

Draft minutes were approved by chair Charlie Wright on May 12, 2025

Denali National Park Subsistence Resource Commission
Meeting Minutes
Teleconference
February 26, 2025

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Quorum Establishment:

The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 12 pm. Commissioner members: Victor Lord, Coke Wallace, Andrew Johnson, and Mikki Collins were present via phone. Charlie Wright and Penny Green were not present and excused. With four Council members present a quorum was not established.

Attendees:

Amy Craver (NPS), Curtis Summers (Tanana Tribal Council), Susanna Lemke (NPS), Victoria Florey(NPS), Pat Owen(NPS), Gwen Cody(NPS), David Dunn(NPS), Dave Schirokauer(NPS), Vernon Cody (NPS), and Brooke Merrill (NPS).

Superintendent's Welcome:

Vernon Cody (on behalf of Superintendent Brook Merrell): We appreciate your time and commitment to ensuring the protection and responsible management of the subsistence resources within the park. The SRC plays a vital role. Your insights, experiences, and voices are invaluable in shaping guidelines that balance conservations with the needs of the local communities. The Park road is now open to Mountain Vista, so please come out and enjoy the sunrise sunsets in the park. in the April time frame, we will be opening the road to Teklanika near Mile 30 and we're hoping that buses will start running mid-May. The Pretty Rocks Project is currently in and planning right now. The contractor is taking advantage of the low snow we have and will begin setting up their camp in late March and begin work at the beginning of April. The contractor is eager to launch the bridge truss, and their hope is the end of July and confident of that. Today is the anniversary of the establishment of the park. Denali National Park was established in 1917 and is now 108 years old. Our current challenge as you guys might already know about, we are dealing with the impacts of the new administration's workforce strategies in our agency and as part of the strategy efforts, we've lost a couple positions, which will inevitably bring changes to our park operations and the capacity moving forward. While we are still assessing the scope of these changes, we remain confident to our partnerships like the SRC and ensuring continuity in our shared work that we have. And I'm sure our staff will provide more park highlights with you later in the meeting. Thank you.

Victor Lord: it's still called Denali?

Vernon Cody: Yes, the park is still called Denali National Park and Preserve, and we are in the process of changing the name of Denali Mountain to McKinley. That's still a work in progress as we progress, yes.

Review of Denali Subsistence Resource Charter:

Victoria Florey: The purpose of the Commission is to devise and recommend to the Governor and the Secretary of the Interior a program for subsistence hunting within Denali National Park. Commission hunting program recommendations may address major topics related to the management of subsistence. Such as hunting access, custom and traditional use determinations, eligibility season and harvest limits, methods and means traditional use areas, trapping, customary trade, cabin use and research. After a

consultation with appropriate Alaska Department of Fish and Game local advisory committees and Federal Regional Advisory Councils (RAC), the recommendations of the Commission are conveyed directly to the Secretary of Interior and the Governor. The Secretary shall implement the program unless the recommendation: 1. Violates recognized principles of Wildlife Conservation. 2. Threatens the conservation of healthy populations of wildlife in the park. 3. Is contrary to their purposes, for which the park was established or 4. would be detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs of local residents. If approved by the secretary such recommendations are implemented by anyone of several appropriate means. The operation of Commission is directed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act and Commission Charter. The Charter contains information required by both regulation and the Department of Interior's administrative procedures. The Commission reports to Superintendent of Denali National Park and Preserve. However, since the establishment of the Federal Substance Management program in 1990, the SRC has been making recommendations on harvest limits on customary and traditional use proposals affecting Denali National Park directly to Regional Advisory Councils and the Federal Subsistence Board.

The Commission is comprised of nine local rural residents representing geographic, cultural and user diversity from within the region. Each member's term on the Commission is for three years unless they resign or move for cause by the appointing source. The Denali National Park Subsistence Resource Commission Charter allows the Secretary of Interior, the Governor of Alaska an appropriate Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils, to each appoint three members. Congress statutorily created the nine-member Advisory committee under provisions within Section 808 of Public Law 96-487, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, which is ANILCA. SRC members serve three-year terms at the pleasure of their appointing source. The Charter allows members to continue to serve after the expiration of their terms until the pointing source, which is like the Secretary of Interior, the Governor of Alaska or appropriate Regional Advisory Councils, reappoints and comments or appoint new Alaska members or appoint new members. The expiration of a term does not automatically cause a vacancy. RAC appointees have special appointment requirements. The Charter requires all RAC appointees to be (1) a member of either a Federal Regional Advisory Council or state local advisory committee within the region and (2) qualify to engage in subsistence use within Denali National Park and Reserve.

