

Western Arctic Caribou Herd (WAH)

Working Group Meeting

December 13-14, 2017

8:30 am – 5:00 pm each day

Anchorage Marriott Downtown

Anchorage, Alaska

Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group Mission:

“To work together to ensure the long term conservation of the Western Arctic caribou herd and the ecosystem on which it depends, and to maintain traditional and other uses for the benefit of all people now and in the future.”

DAY 1 – WAH Working Group, December 13

8:30 Call to Order (15 min)

Invocation and Remembrances

WAH Working Group Roll Call / Establish Quorum

Introduction of Working Group members and State & Federal agency leads

Approval of Agenda – Preview Meeting Binder

New Member & Alternate appointments

8:45 Guest Elder – Mr. Larry Westlake, Kiana (45 min)

9:30 BREAK (20 min)

9:50 Western Arctic Caribou Herd Summary Information (115 min)

9:50 2017 Western Arctic Herd Census Count & Population Trend –
including Technical Committee recommendation on status of the herd
– Lincoln Parrett, Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG)

10:30 Calf Survival Study – Alex Hansen, ADFG

11:00 Monitoring Caribou Movements and Distribution – Kyle Joly, National
Park Service (NPS)

11:20 Working Group Observations & Discussion about Herd and Harvest

11:45 LUNCH

WAH Working Group Meeting – Agenda (continued)

1:15 Working Group Observations & Discussion Continued (60 min)

- Continue Working Group members' observations and comments about the herd and harvest in 2017. (*Working Group members are invited to answer questions on "Caribou Roundtable" forms if they wish. Give completed forms to Jan Caulfield.*)
- 2011 WAH Cooperative Management Plan, Five-Year Review - Consider Technical Committee's recommendation on proposed process and timing for a review and update of the management plan over the next two years.

2:15 BREAK (15 min)

2:30 Harvest Regulations, Permits, Proposed Legislation (90 min)

- 2:30 Current State caribou harvest regulations and implementation of registration permits (30 min) – Alex Hansen, ADFG
- 3:00 Current Federal caribou harvest regulations and proposals to Federal Subsistence Board for April 2018 meeting (20 min) – Chris McKee, US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Office of Subsistence Management (OSM)
- 3:20 House Bill 211 Nonresident Hunting Requirements: Caribou (20 min) – Representative Dean Westlake
- 3:40 Western Arctic Parklands Report on Transporter Activity (20 min) – Hillary Robison, NPS

4:00 BREAK (15 min)

4:15 Working Group Discussion/Action on regulatory topics (25 min)

4:40 ADFG Community Harvest Surveys – Brevig Mission, Teller, White Mountain (20 min) – Beth Mikow, ADFG Division of Subsistence

5:00 Adjourn Day 1

WAH Working Group Meeting – Agenda (continued)

Day 2 – WAH Working Group, December 14

8:30 Call to Order / Announcements

8:35 Potential Resource Development in the Herd's Range

8:35 Resource Development Committee Report & Context for the presentations (15 min) – Tim Fullman, Committee Chair

- Working Group comments sent to Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on National Petroleum Reserve–Alaska (NPR-A) oil and gas leasing
- Arctic Strategic Transportation & Resources
- Introduce Draft comment letter to BLM on Ambler Mine District Industrial Access Project

8:50 Ambler Mining District Industrial Access Project (60 min) –

- National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) Process – Laurie Thorpe and Tim LaMarr, BLM
- National Park Service (NPS) Environmental and Economic Analysis – Greg Dudgeon, NPS

9:50 BREAK (20 min)

10:10 Trilogy Metal's Activities in the Ambler Mining District (45 min) – Rick Van Nieuwenhuyse, President and CEO, Trilogy Metals, Inc.

10:55 Ambler Mining District Industrial Access Project (cont'd, 50 min)

- Working Group Questions, Comments, Discussion
- Revisions / Action on Draft comment letter to BLM developed by Working Group's Resource Development Committee

11:45 LUNCH (90 min)

1:15 Potential Resource Development (continued)

1:15 National Petroleum Reserve–Alaska (NPR-A) Update (45 min) – Ted Murphy, Associate State Director, BLM

2:00 Communication, Education and Outreach (30 min)

- WACH Working Group Communication Committee - Kari Rasmussen, ADFG
- Caribou Education Working Group – Hannah Atkinson, NPS
- Outreach on caribou harvest regulations – Brittany Sweeney, USFWS

WAH Working Group Meeting – Agenda (continued)

2:30 Working Group Photo & BREAK (30 min)

3:00 Panel - Management Agency Reports (60 min) - *NOTE: Verbal presentation of these reports may be skipped if the Working Group needs this time for additional discussion or action. Written reports will be provided in the meeting packet.*

3:00 Alaska Department of Fish and Game (15 min) – Tony Gorn, Region 5 Supervisor, Division of Wildlife Conservation

3:15 Bureau of Land Management (15 min) – Bonnie Million, Anchorage Field Office Manager

3:30 National Park Service (15 min) – Maija Lukin, Superintendent, WEAR, and Greg Dudgeon, Superintendent, Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve

3:45 US Fish and Wildlife Service (15 min) – Susan Georgette, Refuge Manager, Selawik National Wildlife Refuge

4:00 Business Meeting – Actions - Assignments (50 min)

- Approval of 2016 WG Meeting Summary
- Committee Membership – Review & reconfirm
- “Bin” topics
- Action Items / Assignments
- Next Meeting – Date / Location

4:50 Closing Comments – Working Group members

5:00 ADJOURN