

**Western Arctic Caribou Herd (WACH)  
Working Group Meeting  
December 14-15, 2022  
8:30am - 5:00pm**

Marriott Anchorage Downtown  
820 West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Anchorage, AK 99501

**Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group Mission:**

“To work together to ensure the long-term conservation of the Western Arctic caribou herd and the ecosystem on which it depends, and to maintain traditional and other uses for the benefit of all people now and in the future.”

**DAY 1 – Wednesday, December 14**

**8:30 Call to Order**

- Invocation
- WACH Working Group Roll Call / Establish Quorum
- Introduction of State and Federal Agency Leads
- New Working Group Member & Alternate Appointments
- Approval of Agenda – Preview Meeting Binder

**8:40 Guest Elder – Austin Swan Sr. and Nelda Emma Swan, Native Village of Kivalina (45 min)**

**9:25 Round Robin Updates – What’s been going on since 2019? (65 min)**

The last time the WACH Working Group met in person was two years ago! What has everyone been up to since then?

**10:25 Break (15 min)**

**10:40 Western Arctic Caribou Herd Status and Management Level (110 min)**

10:40 Western Arctic Herd Overview and 2022 Census – including Technical Committee recommendation on status of the herd (60 min) – Alex Hansen, Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG)

11:40 NPS Caribou Monitoring (20 min) - Kyle Joly, National Park Service (NPS)

12:00 Working Group discussion and decision on Herd Management Level per the 2019 WACH Cooperative Management Plan (30 min)

**12:30 LUNCH (75 min)**

**1:45 Management Implications of the Herd Management Level (120 min)**

Based on the Management Level decision of the working group, review the management recommendations identified in Table 2 of the 2019 WACH Cooperative Management Plan and current State/Federal harvest regulations relevant to the recommendations.

Develop recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board, Board of Game, and/or Regional Advisory Councils, if appropriate.

## WACH Working Group Meeting – Agenda (continued)

- 3:45 BREAK** (15 min)
- 4:00 Communication, Education, and Outreach Committee Update** (30 min) – Brittany Sweeney, Selawik National Wildlife Refuge Outreach Specialist
- 4:30 2023 North American Caribou Workshop** (15 min) – Kyle Joly, National Park Service (NPS)
- 4:45 ADJOURN DAY 1**

### DAY 2 – Thursday, December 15

- 8:30 Call to Order / Announcements / Review Day 2 Agenda**
- 8:35 Resource Development in the Herd’s Range** (30 min) – Tim Fullman, Resource Development Committee Chair
- 9:05 Ambler Road Project** (70 minutes) Wendy Huber, Planning and Environmental Specialist, Bureau of Land Management
- 10:15 BREAK** (15 min)
- 10:30 Alaska Department of Fish & Game Community Harvest Surveys for 2021 – 2022** (30 min)  
Helen Cold, Subsistence Resource Specialist, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
- 11:00 Caribou Roundtable** (90 min) – Working Group members meet in small groups by region, to discuss their observations in 2022 regarding caribou, the harvest, weather, etc.
- 12:30 LUNCH** (90 min)
- 2:00 WORKING GROUP PHOTO & BREAK** (30 min)
- 3:00 Business Meeting – Actions - Assignments** (105 min)
- Approval of 2021 WACH Working Group Meeting Summary
  - Election of Chair for 2023-2025
  - Committee Membership – Revise / reconfirm
  - Business / Action Items & Confirm Assignments
  - Next Meeting – Date / Location
- 4:45 Closing Comments – Working Group members** (15 min)
- 5:00 ADJOURN**