



2019-2020 General Work Plan Alsek Renewable Resource Council

Our Vision:

(16.6.6)

The Alsek Renewable Resource Council intends to continue to act in the public interest of our community and consistent with Chapter 16 of the Umbrella Final Agreement. Our vision for the 2019-2020 year is to focus on clause 16.6.6. We plan to facilitate and host more community events to build a better relationship with our constituents and to give them a better idea of what the Council does and who we are. Our hope is that through building a better relationship with the community, we will have more public engagement in our meetings. This will help to ensure that all community members interests are being heard and are incorporated into the development of the ARRC's decisions and recommendations put forward to the Board, Salmon Sub-Committee, the Minister and Champagne and Aishihik First Nations. With more public engagement we also hope that this will encourage more people to become involved with our Council, and to put their names forward when vacancies arise so that we do not run into the struggle of no quorum and council member vacancies as we have in the past.

Office Operations

Our Executive Director intends to continue to work full-time hours and to once again close the office for one month in the fall upon approval from the council. The Alsek RRC will continue to pay for a bookkeeper 'Spruce Cottage Farms' to do our books on a monthly basis and plans to stay in our current office space which we rent from Champagne and Aishihik First Nations. At this point in time we do not foresee the need to replace any of our 'bigger ticket items' in the office this fiscal year (ie computer, dell chromebooks, printer etc), unless any unforeseeable damages occur.

As the council's vision is to facilitate more public engagement, much of which we intend to be on the land within the Champagne and Aishihik Traditional Territory; the council will pay for the ED to take some form of Wilderness First Aid Training to help ensure that there will always be a qualified first aider present at our community events. Council will also consider paying for the ED to take the trapping course as this would be beneficial for answering trapping related questions and assisting those who utilize the trapping materials we provide at our office.

In addition to facilitating more community activities to engage the community with the Alsek RRC the ED will work on keeping a more updated website and utilize social media to promote the ARRC when appropriate.

Over the last two years the Alsek RRC has been using CIBC's Cash Management Online system for paying our members and some of our bills online. This is a very secure and advanced online payment method that requires the ED and two other members (co-chairs) to have a registered token with an everchanging number to login to the CIBC website and approve payments.

The ARRC recognizes the need for updating our operating procedures as they have not been reviewed since 1995. This is a task that the ED will carry out with input and approval from council prior to making any changes.

Council Operations

Our council will continue to meet once a month for our regularly scheduled meetings, with supplementary meetings being scheduled on an 'as-needed' basis during busier times of the year when there is lots to discuss. Our council has created 'council member' portfolios, in which we assign one or two members to a certain topic (ie: trapping, forestry, salmon, ungulates, wetlands, bison etc). This provides consistency with ARRC representation at meetings outside of our jurisdiction on the above-mentioned topics. Often the ED will attend these special meetings as well, and the ED and council members in attendance provide an update on these to the council at the next scheduled ARRC meeting. Council encourages our alternates to attend all meetings so that when they are required for quorum, they are up to date on Council operations and discussions, council feels that should the alternate be dedicated to the ARRC they too should receive some sort of compensation.

The Alsek RRC hopes and plans for all members to be in attendance at the Annual General RRC Workshop however we realize this is not always practical when many of our members have full-time jobs that require them to take time off work to do so.

The council expects to send members to attend meetings outside of the community whenever they directly relate to our mandate, but with members being assigned portfolios it is not often that more than a couple people are being paid for travel for the same meeting. Members are encouraged to carpool when possible and council will continue to reimburse for travel using the Yukon Government's updated travel rates.

Community-Based Fish and Wildlife Work Plan

(6.6.10, 16.6.11)

The Community-Based Fish and Wildlife Work Plan (CBFWWP) for the Champagne Aishihik Traditional Territory was established by the Yukon Government, Champagne Aishihik First Nation, and the Alsek RRC. The plan establishes four main priorities which include moose, thinhorn sheep, freshwater fish and trapping. In addition, several monitoring and stewardship activities are outlined in the plan. Council will continue to meet with our planning partners from YG and the Champagne and Aishihik First Nation and continue developing strategies for the planning and implementation of various projects as funding and opportunity permit.

Forestry

(17.4)

The Alsek RRC will maintain communication on the timber supply analysis with the Yukon Government and Champagne Aishihik First Nations, and continue to participate in meetings to discuss the establishment of a new allowable annual cut for the Champagne and Aishihik First Nation Traditional Territory. Council will

continue to participate in both the Timber Harvest Planning process and submit comments to YESAB regarding forest management activities that are ongoing in the CATT.

An ARRC member will also be a part of the Strategic Forest Management Plan committee that will be tasked with narrowing down the 104 indicators in the plan, creating a terms of reference and monitoring report. The committee expects to meet once a month and will be made up with partners from CAFN, YFMB and Environment Yukon. The SFMP was jointly created by the above-mentioned parties in 2004 and is intended to provide direction to CAFN and YG for sustainable forest management in Champagne and Aishihik Traditional Territory.

