

**Togiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 10, 2013 10:00am**  
**Togiak Traditional Council Building**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 11:23am.

**II. Roll Call**

Jonathan Forsling - Chair  
Frank Logusak - Vice Chair  
Gust Bartman - Togiak  
Julius Henry - Twin Hills  
Peter Lockuk - Togiak

John Bavilla - Togiak Excused - Peter Lockuk alternate for John Bavilla.

Moses Kritz - Togiak Excused

John Nick - Togiak resigned from the Togiak AC, therefore his vacated seat will be up for election.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

Frank Logusak moved to approve the agenda with the recommended addition of New Business III. Bristol Bay Finfish Board of Fish Actions from the December 2012 meeting. Gust Bartman seconded the motion. Adopted by unanimous consent.

**IV. Approval of Minutes October 23, 2012**

The minutes from the October 23, 2012 were reviewed. Peter Lockuk moved to approve the minutes as written, Frank Logusak seconded the motion. Adopted by unanimous consent.

**V. Introduction of Staff and Guests**

All staff members and guests in attendance introduced themselves and who they represented. Susie J. Brito, ADF&G Dillingham, Sarah Evans ADF&G Dillingham, John Parker, Leroy Fox, Andrew Franklin, Ronald Oertwich, Danielle Stickman, BBNA, Patrick Walsh, Togiak NWR, Tevis Underwood, Togiak NWR, Ted Krieg, ADF&G Dillingham, Julius Henry, Moses Ayojiak, Jimmy Coopchiak, Teo Pauk, Frank Woods, BBNA, Gayla Woods, BBNA, Gust Bartman Sr., William Snyder, Marie Snyder, Peter Lockuk, Sr., Jim Woolington ADF&G AWC, Frank Logusak, Jonathan Forsling, Andy Aderman, Togiak NWR, Moses Toyokuk, Sr., Wassillie Tugatuk, Sr., Roger Wassillie.

## **VI. Elections for Officers and the following seats:**

### **\*Seat Manokotak Representatives**

The Manokotak Tribal Council selected the following individuals as the Manokotak representative on the Togiak AC: Moses Toyukak, Michael Gloko, Sr., Christian Gloko and Wassillie Tugatuk, Sr. as the Alternate.

### **\*Seat Twin Hills Representatives**

The Twin Hills Tribal Council selected Julius Henry as their representative on the Togiak AC.

Gust Bartman moved to seat the Manokotak and Twin Hills representatives. Frank Logusuk seconded the motion. Adopted by unanimous consent.

### **\*At Large Seat - John Nick vacated seat 1 Year term**

### **\*At Large Seat - 5 vacant seats (varying terms)**

Motion to open up the floor for nominations. Motion seconded.

The following people were nominated:

Frank Woods moved to nominate John Parker. Sarah Evans seconded.  
Frank Logusak moved to nominate Leroy Fox. Peter Lockuk seconded.  
Jonathan Forsling nominated Teo Pauk. Gust Bartman seconded.  
Jonathan Forsling nominated Roger Wassillie. Frank Logusak seconded.  
Jonathan Forsling nominated Jimmy Coopchiak. Frank Logusak seconded.  
Moses Toyokuk nominated Wassillie Tugatuk, Sr. Frank Logusak seconded.

Frank Logusak moved to close the nominations, Peter Lockuk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Moses Toyokuk motioned to accept and seat all nominations on the floor. Peter Lockuk seconded the motion. Adopted by unanimous consent.

The seats will be filled as follows:

3year term - Roger Wassillie  
2year term - Leroy Fox  
                  Wassillie Tugatuk, Sr.  
1 year term- John Parker  
                  Teo Pauk  
                  Jimmy Coopchiak

**\*Alternates**

Moses Toyokuk moved to open the floor for nominations. Gust Bartman seconded.

Jonathan Forsling nominated Arlandra Upton. Gust Bartman seconded.

Frank Logusak nominated Walter Kanulie, Peter Lockuk seconded.

The alternates were voted in with unanimous consent.

**\*Officers:**

**\*Chairman**

Moses Toyokuk moved to open the floor for nominations for chair. Frank Logusak second with unanimous consent. All were in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Frank Logusak moved to nominate Jonathan Forsling. Moses Toyokuk seconded the motion.

**\*Vice-Chair**

Gust Bartman moved to open the vice-chair. Moses Toyokuk seconded the motion.

