

**Willow Master Development Plan
Supplement to the Draft EIS Meeting
April 23, 2020, 1:00 p.m.**

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PROCEEDINGS

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

1:00:47

Good afternoon, everybody. My name is Art Ferraro, and I am with you here today for the Willow Master Development Plan Supplement to the Draft EIS. We'll be starting here in just a couple of minutes. We're finishing up one quick task and we'll be right with you, so please stand by.

(Pause)

Good afternoon, everybody. My name is Art Ferraro, and I am with you this morning for the -- I'm your Zoom host for the Willow Master Development Plan Supplement to the Draft EIS. Today is April 23rd. It's our afternoon session. We're really glad you're here today for us.

We appreciate you all joining us, and while we are waiting for everyone to join, I'd just like to go over a few items related to the meeting. I'd like to mention that we will be recording this session, so that we can capture all of your comments and make sure that we have them collected properly.

I'd also like to point out that if you haven't updated your Zoom client or your Zoom app on your personal device, that you do so now, if you can. You will have a minute or two before we get started, so do that, and you can jump back on the call. This helps by giving you the latest software, and allows us to not have any technical issues when it's your time to give public comments, and we'll be able to call on you seamlessly.

If we do have some technical issues, if you're running an older version that's not supported by this -- the version that we're using right now, we may ask you to call back with a phone line so that we can hear you and get your public comments, so thank you for being patient if that happens.

Secondly, you also have a Q&A button at the bottom of your screen. For those participating through the phone line, you'll be able to -- oh, I'm sorry. So the Q&A button is at the bottom of your screen, and it's for anybody that's watching online. You'll be able to submit questions at any time, and we have a team of experts that will be here to help answer those questions for you in a timely manner.

And, also, if you have any Zoom problems and you'd like to reach out to us, you're welcome to ask a question and just put, Zoom question, if you want, and we'll see if we can get someone to respond directly back to you.

As an attendee, you won't ever have your camera on or be activated, so you'll be remaining muted at all times. You won't even see a microphone icon on your display, until such time as you're called upon by the facilitator and, at that point in time, a microphone icon will appear, and then you'll be able to unmute yourself so that we can hear you. And you'll have full control over when you want to mute and unmute that while that microphone is given to you.

Once your testimony is done, then we'll take that back and give it to the next person. And we'll only hear your audio. We won't ever see your picture or anything like that, again, so just so you know that it's just an audio-only feed, so you don't have to worry about that (unclear).

With that, I think I've covered all the basics. I'd like to now introduce Mr. Pender -- Kevin Pendergast, which is going to give us our opening statements. Kevin?

Kevin Pendergast, BLM Deputy State Director

1:05:04

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Well, thank you, Art, and thank you, again. Good afternoon, everyone. Thank you for being here with us. Just a few brief remarks from my perspective. I'm coming to you on behalf of Chad Padgett, our State Director. And Chad would like to be here, but he's actually hosting or participating in another virtual meeting, and that's very important. It's the Federal Subsistence Board hearings. He's involved in those all week along with other regional directors from the Department of the Interior.

It's just kind of an interesting touchpoint, because those are the times we're in right now. We're doing everything we can to continue the government's business for the people, and this is just one of these examples, this meeting and the Federal Subsistence Board that Chad's involved in.

So, again, thank you for joining us as we continue to expand the ways we engage with the public. It's important to us that we deliver information to you safely and efficiently, with multiple platforms to provide feedback. We're working every day to maintain our services to the American people, and we have to do that consistent with evolving guidance from local, state, and federal health authorities. And this is really why we're moving forward with our public meetings in a virtual environment at this time. By doing this, we're helping ensure the safety of the communities we serve, like Nuiqsut, and allowing you the ability to access the right information and provide timely comment.

The process is efficient, as I hope you'll find today. We don't get canceled because of weather, and it allows us to schedule more meetings to accommodate your schedule; for instance, we had two meetings just today. But we know some of you may prefer face-to-face meetings, and, we do, too, but that's just not possible at this time, so we thank you for adjusting along with us.

Now, without further delay, we'll get to it. Today we're going to discuss the Supplement to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Willow Master Development Plan. This supplement was brought about specifically based upon feedback we received from you during our public comment period for the draft EIS. The supplement is a very focused document, and we look forward to walking you through it today.

Again, thank you for taking the time to join us. And now I want to turn it over to our facilitator, Joy, who will get us started.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

1:07:36

Thank you, Kevin. And I just want to extend a warm welcome, as well, to the Willow Master Development Plan Supplement to the Draft EIS public meeting and ANILCA Section 810 subsistence hearing.

Really quickly before I get started, I just want to -- many of you know who I am. I've had the pleasure of visiting Nuiqsut several times and spending some time on the North Slope. I live in Fairbanks. I have a company here. I'm a subcontractor on this project providing facilitation services.

And I spent about 15 years growing up, off and on, in some of our smaller villages along the Yukon River. My dad was a gold miner, so I spent summers in different gold mining camps. And I've been doing communications with rural communities for about 18 years now. And my educational background is in Native American studies and environmental studies, and I am Koyukon Athabascan. So that's a little bit about me, and really happy to be facilitating this meeting today.

Before we get started, I just want to acknowledge the fact that these are really challenging times for all of us. And as the state and as communities spread across Alaska and as a country, we are all experiencing this in

different ways, but it does add a lot of stress and anxiety and concern for our loved ones and concern for our communities, as well as other hardships.

And so in light of that, I just want to take a brief moment of silence, as a group, to have a collective prayer for -- a silent prayer for the healthcare workers, for family members that may have higher health risks, for anyone that is kind of weighing heavy on your heart and your mind, I would like us to, together, have a moment of silence and say a prayer for them. I'm going to turn off my video during this moment, and I'll be back in just a few minutes. Thank you.

(Pause for moment of silence)

Thank you all for joining me in that moment of silence and that prayer. And I just want to recognize that we all have a lot on our hearts and minds right now, and we do appreciate you spending some time with us to discuss this very important project, and we are very interested in hearing your testimony and answering questions today.

If we could please skip to the next slide. I'm going to give some welcome remarks and share a little bit of logistics, as well. Art, who opened up the meeting, is providing a lot of support, and this is really a pretty exciting and cool tool that we're using, the Zoom webinar. And so I'm going to go over a little bit more logistics, as well.

For our phone participants, in order to have your questions answered, you press the star-nine button on your phone. And then we will actually stop every few slides and answer questions, and so star-nine is how you raise your hand. And then we'll open your microphone at that time. But you may already be muted on your phone, and so star-six is how you unmute yourself and then mute yourself, as well, so I would just keep in mind you might be muted.

And then the Q&A box down at the bottom, as Art mentioned, is how we will have -- answer questions from our (unclear - audio breakup) participating via the web, and so that's our primary way. We have several team members that will be answering your questions, and we will also read some of those technical questions. We won't share the name, but if some of the questions in the Q&A box we feel could help everyone to understand the information better, we will read some of those questions aloud when we take those breaks.

And questions will be answered throughout the presentation part of this afternoon's meeting, but once we move into testimony, we are no longer going to be answering questions live, either on the phone or in the Q&A box. We would like to focus on the testimony, and also have everyone's attention on the testimony period. There will be some instructions along the way that we don't want people to miss, and I'll be calling on people's names, as well, or reading their phone numbers, and so having everyone's attention will be really important during that time frame.

Also, we are going to be asking people to say and to spell their names for the recording. This meeting is being recorded for a transcript to be developed, and so having your name and the correct spelling is very important. And, also, we may be posting this on our website, as well.

And we are Facebook Live, and so just a reminder for everybody, because of that kind of live element, we also may have some younger people watching the meeting, and so the use of appropriate language is really important, given that fact, so that will be one thing that we will kind of remind people throughout the day, if needed.

There will be a broadcast of the presentation on the radio on the North Slope in Inupiat. It will be translated and shared on the radio, so that's another side note, as well.

And I think we've covered, basically, everything. Again, this is a new platform, and we do appreciate your patience. I work on different projects, and everyone is trying to develop and utilize new tools for communication, and we're happy to be able to connect with you via the web and the telephone today.

I will go through our presentation now, just the agenda for the presentation. It's not a very long presentation. It's about 20 minutes. We will -- Racheal Jones, the BLM Project Manager, will be presenting, and she will give EIS team introductions. She will talk about the meeting purpose, give an overview of NEPA and the EIS process, and also a project overview, and talk about the key project changes and additions and conclusions and preliminary findings under ANILCA Section 810. So that's kind of the main focus of the presentation.

Again, we will stop for questions throughout. Please ask your questions -- get the questions in the Q&A box or ask them over the phone before we end the question-and-answer period, because we would love to get all of those answered, as well. And then we will open up the meeting for public comments and testimony, and we will have as much time there -- we're shooting for about two hours, so we will update you on some of the logistics around that.

But for now, I would like to switch to the next slide, and just make sure we're all on the same page with the project that we're discussing today. So, again, the purpose of today's meeting is the Willow Master Development Plan Supplement to the Draft EIS and ANILCA Section 810 Analysis. And as you can see, the project is located mostly in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska, west of the Colville River, and southwest of the community of Nuiqsut.

And with that, I will hand it over to Racheal to begin her presentation, and we will stop for questions in the next few slides. So thank you, and we're glad that you're joining us today.

Racheal Jones, BLM Project Manager

1:15:36

Good afternoon, everyone. Thank you, Joy. I want to start by summarizing the different roles and entities that we have evaluating the Willow Master Development Plan. We have the lead federal agency; that's the Bureau of Land Management, of course. Being the lead federal agency just means that we are leading and coordinating the overall federal response to ConocoPhillips' project.

We also have eight federal agencies, and we call these cooperating agencies. We're coordinating and cooperating with them while we move through the evaluation of the project, also. These agencies or organizations, they either have jurisdiction by law, or they have special expertise with regards to environmental impacts associated with oil and gas development on the North Slope. We also hired a third-party contractor to help us prepare the EIS, the Environmental Impact Statement, and that is DOWL.

I'm going to list off the cooperating agencies for those people who are on the phone. Those agencies U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Native Village of Nuiqsut, Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope, City of Nuiqsut, North Slope Borough, and State of Alaska.

We also have with us, today, a few key subject matter experts that will be helping to answer any questions and listening in on the testimony. We have two subsistence experts on; that's Paul Lawrence and Liz Sears from Steven R. Braund and Associates. We have a caribou expert from the firm ABR; that is Alex Pritchard. We

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also have Zach Huff and Leyla Arsan from DOWL, and they are project managers working on the EIS that can speak to general project design and project effects questions, if those questions pop up.

With that, I'm going to move on into the presentation. We are on slide number 5, National Environmental Policy Act. So the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA, which we hear it most often, requires the government to analyze the impacts of proposed action. That's the purpose of preparing an EIS, Environmental Impact Statement. The BLM began preparing an EIS when ConocoPhillips submitted the proposed plan in August of 2018, somewhere around that time frame.

An EIS -- in an EIS, the BLM is required to analyze alternatives to the proposed project that would meet -- that would also meet the purpose and needs of the project. We're also required to disclose environmental effects and to provide the opportunity for the public to provide input during that process.

The last couple bullets on this slide, I'm going to reiterate on slide 6 in a second here. They're just previous -- they're outlining the dates for previous public comment periods, and the comment period that we're in today. So moving into slide 6, we are showing here a graphic depicting a general overview of the steps in the NEPA process in the development of an EIS.

When an agency begins to prepare an EIS, we publish a notice of intent, and that notifies the public that we're kicking off a NEPA process. It also provides a brief description of the project. Publishing of the notice also opens the public comment period to collect input on issues and alternatives of the proposed action.

