

Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group

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Meeting Summary

July 11, 2012

Called to order at 10:00 at ADFG in Bethel and adjourned at 12:10 pm. Nine of thirteen members (10 with ADF&G) were present and a quorum was established.

AGENDA ITEMS:

- 1.) Continuing Business
- 2.) Old Business
- 3.) New Business

WORKING GROUP ACTION ITEMS:

- 1.) Alice Bailey will distribute the Bethel Test Fishery Chinook indices through Wednesday, July 11, to KRSMWG members as soon as they become available on July 12.
- 2.) ADF&G will make a decision regarding commercial fishing based on the July 11 BTF Chinook indices.
- 2.) KRSMWG members requested ADF&G and USFWS to discuss lifting subsistence fishing restrictions in Rolling Closure Section 5.

MEETING ACTION ANNOUNCEMENT:

The next KRSMWG meeting will be at 2:00 pm on Saturday, July 14.

ADF&G RECOMMENDATION:

ADF&G recommended a 4-hour non-Chinook directed commercial salmon fishing period in District 1-B on July 12 from 12:00pm to 4:00 pm.

WORKING GROUP MOTIONS:

- 1.) Approval of the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
- 2.) Approval of ADF&G's recommendation to have a 4-hour non-Chinook directed commercial salmon fishing period in District 1B on Thursday, July 12. Motion failed.
- 3.) To open a 4-hour non-Chinook directed commercial salmon fishing period in District 1B on Friday, July 13, *provided* that the Bethel Test Fishery Chinook salmon daily CPUE remains in the single digits, for July 11. Motion passed.
- 4.) Request that ADF&G and USFWS investigate a way to allow hook and line subsistence fishing in Rolling Closure Section 5 as soon as possible. Motion passed unanimously.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

- 1.) Carl Berger (Lower Kuskokwim Economic Development Council):
 - Carl reported that Alaska Airlines Cargo has voluntarily begun asking travelers leaving the area with fish boxes whether and what species of fish they are shipping. He said that the airline should be commended, and suggested that the KRSMWG write a posting for the airport explaining the importance of Chinook conservation and not harvesting Chinook to ship out of the area.

- Carl was concerned about rumors that taxi drivers and other people that are less in need may be opportunistically taking the majority of fish from the Bethel Test Fishery. He suggested that ADF&G be more careful and make sure that elders receive fish.

2.) Casie Stockdale (AVCP) reiterated Carl Berger's comments. She said that some people have tried to meet the test fish boat but the fish have already been taken. Casie did acknowledge Doug Bue's (ADF&G) efforts to deliver fish to elders in the community and maintain lists of those needing fish.

- Travis Elison (ADF&G) explained that ADF&G is making their best effort towards delivering fish. He asked Casie if AVCP could help by meeting the test fish boat at the dock and distributing fish, as well.
- *Although AVCP expressed willingness to help, the execution of Bethel test fish occurred on a schedule that often made fish available when AVCP personnel were not; contacting AVCP for help was attempted several times but was ultimately not practicable for distributing fish from the test fishery.*

3.) Steven Maxie from Napaskiak gathered comments from members of his community to present to the KRSWMG:

- He reported that subsistence users were concerned because when they pack dry fish for storage, they have noticed that 2012 harvests were less than the usual quantity. They realized that smaller fish may take up room in the smokehouse, but yield less meat.
- Many subsistence fishermen were borrowing nets from relatives to abide by 2012 mesh restrictions.
- Steven said it was time for commercial fishing because people need money for gas and to pay bills. He realized that there were mixed emotions regarding the date of the first commercial opening on the river, and he supported either the decision to fish or not to fish.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

LOWER RIVER SUBSISTENCE REPORTS:

Charlie Brown (Commercial Fisher) did not have much to report. He thought that the Chinook run was over. He noticed fewer boats going by, and those on the river were mostly headed for commercial fishing in District 4. Charlie was hoping for an opener in District 1-B because Chinook season and subsistence fishing was finished.

Fritz Charles (Member at Large) reported that most people were finished fishing, except for harvesting a few fish for the freezer. Fritz reported for James Charles, one of the last people fishing: the previous day he had caught 17 sockeye, 13 chums, and 1 Chinook with 6-inch mesh.

Mike Williams (Lower River Subsistence) reported that he had made a 15 minute drift in Akiachak and caught 101 chum, 10 sockeye, and 2 Chinook. He was also one of the last people fishing. He commented that Chinook abundance had dropped off.