Council would also like to see the fuel abatement team be reestablished to work towards minimizing the risk of wildfire within the CATT.

Bison and Elk Management Planning

(16.6.10)

Alsek RRC members will continue to take the community's perspectives to Bison and Elk Technical Team meetings. The ARRC is also regularly updated and has input toward bison and elk harvests, surveys, etc. as part of its role in bison and elk management.

Land Use Planning

(16.6.11)

Council spends time reviewing proponent driven submissions to YESAB, and provides comments that are reflective of our work plan priorities for projects that may have impacts on the CATT. We will continue to solicit input from community members and provide an avenue for engagement with the assessment process.

Trapping

(16.11)

Our community-based work plan establishes the revitalization of the trapping industry in the CATT as a priority for Council. The wolf trapping project that CAFN and YG had initiated as part of the Alsek Integrated Moose Management Plan will not be continuing into years 4 and 5, however as the revitalization of the trapping industry as well as the recovery of moose populations within the CATT are priorities of our CBFWWP, the Alsek RRC plans to continue to purchase trapping supplies which can be used by registered trappers with registered trapping concessions (or assistants on these lines) within the CATT. Providing these materials and the tools to make the snares etc. at our office also aligns with our 2019/2020 goal of more public engagement. The ARRC will also continue to support the value-added use of wild fur through facilitated trapper training and by providing support to activities such as Unfurled etc.

Council will continue to review the utilization of traplines when requested by the local CO services and make recommendations when needed.

Outfitting

(16.6.10)

The Alsek RRC will meet with local outfitters to negotiate new quotas for individual outfitting concessions as required. The Council continues to encourage outfitters to distribute meat to community members and to encourage good stewardship.

Wildlife Act Regulation Changes

(16.6.9)

Council will continue to submit Wildlife Act Regulation Change Proposals when deemed necessary by the community. The Council supports the regulation review process administered by the YFWMB and Yukon Government.

Research Permits

Alsek RRC will continue to review Scientist and Explorer Act Permits for research projects that are applicable to our mandate and proposed to take place within the Champagne Aishihik Traditional Territory. This also involves reading follow up reports and meeting with the researchers as requested/required. The council invites researchers to attend our meetings if they are in the area.

Special Projects

Pine Creek Passage

Over the last two years the ARRC had funding from the RRC Surplus Fund and YFWET to hire Environmental Dynamics Inc. to carry out a fish passage and habitat improvement trial on Pine Creek. EDI did studies on Arctic Grayling presence in the creek, assessed potential barriers to fish passage and conducted instream habitat improvement sites. The ARRC will apply for the \$15,000 from the YFWET fund and budget an additional \$8000 from our YG contributed funds to hire EDI to do follow up monitoring on the habitat restoration sites that they built on Pine Creek during the last 2 fiscal years as well as some three-pass electrofishing to determine population estimates.

2019/2020 Vision

(16.6.6)

We plan to make our vision of more public engagement a reality by hosting more community events that have a renewable resource focus throughout the year or that are directly related to the Community Based Fish and Wildlife Plan for the CATT. At this point we have discussed ideas but have not looked further into making them a reality. Through conversations with our neighboring RRC (Dan Keyi) who have always had a great turn out of community members to their meetings and lots of public engagement, we decided to take some tips from them.

In anticipation of the public engagement focus and intention of getting the council and community out on the land the Council decided to purchase a couple wall tents to use for these events instead of renting facilities. These wall tents can also be used by council members at AGW's and will be set up for our booths at General Assembly's as well.

Promotional Materials:

In addition to having some promotional materials 'swag' at special events (Open Houses, CAFN General Assembly etc) the ARRC plans to have an ongoing fiscal year door prize - every time a member of the public participates in a meeting throughout the fiscal year their name will be entered into a draw. We will draw the names at the end of the year either at the Christmas Open House or at our community BBQ that we normally host at the gun range in partnership with the local CO services. The prizes for this draw will be

bigger ticket items that are related to accessing or using renewable resources. The idea behind this method is that people will be encouraged to attend and participate in more meetings throughout the year.

Public Engagement Ideas:

This may include but will not be limited to the following upon further discussion with Council and partners;
(16.6.7.3)

- Trapping Workshop (Trappers Education, Snare Building Workshop, Skinning/Fleshing Workshop)
- Host outdoor workshops –ie: respecting the land and our resources, fly fishing, traditional medicines, invasive species education, proper meat care in the field etc
- Group Bison Hunt (this would be something the school or CAFN could do but ARRC could help on)
- Bear Aware – community education on limiting bear attractants
- Find ways to work with the St. Elias Community School to educate youth on RRC's, this could be targeted towards working with the schools W.I.S.E outdoor education program