Frank Logusak moved to nominate Moses Toyokuk by unanimous consent. Peter Lockuk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**\*Secretary**

Gust Bartman moved to open the floor for secretary. Frank Logusak seconded the motion.

Jonathan Forsling moved to nominate Teo Pauk by unanimous consent. Moses Toyokuk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**VII. Staff Reports: Jim Woolington ADF&G Wildlife Conservation; Unit 17A  
Moose Management Plan; WASSIP Information Availability**

Jim Woolington provided the Togiak AC with the harvest numbers for 17A. For the Fall 2012 registration moose hunt, there were 135 hunt permits were issued, 29 moose were harvested. The winter hunt occurred in December 2012, after the hunting season a request was submitted to extend the hunting season. A two week extension for 17A was granted for January 9-22, 2013. Jim reminded everyone that new permits will need to be issued as well as hunters obtaining a 2013 hunting license. Alaskans over the age of 60 do not require a hunting license.

The proxy hunting permits are available as well as the federal designated hunting permits. The TNL Lands are considered State land. The federal designated hunter

permits is only for use on Federal Lands. However, the State of Alaska proxy permits can be used on all lands.

Q: Explanation regarding tribal consultation districts were asked for US Fish & Wildlife and whether or not TNL Lands are being qualified for Federal land? A: Conservation easements on tribal land would not trump State rules. Tevis Underwood will work with Jonathan Forsling to help with the process for land identification for Federal lands and hunts.

Q: Do people 60 and older require a hunting permit? A: 60 year old and over do not require a license, but a moose permit would be required.

**MULCHATNA CARIBOU:** Caribou have not been too present in the 17A area. The caribou herd has declined slightly. The herd are tracked with collars as well as by aircraft. The herd has traveled into unit 18. Jim explained where the caribou migrate throughout the year and where they have their calves. Bull:Cow ratio is starting to increase. Calf:Cow ratios are improving. The radio collars are put on 10.5 month old female calves, the age of calving is being monitored. The caribou have good nutrition, and the things are looking positive. Total population estimates have not been determined since 1998, and getting a good number count has been difficult to obtain due to the herd being spread out over a large area. However, Jim is encouraged with the numbers he's been seeing in the Mulchatna caribou herd.

Q: Have there been any caribous taken with collars on them? A: Yes, people can harvest a collared caribou and the collars can be turned into the State of Alaska office throughout Alaska.

Discussion regarding the mapping regarding the Caribou.

Q: What was the reason for the decline in the herd, was it because of the split? A: No definitive answers are available as to why there is a decline in the caribou population. An explanation about the wintering of the caribou and the separation of the caribou, some wintered on the west side and east side. However, they are starting to see the mix back again amongst the caribou.

Q: Mulchatna herd in the GNB drainage, is it open now? A: The hunt is open August 1-March 15. After January 31, you can get two caribou.

The traditional council also helps people get a hunting license online and permits are available at the tribal council. The Federal designated hunting forms are also applicable for moose and caribou.

**WOLF Harvest:** The wolf harvest information was presented for the wolf taken in Unit 17. The wolf control program monitoring system was presented and briefly explained about the wolf control area.

Discussion regarding the harvesting of beavers.

Q: Do subsistence beavers need to be reported? A: Yes, beavers taken for subsistence usage requires tagging.

Pete Abraham is available for tagging of wildlife harvested.

Q: If we did submit a proposal to stop tagging beavers, would we still need a tag to get the beaver tanned? A: Jim Woolington will have to look into the answer to this question to find out if a beaver would be required to be tagged.

**BROWN BEAR HARVEST:**

Jim Woolington gave the brown bear harvest report. For units 17A, B, C 94 bears were taken in the Fall. Last Board of Game meeting, the brown bear August 20-May 31 hunt \$25.00 tag was eliminated and residents and non-residents could get a two bag limit. This did result in the taking of more bears.

Q: If we submitted a proposal to reduce or eliminate DLP requirements on moose hunts? A: Unknown, a proposal would have to be submitted and decided by the board.

Note: There are a lot of bears in 17A. When moose hunting you do attract bears when you are harvesting your moose. If you have to do a DLP on bears, it requires a lot of extra work. In order to not salvage the hide, a proposal would have to get submitted to the Board of Game for consideration.

Q: Wolverine harvest, what's required? A: Hunting or trapping license is required to harvest a wolverine.

Permit hunting identification cards are available at the age of 60. The permanent ID card process was explained and the State statutes were explained.

