

2019 Current Fiscal Year Report: Kodiak/Aleutians Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

Report Run Date: 02/19/2020 12:34:06 AM

1. Department or Agency	2. Fiscal Year
Department of the Interior	2019
3. Committee or Subcommittee	3b. GSA Committee No.
Kodiak/Aleutians Subsistence Regional Advisory Council	1536

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	12/04/2017	12/04/2019	

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date
No		

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
16 U.S.C. 3115 (1988)	12/02/1980	Continuing	No

15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports 2

16b. Report Date	Report Title
05/07/2019	R3 - KARAC_signed annual report
06/19/2019	R3 KARAC 805c signed dated

Number of Committee Reports Listed: 2

17a. Open 3 **17b. Closed** 0 **17c. Partially Closed** 0 **Other Activities** 0 **17d. Total** 3

Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
The Council met to discuss proposals to change Federal subsistence fish and shellfish regulations and to discuss other issues related to subsistence for Federal public lands in the Kodiak/Aleutians region of Alaska. The Council discussed Temporary Special Action WSA18-01 regarding Unimak Island Caribou, made decisions regarding the content of the annual report, and discussed next meeting dates.	10/16/2018	10/17/2018
The Council met to review and provide comments on the Kodiak/Aleutians RAC charter, to review and approve its 2018 Annual Report to the Federal Subsistence Board, and to discuss recommendations on any necessary changes to subsistence regulations.	04/22/2019	04/23/2019
The Council met to discuss Council business, recommendations on subsistence regulations, and ongoing wildlife proposals.	09/26/2019	09/27/2019

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 3

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00

18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$105,657.14	\$108,827.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$41,624.95	\$42,874.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$20,111.13	\$20,714.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$23,217.41	\$23,914.00
18d. Total	\$190,610.63	\$196,329.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	1.00	1.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Kodiak/Aleutians Subsistence Regional Advisory Council typically meets two times a year to review and make recommendations on a number of matters: rural and non-rural determination, fish and wildlife regulatory proposals, and proposals before the Alaska Board of Game and Board of Fisheries. Three meetings fell in FY 2019 because the Fall meeting was in September 2019 instead of later in the fall. The Council also reviews and approves the previous fiscal year report to the Subsistence Board during these meetings. The Federal Subsistence Board depends on information gathered at the Council's meetings and on the Council's recommendations to make decisions that directly affect rural residents' food supply and culture.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Members broadly represent geographic, cultural, user, and gender diversity present within the region. This is ensured through a rigorous outreach/recruitment effort and a thorough evaluation and recommendation process. Applicants are evaluated according to the following criteria: they must be a resident of the region in which they applied; have extensive knowledge of the region's fish and wildlife resources; have extensive knowledge of the region's subsistence uses, customs, and traditions; have extensive knowledge of the region's sport, commercial, and other nonsubsistence uses; and have evident leadership and communication skills. The applicants, their references, and key contacts within the region are interviewed by panels of Federal agency staff. These panels then rate and rank the applicants according to standards set by the Board. This information is considered by the Interagency Staff Committee which makes its recommendation to the Federal Subsistence Board. The Board then meets to review the applicants and make its recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture. The Board recommendations balance the points of view represented on the Council with the Council's function, which is to advise the Board on matters pertaining to subsistence. The Board also considers other factors such as geographic representation within the region.

The Secretaries must concur regarding appointments. The entire process requires approximately 9 months to complete.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

Meetings normally occur twice each fiscal year with additional meetings as needed to address particular issues. Meetings are held in the region as often as possible so residents of the region have an opportunity to attend these meetings and provide public testimony and local knowledge of the resources for proposed subsistence hunting, trapping, and fishing regulations. The Federal Subsistence Board depends on information gathered at the Council's meetings and on the Council's recommendations to make decisions that directly affect rural residents' food supply and culture.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act established the Regional Advisory Councils as the public forum for the expression of views and information originating from the local communities of the region, and to provide recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board regarding management of fish and wildlife resources for subsistence uses on Federal public lands in Alaska. The members of the Council and the public participants provide the expertise of subsistence people to the process of forming regulations that govern their lives and to the management of Federal public lands they use for subsistence purposes. The Regional Advisory Council is a vital link between the Federal Subsistence Board and the rural residents whose lives the Board's decisions affect.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

Not applicable - meetings are open to the public.

21. Remarks

N/A

Designated Federal Officer

Donald Mike Council Coordinator

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Berns, Melissa	12/03/2015	12/02/2021	subsistence user	Representative Member
Chernoff, Coral	12/10/2014	12/02/2020	subsistence user	Representative Member
Hayden, Natasha	02/28/2019	12/02/2021	Subsistence user	Representative Member
Holmes, Patrick	02/28/2014	12/02/2019	retired biologist	Representative Member

Koso, Richard	02/28/2014	12/02/2019	subsistence user/commercial fisherman/assistant big game guide	Representative Member
Price, Christopher	12/11/2017	12/02/2020	Subsistence User	Representative Member
Rohrer, Samuel	02/28/2014	12/02/2019	big game and sport fishing guide	Representative Member
Shellkoff, Antone	02/28/2014	12/02/2019	subsistence user	Representative Member
Simeonoff, Speridon	12/03/2015	12/02/2018	subsistence user/commercial fisherman	Representative Member
Skinner, Rebecca	12/03/2014	12/02/2020	attorney	Representative Member
Trumble, Della	12/03/2015	12/02/2021	subsistence user/coordinator for Aleut Marine Mammal Commission	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 11

