

**Western Interior Alaska and Eastern Interior Alaska
Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils**

c/o Office of Subsistence Management
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In Reply Refer To:
OSM.B26025

MARCH 25 2026

Kara Moriarty, Senior Advisor for Alaska Affairs
Office of the Secretary
4230 University Drive, Suite 300
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Dear Ms. Moriarty,

I write on behalf of the Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (Council) to request that you relay these comments to the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture (Secretaries) regarding the Secretarial review of the Federal Subsistence Management Program (Program). These comments are provided in addition to the initial comments provided jointly by the Council and the Eastern Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (EIRAC) on the Secretarial review of the Program on February 18, 2026.

The Council held a public meeting in Fairbanks on February 24-25, 2026, to discuss subsistence topics. Among the items discussed was the ongoing salmon crisis affecting the Western and Eastern Interior subsistence resource regions of Alaska. The Council developed the following comment for submission to the Secretaries during the Secretarial review of the Program under the subject of "Additional Council Comments on Other Topics."

Rather than restating what has already been written regarding the ongoing salmon crisis, the Council respectfully refers you to document OSM.B26015, a letter submitted jointly by this Council and the EIRAC regarding the Secretarial Review. This correspondence serves to relay a number of concerns about the salmon crisis and the daily reality of those who are faced with food insecurity and the undermining of cultural practices that previously had been sustained for generations.

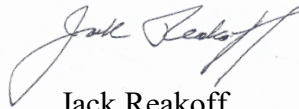
The correspondence also provides specific requests for assistance, and the Council would like to take this additional opportunity to implore the Secretaries to help move this issue forward and find resolutions without delay. The Council respectfully requests that the Secretaries hold a roundtable meeting with the Department of Commerce and the Department of State to begin these conversations.

Subsistence users need the support of the Secretaries to address the current siloed salmon management framework and replace it with a new interjurisdictional, ecosystem-based approach that prioritizes conservation and subsistence uses over commercial uses. Additionally, subsistence users need the authority of the Secretaries to start conversations with colleagues regarding agreements to reduce salmon hatchery releases in the North Pacific, both on state and international levels. Such reductions would allow native stocks better access to limited marine food resources, thereby increasing the viability of wild stocks.

Additionally, the Council requests that a memorandum of Understanding be created by these departments on these topics to ensure the future viability of Western Alaska salmon stocks and the continuation of the cultures of those who depend on Western Alaska salmon.

The Council appreciates your assistance in relaying these comments to the Secretaries for their consideration. The Council values the opportunity to participate in the scoping process and would welcome continued engagement as the Program review moves forward. 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,



Jack Reakoff
Chair

cc: Federal Subsistence Board
Interagency Staff Committee
Western Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
Office of Subsistence Management
Administrative Record