

Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

AGENDA

Teleconference Number: Toll free #: (866) 720-4570

Participant Passcode: 8226702

Date: 3/21/13 Time: 9:00 AM

Meeting Place: William Jack Hernandez Sport Fish Hatchery, Anchorage

CALL TO ORDER: LaMont Albertson

Chairperson

Time

ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM: **QUORUM MET? Yes / No**

Upriver Elder:

Processor:

Downriver Elder:

Member at Large:

Commercial Fisher:

Sport Fisher:

Lower River Subsistence:

Western Interior RAC:

Middle River Subsistence:

Y-K Delta RAC:

Upper River Subsistence:

ADF&G:

Headwaters Subsistence:

INTRODUCTIONS:

INVOCATION:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda may be amended at this time.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Status of Working Group funding. OSM call for proposals.
2. Discussion: engaging in a Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) Process. (Casie Stockdale)
3. Discussion: possible Management Approach/Strategies for Kuskokwim River Salmon Fisheries 2013.
4. Discussion: consideration of using (or requiring) smaller mesh gear in the Chinook subsistence fishery. (Dave Cannon)
5. Elections: Chair persons/Primary Members/Alternates
6. Outreach: how do we get information out to a large audience? (Dave Cannon)

OLD BUSINESS: Action items from previous meetings:

1. Follow-up: Bev Hoffman's letter to recruit an upriver elder (*letters have been prepared and will be signed at this meeting and mailed Friday*).
2. Discussion of the Iyana Gusty Award.
3. Lamont Albertson's letter in support of HB332 (*March 30, 2012 meeting; this bill has been reintroduced as HB49 in the current legislative session*)
4. Lamont Albertson's letter in support of USFWS participation in the KRSMWG.
5. Review of KRSMWG Bylaws. Discuss the purpose and conditions for the WG's creation.
6. Update KRSMWG Seats (roll-call list, possible alternates).

COMMENTS FROM WORKING GROUP MEMBERS: _____

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING: *Suggested: May 10, 2013 in Bethel*

Time

Date

Place

ADJOURNMENT TIME _____

Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

1 (800) 315-6338 (MEET) Code: 58756# (KUSKO)

