

Copper Basin Managers Meeting

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

Present: Dennis Taitel, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Mercedes Knighton, Alton Incorporated, Kevin Darby, Prince William Sound College (PWSC), Britta Mayr-Underwood, Wiggall Institute for Science and Environment (WISSE), Ruth McHenry, Cliff Eason, Copper River Alliance, Gary Mallon, Department of Natural Resources-Forestry Division (DNRF), Willard Wood, Tualatin Village, Katrina Church-Chimikowski, Prince William Sound College (PWSC), John McDonald, Kate Moran, Copper River Watershed, Danielle Verma and Kelly, University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), Mark Somerville, State of Alaska Fish and Game, Doree Hopkins, Department of Transportation(DOT), John Thomas.

BLM Items:

Dennis Taitel.

Staffing:

New wildlife Biologist, Jesse Fleckner, new Forester, Tim Skiba. Maria Beteris retired. New Assistant Field Manager position being filled soon. Future positions Recreation Planner, GIS, Realty Tech, career seasonal Outdoor Recreation Planner, mining and Hydrology positions are planned. Will bring BLM from 17 full time staff to 22.

Seasonal seasonal staff this year mostly due to tool repair needs. A new agreement between the BLM and Prince William Sound College allows BLM to bring on college students into paid and credit earning internships.

Subsistence:

Caribou season ended March 31st. Reports are due April 15th. Caribou harvest was larger this year, but within the ten year average.

BLM NEPA:

Seaflex – Watawa project involvement:

BLM staff attending field study presentations, commenting on them. AEA has reported removal of minimum impact for studies.

Road work on the Richardson Highway, north:

JT & T Blue Optix Hagan Hill realignment, near Haggard Creek, will be conducted in June. ADOT Hagan Hill Material site RA.