

**KODIAK/ ALEUTIANS SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY
COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes**

Unalaska Public Library
64 Eleanor Drive, Unalaska AK 99685
September 4-5, 2024

Invocation:

Council Member Patrick Holmes provided an invocation.

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Quorum Establishment:

The meeting was called to order Wednesday, September 4 at 9:00 am by Council Chair Rebecca Skinner. Chair Skinner, and Council members Coral Chernoff, Patrick Holmes, Christopher Price, and Brett Richardson were in present in person, and Council members Natasha Hayden and Della Trumble were in attendance by teleconference for the full meeting. Council Member Jeffrey Wasley attended by teleconference on September 5. Samuel Rohrer was absent and was excused. With seven of nine seated Council members present on September 4 and eight of nine on September 5 (Council has one vacant seat), the quorum was established both meeting days.

Attendees:

*Asterisk * identifies if present via teleconference.*

- **Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)** –
Dr. Glenn Chen – Subsistence Branch Chief, Homer
- **Office of Subsistence Management (OSM)** -
Crystal Leonetti – Acting Director of OSM and AK. Native Affairs Specialist for FWS,
Justin Koller – Fisheries Biologist and Acting Regulations Specialist,
Dr. Jason Roberts – Anthropologist,
Kristin Morrow – Anthropology Pathways Intern,
Katya Wessels – Council Coordination Division Supervisor, Kendra Holman – Wildlife
Biologist, Robin LaVine – Subsistence Policy Coordinator *
Gisela Chapa – Council Coordinator, North Slope *
- **USDA Forest Service** - DeAnna Perry – Council Coordinator, Juneau
- **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)** -
Jill Klein – Regional Subsistence Coordinator, and Interagency Staff Committee Member,
Anchorage*;
Jon Gerken – Federal In-Season Manager, Anchorage*;
Danielle Fuji-Doe – Deputy Refuge Manager, Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge (NWR),
Kodiak*;

Maria Fosado – Izembek Refuge Manager, Cold Bay*; and

Alison Williams – Wildlife Biologist, Izembek NWR, Cold Bay*,

- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) –**

Julie Scheurer, Endangered Species Biologist, Protected Resources Division, Alaska Region
NOAA Fisheries, Juneau.

- **Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) –**

Jackie Keating – Division of Subsistence, Anchorage

Brad Fuerst – Division of Commercial Fisheries, Kodiak*

Mark Witteveen and Kelly Krueger – Division of Sport Fish, Kodiak*

- **Tribal Representatives and Local Government –**

Daniel Smith – Tribal Biologist, Shungnak Tribe, Kodiak;

Vince Tutiakoff – Mayor of Unalaska; Honorary Tribal Chief, Qawalangin Tribe

Scott Prevatte – Fisheries Biologist, Qawalangin Tribe

Brian Rankin – Qawalangin Tribal Member, Ounalashka Village Corporation, City of Unalaska

Ernie Weiss – Natural Resources Director, Aleutians East Borough

- **Other Participants –**

Suzi Golodoff – Resident of Unalaska

Andy Dietrick – Resident of Unalaska, Business Owner for Aleutian Aerial

Review and Adopt Agenda:

- *Motion* by Member Holmes, seconded by Member Price, to **approve** the agenda as read. The *motion passed* on a unanimous vote.

Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes:

- *Motion* by Member Price, seconded by Member Chernoff, to **approve** the both the March 5-6, 2024, Joint-Council Meeting Minutes and the Council’s March 8, 2024, Winter Meeting Minutes as presented with the following modifications to the Council’s minutes:
 - Pg. 7 third paragraph, in relation to FP25-06, add “Federal” to last sentence. To attain “Federal” permits. (Staff validated this in transcripts).

The *motion passed* on a unanimous vote.

Council Member and Chair Reports:

Brett Richardson of Unalaska reported that subsistence activities this year have been inconsistent, with both successful and less successful sockeye salmon harvests. The Regional Culture event, Camp Qungaayux, went well, incorporating beneficial science-based classes. Pink Salmon were plentiful on the first day of camp, and participants enjoyed the experience overall. Reports indicated decent halibut

catches, while subsistence users were awaiting the silver (Coho) salmon run at the end of the month. Concerns arose about overfishing at Front Beach and a Coast Guard rescue at Volcano Bay, emphasizing the importance of safety measures when venturing to remote areas.