John Andrew (YK Delta RAC alternate) reported that people in Kwethluk were finished fishing, except for a few people harvesting salmon for freezer fish or for relatives. Whitefish nets had

to be pulled because of high water. John commented that a few young people want commercial fishing, but many other people do not.

ONC IN-SEASON LOWER RIVER SUBSISTENCE REPORT:

Chris Shelden (ADF&G) read an oral report for ONC inseason surveys. Most people surveyed reported the Chinook run as late. 25 families surveyed did not meet subsistence harvest goals for Chinook but were satisfied with what they had for dry fish. 2 families reported spoilage.

MIDDLE RIVER SUBSISTENCE REPORT:

Gerald Simeon (Middle River Subsistence) reported that there were no Chinook in the river and everyone was finished fishing for chum. The water was still high in Aniak.

Bob Aloysius (YK Delta RAC) reported that some people in Kalskag were jarring, canning, or salting salmon. He commented that he felt good about sharing his two boats and six nets with relatives this year. Bob suggested that ONC would be a better contact for Bethel elders needing fish instead of AVCP because ONC is a local organization, whereas AVCP is regional.

KNA INSEASON MIDDLE RIVER SUBSISTENCE REPORT:

Please see July 11 Information Packet for KNA's full report.

Mike Thalhauser (KNA) reported that subsistence fishing had picked up in Sleetmute and Crooked Creek. He also commented that people were finished fishing in Aniak.

UPPER RIVER SUBSISTENCE REPORT: None.

HEADWATERS SUBSISTENCE REPORT:

Dan Esai (Headwaters Subsistence) suggested making the headwaters into a separate management section for subsistence restrictions. Dan caught a total of 38 Chinook for his family before closures were in effect in Section 5; whereas in the lower river fishermen were catching at least 30 in a single drift. Some families that subsistence fish for salmon with rod and reel were not able to fish due to restrictions, so they have been only eating whitefish. Water in McGrath has been too high for drifting and there was too much debris for set nets. Rod and reel remains the only viable option for subsistence fishing in that area, as well.

Ray Collins (Western Interior RAC) also reported debris and high water in McGrath, and no nets in the water.

DISCUSSION OF RUN ASSESSMENT DATA:

Water level at the Crooked Creek gauge was high and rising. Water temperature and water clarity at the Bethel Test Fish site were below average.

Travis Elison reported that the cumulative BTF Chinook CPUE indices through July 10 had started to "flat-line;" meaning catches had dropped off recently. Currently 2012 abundance was most similar to 2010.

The chum salmon cumulative CPUE was still climbing steadily. It was similar to 2010, 2009, and 2008, which were all good escapement years.

Sockeye abundance had decreased over the last few days. The cumulative CPUE index was better than 2010, which had been a very good year.

The graph of relative abundance of all salmon species at BTF indicated high chum abundance. Chinook abundance had dropped down to almost zero compared to other species.

WEIRS/MARK-RECAPTURE/AERIAL SURVEYS/OTHER:

Brittany Blain (ADF&G) explained that high water was affecting some weirs:

- Kogrukuk River Weir had not been operational since July 8 at 5:00 pm due to extremely high water.
- Salmon River Weir had not been operational since July 9 at 9:00 am due to extremely high water.
- Kwethluk River Weir went out of operation July 10 at 12:00 pm due to extremely high water. Depending on water levels, Kwethluk weir might be operational again by July 12.

Chinook salmon escapement:

- Kwethluk River weir had counted between 120-220 Chinook per day before the weir went out of operation on July 10.
- Tuluksak River weir was currently reporting escapements above the past five years and had already counted more fish than the season total for 2010. This project was in operation at the time of this meeting.
- George River weir was currently tracking better than the last two years.
- Tatlawiksuk River weir had recorded a jump in Chinook salmon passage on July 9 (360 Chinook in one day). Counts continued to look good compared to the last few years.
- Takotna River weir's current numbers were better than last year, but not as good as 2010. A good pulse came through on July 7 and Brittany expected another pulse soon. Chris Shelden added that considering this year's late run timing for Chinook, current escapement at Takotna "looks pretty good."

Brittany reported that chum salmon were still arriving at weir projects, whereas in prior years escapement numbers had dropped off by this time. She said that plenty of sockeye were showing up at the weirs, as well.