The BLM did these steps in fall of 2018, you know, after receiving the proposal from ConocoPhillips. After considering public scoping comments and identifying issues and looking at alternative project designs, we published the draft EIS for a 60-day comment period that started on August 30th of last year. That is this step I'm outlining on the -- on slide 6.

Today, we're in a comment period for the supplement to the draft, which started on May 20th [sic] and will end on May 4th, and this document contains information that hadn't been previously shared to the public, and that's what we'll be discussing today.

The last steps in the process are to consider the feedback from the draft, and the feedback from the supplement to the draft and prepare a final EIS. The BLM expects to publish a final EIS late summer 2020. That depends on a bunch of different things; partly the comments that we receive during the public comment period and the testimony that we're hearing today from you.

After we prepare the FEIS and publish the FEIS, the BLM and the Department of Interior have a minimum of 30 days to consider the alternatives and the impact analysis, all the information in the EIS, and all the comments that we received from the public, prior to issuing a record of decision on the project.

Joy, we're going to stop for a second and take a question break.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

1:20:57

Thank you, Racheal. And a reminder for our participants that are calling in on the phone, we have about five people that have called in. If you have a question, please press star-nine, and we will see your hand raised, and then be able to call on you. And for everybody else, please utilize the Q&A box.

And to my knowledge, we do not have any technical questions, at this time, based on the material that's been presented so far. So I'll wait just a brief moment here and see if people are pressing their star-nine button for our phone participants. I do see we have one hand raised from a web participant, but I just want to remind people that for our web participants, we are definitely asking that you utilize the Q&A box down at the bottom of your screen. And the reason for us to stop and open the line is for our phone participants. They don't have the Q&A box function, so we want to have kind of an equal way to participate.

And I still don't see any hands raised from our phone participants, and so I will hand it back over to you, Racheal. Thank you.

Racheal Jones, BLM Project Manager

1:22:12

Thank you, Joy. So we're on slide 7. It's titled just Proposed Willow Project. It's kind of a break in the presentation. I will now briefly start describing the main project components that are included in ConocoPhillips' proposal, as well as additional alternatives that the BLM analyzed during the draft EIS last year. Afterwards, I will explain the primary changes proposed by ConocoPhillips, which triggered the need for a supplemental to the draft.

And just a reminder for everyone, this meeting that we're having now, it's part of the public review process. It's part of this comment period for the supplement, and we're presenting this material to give you information to collect feedback on the new project components that we're going to describe today.

Moving on to slide 9, please, Project Overview. So ConocoPhillips proposes to construct, operate, and maintain infrastructure for the production and transportation to market of federal oil and gas resources, including central processing facility, operations center, five drill sites, gravel access and infield roads, ice roads and ice pads, airstrip, pipelines, new gravel mine site, and a freshwater reservoir.

If you roll back up to slide 8, that's just a graphic titled Willow Development Location. It shows the area where the proposed Willow project would be developed. The graphic shows a general footprint of all the alternatives, so you can see the drill pads are located furthest to the west along the north/south road alignment. Where the north/south road alignment and the east/west road alignment connect is near where the oil and gas processing will be located, where the operation center will be located, and at least one airstrip. This east/west alignment connects Willow with the Alpine development to the northeast. You can also see the gravel mine site just below the road, the GMT-1 road, and then that is just west of Nuiqsut.

Moving on to slide 10, a quick reminder on what we evaluated in the draft Environmental Impact Statement, so I'm going to outline those alternatives that we had previously looked at. We looked at a no action alternative. We looked at alternative B, which is ConocoPhillips' proposed project, and that included a gravel road that connected the Willow operation center to the Alpine development.

We looked at alternative C, which would disconnect infield roads, meaning that between the Willow processing center and the drill pads to the north, there would be an ice road and not a gravel connection.

And we evaluated alternative D, which would disconnect access to the Alpine facility, meaning that there would not be an ice road -- or there would be an ice road rather than a gravel road between the Willow processing facility and the Alpine development, and that's the longer east road alignment that we -- east/west road alignment that we had showed.

So why does the BLM need to prepare a supplement? Well, ConocoPhillips, after receiving a lot of feedback from stakeholders and the general public, they submitted an updated project proposal. The BLM determined that the supplement was required, because, in the proposal, it included new project components, and those components had new potential effects, and effects that extended over areas that we hadn't previously analyzed. Additionally, it allows for the opportunity for the public to review and comment on the new information that the BLM received and needs to analyze.

Moving on to slide 12, the updated proposal submitted to BLM included project refinements and three new project components. Those three new components are a constructed freshwater reservoir, up to three boat ramps for subsistence access, and a different module delivery option, module delivery option 3, Colville River crossing.

There are some project refinements, and when I say, refinements, examples include changes in gravel pad size, road width adjustments. These were included in the proposal, but those are adjustments to project components that we already described and analyzed in the draft EIS. Therefore, for the supplement, we chose to focus only on the new information and the impacts from the new components.

All that being said, all the design refinements and the new components discussed today will be included in the final FEIS, with a full project description and analysis for the BLM to consider, prior to issuing a record of decision for the project.

Joy, I'm going to hand it back to you for a question break.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

1:27:42

Thank you, Racheal. And we don't have any questions to read that are technical in nature from the Q&A box that will provide more clarity on the slides. And I don't see any hands raised from any of our phone participants, so -- actually, we do have somebody calling in on the line that has raised their phone [sic] -- or sorry, raised their hand, so we'll call on them here in a second.

I just want to remind everyone that the reason that we stop and answer questions verbally is for our phone participants that don't have the ability to use the Q&A box. So, at this time, if we could please open the line for a question from the phone number 802-7320, your line is now open.

Rene Opie, Commenter

1:28:37

Hello can you hear me? Are you speaking to me?

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

1:28:39

Yes, sorry. Yeah, we can hear you, and your line is open. Thank you.

Rene Opie, Commenter

1:28:43

Okay, thank you. Hi. My name is Rene Opie, and I'm with the City of Nuiqsut Council. I noticed -- I'm sorry, earlier I was on the webinar and I was trying to raise my hand earlier when you asked, and I had to call in because it wasn't working.

So, anyway, I notice that -- that caribou experts there, master caribou experts, and you're speaking about caribou quite a bit. And I haven't heard anything about the fish. It should be in the ANILCA 810. You should add the fish to that, because the fish are also part of what needs to be analyzed up here for that. And, also, you had stated that the comments from this meeting and the public meetings to come -- meetings to come before the final EIS, goes to review. You said based on your decision of the outcome of it, you said that these comments will partially -- will partially only be considered in your final decision. I want to know, can you have -- do you know the percentage of effect that these comments will have with the decision? And can you explain why you haven't mentioned any fish? Thank you.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

1:30:28

Thank you, Rene, for your question, and I will hand that back over to Racheal to answer you. Thank you.

Racheal Jones, BLM Project Manager

1:30:34

Yeah, hi. I can partly answer that question. With respect to impacts for fish and the 810 ANILCA analysis, we didn't find that there was heavy impacts to subsistence with regards to fish, so that's why it's not analyzed in detail, and there wasn't a positive finding, in terms of fishing and subsistence impacts. There is reference to effects to fish and subsistence in the EIS.

So to answer the other part of your question, in terms of what kind of comments that we're going to be considering or the percentage of opportunity that those comments would affect something in the process, we look at every single comment that we receive and we consider those comments. We consider substantive comments in the EIS prior to publishing a final, and, certainly, prior to publishing a record of decision. And in the final FEIS, we actually publish the comments that we receive in the document, and respond formally in the FEIS.

So, Joy, I'll hand that back to you. I think that sufficiently addresses the question.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

1:32:00

Yes, I believe it does. Thank you. And I don't see any other questions coming from the Q&A box. Did the person with the last digits of the phone number, 7320 -- Rene, did you -- I see your hand is raised again. Do you have another question? Can we open Rene's line, please?

Rene Opie, Commenter

1:32:26

So, hi. Can you hear me?

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

1:32:29

Yes. Hi, Rene. Did you have another question?

Rene Opie, Commenter

1:32:34

I just wanted to thank Racheal for her answer, and I just wanted to make a request that my question and comment gets very much considered to be put in the final EIS with the answer I was given. Thank you.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

1:32:58

Great. Thank you, Rene. And I believe that concludes our questions and answers at this time. I will hand it back to Racheal.

Racheal Jones, BLM Project Manager

1:33:06

Thank you, Joy. Moving on to slide 13, I'm going to talk about the three components that are new to the project in a little bit more detail. So starting with the freshwater reservoir, this reservoir is common to each of the alternatives. It would supply a reliable source of freshwater for the project, and that would be through construction operations at Willow. It would also reduce the need for water withdrawal from lakes in the project area.

The reservoir features would look similar to an existing reservoir adjacent to Kuparuk central processing facility number 2, CPF2. The reservoir would also have seven-foot tall berms around the edges that would help promote thermal stability of adjacent permafrost, and there -- and it would include a sheet pile weir with a screen that would help protect fish from getting into the reservoir.

Moving on to slide 14, this is just a schematic of the reservoir. The constructed reservoir would be located near BT3; that's Bear Tooth drill site 3 -- Bear Tooth is just the reference to the leasing unit -- and near BT3 and the Willow operation center.

This area is about 16-1/2 acres, and it would provide approximately 55 million gallons to the project every year. The excavated material resulting from construction, that would be used to create the berm around the edges, and then any additional excavated material would be hauled out to the mine site where we would -- where ConocoPhillips would use that as material for reclamation, fill material for reclamation.

Moving on to slide 15, boat ramps, it's titled Boat Ramps for Subsistence Users. These boat ramps, they were included in the project design by ConocoPhillips as mitigation for project effects on the community of Nuiqsut. The design for these is preliminary, and it would be refined based on community input.

Alternative B -- under alternative B, there would be up to three boat ramps. One would be at Ublutuoch River; one would be at Judy Creek River; and one would be at Fish Creek. Alternatives C and D would only include one boat ramp for access on the Ublutuoch River, because under those alternatives, there would not be gravel access to haul a boat to Judy Creek or Fish Creek. Each boat ramp would include a short gravel access road, a pad for vehicles to turn around, and a parking lot for approximately 10 trucks with trailers.

Moving on to slide 16, this is -- it's titled Boat Ramps for Subsistence Users. This is just zoomed in to the Willow location and showing the locations of the boat ramps. So under alternative B, to the west access here, you would have a boat ramp on Fish Creek and Judy Creek. And under C and D, you would have a boat ramp north of the gravel mine site.

Whoops, excuse me. Moving on to slide 17, the -- this is the -- well, we'll stop for a question break before we move on, actually. Joy?

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

1:37:13

Thank you, Racheal. And we don't have any questions from our Q&A box to read, at this time, that are technical and would help to kind of clarify the information on the slides. And I don't see any hands raised from our phone participants.

And, again, we're opening the phone line for our callers that don't have the ability to ask questions in the Q&A box. We want to make sure it's a fair process for everyone, and so that's the goal of stopping for questions. And I don't see any -- and, again, you press the star-nine button on your phone to raise your hand.

So while we're kind of giving them a chance, in case someone just jumped on and needed the directions for the star-nine, I wanted to share really quickly that the presentation was translated into Inupiaq, and it was actually on the radio on KBRW yesterday at 5:30 and 8:30 p.m., and on April -- well, today at noon, and then on April 28th at noon, as well. So I just wanted to share the dates and the times for the radio broadcast of the presentation translated into Inupiaq. And, with that, I will hand it back to Racheal.

Racheal Jones, BLM Project Manager

1:38:30

Thank you, Joy. So we're on slide 17. We just talked about the freshwater reservoir and the boat ramps for subsistence use. And, now, I'm going to describe, in more detail, the module delivery option 3 for the Colville River crossing. This third component analyzed in the supplement is designed to address concerns about the proposed module transfer islands.