Andy Aderman stated the Nushagak caribou herd has increased in the last number of years. Andy went over the Nushagak caribou harvest, the herd is healthy at a carrying capacity of 750, 152 caribou is the targeted harvest rate each year. The season is currently open until the end of March, or until the targeted harvest rate is achieved before the hunting closure. This is a Federal hunt, therefore a federal permit card is required. Two caribou are allowed during the hunting year, the designated hunter option is also available to those who have caribou permits.

Q: Is there a way a King Salmon resident can get a caribou from the Nushagak caribou herd? A: The hunt on the Nushagak peninsula is limited to Goodnews, Togiak, Twin Hills, Dillingham, Manokotak, Alenagik and Clarks Point. Also the residents in Naknek do have the ability to harvest caribou in their unit.

Q: Is there any declining of the caribou herd on the Naknek side? A: The caribou herd is increasing on the south side. The state does have a wolf control program now.

### **MOOSE MANAGEMENT PLAN:**

Tevis Underwood, Acting Togiak Refuge Manager gave an overview on the Moose Management Plan. Discussion on the moose management and habitat.

Andy Aderman gave a presentation on the distribution and colonization in Unit 17A. Habitat quality and quantity. Carrying capacity and future projections as to what the herd might do.

### **Distribution and Colonization:**

1989-2011 migration of moose slide presentation was shown. Over the years the moose are populating by 32 moose. The average over 13 years is 64% twinning rate. The number of calves in the spring is 128 calves per 100 cows. Over the last few years it is showing a little bit of a decline. Fall recruitment 63 per 100 cows is the average for November. A decline is also present for the Fall recruitment. The moose calf weight (10.5 months old) is averaged at 470, recently however the average weight is 420. The age of the females having their first calf in 17A and 20C is when the moose are 2 years old, everywhere else the moose are at least 3 years old. Togiak moose are the only ones that produce twins at two years old. Other areas over the state of Alaska do not produce twins until at least five years of age. Unit 17A, have bigger moose that grow fast and breeding age quicker due to the food they are eating. These studies have been in conjunction with the State of Alaska on the vegetation of the moose. The vegetation in the area is fresh to the moose and the plants have not adapted to having moose browsing on the plants. 13% of the area of 17A is moose habitat for winter.

### **Carrying Capacity:**

How many moose can an area hold over time without damaging the habitat? What number is that? 2 moose/square mile is 900. 3 moose/square mile is 1350. These are the numbers that wouldn't create any adverse affects.

If we were to harvest 55 bulls and 25 cows, we would be able to retain a stable carrying capacity.

Non-resident hunt. Corridor, Togiak river, upper Togiak lake and along some rivers off of the Togiak river, no airplanes allowed within a two mile radius for fall moose hunting. Plus, hunters would not be allowed to be dropped off at a lake and moose hunt and be picked up within this two mile radius.

Discussion on General Hunt. The hunts follow the local seasons and rules. It would have to go through the Board of Game for any type of corridors or other rules outside of the current rules.

Discussion on the Antlerless Hunt.

Comparisons on the old plan and the new plan.

Comments on the Moose Management Plan:

Jonathan Forsling stated this plan in its current state isn't something that is being brought to us, we have worked on this plan for up to 28 hours negotiating all of the changes that were on the table. Proposal 48 is before the board to open up the area to a non-resident hunt, last board of game cycle 3 out of the 4 board members voted for having a non-resident hunt. There will be a three year phase in for a non-resident hunt.

Explanation on the thresholds were presented and explained. The goal is to have more than 900 moose and less than 1350 moose in unit 17A.

Discussion regarding the non-resident hunt and the resident hunt and who is currently allowed to hunt in unit 17A.

Discussion on the years of abundance. The non-resident hunt is only allowed as a phase in period and up to 5 permits will be issued the first year and up to 10 permits issued in the second year. This is a dually managed hunt. This is considered a State hunt as well as a Federal hunt.

Frank Logusak is happy with this new plan and the information presented. No objections to this new plan.

This plan can be visited as needed and will be reviewed annually.

Q: At the board of game, do we need to present this plan? A: yes, this plan

Frank Logusak moved approve this moose management plan. Moses Toyokuk seconded the motion. Adopted by unanimous consent.

**WASSIP (Western Alaska Sockeye Salmon Identification Project) INFORMATION:**

The Nushagak AC has formed a committee to review the WASSIP information on January 17th to understand the results from the study. Jonathan is on the committee with the Nushagak AC. If Togiak AC would like to attend the committee, it is open to the public. Michael Link will be giving the presentation on January 17th regarding the genetic information. Contact Susie if you would like further information on WASSIP.

