

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**National Park Service****Notice of Meetings for the National Park Service (NPS) Subsistence Resource Commission (SRC) Program Within the Alaska Region**

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meetings for the National Park Service (NPS) Subsistence Resource Commission (SRC) program within the Alaska Region.

SUMMARY: The NPS announces the SRC meeting schedules for the following areas: Aniakchak National Monument, Cape Krusenstern National Monument, Kobuk Valley National Park, Lake Clark National Park, and Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. The purpose of each meeting is to develop and continue work on NPS subsistence hunting program recommendations and other related subsistence management issues. Each meeting is open to the public and will have time allocated for public testimony. The public is welcome to present written or oral comments to the SRC. Each meeting will be recorded and meeting minutes will be available upon request from each Superintendent for public inspection approximately six weeks after each meeting. The NPS SRC program is authorized under Title VIII, Section 808 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Pub. L. 96-487, to operate in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

DATES: The Aniakchak National Monument SRC meeting will be held on Monday, October 6, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., at the Katmai National Park and Preserve headquarters conference room in King Salmon, AK.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary McBurney, Subsistence Manager, telephone: (907) 235-7891, or Ralph Moore, Superintendent, telephone: (907) 246-2120, at Aniakchak National Park and Preserve, P.O. Box 7, King Salmon, AK 99613.

DATES: The Cape Krusenstern National Monument SRC and the Kobuk Valley National Park SRC meetings will be held on Thursday, October 9, 2008 and Friday, October 10, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office in Kotzebue, AK.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ken Adkisson, Subsistence Manager, telephone (907) 443-2522, or Willie Goodwin, Subsistence Manager, and George Helfrich, Superintendent, telephone: (907) 442-3890, at Western Arctic Parklands, P.O. Box 1029, Kotzebue, AK 99752.

DATES: The Lake Clark National Park SRC meeting will be held on September 24, 2008, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lake Clark National Park and Preserve Visitor Center in Port Alsworth, AK.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary McBurney, Subsistence Manager, telephone: (907) 235-7891, or Joel Hard, Superintendent, and Michelle Ravenmoon, Subsistence Coordinator, telephone: (907) 781-2218, at Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, 1 Park Place, Port Alsworth, AK 99653.

DATES: The Wrangell-St. Elias National Park SRC meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 29, 2008 and Thursday, October 30, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Yakutat-Alaska Native Brotherhood Hall in Yakutat, AK.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Cellarius, Subsistence Manager, telephone: (907) 822-7236, or Meg Jensen, Superintendent, telephone: (907) 822-5234, at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, P.O. Box 439, Copper Center, AK 99573.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: SRC meeting locations and dates may need to be changed based on weather or local circumstances. If meeting dates and locations are changed notice of each meeting will be published in local newspapers and announced on local radio stations prior to the meeting dates. The meetings may end early if all business is completed.

The agendas for each meeting include the following:

1. Call to Order (SRC Chair)
 2. SRC Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum
 3. SRC Chair and Superintendent's Welcome and Introductions
 4. Review and Approve Agenda
 5. Status of SRC Membership
 6. SRC Member Reports
 7. Superintendent and NPS Staff Reports
 8. Federal Subsistence Board Update (Review Proposals, Board Actions)
 9. State of Alaska Board Actions Update
 10. New Business
 11. Agency and Public Comments
 12. SRC Work Session
 13. Set Time and Place of Next SRC Meeting
- Adjournment

Victor Knox,
Deputy Regional Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Reclamation****Odessa Subarea Special Study; Adams, Franklin, Grant, Lincoln and Walla Walla Counties, WA**

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) proposes to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Odessa Subarea Special Study. The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) is a joint lead with Reclamation in the preparation of this Environmental Impact Statement which will also be used to comply with requirements of the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA).

The purpose of Reclamation's Odessa Subarea Special Study is to evaluate alternatives that would deliver project water from the Columbia Basin Project (CBP) to lands currently using groundwater for irrigation in the Odessa Ground Water Management Subarea. The Study is needed to fulfill the obligation Reclamation made in a Memorandum of Agreement between the State of Washington (State) and the Project irrigation districts in December 2004, which included cooperating on a study to explore opportunities for delivery of Columbia Basin Project water to existing groundwater-irrigated lands within the Odessa Subarea.

Action is needed to avoid significant economic loss, in the near term, to the region's agricultural sector because of resource conditions associated with continued decline of the aquifers in the Odessa Subarea. Groundwater in the Odessa Subarea is currently being depleted to such an extent that water must be pumped from great depths. Pumping depths are 750 feet in some areas, and well depths are as great as 2,100-2,400 feet. Well drilling costs and pumping water from this depth have resulted in expensive power costs and water quality concerns such as high water temperatures and high sodium concentrations.

The ability of farmers to irrigate their crops is at risk. Domestic, commercial, municipal, and industrial uses and water quality are also affected. Those irrigating with wells of lesser depth live with uncertainty about future well production.

Washington State University conducted a regional economic impact