



ICE SEAL CO-MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
AGENDA

January 21, 2020
9:00 am

Dimond Center Hotel – 700 E Dimond Blvd, Anchorage, AK 99515

1. Call to Order

2. Invocation

3. Roll Call: A quorum for a Co-Management committee meeting has 5 members

Ice Seal Committee:

___ Billy Adams, North Slope Borough ___ Brandon Ahmasuk, Kawerak, Inc.
___ Emerson Moto, Maniilaq Association ___ Helen Aderman, BB Native Association
___ Jennifer Hooper, Association of Village Council Presidents

National Marine Fisheries Service

___ Jon Kurland, Alaska Region, Juneau ___ Peter Boveng, MML, Seattle
___ Barbara Mahoney, Alaska Region, Anchorage

4. Introductions

5. Dispense with “Robert Rules of Order” and proceed by consensus

6. Select a Chairman from the Ice Seal Committee

7. Adopt the Agenda

8. Approve the May 29, 2019 Ice Seal Co-Management Committee meeting minutes

9. National Marine Fisheries Service - Alaska Region Jon Kurland & Tammy Olson

- a. Petition to delist threatened Arctic ring seals
- b. Settlement agreement on completion of proposed determinations concerning the designation of critical habitat for bearded and ringed seals
- c. Critical habitat designation process
- d. Critical habitat for bearded and ringed seals – topics for DISCUSSION:
 - i. What specific habitat features are essential for bearded and ringed seals?

- ii. What types of sea ice are most important for bearded and ringed seals?
- iii. How important are shallow areas, near the shore, for bearded and ringed seals, as compared to areas in deeper waters?
- iv. How important are estuaries, lagoons, and/or similar areas for bearded and ringed seals?
- v. What specific area, if any, should be excluded from bearded and ringed seals critical habitat?
- vi. Other considerations?

10. Ice Seal Committee

Andrew Von Duyke

Brief discussion on current Ice Seal Committee operations

11. Action Plan 2020

Barbara Mahoney & Andrew Von Duyke

The Action Plan includes action items and information needed to promote the conservation of Alaska ice seal populations and co-management of subsistence uses of ice seals in Alaska.

- a. Review and edit the 2020 Action Plan for the Ice Seal Committee
- b. Final Action Plan completed and approved by the ISC and NMFS by 12-Feb-2020

12. Marine Mammal Lab, National Marine Fisheries Service

Peter Boveng

- a. Update on MML coordination with Kawerak, Inc. on research activities and co-production of knowledge.
- b. Research in 2020
 - i. Communications and information sharing with Bering Sea communities
 - A. Avoid conflict
 - ii. NOAA Oscar Dyson ship and the Bering Sea cruise, spring 2020
 - A. Working closely with Kawerak

13. Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program

Barbara Mahoney

- a. Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (83 FR 13955, 2 April 2018)
- b. Draft Programmatic EIS will be published in December 2020
- c. Programmatic EIS will revisit ice seal rehabilitation and release policy
 - i. NMFS letter to ISC President J. Goodwin (3 June 2018) and Alaska SeaLife Center Chief of Husbandry, Mr. L. Keller (28 May 2008)

14. Ice Seal Unusual Mortality Event

Barbara Mahoney

- a. Live and dead ice seals
 - i. 1-Jun-2018 to present
 - ii. Bearded, ringed, and spotted seals
 - iii. All age classes
- b. Harvested ice seals
- c. Supplies for carcass collection (harvested and/or stranding)
 - i. Body bags
 - ii. Gloves
 - iii. Trash bags, extra large

15. Closing Comments

16. Date for Next Meeting

17. Adjournment

Executive Session (if needed)

ISC:

Billy Adams, Brandon Ahmasuk, Emerson Moto, Jennifer Hopper, Helen Aderman

ISC staff: Andy Von Duyke

NMFS: Jon Kurland, Peter Boveng, Barbara Mahoney