ADF&G Bethel toll free: 1 (855) 933-2433

Information Packet

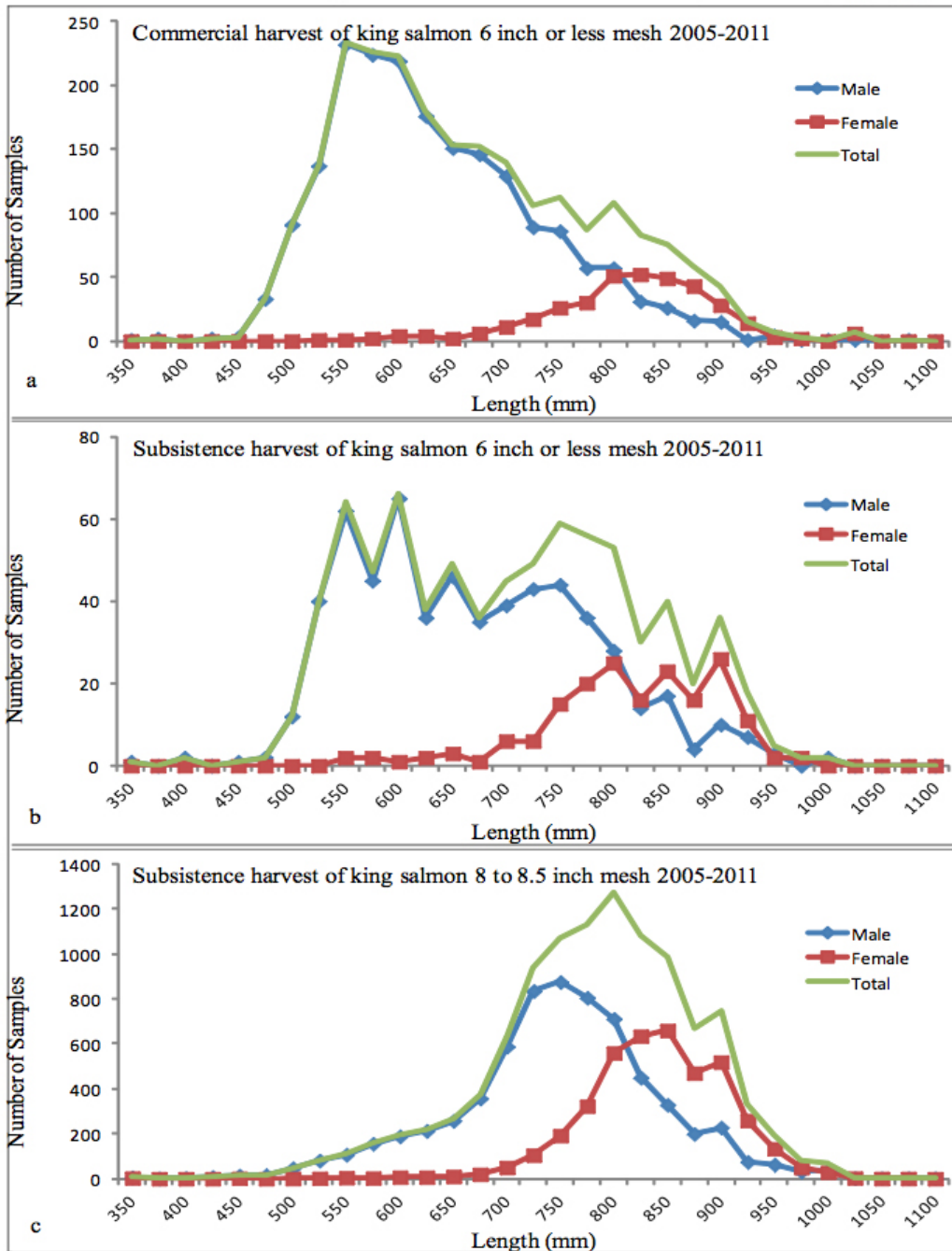


Figure 3.—Length frequency of king salmon harvested by gillnets (a) commercial harvest with 6-inch or less mesh, (b) subsistence harvest with 6-inch or less mesh, and (c) subsistence harvest with 8 to 8.5-inch mesh from 2005 to 2011 in the Kuskokwim River.

2011 KRSMWG SEASON SUMMARY ATTENDANCE												
MEMBER SEAT	Paid invite	MEMBER	# MEETINGS	MEETINGS								
				3/18/11	5/3/11	5/17/11	6/13/11	6/20/11	6/27/11	7/1/11	7/20/11	7/27/11
Downriver Elder		James Charles	6	x			x	x	x	x	x	
		Chuck Chaliak	0									
Headwaters Subsistence		Nick Petruska	0									
		Nick Alexia Sr.	0									
		Daniel Esai	2	x	x							
Upriver Elder		vacant	0									
Lower R. Subsistence		Mike Williams	5					x	x	x	x	x
		Greg Roczicka	5	x	x	x	x					x
Middle R. Subsistence		Gerald Simeon	2							x	x	
		Angela Morgan	4	x		x	x	x				
		Wayne Morgan	2				x			x		
Upriver Subsistence		Evelyn Thomas	1	x								
		Pete Mellick	0									
		Sophie Gregory	0									
Processor		Stuart Currie (Kusk. Seafoods)	7		x		x	x	x	x	x	x
		Nick Souza (CVS)	1				x					
		Neil Rodriquez (CVS)	1	alternate	x							
Member at Large		Henry Lupie	2	x						x		
		George Alexie	1									x
		Ron Simon	0									
		Fritz Charles	4				x	x	x	x		
YK Delta RAC		Bob Aloysius	7	x	x		x	x	x		x	x
		Mary Gregory	0									
Commercial Fisher		Charlie Brown	2	x								x
		George Alexie	4				x	x	x	x		
		Sam Alexie	0									
		Douglas Kernak	0									
Western Interior RAC		Ray Collins	8	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
		Carl Morgan	0									
Sport Fishing		Lamont Albertson	5			x	x	x			x	x
		Beverly Hoffman	6	x	x	x	x		x	x		
ADF&G chair		Charles Brazil	9	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
				Lamont	Bev	Greg	Greg	Bev	Bev	Greg	Bev	Greg
		Indicates a quorum was not established with less than 7 members in attendance from different organizations.										
		Attended no meetings inseason										

