

Roadless Rulemaking Cooperating Agency Meeting

June 27th, 10AM

Staff: Robin Dale, Ken Tu, Melinda Hernandez Burke, Nicole Grewe, Stephanie Rust, Mary Sneikus, Robert Nichols, Chad VanOrmer

Cooperating Agencies: Cathy Needham (Hydaburg Cooperative Association), Marina Anderson (Organized Village of Kasaan), Dawn Jackson & Burt Jackson & Joel Jackson (Organized Village of Kake) Kyle Moselle (State of Alaska)

Ken: Planned on publishing DEIS and proposed rules on June 28th. Not going to be rolling out with that tomorrow-there are some delays. Discussions occurring at high levels, and until complete we will not be publishing. New TENTATIVE date: July 12th, but a moving target. Holding pattern waiting for the green light.

One shift: During DEIS review, there was confusion about alternatives 5 & 6. 5 originally was "full exemption", and people felt that should have been alternative 6, being the furthest and most liberal departure from the 2001 roadless rule. In response, **we have changed the DEIS to reflect 5 AND 6** flipping around. Alternative 6 was in part built by the State's Citizen's Advisory Committee and is the new alternative 5.

Chad: In preparation for the proposed rule-the team has been working on invitations for tribal consultation. Letters went out inviting consultation with all tribes and ANC's (June 6th).

- Due to being in the middle of OMB clearance process, we could not release the whole Environmental Impact Statement, as changes could have taken place. With best intentions and efforts, there could still be changes between what was in the consultation package sent out and what comes out in public release. No official Government to Government or Government to Corporation Consultation requests yet.
- With the delay, the better the public comment period comes for us here in AK. July and Aug were going to be difficult that the public comment period will be pushed out a bit for aug/sept and may help us better align and work with harvest and field season schedules. We are going to do public meetings again-laying out logistics and groundwork for that (14 communities in SE, DC, and Anchorage). Can't set details until we have the green light on the proposed rules.

Kyle: rough estimate of when that will happen if the draft goes out 12th of July? Mid august or earlier for community meetings and hearings? A: hope to get public meetings done within the first 30 days. Likely starting beginning of August.

Q: Confirm length of comment period: Answer from Chad: 60 day comment period.

Cathy: 810 hearings along with the public meetings? Has the group thought about format for those hearings? Will they be advertised as 2 separate events and run concurrent but separate?

- Chad: public mtgs will be 2 formats: general public info meeting, then closed to start subsistence hearing.
- Format looking at is: asking for testimony and we will be recording those and taking the record for transcription. We typically have a federal official (probably local line officer), and depending on how many sign up, we may have to put limitations on speaking times to allow for equal opportunity if huge turnout. Format will depend on the level of engagement and interest. 2 hours for the hearings, even if only one person shows, we stay for the entire times.

Joel: this time of year is a very busy time. Getting ready for winter. Hard to remember these meetings and activities trying to keep up. July 2nd: we look forward to coming down to talk about community priority use area

Cathy: busy time of year reiteration. Tony was intending to be on—but it is field season. Consider shifting a little earlier in the AM so we can get them done and then get out into the field. **8:30 AM AKST new regular call times?** *No objections from the group* Next call: July 11th at 8:30 AM **Need to shift that—Chad and Melinda will be in the field with the Regional Leadership Team

Chad: We shared today that there may be potential changes. Keep an eye out—it will be good to loop back with the group before the next cooperating agency meeting if there are substantive changes before we do have a public release date set. When and if we get a final word that is diff than the proposed 3 and 4 alternatives, we commit to looping back in and sharing with the group as appropriate.

Ended: 10: 27 AM