Module transfer delivery option 1 at Atigaru Point and module delivery option 2 at Point Lonely, those were options that were analyzed in the draft, and we received a lot of feedback on. And so, you know, essentially, people wanted a different alternative than a mod -- than a transfer island, than a gravel island. And so ConocoPhillips updated their proposal and included the Colville River crossing. Under this option, sealift barges would deliver modules to Oliktok Dock, just north of Kuparuk. The modules would be transferred from Oliktok Dock to Kuparuk drill site 2P, and they would use existing gravel roads. From Kuparuk drill site 2P, they would be transported across the Colville River via ice road, and then into the NPRA.

We are going to move to slide 18 that shows a graphic of the Colville River crossing. This graphic, you can see Kuparuk on the right of the main frame. The gray network surrounding Kuparuk are roads, and this also shows the gravel road extending from Kuparuk south to DSP2. From there, the modules would be hauled to the Colville River on ice road. They would cross at Ocean Point, and then be transported across the ice bridge into the NPRA.

Moving right to the inset A, you can see Oliktok Dock. The modules would be delivered via -- well, via barge to Oliktok Dock during the summer open water season, and the modules would be staged at an existing gravel pad, approximately two miles south of the dock, until the following winter.

This bottom right schematic, that's just showing the ice bridge crossing of the Colville River near Ocean Point, and that location where they chose, it was determined feasible by ConocoPhillips after additional investigations. They anticipate that the Colville River will mostly freeze to the bottom in this area during the winter, and the surrounding riverbanks here are shallow enough to construct an ice bridge and get modules across.

Before we move on, I'm going to go back to Joy to see if we have any questions.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

1:41:43

Thank you, Racheal. And we still don't have any questions to read from the Q&A box that will help to provide more clarity on the slides. And we do actually have a hand raised from one of our phone participants, and I think it is Rene again with a 7320, as her last -- the last num -- four numbers of the phone number. Art, can you please open Rene's line?

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

1:42:11

Yes, hi, there. This is Sam Kunaknana (unclear).

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

1:42:12

Sorry, Sam.

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

1:42:13

Yes, I do have a question for Racheal, and it pertains, you know, to this ANILCA 810. And she stated earlier that, you know, the fish were considered to -- were already analyzed and considered not to be in the EIS, when in fact, you know, we've been getting sick fish since 2013. And, you know, when we talk about development, we talk about contractors coming around our area, Colville River Delta area, and it's been going on since 1995, I think, ever since the satellite development area got developed, and now we're up to CD7.

You know, my concern here is that, you know, is it comes to these EIS's, they break them down and consider what should be in the EIS to be considered to the people down south on the record of decision. You know, my concern on this issue is that the fish, anakaluk (ph), main staple of the fish that we get during the summer, and distribute out to the North Slope need to be considered and analyzed, because when you talk about getting sick fish every year, since 2013, and, you know, with development comes contaminants. When you talk about development, you talk about ice road building. Over the years, I have seen ice roads built every year, especially when it came to CD5, GMT-1, GMT-2. Now, we're talking about the Willow Ma -- Willow Master Plan.

You know, all this over here needs to be considered into one umbrella, because it's one contract or one developer, ConocoPhillips, that contracts these contracts out to contractors to build ice roads using diesel engines that are pretty much not even, you know, being looked into. ANILCA 810, subsistence food, food security, all that stuff needs to be considered. And I think the anakaluks (ph) needs to be considered into this EIS, be looked into, especially when you talk about the Arctic monitoring and assessment program that I stated a while back to BLM, and the contaminants of PAHs, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons detected on the Nigliq Channel, all the way past our village.

Those things need to be considered into these EIS's, because I am an expert in subsistence. I have been subsisting in this area way before Alpine got started, and it's unprecedented to see sick fish every year, anakaluks (ph), come up from the bay to go and spawn, and coming back down, because polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons are associated with development, and that development is from the contractors building the ice roads to develop these projects in the Colville River Delta area. Thank you.

Racheal Jones, BLM Project Manager

1:46:42

So, thanks, Sam. Yeah, I have a couple of points, a couple things I want to answer in terms of your question. First of all, in terms of fish, impacts were addressed -- impacts to fish were addressed in the EIS, including impacts to the abundance of fish, displacement, health of the fish. The analysis found that there could be individual mortalities or displacement, but no population level effects.

And we also considered fish in the ANILCA Section 810 analysis, but the conclusions, you know, after reading through that analysis, we didn't find that impacts to fish would be significant on subsistence uses or needs. And so with that, I want to kind of like loop back on what a substantive comment is and, you know, how you can help us make the EIS better when you are providing us with comments.

And I want to note that, you know, if you have factual corrections to point out in the analysis or you're identifying some credible research -- resource or a different research than we have utilized, that if we were to use it in the analysis, might result in a different conclusion than we had come to, we want to have that stuff, so please submit those things. With that, Joy, are there any other questions from --

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

1:48:15

No, I don't see --

Racheal Jones, BLM Project Manager

1:48:17

Perfect.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

1:48:19

Thank you. I don't see any questions from people on the phone. Sorry, Sam, you and Rene have very similar endings of your phone numbers, so sorry for the mix-up there. And we will open up again for questions after slide 21.

And just so everybody kind of has a warning on that, that will be the last time that we stop to answer questions live for everybody, so please get your answer -- or your questions into the Q&A box, if you're participating online. And if you do -- if you are thinking you might have a question from our phone participants that you would like answered live during our webinar today, please be ready for that. We will kind of take a brief pause after slide 21, and we're on slide 18 right now, so we'll wait and see if people have more questions at that time. And with that, Racheal, I will hand it back over to you.

Racheal Jones, BLM Project Manager

1:49:17

Thank you, Joy. We're going to move on to slide 19. The title of this slide is Subsistence, Caribou, and Other Wildlife. These next couple of slides, they summarize the key conclusions in the supplement for the effects on subsistence, caribou, and wildlife that would result from the three new project components I just described.

Most resource areas are not impacted by these three components, so if you're referencing the DEIS or wondering why we're not talking about every effect of the project, you might see statements in the DEIS, for example, that say, for this resource, there is no -- nothing different from the draft EIS. That's because we are

focusing on new impacts from these new components of the project. I also want to note that, you know, we're focusing on the resources that affected communities report to be really important to us, such as subsistence and caribou.

So starting with the reservoir or the boat ramps, there wouldn't be changes to those resources, in terms of abundance or availability when we look at that compared with the draft EIS. The construction of these components would likely disturb or displace caribou. And, additionally, increased subsistence access via boat ramps and more creek traffic could also disturb or displace caribou, and could alter their distributions and movements.

Moving on to slide 20, this slide presents the effects to subsistence, caribou, and other wildlife, also, from option 3. This -- the option 3 component is the most substantive change, and it has the most effects. In terms of marine impacts, when compared to option 1 and option 2 analyzed in the DEIS, construction and use of ice roads and pads, and associated noise and traffic could disturb or displace polar bears. Construction of the module transfer island isn't required, so there would be fewer overall impacts to marine and coastal subsistence uses. There would also be less barge traffic.

When looking at ice and gravel road impacts compared with option 1 and option 2 analyzed in the DEIS, again, we see construction and associated activity, noise, that could disturb or displace caribou. Ice roads in the community of Nuiqsut could be encircled -- circled by gravel and ice roads, particularly during the two winters when the module transfer activity would occur. There would be one fewer ice road season under this option.

There would also be less ground traffic, approximately a quarter of that predicted under option 1, and less disturbance or -- and deflection of subsistence kind of overall. There would also be substantially less fixed-wing and helicopter traffic than option 1 and option 2.

And just to provide some context to that, option 3 would have 70 fixed-wing flights versus option 1 and option 2 that we analyzed in the draft EIS; those would have 230 flights. You know, option 3 would have 60 support vessel trips, which is almost 200 trips less than option 1 and option 2.

Moving on to slide 21, this slide communicates a summary of the findings from a subsistence evaluation, and I want to provide a little bit more context for this slide before just reading the slide content. Federal agencies are required to evaluate a proposed effects -- a proposed project's effects on subsistence uses and needs per Section 810 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act or ANILCA. We often -- most commonly hear it referred to as ANILCA, obviously. We need to do that before we decide whether or not to issue a permit.

This process is really similar to the requirements under NEPA, which states that we have to consider the impacts and alternatives to proposed action before issuing a record of decision to later issue a permit.

Under ANILCA, though, we are looking at subsistence impacts, specifically, and whether we think there might be a significant restriction on subsistence uses and needs from any of three types of subsistence impacts; that is, abundance, availability, and access. Basically, we're answering -- or asking and answering the question, if we were to authorize this project, would there be the same amount of harvestable resources available afterward? Would the availability of those resources change in any way? Would the communities in need have the same access to the resources as they did before the authorization?

So Section 810 requires that we analyze that and disclose that information in the form of what are called, findings. And findings are not a decision. They do not preclude the BLM from including additional mitigation measures in the future. They don't restrict the BLM from choosing any particular alternative. These findings are just disclosing whether we believe there is potential for significant restrictions on subsistence use and needs, which gives us the opportunity to take the information to the public and collect feedback on our analysis and findings, find out if there is any incorrect information in our analysis, make sure that our findings are supported by the analysis, and find out if there are additional things that we can incorporate to help alleviate impacts.

So, with that, I will read this slide of findings under ANILCA 810. So for project direct impacts, the preliminary 810 analysis concluded that developing -- development of the project may significantly restrict uses for the community of Nuiqsut due to a reduction in the availability of caribou caused by alteration of their distribution and a limitation on subsistence user access to the area. So that is -- those are direct project impacts.

For cumulative impacts, the preliminary 810 analysis concluded that cumulative effects of the current and future activities -- so this just isn't the project; this is the project when considering future and current activities -- may significantly restrict uses for the communities of Nuiqsut, Utqiagvik, Anaktuvuk Pass, Atkasuk, Wainwright due to a reduction in the abundance of caribou caused by the alteration of their distribution and degradation of habitat.

The preliminary 810 analysis also concluded that, under a cumulative case, future activities -- current and future activities may significantly restrict uses for the communities of Nuiqsut, Utqiagvik, Wainwright, and Point Lay due to a reduction in the availability of marine mammals caused by alteration of their distribution. That same finding was made for caribou in Nuiqsut.

The preliminary 810 analysis, additionally, includes that limitations on subsistence user access from cumulative effects of current and future activities may significantly restrict subsistence uses for the community of Nuiqsut.

So, Joy, I will hand it back to you. There was a lot of information on those last three or four slides, and we might have some questions from the audience.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

1:57:30

Thank you, Racheal. And I second that, that there is a lot of information to digest, and we do want to give people a little time to articulate and develop their questions on the information that they've heard.

So we're going to just pause here for a little bit and see if there's any questions that come in, kind of technical in nature, from the Q&A box. Again, the Q&A box is down at the bottom of your screen. If you're just joining us and you're using the web version of Zoom, down at the bottom of your screen, there is a Q&A box button. If you press that, you can type in questions, and they will be answered from our team that's on the line right now, as well. And some of those may be read to -- read aloud to everyone, but we won't read your name, but we do want to share questions and answers that may help to just clarify the information that's been presented.

And for people joining us on the phone, if you have a question, if you could please press the star-nine button on your phone or star and nine, then your hand will be raised, and we will call on you, as well, to answer your

questions. So those are the two ways that we have for answering, and for you to ask questions this evening. We do really hope that the meeting can be a two-way communication, and that you can have your questions answered, and that the information can be as clear as possible.