2010 KRSMWG SEASON SUMMARY ATTENDANCE									
MEMBER SEAT	Paid invite	MEMBER	# MEETINGS	4/1/10	6/22/10	7/5/10	7/8/10	7/12/10	7/17/10
<i>Downriver Elder</i>		James Charles		X	X	X	X		X
		Chuck Chaliak						X	
<i>Headwaters Subsistence</i>		Nick Petruska		X	X				
		Nick Alexia Sr.							
<i>Upriver Elder</i>		VACANT							
<i>Lower R. Subsistence</i>		Mike Williams			X			X	
		Greg Roczicka		X	X		X		
<i>Middle R. Subsistence</i>		Calvin Simeon		X	X			X	X
		Angela Morgan			X		X		
		Wayne Morgan					x		
<i>Upriver Subsistence</i>		Evelyn Thomas			X				
		Pete Mellick							
		Sophie Gregory							
<i>Processor</i>		Stuart Currie		X*	X	X*	X	X*	X
<i>* voting member</i>		Bill McDonnell		X	X*	x	X*	X	x*
		Nick Souza		X	X	x		X	
<i>Member at Large</i>		Henry Lupie							
		George Alexie							X
		Ron Simon							
		Fritz Charles							
<i>YK Delta RAC</i>		Bob Aloysius		X	X			X	
		Mary Gregory							
<i>Commercial Fisher</i>		Charlie Brown		X		X		X	X
		George Alexie							
		Sam Alexie							
		Douglas Kernak							
<i>Western Interior RAC</i>		Ray Collins		X	X		X	X	X
		Carl Morgan							
<i>Sport Fishing</i>		Lamont Albertson							
		Beverly Hoffman		X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>ADF&G</i>		Charles Brazil/Travis Ellison		X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Chair:</i>				bev/greg	greg	Bev	Bev	Bev	Bev

"It's blowin' in the wind"

Kuskokwim River salmon users, 'working group' to form soon

by Michael Fagan

All users of Kuskokwim River salmon have an unprecedented opportunity in these next few months to help shape the management of their fishery this 1988 season.

The intent of the new Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Plan, sanctioned by the Board of Fisheries in December 1987, is expected to be preliminarily acted upon soon, possibly as early as this weekend.

The plan, which replaces state fish biologists' June King Management Plan of last year, calls for joint venture management of the 1988 Kuskokwim River salmon fishery.

Expected to help determine pre-season and in-season management of this year's fishery here are Kuskokwim River commercial and subsistence fishermen, processors, and representatives of the Western Alaska Salmon Coalition (WASCO), the local fish advisory committee, the Kuskokwim Fish Co-op, the state Department of Fish & Game, and the state subsistence division.

Increased sharing of information among all users of Kuskokwim River salmon — especially that information collected in-season — is partly the goal of the new plan.

Another large part is to actually put the information to use.

The concept of a joint management of the fishery represents a departure from earlier years' management of the Kuskokwim River. Management in past years has been exerted primarily by state-hired biologists.

The new guidelines which call for cooperative effort among all the user groups were hammered out during the Board of Fish meetings late last year by a nucleus of persons who have a vested interest in the salmon fishery here.

Those voicing serious interest in joining this yet-to-be-formed 'Working Group' are expected to begin working in earnest here after the completion of the next slate of fish board meetings scheduled to begin March 1.

The 'working group,' which as a first order of business must name a chair, is likely to meet informally, though, before March 1, ac-

pre-season and in-season management of the fishery and evaluate items such as, but not limited to: test fishery data, CPUJE (catch per unit effort) data from historic and in-season commercial fisheries, and in-season catch data.