Commissioner Member Reports:

Victor Lord of Nenana: Reported that he has not spent much time in Nenana due to injury. New Chief name Donald Charlie. We appreciate the park and everything that happened out there. We pay attention to other stuff and history. The renaming of the whatever. Big part of Nenana, storytelling, department and everything. Will be going home tomorrow.

Coke Wallace of Healy: Well, I think that moving forward, we're probably going to have to start running the park like a capitalist enterprise. And I know that revenue is going to become an issue for us and I think that I mentioned this to Brooke a few summers ago when I first appointed to this position. I think it would be wise of Denali to offer a permit like they do over in the Kluane National Park and Reserve in the Yukon Territory in these times of drastically low sheep numbers. I thought it would be nice for Denali to do what Kluane National Park does over in Canada. Offer up a couple of sheep permits that normally sell at these Wild Sheep foundation, banquets and stuff for a quarter \$1,000,000 or more. In Canada I believe 33% of it goes to The First Nation people who are the primary Landowners of the Kluane National Park and Reserve there in Canada and the Sheep Foundation who does a lot for sheep conservation gets 33% and the government gets 33% to hopefully use, in Canada, to keep their sheep populations up. But I think you guys are all aware across the whole range of the ten-horn sheep in North America, they're all in bad shape. I think it would be appropriate for the park that was brought to us by sheep hunters for sheep to give back a little bit. And since our country's being run by a businessman like

it's intended to be, I think the revenue thing that will be a no brainer for y'all. I spoke with Brooke about it at length on a number of occasions. And I know it's got to go higher up the food chain from us and from her, but good ideas have to start somewhere. So that's my two cents for the moment.

Andrew Johnson of Cantwell: Lots of ptarmigans has been taken this winter so I know that people are quite successful in the flock seem to be doing well. Good berry season down here. Very successful moose hunting for many people, as far as antlered bulls down there, I don't think I've heard of anybody who really didn't get one. It's very unusual at this time of year that this year that multiple people got bulls. I guess sort of thankful for looking at the amount of snow we got down in Cantwell for those of you don't know, we got dumped on here a few weeks ago, about 42 inches in six days. I was feeling for the moose population. I've been riding out Sunday for quite a few miles and saw some moose, it didn't look too bad. The snow conditions have impressed a bit, so they're still able to access food, but definitely a lot more in town than there has been. The past probably a couple weeks coming into town just to take advantage of the packed roads. The brows into town and maybe perhaps get away from the wolves as well, but things looking pretty good I think from that perspective.

Mikki Collins of Minchumina: We have an abbreviated trapping season due to a very late freeze up and not enough snow for good traveling conditions, but there seem to be a reasonable number of critters around. Martins are still depressed and a few wolves. I think that we have a local pack that's been hanging out near our house, so it seems like they are more than they really are out there. We did not get a moose last fall, but that was mostly because we had a very abbreviated season plus a lot of meat in the freezer left, so we didn't even try that hard. There did seem to be a fair number of moose around, but I'm not sure if that reflects the local population or the fact that we did have a very large fire southwest that probably pushed a bunch of moose into our area by hunting season. Fishing, we did fairly well on, and it was pretty slow to start, but then it picked up and held fairly strong. We started in early November when the ice is strong enough and fished until maybe a week before Christmas and at that point it was starting to drop off, as it always does. But we did end up with about 900 fish. These are mostly whitefish.

Regional Office Update from NPS Alaska Region

Victoria Florey: Regional Director, Sarah Creachbaum is retiring, and her last day is Friday, February 28th. David Albert, who's the Deputy Regional Director for the Alaska Region NPS will be Acting. And Grant Hilderbrand, Associate Regional Director for Resources has moved into another position within the National Park Service, and Elizabeth Bella is the temporary Acting ARD.

Call for Wildlife Proposals to Federal Subsistence Board

Amy Craver: I sent out this call for proposals to change the federal subsistence wildlife regulations and the Federal Subsistence Board is accepting proposals through April 4th, 2025. And that would be to harvest wildlife on federal public lands for the 2026 to 2028 regulatory year. Any interest in talking with SOC about putting in a proposal? Will email federal subsistence board to Curtis.