Coral Chernoff of Kodiak reported a long, cool spring and summer that positively impacted plant and berry gathering, with abundant salmonberries and unripe but plentiful blueberries. As a member of the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council (AMBCC) regional committee, she shared that the 2017 Emperor Goose management plan is in the process of being updated. Recent survey estimates showed declines, triggering closures for the 2025 Emperor goose season. She mentioned a recent decision to simplify bird hunting regulations along the road system while keeping some species protected. Fish harvests received mixed reviews, though Buskin River saw a significant improvement in Sockeye Salmon returns compared to the previous year. Other rivers, such as Pasagshak and Afognak, also reported strong runs. She and Chair Skinner participated in local Crayfish Day and learned more about how many of this invasive species are in Buskin Lake. They had opportunity to catch and eat them and she said they were good.

Christopher Price of Unalaska reported on summer conditions, noting it was a particularly cold season, with the current day being one of the best weather days. Unfortunately, he hasn't done much fishing this summer, missing out on halibut and salmon. Efforts have focused on helping elders by providing food boxes, which have been a vital resource in recent years. Subsistence fishing reports suggest poor salmon returns, particularly for sockeye, though there's hope for silvers. Concerns were raised about the impact of subsistence net fishing at Front Beach on the Iliuliuk River and Unalaska Lake's sockeye runs. People did get out to McLees Lake and Volcano, but because FRMP funding was not provided this year, that funds the McLees River weir, there was not any fisheries management monitoring done at McLees this summer. Additionally, there isn't any type of fisheries enforcement or management at Volcano Bay by ADF&G, and there was an accident of people fishing in Volcano Bay that resulted in Coast Guard rescue. Camp Qungaayux (culture camp) saw a decent pink salmon harvest and processing done by the students. Blueberries and salmon berries were late, some still left for gathering. Community efforts continued with food box distributions for elders, helping to offset poor subsistence harvests.

Patrick Holmes of Kodiak shared that he isn't getting out as much as he used to and is appreciative when other folks to get, he and his wife fish. He has heard from contacts in some other Kodiak villages that deer populations are up slightly, some of the does are having two fawns. He reported that the Buskin River's Sockeye run this year was dramatic improvement over prior recent years, and this being and even year for pinks the run was weak. In places where he saw berries, they were small and not as plentiful but believes this was result of a cooler and wet summer. Karluk early run for reds was a bit weak and king salmon around the island were not so good. Shungnak (fish plant) is still doing fish boxes for elders which he said is incredible. Someone brought him some fish and he shared some of this with another family. Overall, he described conditions as "fair to Midland."

Natasha Hayden of Kodiak reported that Kodiak had a cold, wet summer, and a swift transition to fall weather. Salmonberries were abundant, but raspberry patches failed to produce. Deer sightings were

frequent but have not heard if there has been successful deer harvesting so far since season opened August 1. She participated in the Afognak Culture Camp, which is located at the mouth of Afognak Lake. At the camp, a seal was successfully harvested and shared amongst the campers and the hide is going to be used for future projects. The students were also very successful in getting salmon. She mentioned concerns that arose over misunderstandings of where federally qualified subsistence fishers could fish at mouth of the Afognak River. She was happy to report that sockeye returns to in the Afognak River Systems, there was a high return of sockeye between 30,000-35,000 fish. She also referenced her role on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA's) Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee, noting upcoming meetings relevant to fisheries management. Marine mammal populations are doing well and there were lots of whales in Afognak Straights.

Della Trumble of King Cove reported that King Cove has gone through a tremendous number of changes since the last meeting, noting the closure of the Peter Pan processing plant, which left a noticeable void in the community. Silver Bay took on some of the local fishing operations, particularly in False Pass, but the salmon season has been slow overall. Ms. Trumble shared personal experiences, recounting that she only managed to catch one fish during June, a concerning decline compared to usual years. The lack of Pink Salmon activity, typically visible as jumpers in the bay, is another indicator of the downturn. While Silver Salmon and caribou harvests have started, they are not at their usual levels. Berry harvesting has commenced as an alternative food source, but overall, the season's outlook remains worrisome.

Rebecca Skinner of Kodiak (Chair) reported that Sockeye returns in Buskin were phenomenal this summer compared to recent history, but despite being an even year when pink runs are low, this year had unexpected lower pink return and was curious what was the driver for lower returns than usual. She echoed Ms. Trumble's concerns about the economic ripple effects of processing plant closures our communities, and that while the Kodiak/ Aleutian Regin is a very highly engaged commercial fishing region it also remains very dependent on subsistence resources.