"It is understood that the purpose of these meetings shall be to arrive at a consensus regarding the openings and closures of the Kuskokwim River fishery. If a consensus cannot be reached, emergency order authority will continue to be at the area management biologist's discretion.

"The department and the Working Group will work towards the development of a comprehensive management plan for all of the Kuskokwim River salmon stocks, and report to the board on their progress.

"Calls for Working Group/staff meetings will be at the discretion of the chair of the Working Group."

In interviews conducted with White in recent weeks, he explained that the 1987 June King Management Plan would have remained in effect this year had it not been amended into the aforemen-

tioned 'working group plan.' Vociferous objections to last year's plan were raised at a meeting held here last spring. Present at that meeting, held at the KVNA building, were local commercial and subsistence fishermen and state fish department officials.

The seeds of this 1988 cooperative management venture were partly sown there. Anchorage- and Juneau-based state officials promised at that meeting that local users of the Kuskokwim River fishery would have greater input into its management. Local Area Management Biologist Kim Francisco, under fire from locals at that time but supported by his superiors, also promised greater efforts at communications with local fishery user groups.

Thus, the cooperative 'working group' is hatched.

Those who depend on the continued health of the Kuskokwim River fishery recognize that successful management of the Kings, said to be in a possible conservation crisis, cannot be separated from the successful management of all five salmon species on this river.

That is, if the Kings are thought by policymakers to be endangered, management practices to bolster the King numbers will impact negatively the commercial harvest here of the other species.

What can be gained from a joint venture management effort of the salmon fishery here is a heightened awareness among all user groups about the apparent problems of the King.

What can also be gained from the cooperative effort is a better and more reliable flow of information about the strength of the entire salmon fishery.

The increased flow of information is designed, according to White, "to make up the deficit of this fishery's in-season management tools and pre-season predictors."

The working group's "overall emphasis," underscores White, is to form a productive, constructive climate whereby a greater amount of information can be gathered from a wider array of sources in order to better determine the run strength of each species.

"For the sake of the resource," says White. Toward this end Kemp-Paulucci is initiating its own test fishery this year, says White. Its results will complement those recorded by the state's test fishery con-

Hammond detailed plan for ecosystem management

Second of two parts

Editor's note: Just weeks before his death on July 11, 2005,



Hammond

Gov. Hammond, Republican governor of Alaska from 1974 to 1982, was interviewed near his Lake Clark home by Lance Holter and Jack Hession, journalists who were in Alaska to talk about the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the Pebble project and environmental issues. In typical Hammond-like fashion, the governor took over the interview. Larry Smith of the Hammond Refuge Working Group provided Alaska Newspapers with the transcript taken from a DVD recording of the interview. Here are excerpts.

INTERVIEWER: How do you see the impacts of Pebble Mine as a long-term sustainable economic benefit?

HAMMOND: I think people come to Alaska not to look for open-pit mines but to experience some of the wild country that we still have in great abundance. And some of the parks and refuges provide that. Those who assert that the lands were locked up — I

COMMENT

claim they were "locked open."

They're locked open for future generations to assure they have access to these wondrous that otherwise could be precluded if they were parceled out in private ownership.

INTERVIEWER: How do you see the impacts of the mine on subsistence and natural resources, such as that to the Native people and the residents of the area?

HAMMOND: I think there's going to be an inevitable impact. Not only impact on the resource itself, but the one thing about an impact that's intangible and unquantifiable and certainly you can't put a monetary value directly on it, is the quality of the experience. That Koktuli country, for example, I brought the first boat up there 40 years ago, and it was an absolutely wonderful experience. Now that experience in large measure has been retained, and I'd like to see other people enjoy that.

I think the presence of an enormous mine with a thousand people cluttering about, is going to change that experience and alter it in such a manner as to be something that we'll lose forever.

INTERVIEWER: Do you believe that an open-pit, hard rock mine can be developed responsibly?

