned about contaminants in their subsistence fish. They want to find a way to get testing done and discuss this fisheries issue further with BLM NPR-A staff. Fishing was also really slow this year – they usually start fishing in October after freeze-up, but the weather has been really warm lately. Freeze up was late and then the fishing was low with people hardly catching much in their traditionally abundant areas right near Nuiqsut on the river. Because of the warm weather it's dangerous with thin ice, people have to be very careful. One fisherman already fell through the ice this year.

Martha reported that there were some sick caribou this year. Nuiqsut hunters sent samples to the North Slope Borough, Wildlife Department to get tested but have not heard back yet. She is concerned that although the caribou were reported to be abundant, the herd was scattered around Nuiqsut; they did not see as many as last year. Hunters did not see the herd to pass through and suspect that heavy vehicle and industrial equipment traffic on the west side in the Fish Creek area caused the migration to divert. The caribou turned toward the south side, and Martha thinks that's when the herd headed toward Anaktuvuk Pass.

There are a lot of muskox around Nuiqsut and the community is concerned that the muskox may bother the caribou. Martha highlighted that just the other day over 40 muskox were seen right across the Killuk River. Subsistence hunters in Nuiqsut have expressed that they would like to be able to hunt muskox as they are abundant now.

Steve Oomittuk of Point Hope reported that it has been a pretty good year for caribou. Even though the caribou numbers are lower, the herd had stayed around Point Hope for much of the year. Hunters have not had to travel far to catch them. This fall the caribou are still around and hunting has been good. Steve noted the fishing has not been very good this year; the river water has been shallow and muddy, and nets get pulled up empty. There are fewer grayling and trout this year and the char were late. They are seeing other animals like river otter, which they have not seen in years.

The weather has been warm, and they still have no ice even in November. Point Hope celebrates the birth of the ice in the fall when they bring out the whale's tale. That celebration used to normally take place at the end of September or October when the ice froze, but now often the ice does not freeze until the end of November.

Steve reported that things are changing, you never know when animals are going to come. The ocean currents, the fish, and the migrations have all been changing for quite some time. Steve said, when you live in a place all your life you're so used to the food chain and the timeline of when everything comes and goes, you know the migration of the animals, the sea, the sky, the land, the river and the subsistence way of life, you notice the changes in the weather and there's been a big change in the last ten years."

Edward Rexford, Sr. of Kaktovik reported that the caribou have been around Kaktovik., People are catching them, and there are no reports of any sick animals. No one harvested any moose this past season. Eddie reported that there were killer whales roaming around the Barter Island area and three dead bowhead whales washed ashore east of the community. They hardly had any problems with polar bears coming into the community this year. This is likely because they were busy feeding on these whales. Eddie expressed concern and frustration about ongoing trespassing on Native allotments. People break into cabins, eat the food, use the fuel, and vandalize equipment. Recently hunters coming back from the Hulahula River second fish hole found their hunting cabin vandalized again. The community has reported this to the Refuge manager, but nothing has been done yet. Edward wonders if the Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope (ICAS) or BIA reality can help with enforcement. Edward said that something needs to be done, even if it is just placing "private property" signs within the Refuge to alert sport hunters and sport fishers they are trespassing. Recently Kaktovik hunters were trying to harvest sheep for an upcoming feast and they reported that a float plane just landed at Schrader Lake. Edward wonders if that is who has been trespassing every year. He asked if there is a way to monitor air traffic of private operators in the area, such as if they report to the air tower at Deadhorse. This would help to know who is landing in the area.

Refuge Manager Steve Berendzen reported they do have several permitted operators. They are not permitted to land float planes or air taxi operations, but private aircraft owners can land anywhere. He offered to work with Kaktovik to learn more about this and what can be done.

