



# Local Knowledge, Traditional Knowledge, and Subsistence Taskforce

January 5, 2023

Co-chairs: Kate Haapala (NPFMC) and Sarah Wise (AFSC)

# If you want to give public comment...

<https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/2969>

## Local Knowledge, Traditional Knowledge, and Subsistence Taskforce Meeting

January 5, 2023, from 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. AKT

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86885305977>

Meeting ID: 868 8530 5977

Passcode: NPFMC

Dial by your location +1 719 359 4580 US, +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

The Co-Chairs will announce opportunities for public comment at the beginning of the meeting. Written comments may be submitted below in advance of the meeting.

*All information provided through the eAgenda is part of the public record.*

### Comments and Meeting information

0 Comments

Please leave comments for all agenda items here

#### Introductions, welcome, and review agenda

Attachments:

[Agenda](#) -Uploaded: 12/19/2022 02:40 PM AKST

[Draft Protocol \\_Dec2022](#) -Uploaded: 12/19/2022 01:24 PM AKST

#### December 2022 meeting report

#### Timeline for future work

Attachments:

[Timeline considerations](#) -Uploaded: 12/21/2022 11:26 AM AKST



# Agenda

## Expected outcomes from this meeting:

At this meeting, the Local Knowledge (LK), Traditional Knowledge (TK), and Subsistence Taskforce will review the December 2022 meeting report, have additional opportunities to discuss the timeline for finalizing the Taskforce's work, the concept of using the draft protocol's guidelines to develop a policy statement, and a prioritization of LKTKS onramps.

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## DAY 1

1. Introductions, welcome, and review agenda *(Taskforce)*
2. Review December 2022 report *(Kate Haapala)*
3. Review and discuss timeline for future work *(Taskforce)*
4. Review the concept of an LKTKS policy statement *(Taskforce)*
5. Prioritization of LKTKS onramps *(Taskforce)*
6. Public comment *(Public)*
7. Reflections and final recommendations *(Taskforce)*

*If you would like to more information, please email [kate.haapala@noaa.gov](mailto:kate.haapala@noaa.gov)*





# Objectives for this meeting

1. This is a follow-up meeting to reach a shared understanding of the outcomes from the December meeting.
  - Review report
2. Reach agreement on a timeline for future work.
3. Reach consensus on the LKTKS guidelines becoming an 'LKTKS Policy,' should the Council adopt the protocol.
4. Revisit onramps and brainstorm ideas for the the draft onramp recommendations.
  - What should be removed? What is missing? What needs to be revised?



# Welcome and Introductions!

Mr. Toby Anungazuk Jr. (Golovin)  
Dr. Rachel Donkersloot (Coastal Cultures Research)  
Dr. Kate Haapala (NPFMC staff)  
Ms. Bridget Mansfield (NMFS, AKRO)  
Dr. Robert Murphy Jr. (Alaska Pacific University)  
Ms. Darcy Peter (Woodell Climate Research Center;  
Beaver)  
Dr. Julie Raymond-Yakoubian (Kawerak)  
Mr. Richard Slats (Chevak)  
Mr. Simeon Swetzof (St. Paul)  
Ms. Alida Trainor (ADFG Subsistence Division)  
Dr. Sarah Wise (AFSC)







# December report

# Summary of December 2022 meeting

- Co-Chairs provided an overview of the prepared materials, a summary of feedback from Taskforce members and Council/advisory bodies, and substantive changes to the protocol.
  - Greater focus on Council process vs. research
  - Convey considerations for the Council
  - Clarify where the Taskforce is at/what happens next
  - More specificity
- Taskforce input in December:
  - Primary audience is the Council and analytical staff
  - Highlighted differences between LK and TK
  - More attention to subsistence information
- Reviewed and revised protocol guidelines
  - Reordering
  - New guideline (8) focused on understanding how to navigate the nuances when western science and LK/TK yield different insights
  - Guideline-specific edits (e.g., explaining when/why staff reach out, capacity building, etc.)
  - Continue tailoring the protocol for day-to-day practicality



# Summary of December 2022 meeting - 2

*Items from December 2022 meeting the Taskforce will be discussing more at the January 2023 meeting...*