With that, I'm going to stop talking. My Inupiaq name is Uqaqti, and that really translates into, one who talks a lot, as you know, so I will stop talking, though, for now, and we'll just take a pause and see if any questions come in, and any that need to be read aloud and shared with everybody. I'm going to turn off my video, and if you do have a question on the phone, remember star-nine is how you raise your hands. And I'll just sign off for now for a few minutes while we wait for questions. Thank you.

Racheal Jones, BLM Project Manager

1:59:55

While we're waiting for questions, I can go ahead and talk to you about the different ways that you can be heard, the different ways that you can submit feedback to the BLM, comments on our supplemental draft EIS. You can comment online at www.blm.gov/Alaska/willoweis. You can also fax comments into 907-271-5479. You can mail comments to the Bureau of Land Management at 222 West 7th Avenue, Stop #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513. You can bring comments into the office in person. You would need to call to make arrangements. That number is 907-290-0307.

And, of course, you could speak at a public meeting. You can speak at today's hearing, and you could speak at future meetings. We have a second meeting today at 6:30 p.m., and then we have, next Wednesday, on April 28th, a meeting at 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:01:32

And we actually do have a question from one of our phone participants, and so the last digits of the phone number are 7320. I believe it's Sam, but I made a mistake last time. Is that you, Sam? And your line is open.

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

2:01:48

Yes.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:01:52

Okay, awesome.

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

2:01:53

Yes, for the record -- okay, for the record, Sam Kunaknana. I'd like to talk about the cumulative effects on ANILCA 810, and to talk about the sections on this EIS that's (unclear) for development around Nuiqsut. And, you know, this is just only for development. There's nothing in there about winter exploration for seismic activity.

You know, over the years, and since 2016, development and (unclear) exploration have -- it's potentially increased ten-fold, along with the ice roads and stuff like that. You know, my question here is, why is BLM only looking at these sections to analyze the impacts? How can BLM analyze the impacts when you have development that had been done years back? What is the definition of BLM's -- definition of cumulative

effects to Nuiqsut when it comes to development? Because you guys are just talking about one little section over here, the Willow project.

And just a few -- a year -- a few years back, GMT-2, GMT-1, CD5, you know, Arctic monitoring and assessment program, that is where BLM needs to look at, to look at the cumulative effects of industry, and contaminants associated with industry.

When it comes to subsistence uses, subsistence uses from Nuiqsut is (speaks Inupiaq) and just recently we just started getting more and more salmon through these streams. My suggestion to BLM would be to include analysis of the broad whitefish that had been -- where we've been getting sick fish since 2013 every year, and to look into polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. Because I did state that -- in past meetings, that they need to look at the 2004, 2005 studies that were done at Teshekpuk Lake, 2004, Nigliq Channel, 2005, because it was mandated to look into because of our subsistence uses and because of development, because there was no data out there.

And my biggest concern with these studies that are being done in this area is that they're inconsistent, whereas you need at least three to five years of study to get a baseline on these contaminants associated with industry. So I would like to suggest that BLM look into -- in that; in 1998, 1997, that it was mandated from Department of Interior to look into these contaminants associated with industry, because those -- ANILCA 810 states that a cum -- cumulative effects, Nuiqsut needs to be considered, because (unclear) we need caribou. We need anakaluk (ph), too, broad whitefish. Thank you.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:06:30

Thank you, Sam, for your questions. And I do see we have a question coming in from -- well, we did have a phone hand raised, as well. And I don't see any other questions, at this time, in the Q&A box. We're going to just take another brief pause here to see if other -- I think we might -- the person might have accidentally lowered their hand on the phone. Again, you press star-nine to raise your hand, so just wanted to share that again.

And two other quick announcements, while we're waiting for more questions to come through. One of them is that the -- I mentioned that the Inupiaq translation of the presentation will be aired on the radio, but it's also -- there's an audio file on the project website, and so, at any point, that can be accessed and shared with people. So if there is someone in your community that you'd really like to have hear the presentation that was not able to call in today, please direct them to the website and let them know that the audio recording is there.

Also, the recordings of these presentations are on the website, as well, and the website is -- the address is on the screen right now. I'll read that again for our phone participants, but the -- each of the presentations is being recorded and added to the website, and so you can access any of the slides, at any time, by watching the presentations there. You can also see what other questions have come up during different presentation and hear the answers, as well.

And, again, the website for our phone participants is www.blm.gov/Alaska/willoweis. So that's the address or -- yeah, the web address. And I think we may have a question -- sorry, forward slash. I'm bad at this, so forward slash willoweis, sorry; so both of those were forwarded slashes, not back slashes.

And I am going to check in and see if we have any other questions to read from the Q&A box. We don't have any hands raised from our phone participants, at this time. Oh, and, actually, we do have some -- at least one question from our Q&A box to read, and I will hand it over to Leyla Arsan to read the question and the answer for everybody today.

Leyla Arsan, BLM Subject Matter Expert

2:09:16

Thanks, Joy. There were a couple of technical questions that came up in the question and answers. One of them is, what are the cumulative effects of air quality for residents of Nuiqsut? And the answer to that is, that air quality was modeled and analyzed in the draft EIS, and it's currently being updated for the final EIS. Air quality modeling includes existing air quality conditions and, as such, it's cumulative. All state and national ambient air quality standards would be met in Nuiqsut. And you can see the draft EIS section 3.3, which is air quality, for additional details and all the modeling results.

And the next technical question was, how far will community members have to travel with the restrictions and loss of tutu? And the answer to that is, while the Section 810 does not quantitatively assess the increased distances that subsistence users may have to travel, it does find that there would be significant impacts to subsistence user access resulting from the road development. Data are not available at this time to determine how much further Nuiqsut residents would have to travel, given these restrictions. And back to you, Joy.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:10:34

Thank you, Leyla. And we still don't have anyone raising their hands, any additional people on the phone, and so I think we are going to go ahead and close the question-and-answer live period of the meeting. And, again, the question and answers, a transcription of that will also be provided on our website so people can see the questions and answers that came up. So I will hand it back over to Racheal to continue with our presentation as we conclude and start gearing up for our testimony tonight. Thank you.

Racheal Jones, BLM Project Manager

2:11:16

Great. Thank you, Joy. I want to remind everyone quickly, just kind of like what a substantive comment is before I go ahead and open the hearing. That can be a few things. We talk about it a lot, because, you know, you probably have heard other agencies use it. We hear it -- and it's because we're required by law to respond to substantive comments. And those are comments that provide us new information that we may not have known about the proposed action or maybe an alternative component of the project that we -- you know, we didn't know.

It could also point out flaws in our analysis or flaws in our conclusion or provide the BLM different methodologies for analyzing something. It could make factual corrections. It could be submitting resources - - research resources that are different than, you know, what we have evaluated in the EIS. And it's always helpful to be as specific as possible when you're providing comments.

With that, I am going to open the hearing for testimony. This is a combined NEPA public meeting and ANILCA 810 subsistence hearing. It is being held to collect public comments and testimony on the Supplement to the Proposed Willow Master Development Plan Draft EIS. The time is 2:12 p.m., and this hearing is hereby open for attendees to testify.

I'm going to turn facilitation over to Joy, so she can queue up people for testimony and comments. Thank you for your help, Joy.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:13:02

Thank you, Racheal. And a few quick just housekeeping items for testimony tonight. So, again, people have been doing really well with saying your name and spelling it. That's going to be really important for our transcription of the meeting tonight.

Also, when you begin your testimony, you're going to be given five minutes on the screen, and for our phone participants, you will -- you won't see the screen, so you won't see the timer, and so we are going to verbally let you know when you have one minute left and when you have 30 minutes [sic] -- or sorry, yeah, one minute left and 30 seconds left, and so we'll do that for our phone participants so that you know when your time is sort of coming towards the end.

And then there is also a phone number on the screen right now, which I will also read for our phone participants. And the number is for if you want to provide further comments beyond your five minutes, the phone number to call -- you can leave -- you'll be given 10 minutes when you call this number. And the number is 1-833-517-0204. It's on your screen right now, if you're watching -- participating on the web version. And I'll read that a few more times throughout the testimony tonight or today so that people on the phone can get that number written down, as well.

And so those are a few of our kind of housekeeping items. Please listen for your name or your phone number to be called. I will call on the next person, and then I'll also provide the name or the phone number for the person that will be next in line. And if you could please raise your hand at that time. And for our web participants, the way that you raise your hand is down at the bottom of your screen, you can press the raise hand button, and at that time -- so, and if you don't see your kind of toolbar down at the bottom, you might need to swipe your mouse back and forth on the cam -- or on the bottom of the screen. It should pop back up, if it's disappeared, and you'll see a little picture of a hand, and the raise hand is there.

And at that time, once we call on you and then we open your line, you will still have to unmute yourself. And so down at the bottom of your screen, as soon as we open your line, a little microphone will appear at the bottom left-hand corner of your screen. And that will be red with a little slash through it, and that means that you're muted, and so you just press that -- click on that and it will unmute you. And we'll let you know if you're muted, so you can unmute your line, and then we'll again ask for your name and for your spelling of your name.

And so we'll give everyone five minutes when we begin. And we understand that this is a really important issue and that people have, you know, a lot to share, and five minutes may not feel like enough time. Because the meeting today is specifically geared for hearing from residents and community members from Nuiqsut, we are going to be especially mindful of that. And please identify yourself as living in Nuiqsut when you start your testimony. And if you're a council member of the Native Village of Nuiqsut, please also identify yourself that way. We want to be especially mindful of providing you enough time to give your testimony. And we'll try to do the same thing for elders, as well (unclear -audio breaks up) --

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:16:59

Joy, this is Art. I just want to let you know --

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:17:00

-- everyone across the board --

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:17:01

Joy?

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:17:02

-- gets kind of an equal level of (unclear). Yes.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:17:08

Joy, yeah, so --

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:17:09

Yes?

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:17:10

-- you might need to repeat the last minute or so, yeah, but your internet is having some challenges right now, so you're breaking up just a little bit, so -- and what we might do, is we might let her recover with her internet -- or she might -- Joy might have to call in to help us out, because, in these trying times, the internet is being particularly challenging all over the world, as everybody is sheltering. So let's see if Joy comes back, and if we hear her a little better. Thank you all for your patience. We really appreciate it. I see you, Joy.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:17:51

Do you guys see me and hear me? This is Joy.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:17:54

Yeah, yeah, you're better now. Yeah, great, so, hi.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:17:57

Hi. It did kick me off (unclear -audio breaks up). Hi, is it -- so can you also see my video?

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:18:06

Yeah, do me a favor. Why don't you just turn your video off and talk, and I think that will help, because there will be less digits needed to make that happen. And go ahead and talk, and we'll see if it continues. But just give us the last --

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:18:17

Okay.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:18:18

So just give us the last minute of what you were trying to say. Okay?

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:18:25

Okay, yeah. No, I was just sharing that we're going to try to be mindful and inclusive of our elders on the line and our -- especially our residents living in Nuiqsut, and the council members from the Native Village of Nuiqsut. Can you hear me okay, every -- Art?

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:18:45

Yeah, yeah, we're hearing you loud and clear. Thank you very much.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:18:50

Okay, wonderful. Good. Thanks everybody. Sorry for that, trying to -- I think there's a lot of people on the internet right now, so we will just keep rolling forward. And as I was mentioning, I'm going to call on your name, and then let the second person in line also know that you're going to be next, so if you could raise your hand. Again, star-nine is how you raise your hand from the phone line, and the raise hand button down at the bottom of your screen is for our participants that are participating via the web version.

