



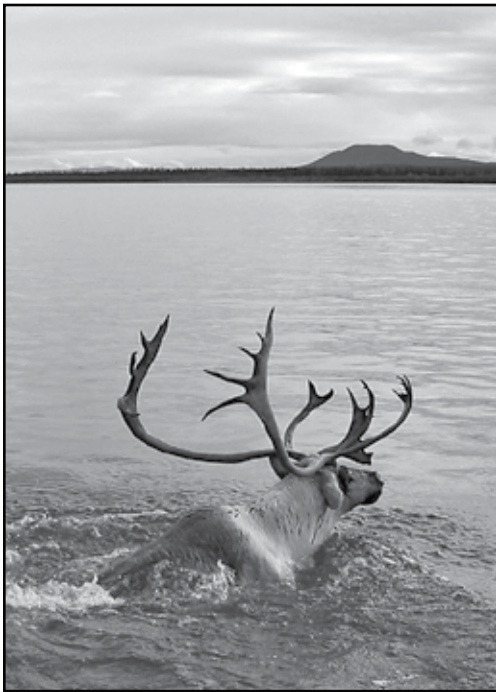
Newsletter of the **Kobuk-Seward Peninsula** Resource Management Plan

May 2006

Public Meetings and Hearings Scheduled for Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Draft RMP

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has developed a draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) for the Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Planning Area in northwestern Alaska. Most likely, you have already received a copy of the document. If you did not receive a copy and would like one, contact us at 1-800-437-7021. The document is available as a paper copy and on CD.

The Draft RMP/EIS is available for a 90-day public comment period beginning May 5, 2006. As part of this public comment period, BLM is holding public meetings and hearings. (See the table on the next page for times and locations.)



Caribou swimming across the Kobuk River during migration.

area. Like the No Action Alternative, the cumulative case presented in the plan may significantly restrict subsistence, primarily because many activities considered in the analysis could negatively impact the Western Arctic Caribou Herd, a primary subsistence resource for at least 44 rural communities.

The ANILCA 810 Subsistence Hearings are being held so that subsistence users can suggest ways for BLM to minimize impacts to subsistence within the Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Planning Area. Your presence and input at the hearings, as well as any written comments you provide, will aid BLM in effectively managing public lands.

Section 810 of the Alaska National Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) requires the BLM to evaluate the effects of its actions on subsistence activities in the planning area, and to hold public hearings if it finds that subsistence use may be significantly restricted. BLM's evaluation of the Draft RMP/EIS found two instances where subsistence could be significantly restricted: the No Action Alternative and the cumulative impacts analysis. Therefore, BLM is holding hearings at several communities within the planning area. Meetings in Fairbanks and Anchorage will not include subsistence hearings.

The No Action Alternative would significantly impact subsistence by failing to address an ongoing resource conflict identified in the BLM-managed portion of the Squirrel River area. The No Action Alternative would continue what is currently allowed, while the other alternatives suggest management actions to resolve the conflict.

The cumulative impacts analysis requires BLM to look at all past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future activities on all lands in or near the planning





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Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Draft RMP Public Meetings Schedule

Open House Meetings / ANILCA Section 810 Hearings

<i>Community</i>	<i>Meeting Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Meeting Time</i>	<i>Hearing Time</i>
Shaktoolik	May 22, 2006	Teen Center	6-7 p.m.	7:15-9 p.m.
Koyuk	May 23, 2006	Community Hall	6-7 p.m.	7:15-9 p.m.
Nome	May 24, 2006	Aurora Inn Conf. Room	6-7 p.m.	7:15-9 p.m.
Buckland	May 25, 2006	City Office Building	6-7 p.m.	7:15-9 p.m.
Noorvik	May 31, 2006	Community Building	2-3 p.m.	3:15-5 p.m.
Kiana	June 1, 2006	IRA Building	6-7 p.m.	7:15-9 p.m.
Ambler	June 2, 2006	IRA Building	6-7 p.m.	7:15-9 p.m.
Point Hope	June 5, 2006	Qalgi Building	6-7 p.m.	7:15-9 p.m.
Kivalina	June 6, 2006	Kivalina School Gym	6-7 p.m.	7:15-9 p.m.
Kotzebue	June 7, 2006	Alaska Technical Center	6-7 p.m.	7:15-9 p.m.

Open House Meetings

Anchorage	June 12, 2006	Loussac Library, Wilda Marston Theater	6-9 p.m.
Fairbanks	June 14, 2006	Noel Wien Library	6-9 p.m.

How you can Participate

The Kobuk-Seward Peninsula Draft RMP is now available for a 90-day public comment period. You can e-mail your comments about the document to us at:

ksp_comments@blm.gov

Public meetings and ANILCA 810 hearings will be held during May and June 2006. The scheduled meetings are listed above. BLM will announce any schedule changes through the local media. For additional information call the Fairbanks District Office public information number: 1-800-437-7021, or check our website:

<http://www.ak.blm.gov/ksp>

Individuals and groups receiving this newsletter will continue to be on the mailing list and have been sent a copy of the Draft RMP/EIS, unless you requested that your name be removed. The document is available on CD or as a paper copy.

Anyone wishing to be added or deleted from the mailing list may do so by contacting:

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