

## **Summary**

### **NPR-A Working Group Meeting** **Barrow, September 25, 2015, Inupiat Heritage Center**

*This Working Group meeting was held in conjunction with the Sep. 24-25 Northeast NPR-A Regional Mitigation Strategy Workshop*

#### **Participants**

1. Crawford Patkotak, ASRC Board Chair, WG Co-chair
2. John Hopson Jr., City of Wainwright, WG Co-Chair
3. John Boyle, North Slope Borough
4. Sam Kunaknana, Native Village of Nuiqsut
5. Jack Schaefer, City of Point Hope
6. George Edwardsen, Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope
7. Theresa Clark, Olgoonik Corporation
8. Delbert Rexford, Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation (UIC)
9. Esther Hugo, City of Anaktuvuk Pass
10. Riley Sikvayugak, Nunamiut Corporation
11. Andy Mack, Kuukpik Corporation
12. Sayers Tuzroyluk, Tikigak Corporation
13. Doug Whiteman, City of Atkasuk

#### **BLM**

Stacie McIntosh, BLM Arctic Field Office Manager

Bud Cribley, BLM Alaska State Director

Steve Cohn, BLM Alaska Deputy State Director of Resources

Stacey Fritz, BLM Arctic Field Office Anthropologist/Subsistence Specialist (note taker)

#### **Agenda:**

1. Overview (history, charter)
2. Discussion on improving attendance and participation
3. Regional Mitigation Strategy roles and responsibilities
4. WG subcommittees

#### **Summary**

The meeting started earlier than scheduled (12:35 instead of 1 pm). Roll call established that there was a quorum. After an invocation given by Crawford Patkotak, Stacie McIntosh gave an overview of the Working Group:

- Established by 2013 NPR-A Integrated Activity Plan Record of Decision
- This was its third in-person meeting
- Evolution and final adoption of WG charter over the course of meetings, including establishment of membership, quorum, and voting rules
- Monthly teleconference meetings third Thursday of each month
- One annual face-to-face meetings

Members discussed the intent of the WG and whether it dilutes the voice of Tribes and its authority. Members discussed difficulties with meeting participation and need for compensation for missing work. Sam Kunaknana requested that the WG charter include a conflict of interest clause. Stacie McIntosh agreed to include examples of conflict of interest clauses in the agenda for the subsequent meeting (WG made and approved motion for this).

The WG discussed the issue of the North Slope Borough issuing permits for hunting guides that disrupt local hunters and the authorities/jurisdictions of various entities to elevate or stop those permits.

The discussion moved on to how the Working Group is or could be funded. Right now it is not funded, costs are cobbled together from other lines. BLM explained how funding occurs in the federal government and how technically the Working Group is an unfunded mandate but BLM is committed to facilitating the group.

Andy Mack with Kuukpik Corporation commented on the meeting held on Sep. 22, 2015 in Nuiqsut with BLM, NVN, KSOP, Kuukpik, and the City regarding compensatory mitigation funds from Greater Mooses Tooth 1. Mack presented the “Joint Resolution of Kuukpik, the Native Village of Nuiqsut, the City of Nuiqsut Regarding Utilization of Greater Mooses Tooth 1 Regional Mitigation Strategy Funds” which established that the Nuiqsut trilateral committee would work together on Greater Mooses Tooth 1 mitigation funds and projects.

Mack spoke about the concerns Kuukpik had over the 2013 Integrated Activity Plan decision and the creation of the Working Group to increase DOI consultation with North Slope entities on large-scale land management issues, and specifically concerns that the Regional Mitigation Strategy process has replaced what the Working Group was supposed to do.

Mack, on behalf of Kuukpik, presented a resolution to the WG: “A resolution of the National Petroleum Working Group established by the NPR-A Integrated Activity Plan regarding local participation in the Bureau of Land Management’s Greater Mooses Tooth 1 Regional Mitigation Strategy Proposal.”

*Note: The full text of the resolution with the final wording as agreed to by motions during the meeting is included with this summary. The resolution is not considered official until sufficient WG member signatures have been obtained.*

ICAS (George Edwardsen) stated that his support of the Resolution was contingent upon inclusion of the ability for Tribes to collect taxes from development on federal land as per the Indian Tax Status Act. The WG agreed to work on that separately.

BLM State Director Bud Cribley addressed the WG and noted a few problematic issues with the resolution, including that the Record of Decision requires BLM to write the Regional Mitigation Strategy, but said that he would take the resolution to higher levels and get a response.

Several WG members understood the obstacles but wanted to send a strong message that the WG needs funding. The WG members voted on supporting the resolution and all members voted to support it with the exception of ICAS (George Edwardsen), who abstained.

### **Working Group Subcommittees**

The WG established the following subcommittees:

1. Orphan Drum Subcommittee: John Boyle, Crawford Patkotak, John Hopson, Jr.
2. Budget Subcommittee: Andy Mack, Crawford Patkotak, Sayers Tuzroyluk
3. Subsistence Subcommittee: George Edwardsen, Esther Hugo, Jack Schaefer, Riley Sikvayugak, John Hopson, Jr.

**General comments:** Bud Cribley thanked the Working Group for its strong commitment to collaborating with BLM on the Regional Mitigation Strategy. Working Group members commented that they felt it was a productive meeting.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 5 PM.