And to get us started here, I have Rosemary Ahtuanguaruak, who is from Nuiqsut. Rosemary, when you begin your testimony, if you could please identify yourself as a -- if you're -- I believe you may be a council member of NVN, and the last --

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:19:53

So, Joy, I think we lost the last four digits of her number, so if Serena or somebody else might have those last four digits, we can try to call on her while we work to get Joy back online here.

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:20:09

Hi, this is Serena. Can you hear me, Art?

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:20:11

Yes, I do. Thanks, Serena, uh-huh.

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

Willow Master Development Plan Supplemental Draft EIS Meeting, April 23, 2020, Afternoon

2:20:13

Hi, So the last four numbers of her number are 1295.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:20:16

1295, so we don't have a 1295 right now --

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:20:23

Okay.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:20:24

-- as the last four.

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:20:25

We can go ahead and move to the next individual and come back to Rosemary when we have her on the line.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:20:30

Okay.

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:20:31

The next individual is Robert (unclear). The last four numbers of his number are 9913.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:20:41

And we don't see a 9913 either at this point. And what was the last name?

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:20:46

Napageak.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:20:48

Okay. So we don't have him on either at this point.

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:20:51

Okay. We can move to the next person on the list. These are all residents of Nuiqsut that we're moving through, so we'll keep going on that pace. The next individual is Rene Opie.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:21:04

Okay.

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:21:05

The last four digits are 7320.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:21:08

Okay. So we do have that number, and we're going to open up that line for Rene.

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:21:12

Great.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:21:13

And, Rene, your line is open, you can go ahead. And we're going to share our screen, so please give us your first and last name, if you would, please, and spell them both.

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

2:21:26

Okay, this is Sam Kunaknana, resident of Nuiqsut. And my last name is K-u-n-a-k-n-a-n-a. And I am a lifelong subsistence hunter to this area, and, you know, I like to consider BLM going back into doing some studies on contaminants associated with the industry, because it pertains to our subsistence way of life and our food security, and that the Arctic monitoring and assessment program that was done back in 2004, 2005.

I've been a lifelong hunter in this area, long before Alpine satellite development got started. And I call myself an expert subsistence hunter as opposed to what BLM is calling these contractors that come over here twice a year to talk to subsistence hunters about the impact and about (unclear) caribou. One of the things that -- you know, we do eat a lot of fish during the summer. We (unclear) some fish up. We go fishing for broad whitefish. That needs to be considered in the EIS, as cumulative effects in ANILCA 810.

I have seen the changes since development got started in our area. I'd like to stress out that when you talk about expert subsistence hunters, I am one of them, as opposed to your contractors that come over here and say they're expert subsistence hunt -- subsistence hunters. They're not. They just come over here twice a year. They don't live here 24/7, 365 days a year, seeing what goes on around our area (unclear) exploration, ice road building, everything about development in this area.

I would like to stress out that BLM really needs to look into these contaminants associated with industry that is mandated from -- that was mandated to DOI to look into getting baseline studies, because one year of studies is not good enough to show the cumulative im -- impacts associated with industry. Thank you.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:24:39

Thank you. Thank you very much, Sam. We appreciate your comments. Next, I'm going to go back to Serena and find out who the next person is for today.

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:24:50

Thank you, Art. So we did have another individual signed up for that same phone number ending in 7320, Rene Opie. Would she like to -- and we have her on the line, it looks like, if (unclear) --

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:24:55

Yeah, but it looks like she's connected through a different connection, so --

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:24:58

Great.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:24:59

-- Rene, we're going to open up your connection right now. Go ahead, please. And if we could just allow -- and so there's a microphone icon on your screen, and all you have to do is find it, and then click unmute, and you'll be able to unmute that, Rene. So, Rene, there is a microphone that's appeared on your screen somewhere, if you're on a tablet or if you're on a phone, and all you have to do is find that icon, click on it, and if you don't see any icons, you might need to touch your screen or swipe across it to find it, and then you can hit it and it will allow you to -- there you go.

Rene Opie, Commenter

2:25:55

(Unclear connection).

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:26:01

Yes, we can hear you now. I think you've got two devices that are close to each other, so just move one of the devices away, and then you'll be able to talk to us (unclear) --

Rene Opie, Commenter

2:26:13

Okay, thank you. Okay. And after all that, I think I'll just go ahead and save my question for later. Thank you.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:26:23

Okay, yeah. Okay, thank you, Rene. Yeah, just so you know, if you have two devices that are right next to each other in the same room and the same space, that will create a feedback loop. So if you have maybe two people that are viewing from the same location, if you let us know, we will then go ahead, and we will try to mitigate that. But, otherwise, we will do our best to get you back on. But all you have to do is move one of the devices to the other room, and then we'll be able to hear you with no problem at all. So with that, I'm going to see if Joy's back. Joy are you back yet, by chance? I just want to see. I know the internet is having challenges today. And if not, then, Serena, do we have another person we can go to that's on the list?

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:27:07

We do. The next person on the list would be Thomas Napageak and his last four digits are 7082. Do we have him on the line?

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:27:22

I don't see 7082 on the line, but what's the last name again? Let's see if we find him.

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:27:29

Napageak.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:27:33

There is an Edward Nukapigak. Is that who you're referring to?

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:27:34

No, this is a George.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:27:36

Okay. I don't see a George Napageak.

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:27:41

Okay. We can move to the next individual.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:27:44

Okay.

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:27:45

Martha Itta.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:27:47

Okay, Martha, if you're on a -- is she on a phone or is she on a --

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:27:51

I don't have a phone number registered for her.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:27:53

Oh, okay. Well, we do have somebody that raised their hand, so let's see if we can go to that. So let's open up that line, please, and it's a line ending in 8076, so go ahead, caller.

Martha Itta, Commenter

2:28:06

Hi, good afternoon. Martha Itta, for the record. I would like to --

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:28:14

Would you be able to spell your first and last name for us, please, Martha?

Martha Itta, Commenter

2:28:19

Oh, M-a-r-t-h-a, last name I-t-t-a.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:28.20

Thank you.

Martha Itta, Commenter

2:28.21

And I would like to testify on my own behalf and my children, for the record. A little background. I do work for the Native Village of Nuiqsut as a tribal administrator. I also serve on the City of Nuiqsut City Council. I also serve on the North Slope Regional Subsistence Advisory Council. I'm a lifelong resident of Nuiqsut.

So with that being said, I would like to make my testimony solely on the process of BLM holding these public hearings. These hearings should not be happening right now. Holding the minimally required public comment period in the middle of a global health crisis does not support public participation; it suppresses it.

I'm very concerned about this process during a global crisis, as we've been -- I, myself, have been focused 110 percent on the health and safety of Nuiqsut, serving the community on my own time, voluntarily, what have you, and I commend residents that have been assisting in this pandemic.

I would like to request to the BLM management that they suspend all hearings until this pandemic crisis is over. Our tribal office and other businesses are closed down due to the pandemic, trying to protect the safety and health of our community. So that being said, I, myself, and my grandson, who is in isolation, as we are in this meeting awaiting results, a four-year-old child, and you guys are putting stress and fear holding these meetings, trying to protect my family, and think about these projects that you guys are going so fast-paced without the right, proper consultation and face-to-face consultation to the community.

For you guys to go ahead and then say, oh, you guys are checking these boxes out in the ice, that is environmental justice to my community, to our health and safety, to our -- to us. These projects that are being proposed is the last safe haven of our subsistence for my children and their children, so you guys are taking that away, their history, their identities from them when you guys permit these projects. They're going to starve. They're not going to know. All they're going to do is read them in books, read them in documents.

So I would like to request to the BLM management, the Department of Interior, Trump administration to suspend all hearings pertaining to this project and any future projects until our concerns are heard, and until we are safe to operate in which we should be operating, and for you guys to limit comments. I mean, there

Willow Master Development Plan Supplemental Draft EIS Meeting, April 23, 2020, Afternoon

are so many people that wanted to participate in this call. Our elders, we only have a few elders left, and they couldn't even participate, because they don't know technology. This is not the process that should be going on. So Bureau of Land Management, I'm requesting, this is my testimony, and I want the whole world to know that we are here --

(30-second reminder)

-- we are watching. Thank you.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:33:02

Thank you very much. We appreciate your comments. Joy, I want to see if you're on now, and I know you tried to dial in on the phone. And if we could move -- I'll be right back. We're going to get her on the phone here. One second, okay?

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:33:45

Hi, Art, and everyone else. Can you hear me?

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:33:52

Yes. Hi, Joy, we can hear you, yes. Thank you for joining us. So with that, you're back on the phone, so I know we're having some technical problems with the internet up in Fairbanks, but we will let you continue on the phone. Okay? Go ahead.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:33:55

Wonderful. And thank you, Martha, for your comments. It was good to hear you, and appreciate the comments that you provided. I want to just check back in with Serena and make sure I'm in the right place on the list. I was kind of trying to get on the phone line here. Can -- Serena, can you let me know who is next on our list, please?

Serena Sweet, Planning/NEPA Lead

2:34:14

Yes, Joy. This is -- the next on the list would be Dora Leavitt, and there is no phone number registered for her.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:34:23

Okay. And do we see Dora? Let me see. Is Dora on our list of participants? Dora, can you please raise your hand by pressing the raise hand button at the bottom of your screen, if you're online tonight?

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:34:38

We don't see another raised hand, but we do have a raised hand on a phone number that ends with 76, so should we open that up, Joy?

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:35:07

Willow Master Development Plan Supplemental Draft EIS Meeting, April 23, 2020, Afternoon

Yes, let's raise -- let's open that line. And just in case -- thank you for raising your hand, and just in case, be ready to press the star-six button if you need to unmute yourself, and your line is now open.

Martha Itta, Commenter

2:35:24

Yeah, I just -- I just had a question, as in to was my five minutes up? Then I got muted.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:35:35

And this -- is this Rene? I'm sorry. Or this was Martha, right?

Martha Itta, Commenter

2:35:39

This is Martha.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:35:40

This was Martha, sorry. I don't think -- we would have to -- I don't remember if you made it all the way to the end of your five minutes. I don't think you did. I --

Martha Itta, Commenter

2:35:54

Yeah, I just wanted to make a last statement, that this --

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:35:55

Yes, please go ahead.

Martha Itta, Commenter

2:35:56

-- you know, back -- backing up my request to suspend all hearings, even that you guys proved that you guys are having technical difficulties, it's proven, so -- and that this just doesn't -- it's not right for you guys to choose what comments should make it into the document for a final decision. That is really wrong. Thank you.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:36:10

Thank you, Martha. Thank you for that comment. Okay, so we'll move on, and I will turn things back over to Joy. Okay, Joy.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:36:33

Thank you. And I did see we have another hand raised, the phone number ending in 8076. Or I see you've opened the line, Art. Is that our next person providing testimony?

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:36:56

No, the line open is yours right now, Joy, just so you know, so there is another line --

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:37:02

Okay, we have --

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:37:05

-- there is another raised hand, so just be aware.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:37:07

Okay. I can't see the numbers very well. Okay, we have 8076. You will be given five minutes. If you could please say and spell your name for the record, and we will open your line now.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:37.19

And the line is open.

Martha Itta, Commenter

2:37:21

This is Martha. I already did my testimony. I -- I was planning to call in from a different number, but I got isolated. Thank you.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:37:33

No worries. Okay, thank you very much, Martha. So we'll move on. So, Joy, go ahead and keep us going forward.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:37:44

Yes, and so we're going to go back and see if any of the people that we called in the beginning of the meeting has joined us, so if Rosemary Ahtuanguaruak is on the line, can you please raise your hand? And if you are on the phone, you can raise your hand by pressing star-nine.

