

**Togiak Advisory Committee  
12/28/2021  
Teleconference**

- I. Call to Order: 10:13am by Moses Kritz
- II. Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8
- III. Roll Call  
Members Present:  
Moses Kritz, Joe Alexie, Peter Lockuk Sr., Jimmy Coopchiak, Lester Moore, Roger C. Wassillie, Walter Kanulie, Mickey Sharp, Thomas Dock  
Members Present Who Arrived Late: Kenneth Nukwak, Jonah Lomack, Norman Gloko, Terri Evette  
Members Absent:  
Frank Logusak, Keith Fayer Sr., Dan Nanalook Jr., Tessa Nickerson, Julius Henry, William Sanchez
- IV. Fish and Game Staff Present:  
Taryn O'Connor Brito (Boards), Joe Wittkop (Troopers), Tim Sands (Fisheries) Todd Rinaldi & Chris Brockman (Wildlife)
- V. Guests Present:  
Edward Wilber (CRS), Andy Alderman and Pat Walsh (TWR), Cody Larson and Heidi Kritz (BBNA), Lelani Luhrs (Togiak).
- VI. Approval of Agenda  
Jimmy Coopchiak moved to approve agenda, second by Thomas Dock, approved unanimously.
- VII. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes  
AC failed to draft, deferred to next meeting, Walter K will draft.
- VIII. Elections:  
Elections held for one Togiak designated seat, two undesignated seats, and two alternate seats with terms that expired in June 2021.

Nominations opened for Togiak designated seat, Jimmy Coopchiak nominated Roger Wassillie, no further nominations. Jimmy moved the committee seat Roger and asked for unanimous consent. Roger seated through June 30, 2024, with none opposed.

Nominations opened for two undesignated seats, Walter Kanulie nominated Jimmy Coopchiak and Lester Moore, no further nominations were made. Walter moved the committee seat Jimmy and Lester and asked for unanimous consent. Nominees seated through June 30, 2024, with none opposed.

Nominations opened for two Alternates, Thomas Dock nominates himself and Terri

Evette. No further nominations were made. Jimmy moved the committee seat the nominees and asked for unanimous consent. Nominees seated through June 30, 2024, with none opposed.

## IX. Updates

- a. Chair's report: Moses K. commented that he would like to step down as chairman, also saying he had been chairman since the inception of the AC. Walter K. made a motion to nominate Peter Lockuk as chairman. Peter Lockuk commented that he has been getting hard of hearing, concerned that it may interfere with important decisions and will need help from the others, members agree to help. Walter K. asked for unanimous consent (UC), motion carried.

Peter L. was secretary, Moses K open for nomination of new secretary, Jimmy C. nominated Walter K. and asked for UC, motion carried.

Walter K. was the Vice Chair, Moses K opened for nomination V.C, Jimmy C. nominated Joe Alexie and asked for unanimous consent, motion carried.

- b. ADF&G and staff updates

Tim Sands (Comm Fish AMB)

Season summary and forecast available at website

King Salmon not doing well statewide, ADF&G don't really understand why. People encourage to use smaller net gear. Trawlers out by Round Island bycatch mostly halibut, no salmon species, no information about trawlers elsewhere. Jimmy C. said the Togiak commercial fisherman had been following King Salmon conservation regulation for subsistence since declining King returns. He mentioned the sports fishing industry in the Togiak river have no conservation regulations in place. Tim S. responded that the AC group submit proposals, Jimmy C asked for Cody Larson (BBNA) to help AC in forming a proposal for sports fishing industry.

Ed Wilber asked Tim S about the transfer date of other east bay fisherman to Togiak bay. TS responded the transfer date (July 27) is because someone wanted it to go entirely. Taryn will let Ed W know; AC will set a date to go back to his question about the commercial fisheries question.

Moses K asked Tim S on how long Togiak fishermen have been on King conservation?

Tim S said Kings are not so productive as they used to be. Moses K would like see more research, Tim S countered don't have budget, suggested AC talk to Senators and Representatives. Ed W asked Tim S if there was a long-term solution in the future? Tim S said observers general feeling is its cyclical with ocean conditions. Spawning habitat is in good shape, don't have solution for ocean. Ed W asked about guidance on what sort of proposals? Hatcheries? Tim S would not suggest hatcheries. Moses K asked about the chum salmon being in decline for the past 3 years? Tim S agreed, Nushagak and all of western Alaska has same decline, points to something in the ocean has changed,

hoping its cyclical, no one knows for sure. Early life history for young salmon in the ocean, predation?, some specie goes up and another goes down. Moses K had a question on area M about same species, Tim S said even less down there, he said he will look into for next meeting.