Narrative Description

Since Congress passed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act in 1980, Title VIII has provided for the continuation of subsistence uses of fish and wildlife resources on Federal public lands by rural residents in Alaska. Title VIII required the creation of Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils to enable rural residents to have a meaningful role in Federal subsistence management. The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture subsequently established the Federal Subsistence Management Program. The Program is a multi-agency effort that includes the Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the USDA Forest Service. These agencies manage the Federal public lands where subsistence activities take place, including waters running through or next to Federal public lands and with limited marine jurisdiction. The Secretaries delegated management authority for subsistence uses in Alaska to the Federal Subsistence Board, which is comprised of the regional directors of the five Federal public land managers in Alaska and a representative appointed by the Secretaries to serve as Chair. The Board is the decisionmaking body that oversees the Federal Subsistence Management Program. The ten Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils provide recommendations and information to the Board, review policies and management plans, provide a public forum, develop proposals, evaluate current and anticipated subsistence needs, and perform other duties required by the Board. The Councils make recommendations to the Board regarding proposed changes to fish and wildlife regulations; management plans; policies, standards, and guidelines; determinations of customary and traditional use of subsistence resources; fisheries research projects; determinations of rural status; subsistence use allocations; and other matters related to subsistence take of fish and wildlife. The Councils meet at least twice a year. Council chairs attend at least two Board meetings a year to present the

recommendations of their Councils and provide knowledge and advice to the Board.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- Improvements to health or safety
- Trust in government
- Major policy changes
- Advance in scientific research
- Effective grant making
- Improved service delivery
- Increased customer satisfaction
- Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements
- Other

Outcome Comments

The Council provides recommendations and information to the Federal Subsistence Board, reviews policies and management plans, provides a public forum, develops proposals, evaluates current and anticipated subsistence needs, and performs other duties required by the Board. The Council makes recommendations to the Board regarding proposed changes to fish and wildlife regulations; management plans; policies, standards, and guidelines; determinations of customary and traditional use of subsistence resources; fisheries research projects; determinations of rural status; subsistence use allocations; and other matters related to subsistence take of fish and wildlife. The Council meets at least twice a year; however, individual members may represent the Council at any time to serve on a committee or working group. Council chairs attend at least one Board meeting a year to present the recommendations of the Council and provide knowledge and advice to the Board.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- None
- Unable to Determine
- Under \$100,000
- \$100,000 - \$500,000
- \$500,001 - \$1,000,000
- \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
- \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
- Over \$10,000,000
- Cost Savings Other

Cost Savings Comments

Regional Advisory Council members are all volunteers. They provide expert knowledge and advice to the Federal Subsistence Board which the Board cannot otherwise obtain. Without the Council, the program would need to greatly increase staff and research funding. The researchers would then need to seek information from the very people, or similar people, who now make up the Council. In most fiscal years, the Board adopts a vast majority of the Council's recommendations which may lower resource management costs. Council business requires a broad outreach to the public for comment in a region so vast that it reaches into the Eastern Hemisphere. As a result, the geographic distribution of this Council makes it the most expensive for travel in the Federal Subsistence Program on a per-member basis.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

73

Number of Recommendations Comments

The Council made 3 recommendations during this fiscal year. The Council moved to support Federal subsistence wildlife proposal WP20-08 for Unit 10, and moved to change Federal subsistence fish and shellfish regulations for Federal public lands in the Kodiak/Aleutians region of Alaska. Note: Prior to 2007 Council recommendations were not tracked.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

100%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

ANILCA, Title VIII, Section 805(c) requires the Federal Subsistence Board to consider and adopt the report and recommendations of the Regional Advisory Council concerning the taking of fish and wildlife within the region for subsistence on public lands. The Board may choose not to follow a recommendation only if it determines the recommendation is not supported by substantial evidence, violates recognized principles of fish and wildlife conservation, or would be detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs. Under this constraint, the Board generally adopts the Council's recommendations.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

The Board may choose not to follow a recommendation only if it determines the recommendation is not supported by substantial evidence, violates recognized principles of fish and wildlife conservation, or would be detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs. Under this constraint, the Board generally adopts the Council's recommendations.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes No Not Applicable

Agency Feedback Comments

ANILCA Title VIII, Section 805(c) requires the Federal Subsistence Board (acting for the Secretary) to inform the Regional Advisory Council when the Board chooses not to adopt a Council recommendation concerning the taking of fish and wildlife on the public lands within the region for subsistence uses. The Board has expanded this to include reporting on those Council recommendations it does adopt and those it adopts with modification. These actions and their justifications are written in what is referred to as the "805(c) Letter." The Board considers recommendations in the Council's annual report and makes a formal reply. Board decisions regarding other matters for which the Council makes recommendations are reported to the Council in a less formal manner by the Subsistence Regional Coordinator or the Council chair.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

	Checked if Applies
Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

New subsistence wildlife regulations frequently require the managing agencies to reprioritize staff and other resources. Other recommendations accepted by the Federal Subsistence Board may also require reallocation of agency funds. The Council also makes recommendations regarding fisheries regulatory proposals, information needed

within the region and for annual funding for fisheries research projects.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Contact DFO | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Agency Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Committee Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online GSA FACA Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Publications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Access Comments

N/A