## **VIII. New Business**

### **I. Board of Game - Comment Deadline January 25, 2013, Meeting February 8-15, 2013**

Jim Woolington provided information regarding the Board of Game proposals as well as a copy of the Preliminary Analysis and Recommendations for Board of Game proposals.

#### **PROPOSAL 45:**

Gust Bartman made a motion to adopt proposal 45. Frank Logusak seconded.

Proposal 45 was read and explained. The proposal is to go from a general hunt to a registered hunt. It would be a permit specific for Mulchatna caribou. The department is in favor of Proposal 45.

Discussion: This proposal would make it about the same as the moose for the process on the hunting side. The current process doesn't have consequences for not reporting catch, tag issuance and overall participation. The registration moose hunt participation requirements are easy enough to follow.

**Vote: 10/0. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **PROPOSAL 46:**

Frank Logusak moved to adopted proposal 46. Julius Henry seconded the motion.

Discussion: Modifying caribou hunting seasons for unit 17. Frank Woods, chair of the Nushagak AC chair explained why they wrote this proposal. Predator control is more important than a 2 week extension. Nushagak AC voted down the proposal. The intensive management objective is in the works.

**Vote: 0/10. Motion failed unanimously.**

#### **PROPOSAL 48:**

Moses Toyukak moved to adopt proposal 48. Leroy Fox seconded the motion.

Discussion: Jim explained proposal 48 and stated The department will be submitting an amended proposal during the fall to establish hunt with the dates of August 25-September 20, the winter hunt would change to a bag limit of up to two moose, so you could take an antlerless moose, as well as to change the winter hunt to a 31 one day season. Discussion regarding the dates for the fall season, now would be the time to amend the proposals. Written comments could also be submitted to the Board of Game to adjust the hunt dates. Togiak AC can submit the comments to request an amended proposal. Discussion on whether or not we want to keep it a floating season or have set dates.

Moses Toyokak made a friendly amendment to proposal 48 to manage the non-resident hunt as stated in the moose management plan, increase fall to a 31 day hunt and set



the harvest dates between august 25-september 25 and request the board to keep the winter hunt to a 31 day floating season. Frank Logusak seconded.

Discussion on the September 25 date. After discussion, it was agreed upon the current dates are most acceptable and the best dates possible.

Vote: 0/10. Motion failed unanimously.

**Moses Toyokak moved to make an amendment to proposal 48 to manage the non-resident hunt as stated within the moose management plan, and request the board to increase to a 31 day floating winter hunt and have up to two winter bag limit. Gust Bartman seconded the motion.**

**Amendment passed unanimously.**

**Vote: 10/0. Motion carried as amended unanimously.**

**Proposal 51:**

Frank Logusak moved to adopt proposal 51. Peter Lockuk seconded the motion.

Discussion: Jim Woolington read the proposal.

Moses Toyokuk requested to take no action.

**Unanimously in favor of no action.**

**II. Board of Fisheries - AK Pen/Aleut. Is. (Area M) Comment Deadline Feb. 12, 2013, Meeting February 26-March 3, 2013.**

Nushagak AC formed a sub committee to address the proposals after the presentation by Michael Link on January 17th. Togiak AC can form a sub committee to attend the meeting on January 17 and address the proposals. Jonathan would like to appoint Frank Logusak and Peter Lockuk to the sub-committee. The Nushagak AC will have teleconference capabilities during the January 17th meeting.

**Moses Toyokuk moved to appoint Jonathan Forsling, Frank Logusak and Peter Lockuk to a Sub-committee to address the Board of Fish Area M and Statewide fin fish proposals with the authority of the entire AC. Gust Bartman seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.**

**IX. Old Business**

I. Representation at Central/Southwest Board of Game February 8-12, 2013  
Historically the chairman is sent by the State of Alaska to the Board of Game. The current chair is willing to attend the Board of Game. Discussion on the Board of Game and the dates and process.

Julius Henry made a motion to appoint two additional people to go to the Board of Game, if funding is available. Peter Lockuk seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

**X. Bristol Bay Finfish Board of Fish follow up**

Jonathan Forsling gave follow up information from the 2012 Bristol Bay Finfish meeting.

Members talked about forming fisherman task force. It would be best to send at least 7 people to the next Board of Fish meeting.

**XI. Set date of next meeting**

The next meeting for the Togiak AC will be sometime in the Fall or early September **2013.**

**Adjournment - 4:30pm.**