Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Mid Lower Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting Announcement

The Mid Lower Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee will meet on **Monday, March 31st, beginning at 1 PM** and Via Teleconference or Zoom.

CALL 1(253)215-8782 Meeting ID: 844 2178 1420

***Note: This is not a toll free #, Please call coordinator if toll free is needed.**
When calling, press # when asked for the participant code

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84421781420?pwd=czfe3VL218c2jmvMWuub3wF6mLVEBj.1

Participant code: MLY then the # key.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss submission of a proposal to the Board of Fisheries and other fishing, hunting, and trapping business or concerns.

The Mid Lower Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee is a collection of community members from all user groups that come together, discuss Fish and Game issues and recommend changes to current regulations. They also represent their community before the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game at board meetings.

This meeting is open to the public.

For more information contact:
Savannah Hollingworth, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Western Regional Coordinator | Boards Support Section
(907) 545-8166 | savannah.hollingworth@alaska.gov

MID-LOWER YUKON ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Roster

AC MEMBER NAME	COMMUNITY	TERM EXPIRES
Christopher Redfox I	Mountain Village	6/28
Joel Beans, Alt.		6/28
George Beans, Chair	Andreafski	6/27
		6/27
VACANT	Marshall	6/18
VACANT, Alt.		6/18
Vacant	Pilot Station	6/22
VACANT, Alt.		
Pending elections	Pitka's Point	6/25
Alternate:		
Basil Larson-	Russian Mission	6/28
Wassily Alexie, Alt.		6/28
Peter Tyson	St. Mary's	6/26
Francis Thompson, Alt.		6/26

Quorum: 3

Mid-Lower Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting

Monday, November 9th, 2026, Beginning at 10:00 AM

Draft Agenda

By Phone: 1(253)215-8782 **Meeting ID:** 844 2178 1420 **Participant ID:** MLY

Zoom Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84421781420?pwd=BaQJc17LDvaHsLMMnfyGj1nFWWVWDO.1

Call to order: *Chair, George Beans*

	Mountain Village Christopher Redfox Alt.Joel Beans	**Andreafski** Alt. George Beans	**Marshall**	**Pilot Station**
Present				
By Teleconference				
Absent				
Abs/Excused				

	Pitka's Point Alternate: Ivy	**Russian Mission** Basil Larson Alt. Wassily Alexie	**St. Mary's** Peter Tyson Alt. Francis Thompson
Present			
By Teleconference			
Absent			
Abs/Excused			

I. Roll Call
   a. Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 3
II. Welcome and Introductions:
   a. ADFG:
   b. Other Agency Staff:
   c. Members of the public who would like to introduce themselves.
III. Approval of Agenda:
IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: April 13, 2026
V. Reports
   a. Chair's report
   b. ADF&G
      i. Wildlife Reports
      ii. Fisheries Update
      iii. Boards Support update
VI. Public Comment
VII. Old Business
VIII. New Business –

a. Discussion of Board of Fisheries ACRs

Alaska Board of Fisheries **Accepted Agenda Change Requests (ACRs)** Meeting Date and Time TBD			
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**
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.			
ACR 6	Establish a 10 consecutive day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 09.365).		
ACR 7	Establish a 10 consecutive day closure between June 10 and June 23 for seine and drift gillnet gear in the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 09.365).		
ACR 8	Amend the Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula to enforce king salmon caps with reductions in commercial salmon fishing time in the South Alaska Peninsula (5 AAC 09.366).		
ACR 9	Reduce maximum gillnet depth in the Alaska Peninsula Area to 70 meshes (5 AAC 09.331).		
ACR 10	Amend Alaska Peninsula Area seine specifications to reduce net size (5 AAC 09.332).		

b. Discussion of Board of Game Western Region Proposals

Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region **Meeting Proposals** January 23-26, 2027 | Kotzebue, 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**
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.			
5	Add a new section to 5 AAC 92 regarding consideration of environmental change in game management decisions.		
61	Create a Lower Yukon River Management Area within GMU 18		
62	Establish the Andreafski Wilderness Controlled Use Area (CUA) within Unit 18 and restrict the use of aircraft in the new CUA.		
63	Lengthen the resident moose hunting season in GMU 18 remainder to open July 16.		
64	Shorten the non-resident fall moose hunting season in GMU 18 remainder to open Sept. 10.		
65	Reauthorize the resident antlerless moose season in Unit 18		
66	Restrict the sale of moose antlers in Unit 18, unless naturally shed or used in handicraft		
67	Limit the sale of moose antlers in unit 18 to only those that are naturally shed.		
68	Upon harvested moose or at time of kill, a portion of the antler must be sawed off to		

Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region Meeting Proposals January 23-26, 2027 | Kotzebue, 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**
	destroy the trophy value.		
69	Allow the take of moose from a motor driven boat in GMU 18.		
70	Modify the Musk Ox hunts DX001 and DX003 resident and nonresident allocations.		
71	Modify Musk Ox hunts DX001 and DX003 to resident only hunts.		
72	Limit the Non-Resident permit allocation for the Unit 18 Muskox drawing hunt DX001, to "up to" 10% of the available permits.		
73	Limit the Non-Resident permit allocation for the Unit 18 Muskox drawing hunt DX003, to "Up To" 10% of the available permits.		
74	Change the location of Nelson Island muskox registration permit availability to reflect the change from Newtok to Mertarvik.		
75	Open a mainland musk oxen hunt in Unit 18		
76	Add muskoxen in Unit 18 to game that is allowed to be taken by proxy hunt		
77	Amend Bear baiting in Unit 18 to two seasons July 1 - Oct 31 /Apr 1 - Jun 30.		
78	Allow the use of cellular trail cameras for spring bearbaiting in unit 18.		