Peter Earl Williams of Anaktuvuk Pass reported that they had some caribou come through on their migration and the community was able to meet their subsistence needs. Things will be alright now that hunters were able to get their quota and share caribou with the whole community. He is very pleased that the City and Tribal Councils came together to help support the young hunters with fuel or shells to hunt caribou for Elders in the community. They also are very appreciative of the muktuk from the coastal communities that was shared with Anaktuvuk Pass.

There were a lot of bears around for a while, but then they all disappeared. There are still wolves around town and near the dump site. Earl reported similar concerns as Edward about trespass on Native allotments. He has seen low-flying planes that scare and scatter the caribou herd.

Earl noted it has been quiet in Anaktuvuk Pass with everyone hunkered down due to COVID. It has been very hard; there have been a lot of deaths and they are losing their loved ones. But the Elders say "we just have to move along, if we give up we're not going to get anywhere, so just keep going." Earl also said that the main concern is climate change. There is rain on snow and wind that blows cold then warm,

followed by sickness that comes with it. He prays that everyone will be okay. Earl appreciates this opportunity to hear from the Council members and sharing information from all the villages. This is the traditional way to listen and learn from one another.

Wanda Kippa of Atqasuk reported it that has been thawing out too early during the springtime but the goose hunting was good this year. This summer there were not many caribou around as there normally would be in July. They started coming around in August, scattered in small herds. Then later in September residents finally saw a big herd of thousands of caribou. Her son was out hunting and reported that it was black from all the caribou lined up for miles. There were many females with young. It was an awesome thing to see; they have not seen caribou like this in some years. Wanda lamented that she missed it. Her Honda was broken, so she couldn't go camping and hunting this year, but nothing was going to stop her next year!

Freeze-up was slow again and late – the rivers did not freeze until after September and still slushy into October. Wanda observed that it seems there are gasses concentrating in areas that does not let the water freeze. Once things finally did freeze up and they were able to go fishing, the catch was pretty good. There were wolves close around the community this year, normally they do not come closer than 13 miles from town. But they may have pushed the caribou in closer because the caribou stayed across the river from Nuiqsut for a few days. It's a good thing the community was finally able to get caribou. Groceries are getting more and more expensive, and it is difficult and costs too much to get food shipped to Atqasuk. The community really needs to rely on access to subsistence foods year-round from birds, to fish, to caribou, and berries.

Gordon Brower of Utqiagvik reported that he thinks subsistence around the Barrow area has been pretty good this year, including goose hunting, spring whaling, and whaling. The community is planning Kivgiq, the messenger feast, probably in February 2022. They are hoping Covid will have subsided by then as they have been taking precautions to protect the health of everyone on the region.

Gordon was up at his cabin with his sons to hunt caribou and they got some nice fat ones. He also heard many others in the community were catching nice healthy fat caribou and some of the caribou herd was moving close to Utqiagvik, within five to ten miles or so. There have not been reports of sick caribou this year, which is good because a couple years back his nephews caught some caribou that had worms in the muscle. People need to be careful and observant to check the condition of the caribou meat.

Gordon reported that fishing was good too. The freeze-up was almost normal, like it used to be back in the 70s, so he could set his nets under the ice. The Ikpikuk River is a mecca for fishing, especially for broad whitefish during the spawning season. There is an old village near the Chipp 1 area, where a community of about 60 people used to live up until the 1940s, and there are still a lot of sod houses and old ice cellars there. There are lots of stories about it and people still use this area to fish. The challenge is the broad whitefish spawning season occurs right around ice up, so one has to be very careful not to break up the ice once it starts to freeze. Gordon makes the ice thicker to be safe to set nets on by shoveling water over the top. These days' young hunters are not aware of this and will drive through with a boat and

break it up. Last time this happened it never got cold enough to freeze, so he had to go downriver two miles to a smaller confluence and spent a couple days with a sump pump to keep laying the ice with more freezing water to make it thick enough walk on it to set nets. By September 23, he was able to walk on top and set nets under the ice and the fishing was good, but not as good as it would have been up on the Ikpikpuk. So, he thinks to teach the youth to come back down river before freeze up to protect the ice for fishing.

