

Unit 23 Working Group May 14-15, 2014

Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Chambers
163 Lagoon Street, Kotzebue, Alaska

Wednesday, May 14
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 15
9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Public radio station KOTZ will broadcast the meeting on
Wednesday, May 14, 1-4 pm and Thursday, May 15, 9 am-12 pm; 1-4 pm
Tune to 89.9 FM or AM 720, or listen via the web at www.kotz.org**

AGENDA

Meeting Topics

- Update on Western Arctic herd population and harvest data
- Discuss 2013 hunting season & preparation for 2014 season
- Presentation regarding proposed road to Ambler Mining District
- Pilot education efforts and opportunities
- Update on State and federal management, planning and enforcement related to reducing hunting conflicts in Unit 23
- Public comment session – By phone or at Assembly Chambers
Thursday, May 15, 1:15 – 2:15 p.m.
- Discussion of additional topics raised by Working Group members

Wednesday, May 14

Coffee/Refreshments

Note that from 1:00-4:00 pm, the meeting will be broadcast on KOTZ and online at www.kotz.org

1:00 p.m. Welcome, Introductions – Review Agenda / Revise if necessary

- List of Unit 23 Working Group members
- Summary of recommendations made by the Working Group at past meetings

1:15 p.m. Western Arctic Herd Population / 2013 Hunting Season

- Caribou population data and 2013 harvest data
Jim Dau, Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G)
- Working Group comments/discussion regarding 2013 hunting season and preparation for 2014

2:15 p.m. Break

2:30 p.m. Proposed Road to Ambler Mining District

- Presentation by the Alaska Industrial Development and Energy Authority (AIDEA) regarding the proposed road to the Ambler Mining District, at the request of the Unit 23 Working Group
Mark Davis and John Springsteen, AIDEA
- Working Group questions and discussion

4:00 p.m. Adjourn for the day

Thursday, May 15

Coffee/Refreshments

Note that from 9:00 am-12:00 pm and 1:00-4:00 pm, the meeting will be broadcast on KOTZ and online at www.kotz.org

9:00 a.m. Welcome

9:10 a.m. Education Update – Update on Unit 23 education initiatives
Meghan Nedwick, ADF&G

9:40 a.m. Federal Aviation Administration – Pilot Education Efforts & Opportunities
Lisa Asplin, FAA Safety Team (education focus)

10:10 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. Federal & State Management, Planning & Permitting – Agency presentations and Working Group discussion

- Noatak National Preserve
Frank Hays, National Park Service
- NPS Research – Non-subsistence hunting in Noatak Preserve
Andrew Ackerman, National Park Service (via webinar)
- Bureau of Land Management
Shelly Jacobson, Bureau of Land Management

- Selawik National Wildlife Refuge
Tina Moran, US Fish and Wildlife Service

12:00 p.m. Lunch

1:15 p.m. Public Comment Opportunity regarding user conflicts related to hunting in Unit 23 –Call-In & In-person Comments

Comments by phone, dial 1-800-315-6338, enter code 2323#

To participate in Kotzebue, please come to the NWAB Assembly Chambers. Time per comment may be limited, to ensure opportunity for those who want to speak.

2:15 p.m. Continue Agency Updates & Working Group discussion

- Alaska Board of Game Actions – January & March 2014
Steve Machida, ADF&G
- Alaska Guide Concession Program update
Valerie Baxter, Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development – Report on Transporter Activities in 2013
Lee Strout, DCCED (via teleconference)

3:00 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. Working Group Discussion & Action

- Topics raised by Working Group members
- Follow-up on presentations or public comments
- Recommendations / Actions

4:15 p.m. Assignments / Wrap up

4:30 p.m. Adjourn

Additional information about the Unit 23 Working Group can be found at the project web site:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=wildlifeplanning.unit23>