Status of SRC Vacancies:

Amy Craver: We do have the Secretary of Interior, and that's the one that we're waiting on right now for them to have the call for applications. I hope you'll apply Curtis. And then we've got two vacancies with the South Central Regional Advisory Council. Those positions are difficult to fill because the Cantwell Fish and Game advisory committee, Andrew might know more about this than I do, I don't think that they've had an official meeting. That vacancy, it either has to be filled by someone from the South Central Regional Advisory Council, which at this time there's really nobody in the Cantwell area or they can be from the local State Fish and Game Advisory. Per Andrew, Cantwell committee was in disarray, didn't

have enough numbers since then people have moved away, it wasn't really viable, hasn't been resurrected.

Update on SAC funded Project:

Amy Craver: We've received some funding from the SUBSID Advisory Council to do an oral history interviews with elders from Nenana and Tanana about traditional sheep and bear hunting practices prior to the establishment of Mount McKinley Park. I was planning on doing interviews in Nenana this March, but I'm not sure exactly with our travel restrictions on when we're going to and the funding when we're going to know for sure if we've got the funding. I want to let the group know about that project.

Reports and Updates:

Ranger Division Update

David Dunn (for David Olsen): Representing the law enforcement division in Denali. Couple staffing updates, we have had some lower staffing numbers and obviously the hiring freeze has had an impact on filling those positions, but we're still getting out there conducting hunting patrols, snow machine patrols and that sort of thing. No significant sustenance cases were made this fall, to my knowledge. We're just getting ready for the summer season.

Resources Update:

Dave Schirokauer: We're preparing for a busy summer with an anticipated reduced staffing level. Pat's going to give a wildlife update which will be of most interest to you all, but in the non-wildlife world in resources we're excited to have a new geologist on board. Haley comes from the private sector working for an engineering firm, and her expertise is in landslides and fluvial geomorphology, which is the processes that rivers do, and we've got lots of rivers and lots of landslides. We are excited to have found someone that fits our needs so well. Haley will be working on some investigations in support of sustaining the Denali Park Road. You all know about the bridge project and the landslide there, but there are about another 140 hazardous slopes along the Denali Park Road, and so we're working on plans to prioritize and sustain the road with Haley's work, which is just kicking off here. The other big project that we're going to keep moving forward on is Fire adapted community. We're in a pretty fire prone area and fire regimes seem to be increasing, like fires are starting earlier, burning longer. We're in the process of working on about a 1500-acre area within the park's front country basically the area of the park from the entrance to just past headquarters, is a large-scale fire wising project. We're trimming, lowering the density of trees, doing some prescribed burns, which will be kicking off here in the next few days. Those are just pile burning, we're not setting the forest on fire in any wholesale fashion. We're just burning slash piles that are scattered throughout the park's front country, those in the local area may experience some smoke. We've got crews managing those pile burning operations. And lastly, we've got a new, down at the southern end of the park on the George Parks Highway at McKinley Village, we have a new facility out there. It's called Tsenedghaas Na', which means Rough Rock Creek in the western Ahtna Athabaskan dialect. And there will be a new sign appointing visitors to that site, it's got a bunch of parking, picnic tables, some interpretive media and restrooms, and a new trail is being constructed from there, it's available right now. It's called the Nenana River trail, it's not complete, but the part that is awesome. There are some incredible views of the Nenana River Valley from those trails just a short distance from the parking lot. It's also parking for the Triple Lakes Trail there at Tsenedghaas Na'.

Cultural Resources Update:

Susannah Lemke: I'd like to highlight some changes in personnel that the Cultural Resources Division has had. So this past spring, Phoebe Gilbert, who had served as an Archaeologist and the Cultural Resource Program Manager at Denali for several years, took another position outside the agency, she left some big shoes to fill in terms of institutional knowledge. Liz Gonzalez Negrete, who's been the Compliance Archaeologist with the park, for a little over three years, has been instrumental in the transition from Phoebe's departure. She was serving as the Acting Cultural Resources Program Manager this summer, and unfortunately, she'll be taking a new position in the next couple of months, outside the Park Service. So, we're grateful and we wish her well. Kim Arthur has been the full-time Park Curator since October of 2013. She's Navajo, originally from Arizona. Kim now resides in Cantwell with her partner, and she continues to do great work. We also have a new Archaeologist on staff, so Chris Ciancibelli has lived in Cantwell for about 13 years, and he brings both academic training and field experience to his position. And my name is Susanna Lemke. I introduced myself briefly earlier, but I was hired on as the Park Historian in September. I'm temporarily the Acting Cultural Resources Program Manager. This is my first time working in Denali, but I spent about a decade in Southeast Alaska. And completed my master's at University of Alaska Fairbanks. So I'm happy to bring my family back up to Alaska and to Denali in particular. I wanted to dive into some of the projects that we've been working on. First, I wanted to start with exhibits and public programming. So, highlighting the work of Phoebe and Kim for years now, both have been instrumental in working with the Starr family. So, a couple of years ago, the park entered into a long-term loan agreement for a well-preserved bear spear that's been in the family for roughly a century. The bear spear has been on display at Denali since 2022, but you know it isn't as if, like, something goes on display and then there that's it. There's stewardship and continued collaboration, and Kim has really been following through on that, so, this year Kim has been working to preserve the spear itself. It's made from a birch shaft and wrapped in sinew with a steel blade. In order to ensure that it continues to stay in good condition. She's worked with a conservator to upgrade the floor bumper with an exhibit so as not to put stress on the spear tip in the display. She's also worked with facility staff to upgrade the storage self for the spear and collections when it's in storage during the winter and is continuing to work to get a custom-made archival box, so you know there's collections care as well as continued collaboration with the Starr family. And in early August, Al Junior and Stanley Starr visited the park to write a letter affirming their decision to have the family bear spear on exhibit at the Denali Visitor Center. We're also working on a series of panels for the Bears bear exhibit. They're currently in draft, and they emphasize subsistence and a sense of place that predates the establishment of the park.

In the panels, there's another panel that introduces visitors to the Starr family as well as kind of the process and the courage that it takes to hunt using a bear spear in the traditional Athabaskan way. And on a broader scale, along the same lines, there is interdisciplinary team at Denali, including Kim, Liz, Dave, Amy, myself and a number of staff from the Interpretation and Education Division. We're also taking a look at existing exhibit text and panels to correct language and to more appropriately represent Alaska Native culture. We're changing language and images to emphasize subsistence and land use, as well as language. We were able to bring some of these ideas and preliminary designs to a government-to-government meeting with tribal partners in December. So those are all kind of in draft with consultation. Outside the visitor center, we have another panel and draft for the Tsenesdghaas Na' trail head Dave mentioned this earlier. The trail is a fairly popular one, and the interpretive sign will be designed to kind of introduce visitors to the name itself, as well as demonstrate that there are lots of languages and dialects that are native to this area, these names they really capture land use in activities on the land, so the "Rough Rocks" in the Tsenesdghaas Na' sign versus mile, whatever George Parks Highway and I think

that'll demonstrate the connection between people in the land since time immemorial. The Resources division is also working to build our body of knowledge through archaeology, so one project that I'd like to highlight is ancient pathways. This is a three-year large scale archaeological survey that seeks to locate and identify and record sites in areas of the park that may have been used as pathways or travel corridors through the mountain range. Generally, survey locations have focused on rivers, because waterways and valleys were an important means of transportation. So this was year 2, and archaeologists did work on sites around the Sanctuary River headwaters. They found a cluster of several lithic or stone tool scatter sites. Archaeologists also found lithic within the park road corridor. So, by doing these surveys, we're able to better understand the prehistory and history of the park and be able to contribute to a more comprehensive knowledge to the human narrative and remote areas of the park as well as manage our resources better. Work on ancient pathways was a little truncated this year due to the Riley Fire. You know, as I'm sure you're already aware, the Riley Fire was a 350-acre wildfire in the Dena front country and resulted in park closure and evacuations in late June and in July. So, during this time, many park staff work to ensure that park operations were conducted safely. And the cultural resources staff were engaged in protecting cultural resources. So, Kim Arthur led the effort for museum collections. The fire came very close to the resources building, which holds the collection. So, in anticipation, she reached out to the Cantwell Library in the Ahtna Cantwell Community Center to ask if they had space to store collections in case they needed to be evacuated. Cantwell was selected as a potential site for museum objects because Healy was the evacuation site for all the staff living at the park. So. Luckily, the fire did not make it to headquarters, but the museum program did come out with a signed letter saying, if there is another emergency situation, the Cantwell Library in the Ahtna Cantwell Community Center could provide us space for a collection storage if needed.