Gordon's parents taught him to never forget about this kind of fishing in this area. It is so abundant that it will always provide for the whole community. But the whitefish spawning run only lasts mid-September to October 10. It's prime fishing during that time, and the Elders had a special Inupiaq name for this season. This year he made 20 sacks of fish. In the past they would make up to 90 sacks of fish to feed the community, and trade with other whaling captains for *oogruk* skins for their boats and for other subsistence foods.

Gordon referenced subsistence reports from across the whole region and is saddened about the loss of Elders and loved ones due to the pandemic. But he is very happy to hear that the *Tutu* (caribou) came through in the fall and blessed Anaktuvuk Pass this year. He recognized the interrelationship and sharing between communities, such as Nuiqsut offering for Anaktuvuk Pass residents to come to Nuiqsut to hunt in previous years when they were hurting for caribou. Gordon highlighted the importance of sharing of subsistence foods across the North Slope Region and communities helping take care of each other.

Remembrance and moment of silence in honor of Roy Nageak, Sr.

Service Awards

Council member Wanda Kippi received a 5-year service award.

Public and Tribal Comments on Non-agenda Items

Doreen Leavitt introduced herself as the new acting Natural Resources director with Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope (ICAS). She reported that she and ICAS Executive Director Mory Leman recently traveled to the villages for a meet and greet, since they had not been able to connect directly for a long time due to COVID. They did meet with Kaktovik and heard their concerns about trespass on Native allotments as well as concerns from Anaktuvuk Pass about challenges of accessing Native allotments within the park. Ms. Leavitt offered assistance from ICAS on these issues and are available to help North Slope communities address subsistence concerns.

Old Business

805(c) Report

Eva Patton, Council Coordinator, provided the Council with a summary of the Federal Subsistence Board actions and justifications on the 2020 Fisheries Proposals and closure reviews as outlined in the ANILCA 805(c) report.

Annual Report Reply Process Review Briefing

Brent Vickers, OSM Anthropology Division Supervisor, provided a briefing on the Interagency Staff Committee proposed Annual Report reply process review. The Council had no comments. This topic will come up for the Council discussion and comments during the winter 2022 meeting.

New Business

Wildlife Proposals and Closure Reviews

The Council received all relevant wildlife updates from regional Federal and State biologists prior to taking action on proposals.

Regional:

WP22-54: Moose Unit 26A - Revise/Expand hunt area. Support with OSM modification.

Kendra Holman, OSM Wildlife Biologist, presented a summary of the analysis of WP22-54. Motion by Mr. Oomittuk, seconded by Mr. Williams, to support WP22-54 with OSM modification. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Justification: The Council submitted this proposal to provide easier access to traditional hunting areas along the Alaktak River for Federally qualified subsistence users. Right now, subsistence hunters from Utqiagvik and Atqasuk have to travel extremely long distances to reach the current hunt area, which is difficult to access and prohibitive due to the high cost of fuel. Changing the hunt area boundary so that it follows the natural river corridor rather than 156W longitude will also help hunters know for certain they are within bounds.

The Council also noted that this proposal should not pose a conservation concern because hunters can only travel to the hunt area on occasion due to the high costs and time involved, and the moose are not always available for harvest along the river corridors. Council members reported that moose are often in excess of 130 miles from Utqiagvik, so harvest is still very opportunistic.

The Council supports the OSM recommendation to include the eastern coastline of the Admiralty Bay as it clarifies the description of the hunt area boundaries where the Alaktak River enters the bay.

WP22-55: Muskox Unit 26A - Establish hunt. Support with OSM modification.

Ms. Holman presented a summary of the analysis of WP22-55. Motion by Mr. Oomittuk, seconded by Ms. Itta, to support WP22-55 with OSM modification clarifying the hunt area boundary descriptor. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Justification: The Council believes it is important to provide hunting opportunity where it hasn't existed previously and that this hunt will benefit Federally qualified subsistence users. Muskox are good eating and would be an important addition to subsistence food resources available for North Slope communities in Unit 26A. Muskox have been increasingly seen across the region, and it can be problematic if they settle down near a community and deflect caribou.

