

Local Knowledge, Traditional Knowledge, and Subsistence Taskforce Update

Kate Haapala, Council Staff

Climate Change Taskforce, May 2021



REMINDER OF LKTKS TASKFORCE GOALS

Approved Taskforce goals specified in the Council's February 2020 motion:

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 the protocol
 - Identified a new onramp recommendation and refined existing recommendations
 - Initial coding for sources of LKTKS information



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 without adequate social science capacity
- Relationship building is key
 - Early and ongoing communication
 - Understand “Lay of the Land”
 - Transparent and appropriate communication
 - Understand and be sensitive to the labor burden for individuals
- 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. Systematic inclusion of LK, TK, and subsistence information into Eastern Bering Sea and Aleutian Island Ecosystem Status Report (ESR) **New**



NORTON SOUND RED KING CRAB CASE STUDY

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*
- But the Taskforce cannot
 - Conduct original research on this issue (e.g., ethnographic work in region to collect TK).
- The Taskforce can
 - **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
- Taskforce agreed work on **protocols should be more advanced** before turning to case study 'test'



QUESTIONS?

Kate.Haapala@noaa.gov

Sarah.Wise@noaa.gov