Kim has identified objects for priority evacuation this year. She'll be spending more time on updating the emergency operations plan for the museum collection with the support of folks from the Alaska Region. Archaeologist Liz and some of our seasonal staff for also kept busy during and after the fire, identifying and flagging sites and working with the fire crews. So the Riley fire was a big event this summer, but Fire Protection has been a priority within the park for several years and we've been working with the fire team to find ways to manage or mitigate the risks to cultural resources as part of the broader park Fire Management Plan. And before I launch into what the Cultural resources program is doing in this domain. I want to state that we have an awesome fire crew that's organized, commutative, well informed, curious and really make an effort to understand and accommodate cultural resources needs. What the fire program has done is to identify a series of measures that they'll undertake in order to mitigate risk of fires, these might be vegetation thinning or controlled pile burning for example. And from the cultural side, we complete archaeological surveys in areas where there is a controlled burn schedule or, you know identifying cultural resources that need to be prioritized for protection in the event of a wildfire. So several people have been working on this, Liz has passed on lots of information about previous efforts to Chris Ciancibelli who is the main point person for working with the fire crew. You'll probably see, press releases about controlled, burned activities each season, that's sort of what the cultural part is doing there. In closing, I just wanted to give an update on the park road. So as

again I'm sure you know since August of 2021, a portion of the Denali Park road near Polychrome has been displaced by the Pretty Rocks landslide at Mile 45.4. Of course, the park road has been around for a while, the landside has really changed the character of the road and to capture some of that history, we will be coordinating interviews with folks who've worked and driven the road. The majority of the interviews will be with longtime bus and shuttle drivers, probably from the 1970s forward, but in the resulting products we will be including dine place names and kind of an awareness of the land use and land stewardship that tie together with how the road change the character of the landscape and how it's

managed to preserve wildlife as well as open the park up to visitors. Just in conclusion, the cultural program has a lot going on. We work closely with other division.

Fish and Wildlife Updates:

Pat Owen: I'm going to do my typical wildlife update for you, I will say. And you probably realize from hearing lots of these from me over the years, the last time I gave one of these was in August. There are some things that do not change over the winter, so I won't be necessarily reporting on everything wildlife related, but I will at least report on the things that I do have changes or updates on. I'll start out with bear monitoring. We've already talked about the fact that the road is closed at Polychrome. Everybody is probably aware of that and aware of the fact that we're doing a bear monitoring study, looking at how bears are moving around and behaving on the closed section of road. The goal of that project is to have 18 bears wearing radio collars. That will be able to analyze the data from once this is done. The mode that we're in right now is that each spring we do a capture just enough to keep our sample size where it needs to be so that's the plan for this spring. In May we've got a capture planned already, other than that, there's not a whole lot to say about that project. Bear management again during the winter, we don't do a lot of bear management, so not really much to update there. On wolves, the last time I gave you an update in August, we talked about the numbers of wolves. In March of last year, we do have a fall count, which at the moment is 59 wolves in 10 packs. We've got three resident loner wolves that are not associated with packs. And this fall we were also monitoring 2 packs that originally started in the park but have sort of transitioned out of the park, and so we're keeping an eye on them, but they are not formally inside the park boundaries at this point in time. One comment I would like to make about wolves. There's a couple of things that I would like to get to kind of get the information out there and maybe get some reactions on. I attended the Eastern Interior RAC meeting last week and one of the comments from many of the Council members was about the number of wolves they're seeing. This was not consistent across the board, but a lot of the members commented that it seemed like the number of wolves were up in their areas. That is not consistent with what we're necessarily finding in the park. Our numbers are individual numbers have been doubling what they are now. They've also been less than what they are now, but just throwing that out there and Nikki, I know that you had said that you know there was sort of the impression that there were more wolves around just because it seems like you had a local pack, but maybe not necessarily overall more wolves. Would just like, when I get done, to maybe hear what folks' impressions are about that.