Chair Skinner provided an overview of some of her activities as RAC Chair since the last Council meeting. She attended the Federal Subsistence Board (Board) wildlife regulatory meeting from April 2-5, 2024, where she presented the Council's recommendations on eight wildlife proposals, including those concerning the sale of brown bear hides, antlerless deer harvests, and Peninsula caribou closures. While most proposals were adopted by the Board, the brown bear issue remains unresolved due to cross-jurisdictional challenges. In May, she met with partners from the USFWS Coastal Programs during their visit to Kodiak, showcasing the habitat restoration efforts around Buskin Lake. She also attended the Board work session in August, where correspondence policies and regional concerns were discussed. The Board is exploring ways to streamline the process for addressing Council letters and annual reports to enhance consistency and response times. Ms. Skinner highlighted a newly introduced matrix that summarizes common concerns across all RACs, allowing for a broader understanding of regional priorities and differences. She suggested that this tool would benefit individual Councils for future planning.

Special Recognition

Dr. Glen Chen presented a heartfelt recognition to Council member Della Trumble, honoring her remarkable 27 years of dedicated service on the Council, many of which she served as Chair. As Ms. Trumble prepares to retire this December, Council members, staff, and others expressed their deep gratitude and noted her invaluable contributions. In response, Ms. Trumble shared that her journey serving on the Council has been an incredible learning experience, one she has deeply valued over the years. While it's bittersweet to say goodbye, she is looking forward to enjoying retirement and spending time with her daughter and grandson. She added that she will be available if anyone needs assistance, whether it's reaching out to someone or addressing a concern she can help with.

Public and Tribal Comments on Non-Agenda Items:

Day 1:

Vince Tutiakoff, Unalaska Mayor, and member of the Qawalangin Tribal Council reported that 60% of people in Unalaska that are so called subsistence fishing are decimating our runs because they go out there just for eggs. He went out eight times to catch fish, and only got fifteen fish. Those that are sport fishing are hitting the streams and lakes hard and there is no enforcement for fishing violations. He expressed great concern with what is going to happen in the next 5-6 years, especially if runs are bad. He is on the Board for the Unalaska Native Fisherman Association. The board attends Alaska Board of Fisheries and North Pacific Fishery Management Council meetings and provides their concerns. In June there were hardly any reds (Sockeye Salmon) and very few pinks (Pink Salmon). The pinks in the creek just came in the last two weeks, they came in with silvers (Coho Salmon). Proxy fishing is an issue. Some fishers say they have 5 proxies; however, we don't know if the fish they caught is being delivered. Halibut is overfished by commercial boats, and it is very difficult for a subsistence user to catch any.

Daniel Smith, Fisheries Biologist with Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak, reported that there is crayfish derby opportunity in Buskin Lake on October 16, 2024. It is organized by the Hunters and Anglers of Alaska. Crayfish are an invasive species and derbies are a way to help curb the growing population.

Day 2:

Suzi Golodoff, a resident of Unalaska, expressed concerns about the significant decline in salmon runs in local streams that are accessible. She said this has been going on for a while but there are things that could be done to help slow the decline. She specifically noted problems in the Summer Bay road-accessible system that closes for fishing August 15th during the silver run but is open for snagging/ sport fishing during the red (Sockeye Salmon) run which she believes is counterproductive given the reds' vulnerability. Morris Cove is another example, water is shallow there and human activities, including snagging near stream mouths, hinder salmon migration. Suzi suggested measures like closing streams such as Morris Cove to sport fishing temporarily or better regulating fishing times to protect vulnerable salmon species. Suzi concluded by appreciating efforts to protect salmon, particularly the installation of a weir in the town creek, supported by the Tribe.

Crystal Leonetti, Acting Director of OSM and Alaska Native Affairs Specialist for USFWS announced that the application period for the next cohort of Arctic Youth Ambassadors is now open through late September. Sponsored by the USFWS, Alaska Conservation Foundation, World Wildlife Fund, and other partners, the program is for youth aged 18–22. Participants engage with the Arctic Council and Council for Arctic Flora and Fauna, addressing issues like environmental concerns and Indigenous knowledge, and have opportunities to travel internationally. The program typically selects 15 youth for a 1.5- to 2-year commitment. Application details can be found at arcticyouthambassadors.com.

Council Training:

Kendra Holman, OSM Wildlife Biologist, gave a presentation to the Council about Delegation of Authority.