- Reviewed draft onramp recommendations
  - Full list begins on pg. 4 of the December 2022 report
  - Overall support for all draft recommendations
- Timeline for future work
  - Discussed different options including an extended public review period
- LKTKS guidelines revised as an LKTKS Policy
  - An outcome of the Taskforce's work, should the Council adopt the protocol





# Reflections



A dark, overcast landscape with a road, a fence, and a sign. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting a cloudy day. In the foreground, a paved road curves to the right. A metal fence runs along the edge of the road. In the background, there are mountains and a signpost with a sign that reads "Space For Build to" and "This Space For".

# Timeline for future work

# Background

- The co-Chairs received input from some members that there would be value in recommending to the Council that the protocol presented in April 2023 be released for an extended review period.
- At the December 2022 meeting, Taskforce members discussed there is substantial value in allowing members of the public, and especially Tribal governments, more time to engage with and provide input on the final draft of the LKTKS Protocol.
- This approach also allows the Council more time to engage with the LKTKS Protocol and consider how it would inform its process prior to deciding on whether to adopt it.

*However, the Taskforce also discussed its work would be considered complete when it presents the final protocol to the Council in April 2023.*





**OPT 1. Present the protocol in April 2023** and recommend the Council adopt the protocol and consider initiating any onramps at that time. There would be no extended public review.

- *Following the April 2023 meeting, the Taskforce would disband.*

**OPT. 2. Present the protocol in April 2023** and recommend the protocol be released for an **extended public comment period**.

- *The protocol may be revised if there are major substantive changes received via public comment.*
- *The Council could expect to receive the revised protocol and a summary report of the extended public review period in **October 2023**.*
- *Following the April meeting, the Taskforce would disband.*
  1. *The co-Chairs would revise the protocol and communicate with Taskforce members in good faith and as needed.*

**OPT. 3. Present the protocol in April 2023** and recommend the protocol be released for an **extended public comment period**.

- *With the same intent as option 2 above*
- *But the Taskforce could **recommend the Council extend the Taskforce's work** for one meeting to react to the comments received during the extended public comment period.*
- *There would be little to no flexibility for the timing of that meeting in order to meet the October 2023 timeline.*





