

**Ambler Access Project  
Subsistence Advisory Committee Working Group  
Meeting Minutes  
October 9, 2021, Fairbanks, AK**

Attendees, Working Group

Fred Bifelt, Co-chair  
Larry Westlake, Sr., Co-chair  
Alan Weitzner, AIDEA  
Kevin Torpy, Ambler Metals, LLC  
Nellie Greist, Shungnak  
Henry Horner, Kobuk  
Liz Cravalho, NANA  
Jamie Marunde, Doyon, Limited  
Wilmer Beetus, Hughes

Attendees, Other

Kathy Mayo, Facilitator  
Rex Rock, Jr., State of Alaska  
Charlene Ostbloom, Ambler Access Project

## **Summary**

This summary represents key items discussed at the Subsistence Advisory Committee Working Group. Detailed minutes of discussion serves as an attachment to this document.

## **Action items**

This group will develop the policies and will become a living document to guide the group.

Share contact numbers and emails of the group, with all members.

## **Recommendations**

Schedule enough meetings to accomplish the work: Set up SAC committee, draft policies and guidelines for the SAC. Take the necessary time needed.

Locate the meeting at the hotel for convenience and socializing after the meeting. How we go about the business of the Working Group **is up to us.**

A depiction (map of alignment) of the road needs to be available to the committee, along with bridges and other assets along the corridor, both temporary and permanent. SAC will need to refer to this regularly.

Other committees want to work together, such as the UKMP. They don't necessarily need a seat on the SAC, but they want to understand how to share information.

Seek baseline information from Fish and Game, to then understand the rate and type of changes that occur.

### **Decisions**

Next meeting in Fairbanks, for 2 days. October 19 & 20.

### **Key Themes**

- Work of this committee is bigger than just subsistence. It encompasses more, including economic development, jobs and careers. Subsistence today requires cash resources in order to participate in traditional subsistence activities.
- Climate change is impacting our way of life. Erosion, migration, etc. We need to be prepared.
- Economic Development to promote increased security. How should economic development be dealt with, or integrated?
- Fear of change is part of the divisiveness over this project.
- Subsistence Committees for other regions and projects have been successful, and those lessons can help this committee to be the best.
- AIDEA's role here is to listen and understand what subsistence means; your perspectives; needs in economic development.
- Mining has been part of our regions for decades, sometimes over a century. Metals are important in our lives today, such as cell phones and outboards.
- This is an autonomous group, sponsored by AIDEA. Not directed by AIDEA or BLM.
- Activities of Others – driving deliverables from this committee
- BLM Annual Workplan
- Field season planning. This work need the perspective, information and advice from the SAC.