Proposed Changes to Delegation of Authority Letters

Kendra Holman briefed the Council on proposed changes to wildlife Delegation of Authority Letters.

State and Federal Fishery Reports:

- *Kodiak Road System Fisheries Resource Management Program (FROM) Subsistence Harvest Assessment Project and Data Review* presented by Jackie Keating, Division of Subsistence, ADF&G, Anchorage.
- *Buskin River FRMP Sockeye Salmon Stock Assessment Project – Season Summary* presented by Kelly Krueger, Division of Sport Fish, ADF&G, Kodiak.
- *Overview of Gulf-wide Endangered Species Act (EIS) Status Review of Gulf of Alaska Chinook Salmon Populations* – presented by Julie Scheurer, NOAA Fisheries, Juneau.

Action Items:

Federal Fishery Proposals for Kodiak/ Alaska Peninsula/ Aleutian Regions

Justin Koller OSM Fisheries Biologist, provided an overview of the fishery proposals for the Kodiak/ Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Island Region to the Council.

FP25-04 Buskin River Salmon Limits (Kodiak Area)

- *Motion* by Member Holmes, seconded by Member Price to **support** this proposal. The *motion failed* with 3 votes in favor to 4 votes against.

The Council felt that at this point there is no need to establish more restrictive limits for subsistence fishing on Buskin River salmon. The Federal permit statistics shows that the average number of Federal permits issued over the last 12 years is 26 a year and average

reported harvest on Buskin River is four salmon, which is very low. The Council also noted that Buskin River is the sole source of subsistence salmon harvest for some households and lowering the limit could be a significant hardship.

FP25-05 Afognak Bay Rod and Reel Only (Kodiak Area)

- *Motion* by Member Holmes, seconded by Member Richardson to **support** this proposal. The *motion passed* with 6 votes in favor to 1 vote against.

The Council noted that following rescinding the Federal closure, federally qualified subsistence users can now fish up to the mouth of the river. The Council heard reports that this year was the first year when people were fishing with gillnets inside the State markers up to the river mouth. The Council noted the proposal reinstates closure for gillnets and setnets inside the State markers area, but federally qualified subsistence users can still fish with rod and reel. The Council feels that this is a good precautionary conservation measure to take.

FP25-06 Kodiak Road Zone Salmon Limits (Kodiak Area)

- *Motion* by Member Holmes, seconded by Member Chernoff to **support** this proposal. The *motion failed* with 1 vote in favor and 6 votes against.

The Council felt that removing an annual harvest limit for salmon would greatly increase the potential for overharvest. The Council felt more comfortable with a precautionary approach, especially because of the climate change and decrease in fish returns, e.g., the returns on Buskin River are trending down. If the limits are removed, one or two users could take all the fish completely; therefore, the Councils would prefer to keep the requirement of additional permits as a safeguard, and to document the harvest. The Council also indicated that harvest limits are a way to maintain a renewable resource for future subsistence users.

FP25-07 Russel and Trout Creeks Salmon Limits and Permitting (AK Peninsula Region)

- *Motion* by Member Holmes, seconded by Member Price to **support as modified by OSM**. The *motion passed* with 6 votes in favor and 1 vote against.

The Council supported OSM's modification because it put some limits in place but didn't make it more restrictive than State subsistence limits. The Council also thought that it would make it easier for users because they can continue using the same State permits, they are familiar with and would not be required to obtain new Federal permits. The Council felt that Federal permit challenges can be addressed in the future and supported the staged approach, which is less confusing.

FP25-08 Adak Kagalaska Salmon Limits and Permitting (Aleutian Region)

- *Motion* by Member Holmes, seconded by Member Price to **support as modified by OSM**. The *motion passed* on a unanimous vote.

The Council supported FP25-08 with OSM's modifications because they felt that stronger conservation measures were needed to protect the salmon populations in these relatively small systems. The Council noted that the OSM modified proposal should promote conservation by restricting the use of nets, thereby placing a practical limit on the number of salmon people could harvest within a given amount of time. However, the Council felt that harvest limits in the freshwaters of Adak and Kagalaska islands should not be more restrictive than current State sport fishing regulations. The Council opposed a Federal permit requirement due to the potential difficulties associated with acquiring the permit when only one Federal permitting office is in the area and there is currently no online permitting system available.

2026 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program (FRMP) Priority Information Needs (PINs) Development

Dr. Jason Roberts, OSM Cultural Anthropologist, presented draft lists of the PINS for the Kodiak and Aleutian Area to the Council. This is the same list that the Council previously approved at the fall 2023 meeting because funding for FRMP projects was not available in 2024, so all the PINS were rolled forward.