HAMMOND: I am not one to say, or to judge whether they can do it. ... I assume it can be. But if it's developed responsibly and with the appropriate environmental controls, can it be done profitably? At this point I seriously doubt it.

And to make it meet those criteria I mentioned, I suspect it cannot operate profitably, because it would entail an increase in the mining tax and contributions to the permanent fund that do not now exist.

So theoretically, it could be done responsibly. Practically and economically? Very doubtful in my view.

INTERVIEWER: I would think that bringing in this kind of a mine and the boom and bust economy that accompanies it would also bring a great amount of social dysfunction, such as alcoholism, drug abuse and addiction. Have you any experience with that as governor?

HAMMOND: I don't think there's any

question about that. We've seen over the past 20 or 30 years a vast increase in many of the areas, including the villages, of that type of dysfunction, which would only be compounded with a monumental project of that nature.

I think a lot of the villages sense that and are apprehensive over it. And I've been to several meetings at which seemingly the majority of villages impacted seem to be in opposition to it, despite the proposed benefits that might accrue to them economically.

And so I think there's grave concern about that, and I think it's a realistic concern. That can be applied whether it be a Pebble mine in a remote area, or something in downtown Anchorage. The same problems will attend it, and all you can do, I guess, is assure that at the very least you extract from those activities enough revenue to offset the cost of such impact.

INTERVIEWER: So the economic benefits of hard rock mining may not actually equal out the cost of social net. ...

HAMMOND: It very well could not. And one of the things that I had proposed and tried to do when I was in office, was to get some sort of formula or an assessment process in place where we can look at proposed development activities to see if it met those four criteria. I unfortunately did not come up with anything that accomplished that clearly.

But I think now we have in place a vehicle and an appropriate agency to do precisely that. The Institute of Social and Economic Research at the University of Alaska seems to me exactly the sort of entity that should take on the process of evaluating all these elements to determine whether the benefits outweigh the costs.

INTERVIEWER: Gov. Hammond, I'm beginning to see there's this new industry that's developing in the Alaskan wilderness, and this is people from all over the world having high-quality wilderness experiences. How do you see this into the future?

Hammond: I think it can only grow, and it's expanded enormously during my time in Alaska.

I was one of the first that had a hunting-fishing lodge in the entire Bristol Bay area. One of three, that's all there were. There are now over 200. And they're proliferating.

When I first came up here in 1946, I worked for an old-time guide who had come up here in 1922. He was complaining about how everything was degenerating: "Too many cheechakos up here, fish and game's going downhill, I'm glad I'm getting old so I don't have to see it get worse."

Now here I find myself almost 60 years later saying the same sort of thing. And people that come up today will be saying it 50 years from now. So it's all relative, but thank heaven we at least have something that we can sustain if we do it right.

The establishment of parks and refuges was not my first preference. I wanted to create an ecosystem management concept, which would include within its boundaries cooperative management areas on state, federal, private, Native lands that all agreed to a plan that would determine the prime value that we wanted to protect — be it fish or caribou — and assured that we had in place protections that assured their health in perpetuity. But at the same time didn't preclude activities that could be conducted in compatibility with them.

I felt it would be far better to have over the whole ecosystem, say, and 80 percent protection, than to have 100 percent here with a park, adjacent to perhaps 20, 40, 50, dependent on the degree of desecration permitted by that particular landowner.

Caribou and salmon, of course, can't read these protected areas into one that's virtually unprotected.

I bounced that off of every person in Congress at the time, and interestingly enough, Mo Udall and John Siewerling said that's a great idea, the ecosystem management concept, but can you sell it to the national conservation organizations? I couldn't.

"This has to be a park, and this has to be a refuge," and they were pretty locked into that. But if you strip off those names and ask people what is the prime value you are trying to protect, clearly in Bristol Bay it'd be salmon and other wildlife.

Then you have in place a system that adopts a plan that assures that protection, to which everybody adheres. With the threat that if they don't adhere to it, those park fences go way up to provide additional protection on what lands are in the federal domain, and it keeps everyone honest.

