Local Knowledge, Traditional Knowledge, and Subsistence Taskforce Update

Kate Haapala, Council Staff

Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan Team, May 25, 2021

PURPOSE

■ No specific action is required from the FEP Plan Team for the Taskforce, but feedback is appreciated

REMINDER OF LKTKS TASKFORCE GOALS

The Council approved two goals in January 2020:

Goal 1

- Create processes and protocols through which the Council can identify, analyze, and consistently incorporate TK and LK, and the social science of TK and LK, into Council decision-making processes to support the use of best available scientific information in Ecosystem-based Fishery Management

Goal 2

- Create a protocol and develop recommendations through which the Council can define and incorporate subsistence information into analyses and decision-making

2020 PROGRESS

- **Meetings:** The LKTKS Taskforce had three meetings in 2020

    - High participation from the public (e.g., 30 participants in November)

- **Products completed:**
    - ✓ Authorized workplan
    - ✓ Glossary of terms (to be included in the Taskforce's workplan)

- **Other progress:**

    - Early draft of existing "onramps", or points of entry, for accessing LKTKS in the Council's process

    - Protocol development including a tentative outline and twelve high-level guidelines

    - Catalogue of sources for identifying and soliciting LKTKS information

Members

- Mr. Toby Anungazuk Jr. (Golovin)
- Dr. Rachel Donkersloot (Coastal Cultures Research)
- Dr. Kate Haapala (Council staff)
- Ms. Bridget Mansfield (AKRO)
- Dr. Robert Murphy (APU)
- Ms. Darcy Peter (Woodwell Climate Research Center)
- Dr. Julie Raymond-Yakoubian (Kawerak)
- Mr. Richard Slats (Chevak)
- Mr. Simeon Swetzof (St Paul)
- Ms. Alida Trainor (ADFG Subsistence Division)
- Dr. Sarah Wise (Alaska Fisheries Science Center)

2021 PROGRESS

- Meetings:
  - The Taskforce had its first 2021 meeting in March
  - Next meeting tentatively scheduled for October 2021
- Initial progress in 2021:
  - Further refined protocol guidelines
  - Identified one new onramp recommendation and refined existing recommendations
  - 'Narrative sources' of LKTKS information

LKTKS PROTOCOL DEVELOPMENT

- Protocol is the main element of Taskforce work

  - Envision a short, easy to read document that is useful for informing Council decision-making

- Contain high-level guidelines and practical steps which are tailored to the Council's process for including LKTKS information

- Protocol development will be a major part of 2021 work

UPDATED PROTOCOL GUIDELINES

Guideline 1	Understand key concepts and definitions related to LK, TK, and Subsistence
Guideline 2	Recognize and respect the role of multiple knowledge systems
Guideline 3	Accessing and using sources of LK, TK, the social science of LK and TK, and subsistence information
Guideline 4	Engage in early and frequent communication with all relevant entities
Guideline 5	Acknowledge the different opportunities and capacity among relevant entities
Guideline 6	Be aware of and adhere to the protocols that entities have established for sharing information and making decisions
Guideline 7	Ensure appropriate capacity for accessing and using LK, TK, the social science of LK and TK, and subsistence information

KEY THEMES FROM PROTOCOL DISCUSSION

- Some concern with the notion of setting out "best practices" related to data collection in the protocol

- Relationship building is key

    - Early and ongoing communication

- Differences in opportunities and capacity among relevant bodies

- Ensure appropriate capacity across entities for accessing and using LKTKS information

ONGOING CONVERSATIONS ON "ONRAMPS" FOR LKTKS

Preliminary onramp recommendations for LKTKS information in the Council's process

1. Ongoing engagement between the Council and tribes ✓

2. Tribal Liaison position added to Council staff

3. Including LKTK, the social science of LK and TK, and subsistence information into regulatory analyses

4. Adding tribal, LK, TK, or subsistence knowledge holders to existing Plan Teams or committees

5. Including LK, TK, and subsistence information into Eastern Bering Sea and Aleutian Island Ecosystem Status Report (ESR)   New March 2021

OTHER OVERARCHING WORK - 1

How can the Taskforce develop processes for identifying and defining sources of LK, TK, the social science of LK and TK, and subsistence information?

- Identified several initial sources of published or publicly available papers and reports related to LK, TK, or subsistence

- Developing a tool that functions like a search engine for sources

- This tool will:
  - Help the Taskforce to gauge the usefulness of certain protocol components
  - Provide a useful resource to staff, agency partners, the Council, and the public

When the fish come, we go fishing:
Local Ecological Knowledge
of Non-Salmon Fish Used for Subsistence
in the Bering Strait Region

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**Subsistence Use and Knowledge of
Salmon in Barrow and Nuiqsut, Alaska**

Principal Investigator
Courtney Carothers
School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences
University of Alaska Fairbanks

Graduate Student Researchers
Shelley Cotton, Katie Moerlein

OTHER OVERARCHING WORK - 2

Norton Sound red king crab case study

- Continuing to discuss the possibility of using a case study to pilot protocols

- Norton Sound Red King Crab is responsive to SSC

  This case study is also a newly identified top 10 research priority for 2022 - 2024

- The Taskforce <u>can</u>
  - **Provide concrete guidance** based on specific fishery and region
  - **Identify LKTKS** expertise and data sources
  - **Link protocol** to on the ground example
  - **Illustrate** high level, best practices - how would you do this all the way through the process

- But the Taskforce <u>cannot</u>
  - Conduct original research on this issue (e.g., ethnographic work in region to collect TK)

- Taskforce agreed work on **protocols should be more advanced** before turning to case study 'test'

QUESTIONS?

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