- *Motion* by Member Holmes seconded by Member Price, to **support** the PINs as presented for the Kodiak and Aleutian Region. The *motion passed* on a unanimous vote.

2026 Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program

Jason Roberts informed the Council of an upcoming competitive funding opportunity through the Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program.

Annual Report

Federal Subsistence Board (Board) FY2023 Draft Annual Report Reply Summary

DeAnna Perry, Council Coordinator, provided an overview of the Board's replies to the Council's FY-2023 Annual Report topics.

Identify Issues for FY2024 Annual Report

The Council identified the following issues to include in their FY2024 annual report. The Council was asked as they listed their issues to identify each if it is an informational item only for the Board, or if it is an action item for the Board to respond.

1. Request to make subsistence harvest permits available online and the ability to extend them online; implement online availability in 2 years or less. Also, make sure this works well in rural communities with limited internet access – action item.
 2. Concerns about lack of funding for weir projects (specifically for McLees River weir) and not having important data collected for a year or more. Request that Councils participate in making funding decisions on FRMP projects. Need to better communicate regarding funding availability with Councils, communities, and users –informational or action item.
 3. Request to create a special fund or funding pool for paying for weir projects on a 5- or 10-year basis; perhaps this funding comes from completely outside of FRMP. Request the Board take the lead on this request and first compile information on all weir projects (including costs), then prioritize these projects – action item.
 4. Concern for the lack of law enforcement officers throughout the Kodiak/ Aleutian Region to monitor and enforce sport, subsistence, and commercial fishing violations. There also need for coordinated effort with enforcement efforts between State, Federal, and Local, and Tribal enforcement entities to be most effective. Also need for a coordinator to do this. – action item.
 5. Importance of statewide salmon research projects funding through FRMP – informational item.
 6. Challenges in ensuring subsistence access to resources arise from fragmented management approaches, with State and Federal agencies operating in silos and often having differing management structures and perspectives. – informational item.
 7. Eradication of crayfish, implement a plan and funding for safe eradication of cray fish – action item.
- *Motion* by Member Holmes, seconded by Member Price, to **approve** the seven topics for the FY24 Annual Report to the Board. The *Motion passed* on a unanimous vote.

Future Meeting Dates:

- *Motion* by Member Hayden, seconded by Member Holmes to hold the winter meeting, instead of Kodiak City, to have in either: Port Lyons, Old Harbor, or Larson Bay. The *Motion failed* on a tie vote with 4 votes in favor and 4 votes against.

Unclear whether there was sufficient housing and services available in these communities (has been a barrier in prior years), the Council would prefer to rotate meetings between Kodiak and the Aleutian Region to get adequate representation. Cold Bay has enough services and housing. The Council also requested to have a hub meeting discussion at their winter meeting.

- *Motion* by Member Holmes, seconded by Member Price to **confirm** Winter 2025 meeting dates and location: March 6-8, Kodiak and Fall 2025 meeting dates and location to September 17-18, Cold Bay. The *Motion passed* on a unanimous vote.

Other Business:

805c Report

Deanna Perry, Council Coordinator, provided a summary of the 805(c) Report outlining Board action on wildlife proposals and closure reviews impacting residents of the Kodiak and Aleutian Region.

Council Member Application/ Nomination Season

Katya Wessels, OSM Council Coordination Division Supervisor, advised the Council that the application period is anticipated to open in January and will likely be shortened to about six weeks in hopes of streamlining parts of the appointment process. She encouraged the Council to help with outreach to fill vacant seats. The Council will have four vacancies to fill including three incumbent Council members whose terms expire December 2, 2025, and one vacant seat. Council members with expiring seats will be informed when this window opens, and outreach will be done across the region at that time. Some Council members voiced support for shortening the application period, as well as ensuring the PDF application is a smaller data file size to make easier to download when connectivity is limited.

Summary of Council Correspondence

Deanna Perry provided an update on the following correspondence sent on behalf of the Council since the winter 2024 meeting in Anchorage.

1. Council Letter on Subsistence Prioritization: The Council urged the Federal Subsistence Board to address the lack of prioritization for subsistence under Federal and Alaska law, highlighting concerns about western Alaska chum and chinook salmon users disproportionately bearing the burden of conservation, and requested the issue be elevated to the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture. This was elevated on July 29, 2024.
2. Joint Council Letter on Member Compensation: The Council joined a joint letter advocating for fair compensation for Council members' service and requested the Federal Subsistence Board elevate this concern to the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture on November 22, 2024.
3. Board Correspondence to Secretaries: The Federal Subsistence Board conveyed the Council's concerns about subsistence prioritization and fair Council member compensation to the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture on July 29, 2024.