Jeff, Zoom Facilitator

2:38.04

and her name is not in the list, and there is no hand raised from our phone callers.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:38:13

Okay. And next in line we have Robert (unclear). If Robert is on the line, can you please raise your hand by pressing star-nine? We're going back through our list of people that have pre-registered and signed up, indicating that they would like to testify tonight.

Jeff, Zoom Facilitator

2:38:38

And, Joy, again, Robert's name is not in the list. If you have a phone number --

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:38:42

Yes.

Jeff, Zoom Facilitator

2:38:43

-- we can -- if he has called in on the phone, we can look it up that way, but his name is not one the participants.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:38:50

Yes, okay, and I was hoping he would raise his hand if he was on the line. The last numbers I have registered on his phone number are 9913, so if you can check for that. I don't see the phone number here, but if -- just in case he was calling in from a different number, I wanted to give him the opportunity to raise his hand at that time.

And Dora Leavitt was intending to participate via the web. If Dora is on the line, I don't believe I see her, but maybe she has called in with a different phone number. Dora, if you are on the phone -- we have several numbers listed here that don't show names -- if you could please press star-nine and we'll give you the time for testimony. I don't see a hand going up, at this time, and we don't have a phone number listed for her.

And did -- and I believe we called for Thomas Napageak. And Thomas was going to be calling in, as well. The last four of his number are 7082. Thomas, if you're on the line and maybe have used a different phone number, please raise your hand by pressing star-nine. And I don't see any hands raised.

We have George Sielak is next on the list. He was also going to be participating via phone, and the last four of his phone number are 6413. I don't see that number listed at this time. George, if you're calling in with a different phone, please raise your hand by pressing star-nine. I don't see a hand going up at this time. So Mark Major, I believe you are participating via the web, and if you are on the line, could you please -- I see you're there. If you can raise your hand, we will open your line for testimony. And please say and spell your name for the record.

Mark Major, Commenter

2:41:13

Can you hear me? This is Mark Major.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:41:17

Yes, we hear you, Mark, loud and clear, and we're putting your five minutes up. If you could spell your name, and your timer will begin when you start your testimony. Thank you.

Mark Major, Commenter

2:41:25

Yes, my name is spelled Mark, M-a-r-k, last name, M-a-j-o-r. And, actually, I'm kind of doing double meetings right now, so if Willow Hetrick is on the line, she's agreed to provide the testimony on my behalf. Willow, are you there? Can you check and see if she's there on Zoom?

Jeff, Zoom Facilitator

2:41:52

She is, and we have unmuted her line.

Willow Hetrick, Commenter

2:42:01

Hi. Am I unmuted?

Jeff, Zoom Facilitator

2:42:05

Yes, Willow, go ahead.

Willow Hetrick, Commenter

2:42:06

Okay. I just wanted to quickly also say that George Sielak is probably in that dual meeting that's going on right now. That's the Kuukpik Board of Directors meeting, which is also the meeting that Mark is on, and the meeting that I will get on when I'm done with this -- listening to this public meeting.

For the record, my name is Willow Hetrick. First name is W-i-l-l-o-w. Last name is H-e-t-r-i-c-k. I am the permitting representative for Kuukpik Corporation, and I'm here today in a -- in an official capacity. I have been involved with this Willow project since I was hired on in October, and I would like to speak today to some overarching comments that we have been hearing from the community and, of course, our board of directors at Kuukpik Corporation.

Some of the main problems that we have with this project are the impediment of the caribou. As you know, caribou move in a north/south direction, and this Willow project, so far, has an east/west kind of orientation on the landscape, and there are a lot of concerns from the community about the availability of subsistence harvest, particularly for caribou, should this project continue. And we would -- we would encourage the BLM to issue mitigation measures to help the caribou movement and to address the concerns of the community about subsistence harvest.

We also would like the BLM to consider restrictions both vehicles and aircraft during critical times of caribou movement and bird nesting periods, and that is slightly addressed in the EIS and then again in the supplemental EIS.

And I also want to just acknowledge the comments that we've seen from some of our community members, and hopefully later on, some board members about the trying times that the community is in. We understand that the BLM is trying to do the best they can. Today, more than any of the other meetings that we've been in over the past few weeks, it seems like technology is even more challenged today than it has been before. We've had -- there's been a lot of dropped calls and a lot of dropped Zoom and -- but we just want to acknowledge that we appreciate the BLM is doing the best that they can during these times.

And that's all that we have for now. Thank you.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:45:05

Thank you, Willow and (unclear) --

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:45:06

Thank you, Willow.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:45:07

-- and I'll turn it back over to Joy, here. Go ahead, Joy.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:45:08

Yeah, and, Mark, before we close your line, there was another two minutes at the end of -- were you done, as well, or were you having Willow finish your statement?

Mark Major, Commenter

2:45:20

Yes, can you hear me now? This is Mark Major again.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:45:23

Yes, I hear you.

Mark Major, Commenter

2:45:25

Yeah, M-a-j-o-r. Yeah, one just little minor correction. The Willow drill sites run north and south, and the caribou move east and west. And I think Willow might have said it just backwards there, so just want to point that out for everybody. So that is the concern with caribou migration, that the orientation of the drill sites might make a fence that block the caribou from coming to Nuiqsut. Thank you.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:45:57

Thank you very much, Mark. And next in line we have Rebecca Frenzl (ph), who has indicated she would like to provide testimony. If Rebecca could please raise her hand, if she is on? I do see a Rebecca, but not the same last name. So if Rebecca is here, can you please raise your hand by pressing the raise hand button? And after Rebecca, we have Siqiniq Maupin, who has registered and would like to provide testimony. So do we see -- if Rebecca is on a phone line, can you please raise your hand by pressing star-nine? And I don't see any hands going up, and so I will ask that we open Siqiniq Maupin's line up for her five-minute testimony. And, Siqiniq, your line is open and you are unmuted. Thank you.

Siqiniq Maupin, Commenter

2:46:52

Thank you. For the record, my name is Siqiniq Maupin, S-i-q-i-n-i-q M-a-u-p-i-n. I would like to first start that BLM has made it well known to the general public, during the first meetings, that the community

members of the stakeholders in the community that this project will affect, had asked for different meetings, that they would address that.

What I am hearing today, as in this isolated and more closed off meeting that the public is not seeing, BLM has been requested by the official village representatives and the village corporation to acknowledge the hard times that the pandemic state of emergency declared by our president has put out there, and just wondering or seeing the hypocrisy and the misrepresentation of BLM's true intentions to honor Nuiqsut residents and the residents of each community that you're directly impacting.

I would also like to state that the first two meetings that I attended, the first 15 and all comments begged the BLM to stop all hearings, suspend all processes, because this is unethical, immoral. It goes against many of BLM's own regulations to make a decision during a natural disaster or declared disaster to suspend meetings. This is within your power. You have been asked by almost every single commenter that has been at these meetings, and now I am hearing for, I think, the 10th time, someone crying on the line, asking you to please suspend all meetings.

I, myself, was unable to work yesterday. My mother is in Nuiqsut. I haven't heard from her in weeks. I'm not sure how to get a hold of her. And my mother has been smoking for over 30 years. I'm quite scared, after another friend of mine's mother had passed away who lives in Fairbanks, that my mother may be the next person. And I started to think about her funeral arrangements, and thinking about how I will get up there, because there are no planes, and I don't know how I would get her here. There are no hospitals there. And I am finally having -- afraid, my mental health, having followed these BLM hearings, and I will restrain what I truly want to say with words, because I know that if we express human emotions within these meetings that are not up to your discretion, you will mute our line.

I am scared for my aunt. I'm scared for my family I've been trying to get a hold of up there, that are isolated with their sick mothers, with no help, with my aunt who is going to be going into a home soon, and they're not sure what they're going to do now. I am shaking, hearing even more testimonies about our ways of life, and our subsistence. And to think that my kids -- my entire goal in life is to make it back to my village. That is all I've worked towards since colonization happened, and the ripple effects of that goes to my mother to move into the city. And now to think that my kids may not have a village to go back to, they may be reading about hunting -- to do hunting (unclear), hunting in general, in history books.

This pandemic has caused all of us fear, rightfully so. It is the discretion of BLM, and they have made it very clear, that in fact, people, an indigenous people, are not priorities. Our livelihood and our actual physical wellness and lives do not matter.

I want to, again, testify that BLM stop all hearings. I am confused as to why you're being told timeless accounts that if we continue to ask to suspend these meetings, that this is the way it all happened, yet, congress has asked you. (Unclear) organization signed on to a letter, including a law firm asking you to stop. You have tribal representatives. You have -- and almost every single commenter in all of your meetings asking you to stop, so I don't actually think that it's what is really happening. I think that it doesn't matter what we do, you will continue with this process.

And I would also like to put for the record, this is the third meeting in a row. I have raised my hand before the presentation was over, and was denied my question. BLM is suppressing our voices. They are waging a war on indigenous people, taking away our food security. Right now, Nuiqsut residents have access to one store. The on -- the biggest airline that delivers for rural Alaska, that filed for bankruptcy, and the borough

mayor is currently trying to be able to use assets that they have, because they were in a lawsuit they lost in court to use and seize his planes.

This is disturbing and a suppression of public input. BLM is purposely doing this to take away food security and to align with ConocoPhillips' agenda. Thank you.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:52:04

Thank you, Siqiniq, for your testimony this evening. And next we have Julie Smyth signed up to provide testimony. She registered, and I do not believe that we have her listed in the web attendees at this time. Julie, if you happen to be one of the phone participants, please press star-nine at this time. And I do not see her hand going up, and so next, I would like to ask that Mabel (unclear) be -- raise your hand. I see your phone number listed here. If you can press star-nine, and we will open your line for you to begin your testimony at this time. Mabel?

Mabel, Commenter

2:52:58

Thank you.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:52.59

And after Mabel -- oh, thank you. Go ahead, and please spell your name for the record.

Mabel, Commenter

2:53:05

I wasn't online, and I -- when I registered, I let them know that I wouldn't be testifying, but I'm online to listen and make sure that the Nuiqsut residents are online to be heard. Thank you.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

2:53:16

Thank you, Mabel, for that. And at that -- at this time, we've actually gone through the list of everyone that has identified themselves when they were registering that would like to provide testimony. So, at this time -- and we'll come back, and if they do get on the line, I'm sure they will indicate and raise their hand, and we'll, for sure, call on people if they do join us a little bit later during our testimony.

But, at this time, now that we've gone through our list of people that have pre-registered, I would like to open the line for others that are on the line today and would like to provide testimony. Again, you can raise your hand down at the bottom of your screen if you're using the web version, or press star-nine if you're on a phone line and would like to provide testimony at this time.

And for our phone represent -- or our phone participants, I will also share the phone number again. If you prefer to call in to a phone number and provide your testimony or if you have additional comments after this meeting ends today, and you would like to provide testimony again, the phone number is 1-833-517-0204. So please call that if you prefer to provide testimony separately from today's meeting. So we will just open the floor for anyone else who would like to provide testimony. Again, star-nine if you're on the phone.

I'm not seeing any hands raised at this time, and so I will -- we will just wait for a while here, and if you can please stay with us, and thank you for your patience. We will see if we have anyone else joining us that would like to provide testimony. Thank you.

(Pause)

I do see that Edward Nukapigak is on the line right now using the web version, and if, Edward, you would like to provide testimony, I believe you did sign up for testimony, as well. If you're on the line, can you -- or we do see you here. Can you please raise your hand if you would like to provide testimony?