COMMENTS:

Ray Collins asked if 2012 Rolling Closures had been effective in increasing Chinook escapement.

- Travis Ellison replied, "Early indication does look like the closures are working." Travis explained that looking at run timing and when the first closures occurred, it makes sense that we had that good pulse at Takotna. Furthermore, the big pulse of 360 Chinook at Tatlawiksuk was the largest passage since 2007, when abundance had been high. George River weir crews had observed good early passage, and counts at Tuluksak were well above 2010 and above years that did not meet escapement goals.
- Dan Gillikin (USFWS) agreed with Travis that 2012 closures may have been effective. However, he reminded the group that even though 2012 numbers were encouraging, we are comparing them to the last five years which had low escapements. For example, 2010 had been the previous lowest year on record. He said, "We are certainly not back to where we need to be, which is the midpoint of the Management Objective that is currently in place."

Bob Aloysius asked how long it takes fish to swim from Bethel to the Tatlawiksuk River weir. He asked if there was any relationship between closures and the spike of escapement at the weir.

- Zac Liller (ADF&G) replied that it takes Chinook about a month to reach the weir from Bethel. He explained that Chinook salmon generally swim 10-20 miles per day, but run speed can vary. The Kalskag Fish Wheels catch Chinook 5-7 days after they pass through Bethel. Radio telemetry work shows that these fish generally show up at the Tatlawiksuk weir two to three weeks after they are tagged in Kalskag. However, some fish mill at the mouth of the tributary so they take longer to reach spawning grounds.
- Regarding savings from closures, Zac thought that “we are just on the front end of that. Any savings that may be achieved by not fishing are just now being realized as fish reach upper river systems. It is a little early to say.”
- Travis Elison added that it will be difficult to assess savings before the end of the Chinook run. A quantitative assessment will not be possible until later this summer and into the winter.

COMMERCIAL CATCH REPORT:

Please see page 17 of the July 11 Information Packet for historical commercial catch numbers for the Kuskokwim River.

Travis Elison commented that based on the current Bethel Test Fish CPUE compared to years presented in the packet, he expects to see a similar incidental Chinook harvest with a 4-hour opener in Subdistrict 1-B (less than 100 fish). He commented, “To put 100 fish incidental harvest in comparison with the total [Chinook] run...would be about 0.1%...”

PROCESSOR REPORT:

Nick Souza (Coastal Villages Seafoods) commented that he would like to commercial fish soon on the Kuskokwim River. He gave a report from the last three openings in Kuskokwim Bay, reminding the KRSWMG that commercial catches in the Bay were not related to the river.

- The District 4 commercial harvests for July 4 and 9 were over 200,000 pounds each day.
- The District 5 commercial harvest for July 9 was over 100,000 pounds of fish.
- Today’s opening had attracted less effort than the previous three.

Stuart Currie (Kuskokwim Seafoods) had a few comments:

- He stated from a processor standpoint, announcing commercial periods in advance was important for planning processing logistics. Kuskokwim Seafoods will be ready, but he wanted the KRSWMG and ADF&G to keep this point in mind.
- Stuart reminded the KRSWMG that the Kuskokwim River fishery used to be a significant source of income. It remains the only export from the region, and he “would hate to see this disappear.”

COMMENTS:

Bev Hoffman asked how many Chinook had been caught incidentally in Kuskokwim Bay commercial periods.

- Travis Elison replied that delaying commercial fishing this year reduced Chinook harvests. The cumulative Chinook harvest in Quinagak was 5,462 fish, compared to an average annual harvest of 18,900. The cumulative Chinook harvest in Goodnews Bay was 600 fish, compared to an average annual harvest of 2,900.

Bob Aloysius reported that many people still think that Goodnews Bay and Quinhagak commercial fishers intercept Kuskokwim River fish.

SPORT FISH REPORT:

- Bev Hoffman reported that she had been made aware of some individuals sport fishing upriver who had been unaware that the area was closed to rod and reel harvest of Chinook.

WEATHER FORECAST:

- The next three days were forecasted to be rainy and overcast.

RECOMMENDATION:

ADF&G recommended a 4-hour non-Chinook directed commercial salmon fishing period in District 1-B on July 12 from 12:00pm to 4:00 pm.

- Subdistrict 1-B within District 1 runs from Bethel down to the mouth of the Kuskokwim River.
- ADF&G did not recommend a 2-hour extension in the lower section of 1-B.
- Processors agreed not to purchase Chinook salmon caught incidentally. Any Chinook not wanted for subsistence use by fishers would be distributed to elders.