U.S.-Soviet fish agreement to help curb high seas salmon interception

An agreement initialed last Thursday by the United States and the Soviet Union not only seeks to correct a longstanding fishery management problem, it may signal a new era of cooperation in resource management between the two countries.

The agreement reached is the first time that the Soviets and the U.S. have joined forces to regulate fishing in the North Pacific, where concern for existing fish stocks has become a major international issue. It would prohibit fishing for salmon and steelhead trout in international waters of the North Pacific.

Any fishing vessel found with salmon or steelhead on board anywhere in international waters would be in violation of the agreement and would be subject to enforcement actions.

A new four-member commission consisting of representatives from the U.S., Japan, the Soviet Union, and Canada would be formed under the new agreement to manage salmon fishing in the North Pacific.

The new commission would replace the current International North Pacific Fisheries Commission.

The commission would have jurisdiction over the North Pacific outside the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) of the member nations.

Under the agreement, member nations would also agree to limit salmon fishing inside member countries' EEZs to within 50 miles of their coasts and prohibit salmon by-catch in trawl fisheries according to a news release from Senator Ted Stevens.

"This is strong, strong stuff," said Stevens, who has favored tougher regulation of fishing in the North Pacific.

"This agreement could lead to the first fisheries management convention that would include all four of the major countries of origin of Pacific salmon," Stevens said. The agreement, particularly the prohibition on

taking high seas salmon, would be a strong force for protecting salmon," he added.

The salmon agreement is seen as a blow to the Japanese who have been fishing on the high seas for salmon under separate agreements with three other countries.

According to the press release, U.S. and Soviet officials also discussed highseas driftnet fishing and unregulated pollock fishing in the "donut hole" an area of the Bering Sea that lies outside the 200 mile EEZ limit of both the U.S. and Soviet Union.

Scientists from both countries are sounding a warning that the Bering Sea pollock resource is declining due primarily to intensive, unregulated fishing in the area. If left unchecked, the fishery could threaten the health of pollock stocks and the economic and commercial interests of the U.S. and the

U.S.S.R.

As a result of the scientific report, the U.S. and the Soviets are expected to meet again to continue the donut hole discussion.

Fisheries expert Harold Sparck predicted positive effects for Kuskokwim River fisheries. He said that the Japanese are taking "significant numbers" of coho and chinook salmon and can continue under present agreements until 1994. The U.S.-Soviet agreement would "shut them down" in 1994, Sparck said. "You'll see improved coho runs in 1991," said Sparck of the new agreement.

The agreement, which will take the form of a treaty, requires that at least one other of the salmon producing nations, Japan, Canada, or both to sign the pact before it becomes effective. As a treaty it would also require approval by the U.S. Senate.

BY-LAWS OF THE
KUSKOKWIM RIVER SALMON MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

PURPOSE

To provide local fishers and other users with an avenue for direct involvement in the management of their fishery. The goal is for all parties to work together to reach a consensus on management of the fishery. Final emergency order authority continues to rest with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

RULES OF CONDUCT

Meetings will be conducted by Robert's Rules of Order. The sequence of meetings is as follows:

- I. Call to order (by chair)
- II. Roll Call (by chair)
- III. Invocation
- IV. Approval of Minutes
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. People to be heard
- VII. Continuing Business

A. Reports

1. False Pass Fishery
2. Processor Report
3. Traditional Native Fishery Knowledge
4. Subsistence Reports
5. Test Fisheries
6. Commercial Catch
7. Escapement Projects
(sonar, towers, weirs)
8. Aerial Surveys

9. Weather

B. Recommendation

C. Motion for Discussion and Action

VIII. Old Business

IX. New Business

X. Meeting Action Announcement

XI. Date, Time, and Place of next meeting

XII. Adjournment

(This sequence may be changed at the discretion of the Group)

Continuing Business reports may not exceed 3 minutes in length, excluding questions and answers.

Under the 'People to be heard' agenda item the public would be provided an opportunity to discuss only topics or items which are not already listed as specific agenda items. A member of the public may also ask the Group to place an issue on the agenda.