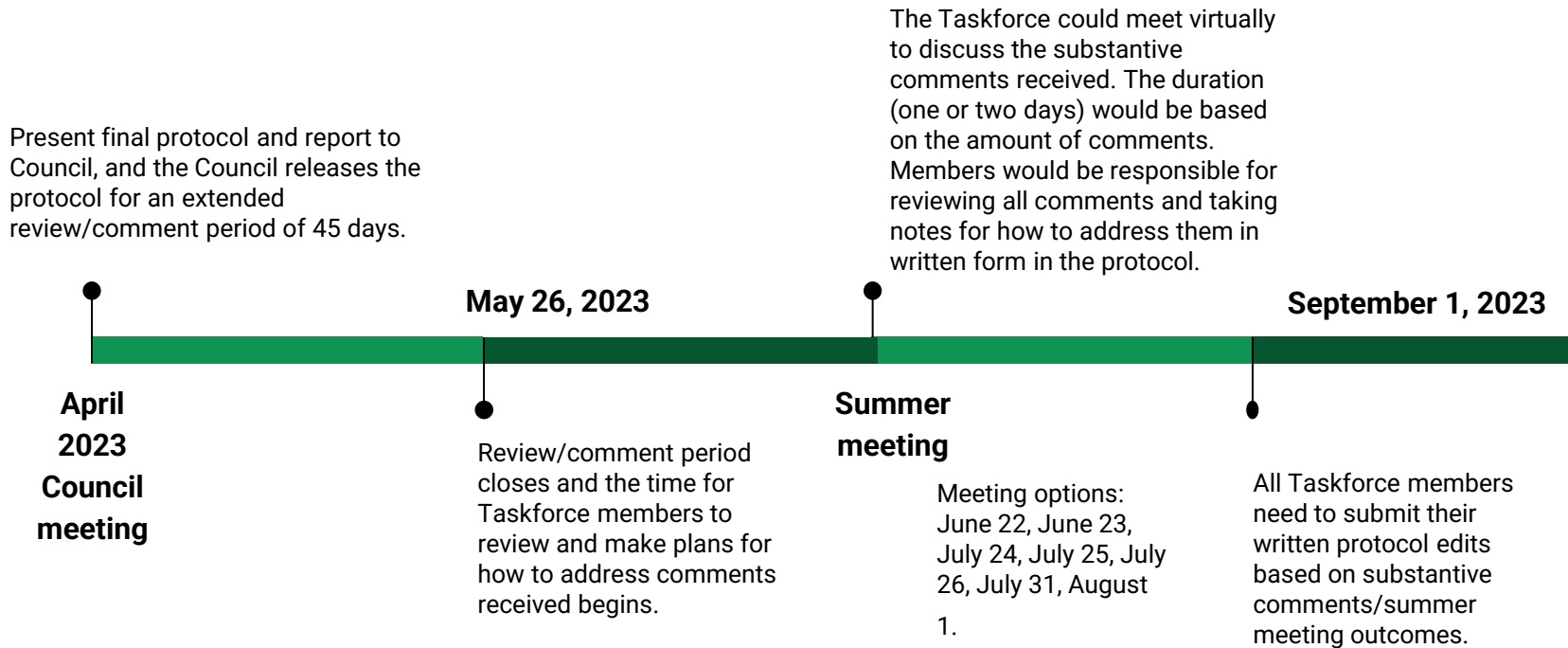
# Additional considerations

- Options for the duration of the review period with tentative 2023 dates:
  - 30-day (April 14– May 14)
  - 45-day (April 14– May 26)\* not an option in written materials
  - 60-day (April 14 – June 14)
  - 90-day (April 14 – July 14)
- Points of consideration for scheduling a Taskforce meeting:
  - It would be a **virtual meeting** to limit the imposition on member's time away from communities and family during the summer.
  - Regardless of the review period duration, the only meeting dates available are **June 22, June 23, July 24, July 25, July 26, July 31, and August 1.**
  - If there are extensive comments to address, the co-Chairs would look for members to volunteer and commit time to writing.
    - Deadline for edits to be returned to co-Chairs would be **September 1, 2023** to be posted by the week of **September 11<sup>th</sup>.**



# Visual timeline

The following timeline assumes the Taskforce recommends an extended public review period, and the Council chooses to move forward with that approach (and they may not).





# Co-Chair input


- **The co-Chairs want to have an open dialogue among members about the benefits (highlighted in December and previously in the presentation) of an extended review period weighed against some of the challenges.**
- The meeting will be virtual and we have received feedback on the challenges of participation in virtual meetings.
- The co-Chairs will look to Taskforce members to take on a major portion of the workload, should there be a significant number of substantive comments.
- If there is agreement among Taskforce members to move forward with an extended review period, the co-Chair's preference would be 30 or 45 days to allow the most time to review comments and develop a response plan.
- If the Taskforce cannot meet on one of the seven given dates, we would propose to move forward with option 2 as a recommendation to the Council— the co-Chairs would review and respond to comments, communicating with the Taskforce in good faith.



# Discussion questions

1. How do Taskforce members want to move forward? Are members still supporting option 3?
1. If members want to move forward with an extended review and comment period, what should the duration be?
1. Likewise, what dates (June 22, June 23, July 24, July 25, July 26, July 31, and August 1) can people meet?
1. Have members received input/requests from groups/Tribes/communities they represent asking for an extended comment and review period?



The background image shows a paved road in the foreground, leading to a chain-link fence. Behind the fence, there are several large, dark, rectangular objects, possibly shipping containers or trailers. In the distance, there are mountains under a grey, overcast sky. On the right side, a wooden signpost is visible with a sign that has some text and logos, including the letters 'M' and 'U'.

# LKTKS Guidelines as a Policy

# Summary of protocol's purpose

- Protocol provides guidance for identifying, analyzing, and incorporating LK, TK, and subsistence information into the Council's decision-making process.
- The entire protocol document provides the Council foundational information for working knowledge systems (e.g., definitions, challenges, ideas to move forward, etc.).
- **The primary content for how to best identify and analyze LK, TK, and Subsistence information within the context of the Council's process is housed in the eight high-level guidelines (Section 4).**
- The onramps, or points of entry, for incorporating LK, TK, and subsistence information are recommendations for how the Council could consider implementing the guidelines (Section 5).