Chris Brockman-Wildlife

He said area 17B is closed, 17A moose hunt is open until January 20, 2022. Wants AC to look at proposal to reauthorize management for 17A. Jimmy C asked Chris about moose count, he answered last count in Refuge was 2017. Andy Aderman had numbers: 2017 survey @ 2400 moose, 2019 survey @ 2100 moose. Andy A hopes to have another count March 2022. Moses K asked Andy about count being low and if it was predation. Andy said moose management plan goal is 800 to 1200 moose, and when it doubled started to try bring down by harvest, some predation by bear and wolves. Calf survival down in 17A and Goodnews area throughout summer even though calves are many. So combination of harvest and lack of survival for down count. Moses asked about proxy hunting, Chris B believes antlerless moose and one antlered is ok to proxy.

Joe Wittkop-AWT

Togiak herring season violations-few crew with no license.

Joint enforcement with Federal on yellowfin sole trawling.

Spring bear hunts with guides, no violations observed.

Sport fishing has limited funding to observe, have spot checks, observed not many violations.

Commercial Fishing, they had vessel patrol in bay and aerial surveillance of closed bays and during closed periods. Observed on crew member was fishing permit while permit holder was in Anchorage and suggested processors need to verify. Some setnets were beyond max distance, they need to respect regulations.

Fall hunting 2021, one sublegal moose and one cow taken, mentioned salvage bear kills still a struggle.

Winter moose hunt is still on going, conditions ok in spite of the rain.

Joe W said the SOA launched a new Anonymous reporting for Fish and Game violations called AKtips. (computer/app based for cellphones, not a call in procedure)

Jimmy C asked about Yellowfin sole bycatch, Joe W said they inspect catches and licensing, open holds & check labeling, didn't see King salmon bycatch, saw halibut and cod, doesn't have numbers on bycatch because they get turned over to the federal side. Moses K asked about the AKtip. Thomas D asked about where to find trawler regulations. NOAA and National Marine Fisheries were mentioned for trawlers.

Roger W brought up King salmon management and that the numbers of them caught need to be monitored, should ask for historical numbers of kings since when the conservation line in Togiak bay was put in place, suggested sonar counts and also get

bycatch numbers from trawlers.

Cody L from BBNA offered his phone number and will help with proposals.

Roger W said conservation efforts have been made by local fishermen by following regulations and gear size, there needs to be counts on returning Kings and not just catch and management needs to be in area and more regulations on sports fishing.

Tim S came back from call, they have been talking to sport fish side, wants AC to reach out to sports fishing industry and ask for surveys and other things, call legislative representatives and share some funding base.

Ed W asked about sport fishing catch logs, and Tim S responded that it was axed as soon as Dunleavy got into office.

Moses K said of the discussion on King salmon for area are all valid and would like to see more data from the sport fishing industry. Tim S will pass on to "Lee" for next meeting.

Joe Alexie comment that a local from Togiak observed gutted salmon floating on river and was mentioned in a previous AC meeting and has not seen anything come of incident.

Thomas D mentioned that caribou was closed and asked about the numbers. Chris B said current estimates on Mulchatna is 13000 and they want to see 30000. He said the eastern herd seems stable, but the western section is declining and are looking at calves survival rate and likely no hunting next year either.

Andy A reported about the Nushagak peninsula herd; last July count was 258 caribou up from last year. estimate is 287 currently, calf count many and seems to be rebounding. Planning committee is meeting in July 2022. Aug 1 to March 15 has 8 permits available 4 for Manokotak, 2 for Aleknagik, 2 for Dillingham so far no harvest.

Ken N asked about survival rate, Andy A said 50 calves per 100 cows October observation so really good for that time of year.

**X. Public/ Member Comments**

No additional comments.

**XI. New Business**

Notes on members present during voting on proposals:

Prop 200 taken up first. After this, proposals were taken in numerical order.

Roger Wassillie left the meeting following staff reports, not present for new business.

Kenneth Nukwak joined the meeting following staff reports.