WORKING GROUP MOTIONS:

MOTION 1: Approval of the agenda.
Motion passed unanimously (10 yeas).

MOTION 2: Approval of ADF&G's recommendation to have a 4-hour non-Chinook directed commercial salmon fishing period in District 1-B on July 12. Motion failed (5 yeas, 4 nays).

COMMENTS FOR MOTION 2:

Discussion regarding Motion 2:

USFWS was not entirely in agreement with the ADF&G recommendation.

- Tom Doolittle was concerned about the late Chinook run timing and incidental harvest. USFWS was concerned that current Chinook passage at Bethel could range between 5% and 25% of the run left to go.
- Dan Gillikin (USFWS) commented that there were different ways to calculate the percentile. Also, the extremely late run was difficult to calculate based on historic late run timings. He believed that "we are certainly not at the 95th percentile." USFWS agreed the BTF daily CPUE had declined in the last three days and was in the single digits starting on July 9. However, they would like to see "a couple more days of these low, single digit numbers before [they would be] comfortable with going forward and supporting a commercial fishery."

Travis Elison was surprised by USFWS comments. He asked what had changed since the July 9 KRSMWG meeting.

- Tom Doolittle replied that USFWS "was not opposed" to commercial fishing. They said that two days of data was not enough to determine a declining trend in the Chinook

population. USFWS recommended that the Chinook trend be looked at for two more days and a decision be made on Friday, July 13.

Stuart Currie reminded USFWS that he specifically asked what USFWS needed to be comfortable with a commercial opening at the July 9 meeting.

- On July 9 he was very pleased that the agencies were in concurrence that “2 or 3 days of single digits” of daily Chinook BTF CPUE indices would suffice to trigger an opening.
- Regarding the current stance of USFWS, he expressed his frustration; saying he was trying to plan a business around received input from the agencies. Then USFWS had, in his perception, changed the criteria that it was using to assess the situation when the data supported the prior criteria. Stuart stated that he has to make a profit in order to keep people employed, as does CVS.
- He asked USFWS what specific effect waiting a few more days would have on the Kwethluk and Tuluksak Rivers, for which USFWS was responsible. Stuart said, “I wish I had the luxury to say that three more fish will make a difference, but I don’t.”
- Tom Doolittle replied that in years of low escapement “every Chinook does count.” He was concerned over harvesting Chinook caught incidentally. He reminded the group that it was agreed upon that the Kuskokwim River commercial fishery would not impact more than 1,000 Chinook salmon in the 2012 season. At that point USFWS remained concerned that more than the predicted amount of fish (100) would be harvested in the first opening, which would impact future commercial openings.
- Stuart answered that he was aware of the risk, and was willing to take the risk of future commercial openings being canceled. He reminded USFWS that he voted against commercial fishing when Chinook abundance was still too high. He asserted that as of that time, the chum and sockeye runs were nearly over, so processors were left with little economic opportunity in exchange for saving “...two or three fish.” He pointed out that Tom had not answered his question of how further delay would impact returns-per-spawner for the Kwethluk and Tuluksak Rivers. Stuart asked again whether if 80 Chinook were to be harvested, and two or three of which might have been bound for these rivers, would it “make the difference in sustainability or not?”
- Dan Gillikin directed the group to page 6 of the Information Packet. He pointed out that based on the mid-point of the forecast; Chinook were still at the lower end of the confidence interval of the agreed upon Management Objective. He pointed out that no one could say specifically how many fish might be saved for the Kwethluk River. “However, based on what had been agreed upon earlier, we are not going to meet that objective.” He recognized that fish have been saved by the closures that have not been factored into the model, but the amount was unknown at that time.

The Chair then asked for comments from other KRSMWG members:

Charlie Brown asked for the two-hour extension in the lower section of Subdistrict 1-B because fish are harder to catch near the mouth of the river.

Mike Williams suggested that commercial fishing could help widows and elders who were suffering from harvesting fewer Chinook for subsistence use. He said if these people could get Chinook harvested incidentally by commercial fishers, it would be a “win win situation.” Mike thought that it was the right time to have an opening.

Fritz Charles commented that he supported the recommendation. He said that the villages need gas money to be able to go berry picking next month. He also reminded the group that as KRSWMG member, "he works for the people, by the people."