# What happens if the Council adopts the protocol?

The Taskforce co-Chairs have been asked what would happen if the Council chooses to adopt the protocol.

1. In April 2023, the co-Chairs will present the LKTKS Protocol, onramp recommendations, and final report to the Council and its advisory bodies.
2. At that meeting, the Council could:
  - a. take no action
  - b. adopt the protocol
  - c. release the document for extended public review\*  
*pending a Taskforce recommendation for this option*



# What happens if the Council adopts the protocol?

- If the Council adopted the LKTKS Protocol, the eight high-level guidelines would form an LKTKS Policy to guide and define the Council's approach to working with these knowledge systems.
  - The guidelines are the primary content satisfying the Council's goals for this Taskforce.
- The LKTKS Policy would be available on the Council's Management Policies webpage <https://www.npfmc.org/how-we-work/management-policies/>
- **In adopting the protocol the Council would be committing itself to the eight guidelines via the LKTKS Policy.**
- Additionally, the entirety of the protocol document would become the foundational reference tool for the Council, staff, advisory bodies, and public.
  - The full document becomes the through which the LKTKS Policy could be understood.





<b>Current draft guideline language</b>	<b>DRAFT guideline language revised as LKTKS Policy</b>
Understand and use the appropriate concepts for LK, TK, and subsistence	The Council recognizes the importance of understanding and using the appropriate terms for LK, TK, and subsistence information for its work in the Bering Sea.
Demonstrate respect for LK and TK systems	The Council, staff, and advisory bodies intend to demonstrate respect for LK and TK holders, the social science of LK and TK, and subsistence experts or information.
Appropriately and accurately identify LK and TK holders, the social science of LK and TK, and subsistence information	The Council, staff, and advisory bodies are committed to taking the appropriate steps to accurately identify LK and TK holders, the social science of LK and TK, and subsistence information.
Engage in early and frequent communication with relevant entities	To the extent practicable, the Council prioritizes early and ongoing communication with relevant entities holding or representing LK and TK systems. This includes but is not limited to Tribes, Alaska Native Organizations, fishermen, Alaska Native Corporations, fishing associations or cooperatives, and more.
Acknowledge and account for differences in capacity among relevant entities	To the extent practicable, the Council will endeavor to acknowledge and account for capacity differences among the entities (i.e., Tribes, Alaska Native Organizations, Alaska Native Corporations, fishermen, fishing associations or cooperatives, and more).
Adhere to local and cultural protocols that entities have established for sharing and communicating LK, TK, or subsistence information	The Council is committed to adhering to local and other cultural protocols that entities have established for sharing and communicating LK, TK or subsistence information as needed and appropriate.
Build the appropriate capacity for working with LK and TK systems and subsistence information	The Council acknowledges the importance of having the appropriate capacity for LK and TK systems and subsistence information. To the extent practicable, the Council will endeavor to identify opportunities for capacity building in its process.



# Reflections and notes

- Co-Chairs are not looking to wordsmith the LKTKS Policy as comments from individual members are due 1/27/23.
- Do Taskforce members agree with this idea/approach?



# Draft onramps

A photograph of a construction site for draft onramps. The site is a large, flat, paved area with a long row of metal cages or forms in the background. A sign on the right side of the image reads "Space For Build to", "This Space For", and "www.comb...".

# Background on the onramps

- The Council's motion from January 2020 directs the Taskforce to identify potential onramps or points of entry for including LK, TK, the social science of LK and TK, and subsistence information in its decision-making process.
- The Taskforce's initial onramp recommendations were focused on: hiring or training a Tribal Liaison on Council staff, establishing a process for Tribal engagement with the Council, creating guidelines or processes for more rigorously including LKTKS information in Council analyses, and expanding social science and Tribal expertise across the Council's decision-making process (March 2021 meeting).
  - These are interdependent and represent the Taskforce's early ideas for what could be the most significant opportunities for building relationships, improving communication, and incorporating LKTKS information across the Council's decision-making process.



