

**Western Arctic Caribou Herd (WACH)
Working Group Meeting
December 13-14, 2023
8:30am - 5:00pm**

Marriott Anchorage Downtown
820 West 7th 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 13

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 – TBD (50 min)

9:30 Round Robin Updates – What’s been going on since 2022? (60 min)

What has everyone been up to since the last working group meeting? Please take a few minutes each to share your update.

10:30 Break (15 min)

10:45 Western Arctic Caribou Herd Status and Management Level (90 min)

10:45 Western Arctic Herd Overview and 2023 Census – including Technical Committee recommendation on status of the herd (45 min) – Alex Hansen, Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG)

11:30 NPS Caribou Monitoring (15 min) - Kyle Joly, National Park Service (NPS)

11:45 Northern Latitude Caribou Herds (30 min) - Kyle Joly, National Park Service (NPS)

12:15 LUNCH (90 min)

1:45 Working Group discussion and decision on Herd Management Level per the 2019 WACH Cooperative Management Plan (30 min)

2:15 Regulation Change Proposals Under Consideration by the Board of Game and Federal Subsistence Board (15 min)

Board of Game Proposals – Phil Perry and Alex Hansen, Alaska Department of Fish & Game
Federal Subsistence Board Proposals – Will Wiese, US Fish & Wildlife Service

WACH Working Group Meeting – Agenda (continued)

- 2:30 Review 2023 WACH WG Proposals Submitted to the Board of Game and Federal Subsistence Board** (60 min) - Identify any new or amended recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board, Board of Game, and/or Regional Advisory Councils, if appropriate.
- 3:30 BREAK** (15 min)
- 3:45 CONTINUED: Review 2023 WACH WG Proposals Submitted to the Board of Game and Federal Subsistence Board** (60 min) - Identify any new or amended recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board, Board of Game, and/or Regional Advisory Councils, if appropriate.
- 4:45 ADJOURN DAY 1**

DAY 2 – Thursday, December 14

- 8:30 Call to Order / Announcements / Review Day 2 Agenda**
- 8:35 Resource Development in the Herd’s Range** (40 min) – Tim Fullman, Resource Development Committee Chair
- 9:15 Community Harvest Program Update** (75 min) – Helen Cold, Subsistence Resource Specialist, Alaska Department of Fish & Game
- 10:30 BREAK** (15 min)
- 10:45 North Slope Communities – Harvest Data** (30 min) – Brian Person, Ph.D., Senior Wildlife Biologist, North Slope Borough
- 11:15 Caribou Roundtable** (30 min) – Provide update and discuss ideas for how to improve the project moving forward.
- 11:45 LUNCH** (90 min)
- 1:15 Communications, Education, and Outreach Update** (30 mins) - Brittany Sweeney, Selawik National Wildlife Refuge Outreach Specialist
- 1:45 WORKING GROUP PHOTO** (30 min)
- 2:15 Business Meeting – Actions - Assignments** (120 min)
- Review Day 1 Actions and Resolutions
 - Approval of 2022 WACH Working Group Meeting Summary
 - Committee Membership – Revise / Reconfirm
 - WACH Working Group Cooperative Management Plan – Identify Committee for 2024 Plan Update
 - Business / Action Items & Confirm Assignments
 - Next Meeting – Date / Location
- 4:15 Closing Comments – Working Group members** (30 min)
- 4:45 ADJOURN**