Alaska Board of Game Western Arctic/Western Region **Meeting Proposals** January 23-26, 2027 | Kotzebue, 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**
79	Increase the wolf harvest limit in GMU 18 from 10 to 15 wolves.		
80	Increase the coyote hunting bag limit in GMU 18 from 2 to 4 coyotes and extend the hunting season to Aug. 15 – May 31.		
81	Allow the use a motorized boat under power to position a hunter for a shot on a beaver in a river, lake, or pond in GMU 18.		

IX. Set next meeting date
X. Other
XI. Adjourn

Minutes Recorded By: _____
Minutes Approved By: _____
Date: _____

Mid-Lower Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee Meeting

Monday, April 13th, Beginning at 10:00 AM, 2026

Draft Minutes

Call to order: *Chair, Bill Alstrom @ 10:47*

	Mountain Village Christopher Redfox Alt.Joel Beans	**Andreafski** William Alstrom Alt. George Beans	**Marshall**	**Pilot Station**
Present		**Bill Alstrom & George Beans**		
By Teleconference	**Christopher Redfox**			
Absent				
Abs/Excused				

	Pitka's Point Alternate: Ivy Lamont	**Russian Mission** Basil Larson Alt. Wassily Alexie	**St. Mary's** Peter Tyson Alt. Francis Thompson
Present	**Ivy Lamont**		
By Teleconference		**Basil Larson**	**Francis Thompson**
Absent			
Abs/Excused			

I. Roll Call
   a. Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 3; 6 members present
II. Welcome and Introductions:
   a. ADFG: Savannah Hollingworth, Boards Support; Deena Jallen and Matt Olsen, DCF; Patrick Jones, DWC
   b. Other Agency Staff: Tonia Jimmy, James Akerelrea, Naomi Drohl, and Ivalo Blanchett from Yukon Kuskokwim Regional Tribal Government
   c. Members of the public: Marilyn Sipry, Darryl Sipry
III. Approval of Agenda: Motion by Fran, 2nd Ivy. Unanimous
IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: November 13, 2025. Motion made by George, 2nd by Francis. Unanimous
V. Reports
   a. Chair's report – Welcomes new members and new faces
   b. ADF&G
      i. Wildlife Reports – Pat Jones provided a wildlife report, noting that the moose population on the Yukon has stabilized at around 21,000, which is above the desired range of 12,000-15,000 for long-term sustainability. He explained that while harvest numbers have increased post-COVID, more harvesting is needed to control the population, and winter mortality primarily affects calves rather than adults.
         1. Grant Kopplin, public, questions the potential impact of harsh winters on the moose population.

2. Bill and Basil reported that deep snow and high water have affected moose behavior, with more animals gathering near towns and islands being eroded, reducing available food sources. They noted increased predation by wolves and bears, and discussed challenges for hunting and fishing activities. The group also discussed the need to relax restrictions on 4-inch nets to help communities subsist on available fish during the salmon shortage.

ii. Fisheries Update

1. Deena Jallen from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game presented summer season outlooks, reporting low expected returns of Chinook salmon (64,000 fish) and summer chum salmon (350,000 fish), likely resulting in fishing closures. Matt Olson discussed fall season outlooks, forecasting 311,000 fall chum salmon, barely above the drainage-wide escapement goal, with directed subsistence fishing unlikely to open. The meeting also covered recent Board of Fisheries decisions to list Yukon Chinook and fall chum salmon as stocks of management concern, with action plans to be discussed in a special online-only Board meeting on May 1st.
2. Deena Jallen-ADFG explained two proposals (190 and 191) generated by the Board of Fisheries and will be deliberated May 1st include requirements for fish-friendly fish wheel construction, with specific details about mesh to improve fish survival. Matt presented details on Proposal 191 for fall chum, noting that it would move up the start date to July 13th and require meeting the lower end of the escapement goal (300,000-600,000 fish) for five consecutive years to delist from management concern.
3. The group discussed concerns about low salmon runs and the impact of bycatch regulations on in-river subsistence fishing, with participants expressing frustration about fishing restrictions and the need for more ocean-based research on salmon mortality. Actions made by the North Pacific Management Council regarding trawling and by the Board of Fisheries limiting fishing in Area M were discussed. Another subject discussed is how the shortage of fish has impacted other wildlife populations and a shift in protein sources for the local people.
4. Brian Stephanov comments about the effect the low salmon returns, and colonialism has had on the area. While people come to do research, they return to their homes with cheap groceries available, while here prices are very high. Meanwhile managers of the past pitted communities against each other. Brian gives a brief history and compares rural and poor areas with those in the city, emphasizing how those who depend on the resource the most also carry the burden of conservation.
5. Bill Alstrom speaks about the changes that he has seen in his lifetime.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Special Meeting Proposals May 1, 2026 | Webconference			
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**
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.			
189	Adopt a policy on Traditional Knowledge into regulation.		
Support	Unanimous		Francis made a motion to support, Ivy 2nd. The group discussed and unanimously approved a proposal to codify traditional knowledge into the Board of Fisheries regulatory process. Fran and Ivy moved to support the traditional knowledge proposal, Fran provided rationale about the historical importance of including traditional knowledge in fisheries management. Members felt this should have been a long time ago. One member said "We've been fighting for this forever and ever." It was the intentions and requested by our predecessors to include Traditional Knowledge as a deciding factor. Traditional knowledge is something that's not written down and mostly from the user group.