The Council stressed that Federally qualified subsistence users should have priority since muskox population numbers in Unit 26A are still low and supported the BLM Arctic District Office Manager receiving delegated authority to administer this hunt. The hunt boundary is intended to distinguish between muskox herds. Similar to Proposal WP22-54, the Council supported the clarification to the hunt area boundary as recommended by OSM.

WP22-56: Brown Bear Unit 26A - Increase harvest limit. Support.

Ms. Holman presented a summary of the analysis of WP22-56. Motion by Mr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Itta, to support WP22-56. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Justification: The Council believes it is important to recognize that this proposal came from the Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission based on the request of residents of Anaktuvuk Pass to increase the harvest limit of brown bears. This regulation change is also consistent with current harvest limits for brown bear in Units 26A and 24 under State regulations and creates more uniformity across different land jurisdictions. Council member Williams of Anaktuvuk Pass noted that typically they do not harvest many bears, but when the brown bear population is increasing, they become more frequent around the village, and it would be helpful to have the opportunity to harvest more.

WCR22-25: Muskox Unit 26C - Closed except by Kaktovik residents. Maintain status quo.

Ms. Holman presented a summary of the analysis of WCR22-25. Motion by Mr. Oomittuk, seconded by Mr. Williams, to maintain the status quo for WCR22-25. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Justification: The Council understands that there is no harvestable surplus for the muskox in Unit 26C and stressed that this muskox population has been so low that no subsistence hunt has been allowed in many years. The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) manager reported that only 25 and 3 muskoxen were observed in Unit 26C in 2019 and 2020, respectively. The Council requested a targeted muskox survey be conducted next year and that the Refuge should consult with Kaktovik residents about their observations and traditional knowledge of the best areas to conduct this survey.

The Council also discussed muskox movements between Canada and the Arctic NWR and expressed concerns over reports of very liberal harvests in Canada. They requested a muskox management and harvest report from Canada and expressed interest in establishing an international management working group similar to the International Porcupine Caribou Herd Management Board.

Crossover:

WP22-45: Hare Units 18, 22, 23 - Establish season/harvest limit for Alaska hare.

Support WP22-45 with modification to change the harvest limit for Alaska hare to 15 per season and support the longer season as recommended by OSM.

Ms. Holman presented a summary of the analysis of WP22-45. Mr. Merizon with the Small Game Program, ADF&G, clarified that this proposal specifically deals with a large hare species known locally as jackrabbits or tundra hare *not* the common snowshoe hare. Motion by Mr. Oomittuk, seconded by Ms.

Kippi, to support WP22-45 with modification to change the harvest limit for Alaska hare to 15 per season and support the longer season as recommended by OSM. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Justification: The Council supported a reduction in harvest and seasons to help conserve the Alaska hare but expressed concern that only six Alaska hares per year is not enough for making traditional cultural garments like parkas or blankets. The Council considered going from 'no limit' on the hare to only 6 per year as too drastic of a change, but 15 hares per year would help provide for subsistence needs as well as conservation.

Hares are an important resource for food security and traditional, cultural fur sewing practices. The Council highlighted the importance of making fur parkas, mittens, and ruffs, especially for children and elders. March is the optimum time to harvest hare for their fur, making the longer season in the OSM preliminary conclusion preferred.

The Council stressed that because Alaska hare are not commonly seen in the North Slope Region or around Point Hope in Unit 23, there is likely confusion between Alaska hare vs. a snowshoe hare. The Council reiterated the importance of making it very clear that these regulations are targeting Alaska hare only and not the more abundant snowshoe hare. They suggested using pictures to highlight the differences between the two species so that local communities are not unnecessarily restricting harvest of an important subsistence resource where snowshoe hares are plentiful.