Unlike other institutions or committees, the Working Group operates on a consensus basis. A simple majority vote of the members is not sufficient to pass a motion. For the purposes of the Group all motions must pass by a consensus of the members present at the meeting. If 7 (seven) or less of the members are present, then consensus is defined as a situation wherein either all voting members vote "yea" or all voting members vote "yea" except for one "nay" vote. If 8 (eight) or more of the members are present, then consensus is defined as a situation wherein either all voting members vote "yea" or all voting members vote "yea" except for two "nay" votes. Note that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game does not have voting status on motions concerning the setting of commercial openings.

ARTICLE I, OFFICE

The principal office of the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group (Working Group) shall be located in the City of Bethel, Alaska 99559.

The current address of the principal office is, P.O. Box 1467, Bethel, Alaska 99559. The physical address is 570 4th Avenue.

ARTICLE II, MEMBERS

Section 1. Members: The Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group shall have 13 member organizations or constituencies. These members represent: Elders (Upriver, Downriver) (2), Subsistence Fishermen (Lower River, Middle River, Upriver, and Headwaters) (4), Processors (1), Commercial Fishermen (1), Sport Fishers (1), Member at Large (1), Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Committees (Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Western Interior) (2), and the Department of Fish and Game (1). Each member of the Working Group will designate a representative and an alternate in the event the representative is unable to attend a meeting. In the case where more than one person is nominated to represent a member organization or constituency, the Working Group will appoint one of the nominees to represent the member organization or constituency.

Section 2. Annual Meeting:

An annual meeting of the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group may be held in Bethel during the month of March at the call of the Co-Chairs. The purpose of the meeting will be to conduct any unfinished administrative functions that the Working Group needs to complete for the following year.

Section 3. Special Meetings:

Special meetings of the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group may be called by the Co-Chairs.

Section 4. Notice of Meetings:

The Department of Fish and Game will be responsible for informing the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group members of the time, place and date of any meetings. Notification of meetings to the Working Group will be not less than 48 hours (when possible) or more than 30 days in advance.

Section 5. Quorum:

In order for a meeting of the Working Group to be held and for actions taken at a meeting to be legitimate, it is necessary for there to be a quorum at a meeting, that is at least 7 of the 13 member constituencies must be represented.

If a quorum of the full committee is not present, business may be conducted in executive session. The executive committee is composed of at least 5 representatives: one Co-Chair, any two representatives of the following member groups; Member at Large, Processors, Commercial Fisherman, and any two representatives of the following member groups; Lower, Middle, Upriver and Headwaters Subsistence, Federal RAC, Sport Fisher.

ARTICLE III. REPRESENTATIVES

Section 1. Working Group:

The Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group shall be comprised of 13 representatives from the areas described in Article II, Section 1.

Section 2. General Powers:

The Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group shall make recommendations to the Department of Fish and Game for the purposes of managing the salmon fisheries on the Kuskokwim River after subsistence and commercial catch, test fishery, weir, tower and sonar reports and other information are provided to the group.

Section 3. Voting Rights:

Each Working Group member shall be entitled to one vote. Alternates designated by the member shall also be entitled to one vote in the absence of that member. Members may abstain from voting on any motion.

The Elder member shall designate any respected Elder to serve as their alternate.

Working Group members must hear all the Continuing Business reports to vote on a motion to set commercial openings

Section 4. Resignation:

Any member or representative may resign by submitting a letter of resignation to a Co-Chair of the Working Group. The resignation must give the Working Group at least 4 weeks notification so that a new member or representative may be appointed.

Section 5. Vacancies:

A vacancy on the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, forfeiture or otherwise, may be filled by the Working Group from nominations by member groups for the remainder of the term.

Section 6. Forfeit, participation or removal:

- A. FORFEIT. The Working Group will give written notification, by certified mail, to any member organization, their representative and alternate whose seat has not been represented for 2 consecutive meetings that their membership in the Working Group will be forfeited if the seat is not represented by the following meeting. Whereas, a member's failure to be represented at a meeting is excused by the Working Group, as appropriate, such failure shall not be considered an absence within this section.

