Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

c/o Office of Subsistence Management 1011 East Tudor Road, MS 121 Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199 Phone: (907) 787-3888, Fax: (907) 786-3898 Toll Free: 1-800-478-1456

In Reply Refer To: OSM.B25040

JUNE 05 2025

Colonel Bryan Barlow Division Director Alaska Wildlife Troopers Alaska Department of Public Safety 5700 East Tudor Rd Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Dear Colonel Barlow,

I write to you on behalf of the Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (Council) to bring to your attention concerns that were brought to the Council concerning trespass issues.

The Council represents subsistence harvesters of fish and wildlife resources on Federal public lands and waters in the Western Interior Region. It was established by the authority in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) and is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Section 805 of ANILCA and the Council's charter establishes the Council's authority to initiate, review and evaluate proposals for regulations, policies, management plans, and other matters related to subsistence uses of fish and wildlife within the region. The Council also reviews resource management actions occurring outside their regions that may impact subsistence resources critical to communities served by the Council. The Council provides a forum for the expression of opinions and recommendations regarding any matter related to the subsistence uses of fish and wildlife within the region.

During the Councils public meeting held October 2–3, 2024, in Galena, complaints were brought forth of a trespass incident on a Native allotment during the fall hunting season. This included the trespass, as well as camping directly on established trails of those allotments so the remainder of the private property could not be accessed. Additionally, complaints were shared that the trespassers were informed that they were on private land, but they would not move. When they did break camp, they were observed in Galena with antlers but no moose meat and were overheard telling other nonlocal hunters at the boat dock where to camp even knowing that they were trespassing on private land. Further it was stated that the local Wildlife Trooper was informed of the original trespass issue as it was occurring and was supplied with photos of individuals and boat information but did nothing to assist. This correspondence is only to bring these concerns from the individual to your attention. We are not specifically seeking action on this from your department. It is also an opportunity for us to stress how important it is for law enforcement officers to be seen as unbiased.

The Council would like to note that at this same meeting, a Galena resident expressed his appreciation of the local wildlife trooper presence in Galena for their efforts to educate local residents of hunting regulations instead of just immediately issuing citations.

Thank you for considering our comments. If you have any questions or would like to follow up, please contact me through our Subsistence Council Coordinator Nissa Pilcher at (907) 891-9054 or nissa_pilcher@ios.doi.gov.

Sincerely,

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Jack Reakoff Chair

 cc: Federal Subsistence Board Interagency Staff Committee Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Office of Subsistence Management Captain Brent Johnson; Commander Northern Detachment, Department of Public Safety Benjamin Mulligan, Deputy Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game Mark Burch, Assistant Director, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Alaska Department of Fish and Game Administrative Record