VI. Public Comment

a. Proposal Presentations/Introductions: Potential proposals were presented to the group by Yukon Kuskokwim Regional Tribal Government (YKRTG), Grant Kopplin, and Melvin Paukan.

b. The Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Tribal Government presented a proposal with five recommendations to the Board of Game, including establishing a non-resident draw permit system and creating a controlled use area in the Andreafski Wilderness. The tribal government also discussed plans to submit proposals to compress non-resident hunting seasons, require full field removal of meat, and reduce bag limits, with the goal of applying similar protections to Unit 18 as used in Unit 21E.

c. Grant Kopplin presented a proposal to create a new Lower Yukon River management area to address increasing user conflicts with out-of-state hunters, proposing a cap of 120 non-resident permits for bull moose hunting in September. The discussion ended with Fran asking questions about the proposed management structure and non-resident hunting opportunities in different zones. The Mid-Lower Yukon AC voted Unanimously to support Grant's proposal.

d. See discussion regarding other proposal presentations and adoption below.

VII. Old Business – none addressed at this meeting

VIII. New Business –

a. Discussion of Potential Proposals to be submitted as authors/submitters and feed back discussion for proposers.

The discussion focused on addressing concerns about out-of-state hunters and the sale of moose antlers in Unit 18. Grant presented a proposal to regulate non-resident hunters, which received unanimous support from the group. The group also considered a proposal to restrict the sale of harvested moose antlers, allowing only naturally shed antlers or those made into handicrafts to be sold, which was adopted unanimously. Fran suggested looking at additional regulations, including limiting bull moose harvest and adjusting hunting seasons for non-residents. The conversation ended with a brief discussion of an out-of-cycle proposal that had been submitted as an ACR this past season regarding the destruction of trophy value of game in specific areas. The AC voted unanimously to also resubmit that proposal as it would now be in cycle.

b. The committee agreed to adopt three proposals as their own: two antler-related proposals and one for a controlled hunting area.

	Proposal Description		
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Establish the Andreafski Wilderness Controlled Use Area within Unit 18 with exact boundaries to be determined in coordination with others.			
Presented by Yukon Kuskokwim Regional Tribal Government; Motion to adopt as Mid-Lower Yukon Proposal made by George, 2nd by Ivy			
Support	5	0	1 abstention – Bill Alstrom abstained because he would like more details. Motion to amend the proposal to include Black River Drainage River area and all its tributaries, Ivy 2nd. Unanimous. The proposed control use area will help with competition between local and outside hunters. Comments and reasoning contained in the proposal also apply to the Black River Area that the proposal was amended to include.
Restrict the sale of moose antlers in Unit 18, unless the antler is naturally shed or is an article of handicraft			
Support	Unanimous		Hunting antler sheds is a past time and a way to make money, which is why we have shied away from restricting antler sales in the past. But this proposal would still allow for sheds to be sold, so it wouldn't hurt the economic side, but would prohibit people from sawing off antlers for sale and discourage head-hunting.
Upon harvested moose or at time of kill, antler must be sawed off.			
Support	Unanimous		The proposal was submitted to address the illegal activity of people searching for recently harvested moose and stealing the antlers or headhunters. People are also

	Proposal Description		
Support, Support as Amended, Oppose, No Action	**Number Support**	**Number Oppose**	**Comments, Discussion (list Pros and Cons), Amendments to Proposal, Voting Notes**
			harvesting moose based on antler size more and more. We want to submit this proposal again to show the board that there continues to be a growing problem out here.

c. Officer Elections: During officer elections, George was elected as chair, Basil as vice chair, and Fran as secretary. Basil and George were nominated as chair. Basil declined but agreed to serve as vice chair. Ivy, Chris, and Francis were nominated as secretary but both Ivy and Chris declined. New officers to begin their roles at the next Mid-Lower Yukon AC Meeting.

IX. Set next meeting date
   a. The group decided to schedule their next meeting for early November, with the exact date to be determined closer to the time.

X. Other

XI. Adjourn; George moved to adjourn, 2nd by Ivy. Meeting was adjourned at 3:37

Minutes Recorded By: Francis Thompson
Minutes Approved By: George Beans
Date: 4/25.2026