Terri Evette Joined the meeting during discussion of proposal 21

Norman Gloko joined the meeting during discussion of proposal 24

Jonah Lomack joined the meeting during discussion of proposal 202

# Alaska Board of Game Central & Southwest Region Meeting Proposals

January 21-29, 2022 | Wasilla, AK

Proposal Number	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes
<i>Note: Effective September 2019, when abstentions occur, the action or decision of a majority of the remaining members at a meeting at which a quorum is present is an act of the committee. For example, a vote tally of 7-6-2 means the motion carries. Members abstaining from voting must provide an explanation that is included in the committee record.</i>			
13	Increase the number of nonresident draw hunt permits and extend the nonresident season by 10 days in Unit 17A		
Oppose	0	9	Motion on prop was by J.C to oppose and seconded by K. N, AC oppose unanimously
14	Establish fixed-season dates for resident registration moose hunts RM575 & RM576 in Unit 17A		
Support	9	0	Motion on prop to adopt by Moses K, seconded by Joe Alexie, AC supports unanimously
15	Establish a registration hunt for bull moose limited to resident certified bowhunters only within Unit 17B		
Oppose	0	9	Moses K moves to adopt, seconded by Joe Alexie, no support
16	Establish a registration hunt for bull moose open to nonresident certified bowhunters only within Unit 17B, remainder		
Oppose	0	9	Moses K moves to adopt, second by Walter K, no support
17	Establish a registration hunt for bull moose limited to certified bowhunters only within Unit 17B		
Oppose	0	9	Walter K moves to adopt, Joe Alexie seconds, no support
18	Extend the resident winter moose season in Units 17B and 17C		
Support	9	0	Moses K moves to adopt, seconded by Joe A supported
19	Establish new population and harvest objectives for the Mulchatna caribou herd in Units 9, 17, 18, and 19 as follows		
Support	9	0	Moses K moves to adopt, Joe A second support by AC
20	Establish Tier II subsistence hunting season and bag limit for the Mulchatna caribou herd (MCH)		
No Action			Moses K suggested no action due to Department's wish to see this deferred to a later board meeting. No action taken.
21	Establish a second predation control area for Mulchatna caribou on federal lands in Game Management Units 17 and 18		
Support	10	0	Walter K moves to adopt, second by Joe A, Committee joined by new member Terri Evette. 10 Members now present, motion supported.

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22	Determine customary and traditional uses of the Nushagak Peninsula caribou herd in Game Management Units 17A and 17C – Nushagak Peninsula, Bristol Bay		
No Action			Members expressed mixed feelings on this. Moses K suggest no action, AC agreed
23	Allow the use of snowmachine to position wolf or wolverine for harvest in Unit 17		
Support	10	0	Walter K moves to adopt, second by Joe A , AC supports
24	Establish a season, daily and seasonal bag limit, and salvage requirement for Alaska hare in Unit 17		
Opposed	0	10	Walter K moves to adopt, joe A seconds, Norman Gloko Joined committee, Terri Evette briefly stepped away. 10 members at table. No support
197	Reauthorize the brown bear tag fee exemptions for the Central/Southwest Region		
Support	11	0	Walter K moves to adopt, second by Joe A, AC supports
200	Reauthorize the antlerless moose season in Unit 17A		
Support	9	0	Moses K move to adopt, second by Joe A, AC supports.
201	Allow motorized vehicles for hunting moose and caribou in the Upper Mulchatna Controlled Use Area in Unit 17B		
Oppose	0	11	Walter K moves to adopt, second by Moses K, no support from AC
202	Allow the use of a firearm to take beaver while trapping in Unit 17		
Support	12	0	Walter K moves to adopt, second by Terry Evatt, Jonah Lomack Joined the meeting, 12 members now present, AC supports
203	Extend the trapping season for muskrat in Unit 17		
Opposed	0	12	Walter K moves to adopt, second by Joe A, no support

## I. Miscellaneous Business

### a. Plan for approval of these minutes:

Walter K will draft, Moses K moves Peter L approve for submission, 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimous consent

### b. Representation at Central/Southwest Region Meeting:

Committee has option to send rep in person or call in to testify. Committee undecided, will let Taryn know.

c. Date of next AC meeting:

Moses K suggested after Nushagak AC meeting around February 7-10, 2022

Taryn will coordinate with staff and committee members.

Adjournment: Peter L adjourns, 2:42 pm

Minutes Recorded By: Walter Lombar  
Minutes Approved By: Fitzpatrick Sh.  
Date: 1/25/2022