DOI Declining Balance Card for Council Travel

Katya Wessels provided information to the Council about proposed changes to the way OSM processes payment for invitational travel for Council members by use of a Declining Balance Card. The Council was asked to provide comments or concerns about this program and that it was not set in stone yet. Council members provided the following feedback and questions regarding the Declining Balance Card:

- Some Council members would rather keep the old system of receiving a check because of concerns about sharing personal banking information.
- When the funds will be deposited on the card? How many days in advance?
- When the remaining part of per diem will be deposited into individual accounts?
- When the lodging reservations are made will Council members need to present their card and make reservation themselves?
- Will a lodging place accept declining balance card if the reservation was made with a corporate card?
- Will Council members continue to be tax exempted when they pay with the declining balance card?
- Will there be a tax-exempt number included on the card?

Reports:

- *Alaska Maritime NWR- Activity Report*, presented by Steve Delahanty, Refuge Manager
- *Kodiak NWR- Activity Report* presented by Danielle Fujii-Doe, Deputy Refuge Manager
- *Izembek NWR- Activity Report*, presented by Alison Williams Wildlife Biologist.
- *ADF&G, Division of Subsistence, Regional Subsistence Projects Update* – presented by Jackie Keating, Subsistence Resource Specialist
- *Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak – Buskin River Crayfish Project Overview* – presented by Daniel Smith, Fisheries Biologist
- *Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska –FWS Partners Project. Overview of Partners Project. Salmon Survey Escapement Estimates Using Drones Unalaska Island* – presented by, Fisheries Biologist, Scott Prevatte, and Andy Dietrick, Mechanical Engineer, and Remote Sensing, Aleutian Aerial.
- *USGS AK Science Center – Avian Influenza Update* – presented by Dr. Andy Ramey, Research Wildlife Geneticist
- *OSM Update* – presented by Crystal Leonetti, Acting Director, and Katya Wessels Council Coordination Division Supervisor

Closing Comments:

- Member Holmes: Highlighted the productivity of the meeting and complimented the Chair for skillfully managing diverse topics.

- Member Price: Appreciated hosting everyone in Unalaska and praised the facility. Emphasized the importance of cost-saving measures in remote area management and thanked Rebecca for chairing the meeting.
- Member Chernoff: Thanked the Senior Center for meals, acknowledged the value of meeting in Unalaska, praised the Chair's leadership, and expressed interest in welcoming new members at the next meeting.
- Member Richardson: Expressed gratitude for everyone's effort in attending the meeting in such a remote location. Stressed the importance of preserving the region's natural resources for future generations.
- Member Wasley: Thanked the Chair and participants. Noted positive fishery outcomes locally but shared concern for struggles elsewhere. Looked forward to meeting again in Cold Bay.
- Member Hayden: Echoed appreciation for the Chair and regret at not attending in person. Thanked Daniel for his presentation about crayfish and anticipated seeing everyone at the next meeting.
- Member Skinner: Thanked council members, staff, presenters, and the public for their passion and dedication in attending and contributing to the meeting.
- Member Trumble: Praised Rebecca's leadership and thanked the Council for their hard work and collaboration over the years. Acknowledged the efforts of refuge staff and encouraged continued community engagement. Shared her upcoming retirement plans but affirmed her ongoing interest in subsistence issues.

Adjourn:

- *Motion* by Member Holmes, seconded by Member Price to adjourn. The *motion passed* on a unanimous vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 PM September 5, 2024.

Lisa Hutchinson, Designated Federal Officer
U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Subsistence Management

CERTIFIED by the Chair for accuracy on November 27, 2024

Rebecca Skinner, Chair
Kodiak/ Aleutians Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

These minutes will be formally considered and approved by the Kodiak/ Aleutians Subsistence

Regional Advisory Council at its March 6-7, 2025, meeting in Kodiak, Alaska, and any corrections or notations will be incorporated in the minutes at that meeting.

For a more detailed report of this meeting, copies of the transcripts, and meeting handouts are available upon request. Call Lisa Hutchinson, Council Coordinator, at 1-800-478-1456 or 907-310-4097, email lisa_hutchinson@ios.doi.gov.