WP22-50: Beaver Unit 23 - Trapping: Increase harvest limit to 'no limit'. Support. Ms. Holman presented a summary of the analysis of WP22-50. Motion by Mr. Oomittuk, seconded by Mr. Rexford, to support WP22-50. Passed by unanimous vote.

Justification: Beaver are extremely abundant in Unit 23 and their range keeps expanding. The Council fully supports increased subsistence opportunity to harvest the superabundant beaver population in Unit 23.

WCR22-18: Sheep Unit 23 Baird Mountains - Closed to all but Federally qualified subsistence users. Maintain status quo. Ms. Holman presented a summary of the analysis for wildlife closure review WCR22-18. Motion by Mr. Oomittuk, seconded by Mr. Williams, to maintain status quo. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Justification: The sheep population remains very low and needs to continue to be protected. The Council supported maintaining the closure due to continuing conservation concerns. The Council member from Point Hope noted that sheep haven't been seen locally in the DeLong Mountains or Cape Lisburne area for quite some time as their population has declined.

WCR22-27: Muskox Unit 23 Cape Krusenstern National Monument. Modify the closure as recommended by OSM. Ms. Holman presented a summary of the analysis for wildlife closure review WCR22-27. Motion by Mr. Oomittuk, seconded by Mr. Rexford, to modify the closure as recommended by OSM. Motion passed on a unanimous vote.

Justification: This change is a housekeeping item. The Council supported OSM's recommendation to reduce confusion and simplify regulations. However, the Council discussed the historic use of Cape

Krusenstern National Monument (CAKR) by Point Hope residents and the potential interest for Point Hope to work with the National Park Service to become a resident community of CAKR.

WCR22-45: Caribou Unit 23 Noatak National Preserve – closed to all but Federally qualified subsistence users. Maintain status quo. Mr. Hanson with ADF&G provided a report on the Western Arctic Caribou Herd. Dr. Hannah Voorhees, OSM Anthropologist, presented a summary of the analysis for wildlife closure review WCR22-45. Motion by Mr. Oomittuk, seconded by Ms. Kippi, to maintain status quo. Motion passed on a unanimous vote.

Justification: The Council recommended maintaining the targeted caribou closure in Unit 23 in support of Noatak, to continue to reduce previously significant user conflict in the area and because the targeted closure provides a needed priority for subsistence users “to put food on the table.”

WP22-47: Unit 22 Caribou – Allow calf harvest. Support with modification to only allow harvest of orphaned calves. Ms. Holman presented a summary of the analysis of WP22-47. Motion by Mr. Oomittuk, seconded by Mr. Williams, to support WP22-47 with modification to only allow harvest of orphaned calves. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Justification: The Council supported inserting “orphaned” in front of “calves may be taken” in the regulatory language to make it clear that the intent was not to target calves, but rather to legalize subsistence harvest if a calf was injured or orphaned. Council members discussed that an orphaned caribou likely would not survive, and their meat and hides should not go to waste. The opportunity for hunting the orphaned calves would be beneficial in providing soft meat to elders and in making traditional clothing.

However, the Council considers conservation and ensuring the growth of the herd as a priority and is very concerned about the decline of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd. The Council does not want to send the wrong message with a regulation about harvest of calves when they are essential to conservation as they are the future of the herd.

Statewide:

WP22-01: Statewide - Define who is/is not a participant in a community harvest system and effects on harvest limits. Support. Pippa Kenner, OSM Anthropologist, presented a summary of the analysis of WP22-01. Motion by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Rexford, to support WP22-01. Motion passed on a unanimous vote.

Justification: Anaktuvuk Pass has a community harvest system for sheep. Only Federally qualified subsistence users with customary and traditional use determination for that resource can participate in Federal community harvest systems.