- B. PARTICIPATION. No representative will be allowed to participate in a Working Group meeting who is deemed to be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

- C. REMOVAL. A representative may be removed from their seat on the Working Group for cause and must be provided the opportunity for a hearing before the Working Group. A representative may be removed for cause for any reason allowed, including but not limited to, conviction of a felony, gross misconduct, violation of their trust to the Working Group as a representative, or harassment of any kind to the other representatives of the Working Group.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS OF THE WORKING GROUP

Section 1. Officers:

The Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group shall elect Co-Chairs for the

purpose of conducting meetings. The Co-Chairs will be elected annually at the first meeting occurring after March 1st. The Working Group shall elect or appoint other officers as deemed necessary. An officer of the Working Group may not hold more than one position. The Co-Chairs must be official representatives of the Working Group.

Section 2. Terms of Office:

Each representative of the Working Group shall be elected or appointed every 2 years. A representative shall hold their position until their successor has been duly elected or appointed and has been qualified

Section 3. Co-Chair:

A Co-Chair of the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group shall preside at all meetings of the Working Group.

Section 4. Other Committees:

The Co-Chairs shall have the authority to appoint representatives to serve on committees as deemed necessary. Any representative appointed to a committee may be removed in the best interest of the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group.

ARTICLE V. DEFINITIONS

- 1. Member.** The member organizations or constituencies of the Working Group as listed in Article II, Section 1.
- 2. Alternate.** An individual designated to act in the place of a member or representative unable to attend a meeting.
- 3. Representative.** Person designated by a Working Group member organization or constituency to represent that member organization or constituency at Working Group meetings.
- 4. District W-1.** The Lower Kuskokwim River consists of the Kuskokwim River from a line between Apokak Slough and Popokamiut, upstream to a line between ADF&G regulatory markers located about eight miles above the Tuluksak River.

5. **District W-2.** The middle Kuskokwim River consists of the Kuskokwim River from ADF&G regulatory markers located at the upstream entrance to the second slough on the west bank downstream from Kalskag to the regulatory markers at Chuathbaluk.
6. **Elder.** Any respected Elder that resides within the Kuskokwim Area.
7. **Headwaters Subsistence.** Representatives that are active subsistence users in the Kuskokwim River drainage from McGrath upstream to the headwaters of the Kuskokwim River.
8. **Upriver Subsistence.** Representatives that are active subsistence users in the Kuskokwim River drainage above Chuathbaluk.
9. **Middle River Subsistence.** Representatives that are active subsistence users in the Kuskokwim River drainage from Lower Kalskag to Chuathbaluk within District W-2.
10. **Lower River Subsistence.** Representatives that are active subsistence users in the Kuskokwim River drainage from Eek to Tuluksak within District W-1.
11. **Processor.** Representatives that own or operate commercial salmon buying and/or processing businesses within District W-1 and W-2.
12. **Member at Large.** Representatives that are Area residents selected by the Working Group for their knowledge of, appreciation for, and experience with Kuskokwim River fisheries.
13. **Federal Regional Advisory Council.** Representatives that are current members of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta and Western Interior Advisory Councils and reside in the Kuskokwim Area.
14. **Commercial Fishermen.** Kuskokwim commercial fishing permit holder or crew member, supported by commercial fishing permit holders who fish primarily within Districts W-1 and W-2.
15. **Sport Fisher.** Representatives that actively participate in sports fishing within the Kuskokwim River drainage.

- 16. Alaska Department of Fish and Game.** Representatives that are presently employed with ADF&G in Bethel. This position is an associate member and has no voting powers but has the authority to veto recommendations for commercial fishing periods from the Working Group. Final emergency order authority continues to rest with the ADF&G.

ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENT TO BY-LAWS

These by-laws may be altered, amended or repealed and new by-laws may be adopted by consensus of the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group representatives present at any regular or special meeting, if at least thirty (30) days written notice is given by certified mail, phone call, or intention to alter, amend or appeal or to adopt new by-laws at such meeting.