Mike Thalhauser (KNA) commented that it seemed like people were putting up more sockeye this year. The sockeye run was also late, and he was concerned about escapement. Travis Elison replied that since 2002 sockeye have had good escapements and based on BTF CPUE indices he was not concerned about the 2012 sockeye run.

Don Rivard (OSM) clarified that USFWS was not in the business of "approving" a commercial fishery. The correct terminology is "oppose" or "not oppose."

Stuart Currie asked what action USFWS would take if a commercial fishing period opened tomorrow.

- Tom Doolittle replied that USFWS would take advice from the KRSMWG and ADF&G and accommodate "the biology to protect this resource first and foremost." He reiterated that USFWS was only asking for a few days to determine whether Chinook indices were in a downward trend.
- Stuart replied that three days was a lot of money to him. The potential harvest of 75,000 pounds of fish equaled \$35,000 toward a half a million dollar operation. Three days was also a lot of money towards people's pockets, which will be spent in Bethel and boost the local economy. "That money doesn't get spent just once. It goes around three or four times, and adds up to a lot more than just \$40,000."

Bev Hoffman stated that she was not comfortable with an opener tomorrow (July 12), but would be comfortable with one on July 13 or July 14 if the decline in Chinook BTF indices continues. Even though she has been concerned about the impact of commercial fishing on the subsistence fishery, she recognized the importance of having a balance between the two.

Charlie Brown asked when subsistence fishing restrictions would be lifted. Travis Elison replied that lifting subsistence restrictions now would allow unlimited Chinook harvest, which should be avoided. If the Chinook run continued to decline, lifting restrictions would be possible, eventually.

MOTION 3: To open a 4-hour non-Chinook directed commercial salmon fishing period in District 1B on Friday, July 13, provided that the Bethel Test Fishery Chinook salmon daily CPUE remains in the single digits for July 11. Motion passed (7 yeas, 2 nays).

COMMENTS FOR MOTION 3:

Stuart Currie commented that we should be very close to the 95th percentile of Chinook salmon run passage if the declining trend continued through July 13. In addition to science affecting such decisions, he stated that sociology should be a factor as well.

Tom Doolittle stated, "I am a man of my word, and this will be the third day." He would recommend the motion to his supervisor, the federal inseason manager.

Dave Runfola (ADF&G Subsistence Division) asked for clarification regarding the “95th percentile” that had been discussed. He assumed it meant that 95% of the Chinook run had passed.

- Dan Gillikin explained, “That’s a difficult question to answer, like I alluded to earlier. Given that we are so far outside our late run timing, it is difficult to use the midpoints of those numbers to determine at what percentile we are at in the run, so then we have to use the midpoint of the projection relative to our current CPUE, but then you have to incorporate the noise from the confidence of that model. Like Tom mentioned, we could be anywhere in between 75 to 92 percent right now...which is why we are relying on the declining trend in the Bethel Test Fishery as a better indicator of incidental Chinook harvest in the commercial fishery.”

Bob Aloysius claimed that, “Upriver always gets left out of the ability to commercial fish.... So, I don’t see why the other people cannot suffer just like we do. I cannot have a good feeling about supporting any commercial fishing at this time, especially with the numbers the way they are. I am not going to support the motion at all.”

Bev Hoffman said that she would look at the July 11 numbers, and likely support Motion 3. She did not know if she would be comfortable with more commercial openers afterwards.

MOTION 4: Request that ADF&G and USFWS investigate a way to allow hook and line subsistence fishing in Rolling Closure Section 5 as soon as possible.

Motion passed unanimously (9 yeas).

COMMENTS:

Bob Aloysius commented that he did not realize that the headwaters were included in Rolling Closures. He suggested making that area unrestricted for subsistence fishing. He also said that Stony River should be open, and not in Rolling Closure Section 4.

Ray Collins agreed with Bob regarding closures in the headwaters. He pointed out that “The idea of the closures down below is to get fish up to the spawning area. But they still need to take a certain number out of those, and they need to do it when the weather is best so that they can dry them.” Regarding subsistence harvests, he said, “People have limited needs. Even in McGrath there is a lot less fishing than there used to be.”

Bev Hoffman asked USFWS if these suggestions were acceptable.