WP22-02: Unit 6, 9, 10, 22, 23, 26 – Rescind restrictions for designated hunters in areas with community harvest systems in place. Support. Ms. Kenner presented a summary of the analysis of WP22-02. Motion by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Rexford, to support WP22-02. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Justification: The proposal is beneficial to meeting subsistence needs because that need sometimes is not met by elders and those who are disabled. This allows for designated hunters to assist even if there is a community harvest system in place.

2022 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program

Karen Hyer, OSM Fisheries Biologist, presented the 2022 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program (FRMP) Statewide and Northern Region overviews. The Council supports these current Fisheries Resource Monitoring Proposals for Northern Alaska. The Council discussed research priorities for the next FRMP call for proposals and will discuss this further at the next meeting.

Identifying Issues for FY2021 Annual Report

The Council identified the following topics for inclusion into the FY-2021 Annual Report:

- Concern about the low muskox population in Unit 26C preventing any subsistence harvest opportunity. Reports of high rate of muskox harvest in Canada and request for information on cross-boundary management of muskox with Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and Canada.
- Ongoing concerns about contaminants in subsistence fish around Nuiqsut. Request to BLM NPR-A to fund contaminants research and monitoring this, since contaminants is not a topic that can be addressed through the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program (FRMP).
- Recognition and support for community harvest and sharing patterns.
- Request for Federal Subsistence Board action on proposals to further consider continuation of subsistence uses and that substantial evidence include local and traditional knowledge.

2022 Council application/nomination open season

Ms. Patton informed the Council about 2022 Council application and nomination open season that closes February 28, 2022 and requested Council members help in reaching out to the rural communities in the region and recruit new applicants.

WSA21-01 (deferred) Update and Guided Discussion

Dr. Voorhees gave an update on deferred Special Action Request WSA21-01 and requested feedback from the Council. The Council was asked several predefined questions. Council members said that, in general, they have had access to caribou this season. They said that non-local hunters could deflect migrations. Most of the North Slope communities haven't experienced the same direct impacts as communities in Unit 23 as discussed in WSA21-01 but support the Northwest Arctic Region on this request. Closure in Unit 23 may push non-resident hunters into Unit 26A. The Council suggested weather and changing environmental conditions may also influence migrations.

Dr. Voorhees informed the Council that the updated WSA21-01 analysis will come before the Council during their winter 2022 meeting and the Council would be asked to take final action on WSA21-01 at that time. Dr. Voorhees also provided an update on the special action timeline, additional public hearings and process for Federal Subsistence Board action.

Agency Reports:

- Marcy Okada presented the Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve report.
- Kyle Jolly presented the National Park Service caribou report.
- Alex Hansen, Carmen Daggett, Beth Lenart, Rick Merizon, and Mark Burch presented the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Wildlife updates and reports.
- Caroline Brown provided the Council with a written report from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Subsistence Division.
- Shelly Jones and Katie Drew presented the Bureau of Land Management Arctic Field office and NPR-A report.
- Steve Berendzen presented the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge report.
- Dr. Brent Vickers presented the Office of Subsistence Management Report.

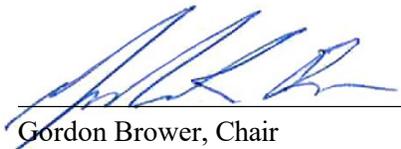
Future Meeting Dates:

Winter 2022 meeting to be held March 8-9, 2022, in Utqiagvik if able to meet in person.

Fall 2022 meeting to be held October 13-14 with location to be determined.



Leigh Hongi on behalf of Eva Patton,
Designated Federal Officer USFWS
Office of Subsistence Management



Gordon Brower, Chair
North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

These minutes will be formally considered by the North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council at its winter 2022 meeting, and any corrections or notations will be incorporated in the minutes at that meeting.

A more detailed report of this meeting, copies of the transcript, and meeting handouts are available upon request. Call Eva Patton at 1-800-478-1456 or 1-907-786-3888, email eva_patton@fws.gov.