

# **NPR-A Working Group Teleconference Meeting Notes February 18, 2016**

## **Participants**

### **Working Group Members**

Crawford Patkotak, ASRC  
John Boyle, NSB  
Sayers Tuzroyluk, Point Hope Tikigak Corp.  
Sam Kunaknana, Native Village of Nuiqsut (NVN)  
Larry Burris, Nunamiut Corporation  
Qaiyann Harcharek, City of Barrow  
Doug Whiteman, City of Atkasuk  
Theresa Clark, Olgoonik Corporation

### **Other North Slope participants**

Joe Akpik, NVN  
Martha Itta, NVN  
Maryanne Napageak, NVN  
Hazel Kunaknana, NVN  
Margaret Pardue, NVN

### **BLM**

Stacie McIntosh, Arctic Field Office Manager  
Molly Cobbs, Alaska State Office Regional Mitigation Strategy Coordinator  
Stacey Fritz, Arctic Field Office Anthropologist

### **Others**

Valli Peterson, ConocoPhillips Village Outreach  
Barrett Ristroph, BLM RAC  
Faith Martineau, Caelus Energy Alaska  
Jan Caulfield, Caulfield Consulting  
Siri Veland, Brown University  
Ann Rappaport, The Nature Conservancy  
Suzanne Little, BLM RAC  
Sara Longan, Alaska State Dept. of Natural Resources

## **Meeting Summary**

### **Update on the Regional Mitigation Strategy for the Northeast NPR-A.**

The last workshop was in late September in Barrow. Since then the Regional Mitigation Strategy team has received 15 comment letters from stakeholder groups and most of those are available on the website. The team spent the fall working through comments received at the workshop (on maps, on boards, comment forms, comment letter oral, etc.)

and tried to revise materials, especially on the wording of the Regional Mitigation Strategy goals and also on the ideas reflected in mitigation action ranking criteria. They have revised much of what people saw in November. Now they are preparing for the 3<sup>rd</sup> workshop to be held March 8-9 in Fairbanks.

The Regional Mitigation Strategy team decided to separate the plan for the Greater Mooses Tooth 1 compensatory mitigation funds from the larger Regional Mitigation Strategy. There is a lot of confusion about those two. People should note that the March workshop in Fairbanks is for the Regional Mitigation Strategy, and BLM will have ongoing workshops with community of Nuiqsut specifically about the GMT1 funds.

Invitations have been sent out asking people to RSVPs by this week so if you are interested in coming, please RSVP. It will be a 2 day workshop:

Day One: reporting back on how we have incorporating the comments (for the goals, boundary (now a region), revisiting mitigation actions, and the ranking criteria).

Day 2: mostly new material: how we monitor and how we adapt mitigation given certain changes that may occur in future years and future fee determination.

The RMS team is on track to have a draft in early summer and final in fall (October 2016). Early next week they will be releasing key sections of the Regional Mitigation Strategy – not full chapters but papers on key topics. Those will be available on website.

After the Fairbanks RMS workshop there will be a separate meeting in Nuiqsut on the Greater Mooses Tooth 1 Compensatory Mitigation Plan. WG Co-chair Crawford Patkotak noted that the regional entities should attend that meeting. Stacie McIntosh noted that it is up to Nuiqsut whether they wish to invite other groups.

### **Working Group meeting in conjunction with the Regional Mitigation Strategy Workshop.**

Working Group members participating in the teleconference decided to hold the (closed) meeting of the Working Group Subcommittee on the Regional Mitigation Strategy on Monday, March 7. The meeting will be held in the Kobuk Room in the BLM Fairbanks District Office at 1150 University Ave, Fairbanks.

WG Members should plan on an all-day meeting (at least 6 hours) and should submit agenda items to Stacie McIntosh.

### **NPR-A Working Group Subcommittees Update**

Only the Budget Subcommittee met to discuss funding the WG. They are considering having funding be managed by the Voice of the Arctic Inupiat non-profit organization. Sayers Tuzroyluk reported that VOAI passed a resolution approved the organization to bring on a grant writer and they are still trying to create an office.

Crawford Patkotak noted that at the last meeting the WG talked about the issue of continuing to localize the concerns that the WG has and how to manage the fact that there are a lot of outside interests weighing in both on the Compensatory Mitigation and the Regional Mitigation Strategy, so the WG took action and formed the Regional Mitigation Strategy Subcommittee so that they can have closed meetings.

Organization of the subcommittees will be discussed at the face-to-face meeting on March 7.

### **Community Issues**

Nuiqsut reported that there was a lot of activity going on especially associated with the ice roads, including increased amounts of drugs and alcohol coming in from Fairbanks and Anchorage. The problem was discussed at a community meeting.

Residents need to sign a waiver to drive on the Kuukpik Spur Road. Nuiqsut asked about restrictions to travel on the CD5 and future Greater Mooses Tooth 1 road. Stacie McIntosh assured them that the Record of Decision established that residents have free access to that road, there will not be a waiver or anything required to go on the BLM portions of the road, but that the only way to access is through the spur road which is privately owned so people will have to go along with any requirements to access the spur road in order to access the CD5 and future Greater Mooses Tooth 1 road.

There was no EIS done for the Kuukpik Spur Road. Authorizations were required, but none from the BLM. The BLM has no power to regulate the Spur Road.

Stacie McIntosh also explained that the Alpine/CD5 road is not considered public and is not connected to the existing infrastructure on the North Slope and there are no plans for that to be a public road receiving state funds.

### **Meeting adjourned**