- Tom Doolittle said that ADF&G and USFWS would discuss it this afternoon in order to form a plan. Travis Elison said that the agencies had been discussing when to drop subsistence fishing restrictions for Chinook, and they planned to make a decision very soon.
- The group reiterated that the problem in Section 5 was that fishermen were not currently allowed to subsistence fish for Chinook with hook and line. As mentioned, high water and debris prevented nets from being used in the area, so no one was able to fish. The only way to catch anything was in clear streams with a fishing pole.
- Travis Elison explained that rod and reel restrictions could only be lifted if all gear type restrictions were lifted, because ADF&G is not allowed to allocate gear type.

Fritz Charles suggested eliminating Section 5 all together because elders say that there is no reason to have Rolling Closures at the headwaters.

OLD BUSINESS:

1.) Old business items were tabled for a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: none

GENERAL COMMENTS FROM WORKING GROUP MEMBERS:

Mike Williams commented that he appreciated the concern widespread concern expressed by all members for the headwaters and upper river communities.

Gerald Simeon reported problems with Aniak fishing guides. He said that some guides were illegally fishing with gillnets and shipping the fish out of the area. One guide was using local Alaskans to do the drifting for clients.

- Travis Elison thanked Gerald for his report and said that he would contact the Wildlife Troopers.

Stuart Currie commented that processors, employees, and commercial fishers also felt the pain of 2012 fishing restrictions.

John Andrew was concerned about escapement on the Kwethluk, Kisaralik, and Tuluksak Rivers. He commented that the objective of fisheries should be conservation. Early in the season the priority had been to conserve upriver fish, and now the priority should be to conserve lower river stocks. He also explained that at the Kwethluk Y, fish in the north channel swim upriver whereas fish in the south channel are bound for the these three rivers. Therefore, fishing in the south channel intercepts fish headed to tributaries of concern.

Travis Elison commented that he appreciated comments from the KRSMWG. He would talk to his leadership about delaying commercial fishing, as proposed by Motion 2. He clarified that commercial fishermen need to wait for the news release, because the agencies needed to asses the BTF data before officially deciding whether to have an opener.

WORKING GROUP ATTENDANCE:

MEMBER SEAT:	NAME:
UPRIVER ELDER	<i>vacant</i>
DOWNRIVER ELDER	<i>absent</i>
COMMERCIAL FISHER	Charlie Brown
LOWER RIVER SUBSISTENCE	Mike Williams
MIDDLE RIVER SUBSTENCE	Gerald Simeon
UPPER RIVER SUBSISTENCE	<i>absent</i>
HEADWATERS SUBSISTENCE	Dan Esai
PROCESSOR	Stuart Currie
MEMBER AT LARGE	Fritz Charles
SPORT FISHER	Bev Hoffman
WESTERN INTERIOR RAC	Ray Collins
Y-K DELTA RAC	Bob Aloysius
ADF&G	Travis Elison
CHAIR	Bev Hoffman

Other Participants:	
<u>ADF&G Comm. Fish</u> : Travis Elison, Brittany Blain, John Linderman, Chris Shelden, Alice Bailey, Zachary Liller, Jennifer Yuhas	
<u>Subsistence Division</u> : Hiroko Ikuta, Andrew Brenner, Caroline Brown, Dave Runfola	
<u>USFWS</u> : Dan Gillikin, Tom Doolittle, Jen Peaks, Rebecca Frye	
<u>OSM</u> : Don Rivard	
Nick Souza (alternate member) John Andrew (alternate member) Mike Thalhauser (KNA) Alexandra Waska (KNA) Casié Stockdale (AVCP) Angela Denning-Barnes (KYUK)	Agatha Erickson (Senator Begich's office) Gerri Sumpter (Senator Murkowski's office) Myer Hutchinson (Senator Hoffman's office) Steven Maxie Carl Berger (Lower Kuskokwim Economic Development Council)

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS:

Alaska Department of Fish and Game (**ADF&G**), Orutsararmiut Native Council (**ONC**), Kuskokwim Native Association (**KNA**), Association of Village Council Presidents (**AVCP**), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (**USFWS**), Bethel Test Fishery project (**BTF**), Catch Per Unit Effort (**CPUE**), Coastal Village Seafoods (**CVS**), ADF&G Commercial Fisheries Division (**CF**), ADF&G Sport Fisheries Division (**SF**), Regional Advisory Council (**RAC**), Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group (**KRSMWG or Working Group, WG**), Sustainable Escapement Goal (**SEG**), Biological Escapement Goal (**BEG**), Management Objective (**MO**), Amounts Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence (**ANS**), Emergency Order (**EO**)