(Pause)

I do not see Edward raising his hand at this time, so I'm guessing he is not providing testimony for now. And a reminder for everyone, we will have another meeting later today at 6:30 p.m., and we also have two more scheduled for next week, next Wednesday, April 29th at 1:00 p.m. and at 6:30, as well. So there's a few more opportunities to provide testimony later today and next week, as well as the various other ways that Racheal shared earlier, and we will have that slide up before the end of the meeting, as well. Thank you. And we will keep the line open and wait for anybody else to raise their hands at this time.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

2:59:35

While we're waiting here for people, if they'd like to join us and give us some public commentary, we are going to stand by until the end of our allotted time, and we will be right back. We're going to build a graphic that says we are standing by until the time that the meeting is over, so we'll put that up here in just a couple moments. Thank you.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

3:00:05

Thank you, Art, for that update, and we have about 30 minutes left here. If anyone would like to provide testimony, again, please press your star-nine button if you are on the phone, and raise your hand if you are using the web version. Down at the bottom of your screen, there is a little picture of a hand, and you can click on that to raise your hand to provide testimony today. Thank you. And we'll be checking in every few minutes to see if anyone would like to speak at that time.

(Pause)

This is Joy, just checking back in with everybody. If you would like to provide testimony at this public hearing, please press the star-nine button if you are calling in from your phone line. We have a few people still on the phone here. And, also, if you are using the web version of Zoom, please just press the raise hand button down at the bottom of your screen. And if the toolbar has gone away, you can swipe your mouse kind of around that area and you will -- it should reappear, and then you can press the raise hand button.

And then once we open your line, just a reminder for everybody, when you -- when we open your line, you will be automatically muted, and so that's just kind of how the system works. And so down at the bottom left-hand corner of your screen, will be a picture of a microphone, once you've opened your line, and you just click on the microphone, and once it turns green, we can hear you. So just checking back in, and I'll check back in, in a few minutes again. Thank you.

(Pause)

Just a reminder to everyone, the line is open for public testimony on the Willow Master Development Plan Supplement to the Draft EIS. This is the public meeting. We have three more that we'll be doing, and for today, the line is open. And if you would like to provide testimony, please press star-nine on your phone, or raise your hand down at the bottom of your Zoom screen from your computer. Thank you, and I will check back in again in a few minutes.

(Pause)

Hello, everyone. This is Joy Huntington again. I am just checking back in to see if we have anyone who would like to provide testimony at this time. We have two ways to raise your hand. One of them is if you are on the phone, you can press the star and the nine button on your phone to raise your hand, and we will open your line at that time. Also, if you are using the web version of Zoom, down at the bottom of your screen, there will be a hand -- a picture of a hand, and you can click on that, and that will indicate to us that you would like to provide testimony, and we will open your line at that time. And then you would just unmute yourself by pressing the microphone down at the bottom left-hand corner of your screen after we've opened your line.

And I do actually see a hand raised from one of our phone participants, so we can go ahead and open their line. And because we don't have a ton of people raising their hands, if you have provided testimony already, we are open to you raising your hand again at this time. So, thank you, and please say and spell your name for the record. You may do that now. You can say and spell your name for the record, please?

Rene Opie, Commenter

3:10:27

Hello. This is Rene Opie, R-e-n-e O-p-i-e. Did you get that?

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

3:10:37

Yes, I heard you. Thank you. You may begin.

Rene Opie, Commenter

3:10:40

Thank you. I am totally opposed to what you're doing due to the fact that a pandemic is in session right now. I agree with Martha Itta, as she testified for our elders who are being ignored, by not respecting their voices, our -- our elders' voices. They can't be heard. Obviously, as Mark mentioned earlier, they're not tech smart.

And I'm also opposed because no effort has gone into including any health and social issues, as well as the subsistence issue of our fish harvest in the EISs. And this is our subsistence way of life that still is being disrespected in this pandemic. Thank you.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

3:11:39

Thank you, Rene, for your additional testimony. If there is anyone else that would like to provide testimony, we do have some more time here, so the line is open and we would love to hear from you. Press star-nine or the raise hand button at the bottom of your screen, and I will check back in, in a few minutes. Thank you.

(Pause)

Hi, everyone, it's Joy again. And I'm just checking back in to let you know that we have 15 minutes left on our clock for this public hearing, and we will be back online this evening at 6:30. So we hope that other people can join us. And we have made some announcements throughout the meeting today of ways that the presentation can be accessed, on the radio on KBRW, and the times for that are tomor -- actually, we just had it today at noon, and the next time it will be on the radio, is April 28th at noon, so please direct people to listen to the presentation there.

And, again, they can provide comments through multiple different avenues, either via fax or sending comments in the mail. We will -- at the end of the meeting today, we will put up the screen that shows the address and different alternative methods of providing testimony, and then the phone number also, which I will read again at this time, is another way to call in your testimony, and you'll have 10 minutes when you call that phone number. The 800 number is 1-833-517-0204, so we would like to direct people to that. Oh, and we have it on the screen now, as well. So there's definitely ways to listen to the presentation translated into Inupiaq, and also there's an audio file on the website so people can access it there. And there's recordings of the presentations on the website, as well, so if you want to see the slides again or hear any of the other questions that were asked before, that's a good way to do that there.

And, again, we are open for testimony now. We will close the meeting at 3:30. And if you would like to provide testimony, please raise your hand by pressing the button or -- at the bottom of your screen, or by pressing star-nine, and I will check back in, in just a few minutes. Thank you.

(Pause)

I see that Rene's hand is actually raised again, so, Rene, I will go ahead and hand it back over to you for testimony, if we could please get the timer slide back up. And, Rene, I believe your line is open, but you are still muted. If you could unmute yourself, and you can begin whenever you're ready, so please spell your name when you're ready.

Rene Opie, Commenter

3:19:29

Hi. You got me and Sam's names mixed up again. This is actually Sam.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

3:19:39

Okay, sorry about that. If you -- I think we're -- and we're having some sound interference.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:19:47

Yeah, I think what's happening is Sam and Rene are right next to each other with their devices, and I think they're both raising their hand, and we had that confused. So what we'll do is we'll open up the phone line instead, to see if that's Rene, and we'll let her speak. Does that sound good, Joy?

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

3:20:01

That sounds good to me, Art.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:20:04

Okay, go ahead, Rene.

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

3:20:18

Okay. For the record, this is Sam --

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:20:21

Thank you, Sam.

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

3:20:22

-- Kunaknana. Yes, you know, earlier I forgot to mention that we (no audio). Hello?

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:20:39

Yeah, Sam, I'm sorry. We -- we're making sure we get you -- we get the two lines correct here, so my apologies. Please go ahead.

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

3:20:49

Okay. For the record, Sam Kunaknana. I'm a resident subsistence hunter in Nuiqsut, lifelong subsistence hunter. Earlier, I forgot to mention that I was (unclear) opposed to development along the area until we get a better understanding of what's going on in the world. All our fish and our -- pretty much our fish. And with this pandemic going on, I told you I agree with all the other participants in this call (unclear) to have these kinds of meetings on such a big project, and for their impact on the village of Nuiqsut, because, you know, what I don't understand is why we (unclear) try and get a baseline for each EIS's done in this area, when, in fact, it's just one operator developing on NPRA. Significant impacts are not being addressed for our village.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:21:13

Sam, would you be able to get a little closer to the microphone? I'm very sorry. You're just very soft and we want to hear you. Would you be able to get a little closer to talk to us, please?

Sam Kunaknana Commenter

3:21:24

(Unclear)

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:21:26

I think -- I don't -- we don't hear you. Maybe it's the other device in the room that you guys are using. Maybe go towards the other device.

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

3:22:23

(Unclear) --

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:22:24

No, you walked away from it.

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

3:22:46

Okay, can you hear me now?

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:22:49

Yes, absolutely, that is great, yes. And we'll make sure we hold your time to give you all your time. Okay?

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

3:22:51

My phone is (unclear) --

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:22:54

Yes, there you go.

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

3:22:56

For the record, I forgot to mention earlier that (unclear) --

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:23:09

Sam, yeah, I think the devices are reversed again. I'm really sorry. We're not able to hear you at this point in time. My apologies. Is there a way you could go back to the other device? And I'll walk you through making sure we're on the right device so we can hear you, please. So do me a favor. Tap the phone that you're using, and I'll let you know if it's the correct one. Nope, that's the wrong one, so go to the other phone. Nope. Is there a third phone that you're using in the room or a third device?

Rene Opie, Commenter

3:23:52

Can you hear me?

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:23:54

Yeah, you're getting closer to it now, yeah. Tap the phone -- tap the third device, if you don't mind? That would be great. And get -- yeah, just say hello to me real quick.

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

3:24:06

Hello.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:24:08

Yes, that's the device, that's what you want to use, so we're going to reset your time and we'll let you talk to us, okay? Thank you.

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

3:24:24

Okay. Is it ready?

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:24:30

Yeah. Yeah, it's ready, and because of the problems, we're just going to give you a full five minutes, so please go ahead, Sam. Thank you.

Sam Kunaknana, Commenter

3:24:34

All right, okay, thank you. For the record, Sam Kunaknana, resident of Nuiqsut, lifelong subsistence hunter to this area. Earlier, I forgot to mention that I was totally opposed to any other development until we get a better understanding of what's going on with our fish that we've been getting since 2013, that has been diagnosed with having saprolegnia fungi. I believe that -- you know, and that needs to be revisited to check and see if there is a spike in the contaminants that were detected back in 2005 because of ice roads, more ice roads being built in this area for development and for winter exploration.

And I agree with all the other participants that have testified to the effect that our elders are not being all heard. I, myself, am becoming an elder, because of me subsisting in this area and learning from my grandparents about this area.

Another thing we did not talk about is the Fish Creek area. Fish Creek and Nigliq Channel, the Colville River Channel, all are connected together. They're even connected to the Teshekpuk Lake area, when it comes to the migration of the Teshekpuk herd. And I am concerned about how things are being carried out, when it comes to these EIS's. EIS's need to be included under one umbrella through ConocoPhillips, because when we talk about reports that are being turned back and forth, from the contractor to the people that are con -- that contract these contracts, decide to do the studies, that serve as experts in this area.

Hunters are the ones that are speaking to you guys about what's going on. (Unclear). They did talk in past meetings about getting sick caribou. More often, we've been catching a lot of sick caribou in this area since development started, and I think that needs to be reconsidered into the EIS to check and see if further mitigation measures need to be done with these contaminants that our fish and our caribou are eating, which, in turn, comes to us, because we are the people that subsist this area. So caribou, fish (speaks Inupiaq), even the whale.

I really do think that, you know, BLM needs to consider prioritizing these comments so that some people are even afraid to call in to talk about this kind of stuff. I, for one, am one of them that is speaking for the subsistence hunters that have talked to me about what they got and what they left behind because of the sickness in the caribou. Those need to be --

(One minute reminder)

-- (unclear) and the comments need to be prioritized on this EIS from the village of Nuiqsut first before any other entity, when it comes to the commenting to this master plan. And I would consider BLM looking into having the Native Village of Nuiqsut doing some studies on their own --

(30-second reminder)

-- because the quality of service -- quality of service from BLM State of Alaska, (unclear) has been lost because of these studies that are being done, inconsistently. Thank you.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

3:29:29

Thank you, Sam. And thank you for your additional comments, Sam. We are going to --

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:29:49

You were interrupted for a second --

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

3:29:51

-- leave --

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:29:52

-- so now we can hear you, just so you know. Okay? So your line --

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

3:29:55

Okay.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:29:56

-- is open, Joy. Okay?

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

3:30:00

Thank you, thank you. Yeah, I was just saying thank you to Sam for his additional comments. And we are getting ready to wrap up the meeting for today. I'm going to pause for just a second here. Actually, I see that Raymond Ipalook has raised his hand and would like to provide testimony. Raymond, we are going to open your line, and you may begin once your line is open, and please unmute yourself, as well. You're muted down at the bottom left-hand corner of your screen. Oh, you're open now. And please say and spell your name for the record, and you can begin as soon as you're ready. Thank you.