Moving on to sheep. We did this summer a number of different things regarding sheep. We do aerial distance sampling surveys. Those took place in July. I did report on those in August, but at that time I don't believe we actually had the numbers. The 2024 survey estimated 939 sheep with a lamb to ewe like ratio of 39 to 100, just for comparison. The number that we counted with the same sort of survey in the same places in 2023 was 867 so just a bit less than 100 more sheep. And in 2023, also the lamb to ewe like ratio was 15 to 100. So that's good news. You know it's one data point, so we just have to wait and see what that's going to look like. We also did a minimum count aerial survey in a couple of high sheep use areas, basically from Mount Margaret over to the East Fork. The lamb to ewe like ratio there was 54 so some decent numbers in that one, that is doing a minimum count survey is a little bit different than the distance the aerial distance sampling in the fact that we go with those minimum count numbers to places where we know there are sheep the survey protocol is a bit different. We also did a survey in the Southwest Preserve, another aerial survey there counted a total of 94 sheep and the lamb to ewe like ratio there was about 35 to 100. And then of course, we always do our ground-based surveys. Those numbers were kind of all over the map but seem to be consistent with what we were seeing in in other places. The other thing that I just wanted to mention, we did talk about this in August, and I believe probably even

previous to that, but we did do collaborative study on Dall sheep with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game that started this last summer. During the June 30, Rams were collared between Matt Healy and the Toklat River. The plan this year is in March to collar 30 ewes in that same area. The data from these collars will help inform us about sheep movements, health, demographics and basically their connectivity to the rest of the population. If you need just a little refresher on this Fish and Game is doing this project in areas basically kind of across the street from one another in Denali, where there is no hunting and then an area to the east of us where there is and then also in gates of the Arctic National Park. Where there is some but then also an adjacent area where there is more hunting taking place. Alaska Department of Fish and Game will be doing any of the analysis on this, I haven't seen anything from them yet, but we're just getting this project off the ground. That's the plan for sheep this year. Caribou, this is the 41st consecutive year. Of annual monitoring efforts for Caribou in 2024, we did pregnancy surveys in May post calving surveys in June. The hang on, let me find it here. The fall preliminary herd size estimate was 1590 Caribou.

Caribou, this is the 41st consecutive year of annual monitoring efforts for Caribou in 2024, we did pregnancy surveys in May post calving surveys in June. The fall preliminary herd size estimate was 1590 Caribou. This is continuing a pattern of herd decline, down from about a little over 3100. Caribou in 2018 but it seems like the rate might be slowing in the previous three years, so that might be a good sign. But again, time will tell. I'm pleased to talk about this because we've been wanting to do it for so many years. We got some Inflation Reduction Act funding for a food security project that included a moose survey in Denali, which we conducted at the end of November, into the first couple of days of December this year. Really good strong survey all on the north side of the park. The population estimate that we had from this survey was 1663 moose. The estimated bull cow ratio was 48 bulls per 100 cows. And the calf cow ratio 22 calves per hundred calves, just as a comparison, the last time we did a Northside survey was in 2017, when we estimated 1743 moose, the numbers down just a little bit overall on the population estimate, but in 2017, 26 calves and 48 bulls per 100 cows, so the bull cow ratio doesn't seem to have shifted much, but the calf cow ratio is down just a little bit. Wondering if we might still be feeling some of the effects of the big storm that we had a couple of years ago that we were confident probably took out a lot of moose and made spring very hard on calves. But again, we'll see when we get a chance to do our next survey where we're at with that. The only other thing that I would just mention our ABM projects and there are no new updates from what I reported to you in August. We will continue to do Golden Eagle monitoring with nest occupancy surveys and productivity surveys this year and continue with breeding bird surveys that we have done for lots of years along the road. I think that's the end of everything that I have. One thing that I will say is if anyone is interested and wants a written copy of this report, I have it and I would be glad to send it to you. Just send me an e-mail or let Amy know and she can let me know to send it to you.

Public and Other Agency Comments:

Superintendent Brook Merrell: I hope your winter went well and big thanks to Cody for representing the superintendent's office earlier in this call. I think my what I want to share today is just that things are in a lot of flux with the National Park Service right now, the administration changes resulting in some really big changes at the park management level as the President's priorities and instructions to decrease what a federal workforce and budget are implemented. And so, I just want to give the heads up, I guess that we can expect that the breadth and the concentration of work that we do on an annual basis is likely to change quite a bit in the coming year. That said, as always, our mission remains the same. Which is to preserve and protect and provide for the use and enjoyment of Denali National Park, and that's what we keep our eyes on as we rearrange our own priorities this coming year. So just wanted to share that there are a lot of changes, and you can expect these calls probably to look a little different at our next meeting.

Set Time and Place for next Denali SRC Meeting:

Meet: Wednesday, August 20th, 2025 Totem Inn, Healy

Alternate date: Wednesday, August 27th, 2025 Totem Inn, Healy