# Onramps in the December 2022 draft protocol

- Each onramp in the draft LKTKS Protocol from December 2022 is written as a recommendation to reflect their anticipated final form as recommendations to the Council, **but these are initial recommendations and are not finalized.**
- These onramp recommendations are the points of entry for incorporating LK, TK, and subsistence information into the Council's process and a way for the Council to implement the LKTKS Policy, should the Council adopt the protocol.
- The Council would have an opportunity to consider each onramp recommendation and determine whether it would want to initiate any process changes at a future Council meeting.
- It is important to note each onramp recommendation is interrelated and holds a connection to the eight guidelines, but they are presented as individual recommendations to provide the Council a highly flexible approach to determining whether it wants to take action and initiate work on any individual onramp(s).



# Onramp summary list reflecting December 2022 changes

1. The Taskforce supports the Council and Executive Director's decision to add Rural Fishing Community and Tribal Liaison responsibilities to Council staff.
2. The Taskforce recommends the Council adopt the LKTKS protocol developed by the Taskforce. (New December 2022)
3. The Taskforce recommends the Council initiate a process whereby Tribes could engage directly with the Council.
4. The Taskforce recommends the Council request NMFS engage Consultations with Tribes early in the Council's decision-making process, and that a non-quorum of Council members participate in these sessions when requested by NMFS or Tribes.
5. The Taskforce recommends the Council modify the TOR and/or Council SOPPs for advisory bodies to include specific language to add designated Alaska Native Tribal seat(s).
6. The Taskforce recommends the Council solicit nominations for expanded non-economic social science expertise with a focus on LK and TK on the SSC.
7. The Taskforce recommends the Council host a workshop or summit on a triennial basis in concert with its research priorities process to solicit broad public input on selecting core research questions to assist the Council in managing the nation's resources.
8. The Taskforce recommends the Council adopt the analytical template developed by this Taskforce to formalize a process for including LK, TK, the social science of LK and TK, and subsistence information into the Council's decision-making process.
9. The Taskforce recommends the Council modify its public comment procedures to allow testifiers to provide introductions without it counting against their allowed time limit for oral public comments.
10. The Taskforce recommends the Council develop a plan to increase capacity in non-economic social sciences, and LKTKS expertise more specifically.







# Discussion questions

- What are the gaps? Are there specific ideas or onramps missing?
- Because TK is shared orally, what is the best/most appropriate onramp to allow TK to be shared orally with the Council?
- What are the priority onramps for the Council given capacity, resource, and other limitations?



		<b>Feasibility</b> <i>(High/med/low)</i>	<b>Priority</b> <i>(High/med/low)</i>
Onramp 1	<i>Supports the Council and Executive Director's decision to add Rural Fishing Community and Tribal Liaison responsibilities to staff</i>		
Onramp 2	<i>Adopt the LKTKS Protocol</i>		
Onramp 3	<i>Initiate a process whereby Tribes could engage directly with the Council</i>		
Onramp 4	<i>Request NMFS engage with Tribes on issues related to the Council, and have Council members participate</i>		
Onramp 5	<i>Modify the TOR and/or SOPPs to include Tribal seat(s) on advisory bodies</i>		
Onramp 6	<i>Solicit nominations for expanded LK and TK related social science expertise on the SSC</i>		
Onramp 7	<i>Host a workshop/ summit during research priorities process</i>		
Onramp 8	<i>Adopt the analytical template to formalize a pathway for LKTKS inclusion</i>		
Onramp 9	<i>Modify public comment procedures for extended introductions.</i>		
Onramp 10	<i>Plan to increase capacity in non-economic social sciences and LKTKS expertise</i>		



# Reflections and notes



A photograph of a coastal area, likely a fishing harbor or processing plant. In the foreground, a paved road curves from the bottom left towards the center. A long, single-story building made of metal cages or racks extends across the middle ground. To the right, a wooden signpost stands with several signs. The background features a large, snow-dusted mountain under a heavy, grey, overcast sky. The overall mood is industrial and somewhat somber.

# Public comment



# Questions?

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