Raymond Ipalook, Commenter

3:30:37

Raymond Ipalook, I-p-a-l-o-o-k. I'm testifying on behalf of myself, an individual, a resident of Nuiqsut, Alaska. I'm frustrated with the process that BLM and DOI is providing, and continuing to suppress the voices of the Nuiqsut residents, considering technical difficulties were shown in many of your webinars. And many of us, as said before, have asked that these BLM public hearings be suspended, with the respects and wishes of the stakeholders who live and hunt near the areas of the proposed project.

These meetings are inconsistent with the same policy and procedure conduct of meetings you guys would conduct within the village, in-person meetings. No dialogue amongst each other is shown. Suppression is shown at its finest, considering questions go unanswered, because this platform allows for it, considering people getting silenced or muted when they're testifying on behalf of wholehearted frustration with experience they have seen first and foremost.

I, myself, have just gotten silenced last webinar meeting, and that's an improper way of addressing these notices of information to those who need to hear it, from the front lines of those who live near oil and gas industry. I'm not saying I'm not opposed to oil industry, but what I am saying is, I want all the studies to be made known that there is significant impacts to the caribou, to the fish, to the livelihood of the Inupiat who hunt and subsist in and around Nuiqsut.

The also issue -- the other issue also is not allowing elders to understand fully the information you provided via 680 AM, 191.9 FM, KBRW, at certain times. This notice was last minute. It did not give sufficient information in which elders and those who are Inupiaq proficient, enough time to fully understand the impacts that this project will incur upon.

These public notices are inconsistent with your own policy and procedures on conducting public hearings, and it goes very well against NEPA and ANILCA, considering many individuals who wanted to comment, but couldn't do so because of technical difficulties during this public hearing.

I might add that the Native Village of Nuiqsut operations, just as any other business, is following mandates to prohibit the spread of the virus, the COVID-19, in which we are in a pandemic, currently. Without the operation of native village providing these notices to each and every household, or even obtaining comments to input into our Native Village of Nuiqsut commenting period, is inconsistent. There was no time to prepare for leaders, for elders, for hunters to understand the significant impacts, and they are there in black and white, that there is and going to be significant impacts. Thank you.

Joy Huntington, Meeting Facilitator

3:35:53

Thank you very much, Raymond, for your testimony today. And that does bring us up to the end of the meeting time. And, again, I wanted to let everyone know that there will be another meeting tonight at 6:30. And I'm going to hand it over to Kevin Pendergast, the Deputy State Director for BLM, here in a few minutes.

And I just wanted to thank everyone for participating today in this new platform of public meetings. A lot of people are, you know, trying new tools to help bridge the communication during this really unprecedented time. And I also appreciate your patience. I, myself, had a little technical issue, which, thankfully, we got sorted out and I was able to participate, and that's kind of the idea of having a phone line that you can also call into, because those can definitely be more secure once -- if your internet is having any glitches. So we appreciate everyone jumping in and helping out with that, and Art for helping to get us back on track, and Serena. So I just wanted to say thank you, and I look forward to continuing the dialogue and having another meeting later this evening.

And with that, I will pass it over to Kevin to provide some closing remarks from BLM, and then I think Art will let us know when the meeting is officially adjourned. Thank you, everyone.

Kevin Pendergast, BLM Deputy State Director

3:37:30

And thank you, Joy. And I want to echo her remarks and thank everyone for participating today. The NPRA is an important area. We take, very seriously, every comment we receive, in particular those from the people who live there, so I want you to know you have the entire team here listening to you. You have our district manager, Shelly Jones. We do hear you. We do look for every way that we can to address your comments in the processes that we have available to us.

So thank you even during these trying times, and learning new technologies and new methods of collecting. Thank you for participating today. We do have another meeting coming up tonight, and we have two more meetings next week. And all the traditional methods of commenting are also available to you; e-mail, the phone line, hard copy, you know, through mail, all those things are still available to you. So this is one more tool, and we thank you for adjusting with us as we pioneer our way forward with it, and have a pleasant afternoon.

Art Ferraro, Zoom Facilitator

3:38:37

Willow Master Development Plan Supplemental Draft EIS Meeting, April 23, 2020, Afternoon

Thank you, Kevin, and thank you, everyone. So we will end the meeting now, and please join us later this evening, if you would like to join us again. Thank you. Have a great afternoon and evening.

(End of Proceedings)

* * * * *

CERTIFICATE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
) ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

I, Marci Lynch, Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska, residing at Fairbanks, Alaska, and Court Reporter for Marci Lynch & Associates, Inc., do hereby certify:

That the annexed and foregoing Supplemental Draft EIS Meeting for the Willow Master Development Plan was recorded on the 23rd day of April, 2020, via Zoom.

That this meeting, as heretofore annexed, is a true and correct transcription of the proceedings recorded electronically and thereafter transcribed by me;

That I am not a relative or employee or attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I financially interested in this action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 27th day of April, 2020

SUPPLEMENTAL Q & A POSTED DURING WEBINAR MEETING

April 23, 2020, 1:00 p.m.

NUMBER	ATTENDEE	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Raymond Ipalook	Why are you still conducting these meetings when a majority of our villages have no notice to this public notice?	Like much of your government, the BLM continues delivering our services to all Americans to the greatest extent possible while safeguarding our employees and communities. To achieve this objective, the BLM is exercising our technology capabilities where possible to ensure connection and service to the public, and to limit the exposure of our employees and the public we serve. We provided notice by mail, email, social media and participants can join by a variety of platforms.
4	Raymond Ipalook	How long more after the presentation and the last speaker will you be online for others to call in?	We try to provide time after the last commenter before we end the session for people on the phone to call in. If you know of anyone who is trying to call in, please let us know so we can ensure we wait for them to call in.
6	Raymond Ipalook	For those with little to no access to internet, more so access to the presentation, how will the presentation be given to provide overview?	Hard copy presentations were mailed to all residents of Nuiqsut. It is available on our website at www.blm.gov/alaska/willoweis and we are also broadcasting the presentation in Inupiaq on KBRW.
7	Raymond Ipalook	We have elder that want to provide comment, but we as constituents of our village are taking precautions to not allow physical contact or visitations to those vulnerable. What do you think we should do to allow our elders to be provided translation and questions to translate?	People without reliable internet service or experience technical issues with the web can register for a meeting at (833) 517-0203. People who want to provide testimony outside of this meeting can also call 1- 833-517-0204 and leave a message longer than five minutes
8	Raymond Ipalook	How can we have our elders provide input while we practice social distancing towards our vulnerable in which they are unknowing of how to call in, how to provide an access code, even more so access a Zoom App.	We are accepting comment online, by phone or at this meeting. Comments can also be mailed to 222 W. 7th Ave., Stop 13, Anchorage, AK 99513 Attn: Willow Public Comments.
9	Mark Major	How many participants do we have today?	There are currently 32 attendees on Zoom and more on Facebook Live

SUPPLEMENTAL Q & A POSTED DURING WEBINAR MEETING

April 23, 2020, 1:00 p.m.

NUMBER	ATTENDEE	QUESTION	ANSWER
11	Raymond Ipalook	Why was there not a “Standard Operating Procedures” given to all entities and stakeholders on how to register, how to look for the email that provides the link to this zoom call, etc?	Information on how to comment was sent my email to the Project mailing list and hardcopies of the presentation and information on how to comment was sent by mail to all PO Boxes in Nuiqsut. Joining instructions were posted to our Facebook site and posted to the project website at www.blm.gov/alaska/willoweis .
12	Raymond Ipalook	Will those watching on Facebook Live, who also provide comments only on the Facebook platform, will those be considered as comments?	Facebook Live is not a part of the administrative record
25	Raymond Ipalook	Why is “subsistence access via boat ramps and increased river creek traffic” the only altercations seems that is to displace caribou? Shouldn’t industry be the sole blame as they have been the FIRST to disturb the wildlife even before we have access out there!?	The Supplement to the Draft EIS is focused on 3 project components: the freshwater reservoir, the boat ramps, and Option 3. Thus, the findings are focused on these 3 components. Impacts from subsistence access and increased river traffic is only one of the impacts that were addressed in the SDEIS. The SDEIS was only focused on the new impacts resulting from the boat ramps and Option 3. Other impacts to subsistence which are addressed in the DEIS include impacts from industry activity, including displacement from road and air traffic, construction activities, mining activities, human activity, and habitat loss and disturbance.
27	Raymond Ipalook	The slides are going too fast for me to ask a question or concern.	We will stop every few slides to address questions.
29	Raymond Ipalook	Where can I find a copy of the slide on the web?	The slides for this presentation are available at the following link: https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/projects/nepa/109410/20016355/250021818/WillowMDP_SDEIS_Website&Mailing_508.pdf

SUPPLEMENTAL Q & A POSTED DURING WEBINAR MEETING

April 23, 2020, 1:00 p.m.

NUMBER	ATTENDEE	QUESTION	ANSWER
30	Siqiniq Maupin	I had similar issues with asking questions. Does this mean the additional gravel road 7 miles away from Nuiqsut and food security being endangered, the Nuiqsut residents will have their lives significantly impacted by this project in a negative way.	The Section 810 finds that the Willow Project could have significant impacts to Nuiqsut residents resulting from a restriction in the availability of caribou and furbearers, as well as a significant restriction in subsistence user access for Nuiqsut. In the cumulative case, the Section 810 found that Project would cause significant restrictions in the abundance of caribou for Nuiqsut, Utqiagvik, Wainwright, Atqasuk, and Anaktuvuk Pass.
31	Siqiniq Maupin	What are the cumulative effects of air quality for residents of Nuiqsut?	Air quality was modeled and analyzed in the Draft EIS (and is being updated for the Final EIS). Air quality modeling includes existing air quality conditions and as such, is cumulative. All state and national ambient air quality standards would be met in Nuiqsut. See Draft EIS Section 3.3, Air Quality, for additional details, including modeling results.
33	Siqiniq Maupin	What are impacts to whaling in Nuiqsut?	Due to the inland nature of project and limited offshore barging in the vicinity of Cross Island associated with the project, the analysis did not find any impacts to whaling for Nuiqsut. However, in the cumulative case, the section 810 found that there could be significant impacts to Nuiqsut, Utqiagvik, Wainwright, and Point Lay associated with reduced availability of marine mammals due to the potential for increased offshore activity in the cumulative case.
35	Siqiniq Maupin	How far will community members have to travel with the restriction and loss of tuttu?	While the Section 810 does not quantitatively assess the increased distance that subsistence users may have to travel, it does find that there would be significant impacts to subsistence user access resulting from the Willow Development. Data are not available at this time to determine how much farther Nuiqsut residents would have to travel given these restrictions.
40	Raymond Ipalook	You are not providing the pertinent information we need. Please go back to the previous 3-4 slides as requested.	The audio recording, past web meetings and presentation can be found at www.blm.gov/alaska/willoweis
42	Raymond Ipalook	If I made comments here, will that be taken into consideration, or is this for question and answer moments?	Questions and Answers are part of the administrative record.

SUPPLEMENTAL Q & A POSTED DURING WEBINAR MEETING
April 23, 2020, 1:00 p.m.

NUMBER	ATTENDEE	QUESTION	ANSWER
45	Siqiniq Maupin	Who is conducting these air quality experiments and testing?	Air quality is being modeled for the EIS by Ramboll, a consulting agency with specialist in this field. The BLM and multiple cooperating agencies with air quality specialist provide input on and reviews of the modeling efforts, including quality control, modeling methods and protocols, and results and analysis. Additionally, the Project would require permits from the State of Alaska (a cooperating agency).