

**SUSITNA BASIN
RECREATION RIVERS MANAGEMENT PLAN
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, April 29, 2022
1:00pm-3:00pm**

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

The recording for this meeting is available [online](#).

I. Call to Order

- A. A Special Meeting of the Susitna Basin Recreation Rivers Advisory Board was called to order at approximately 1:00 PM on April 29, 2022, via Microsoft Teams.
- B. Roll Call – Board Members Present: Israel Mahay, Mike DeMaria, Nancy Conklin, Tim Dabney, Joe Wright, Stephanie Nowers, Emma Pokon, and Mike Overcast.
- C. Board Members Absent: Aaron Benjamin, Jody Payton, Don Redick, and Bruce Knowles.
- D. Chair Mahay proposed that a discussion of HB 120 be added to the agenda. Joe Wright MOVED to approve the meeting Agenda. Emma Pokon SECONDED. PASSED without objection.

II. New Business

- A. Susitna Basin Recreation Rivers User Survey Feedback:
 - a. Mike DeMaria suggested altering question #4 to the *percentage* of time you would hire a commercial guide.
 - b. Monica Alvarez discussed how the survey will be shared with the public. The survey will be shared electronically via a link and will go out via public notice.
 - c. Mike DeMaria was concerned that a particular group of people (possibly from out of state) could sway the survey in a certain direction rendering the survey not valid statistically. People taking the survey should have to identify themselves with name, address, and phone number. Stephanie Nowers asked what confidentiality survey takers would have. Monica stated that this is not a statistically valid survey, it's a questionnaire. Emails and phone numbers would be redacted and kept confidential. Current survey requires email and name. Chair Mahay suggested a requirement that participants state their place of residence. Joe Wright proposed limiting submittals by email address and stated that it is important to get the survey to all people who own property in the area regardless of state of residence. Also include way for people to add which is the closest river to where they own land. Nancy Conklin MOVED to add place of residence to the beginning of the survey. Joe Wright SECONDED. PASSED without objection.

- d. Stephanie Nowers MOVED to add language at the beginning of the survey that makes it clear that addresses and email addresses would be kept confidential but that names would be part of the public record. Mike DeMaria SECONDED. PASSED without objection.
 - e. Emma Pokon asked if DNR would be able to compare survey results from the original management plan. Monica responded that DNR does have that data and will compare the results.
 - f. DNR will create more opportunities for participants to add additional comments in the survey and will provide additional instructions for this.
 - g. Stephanie Nowers question 12 & 13 (User experience on the rivers/What could be allowed) – add an Additional Comments option here too. And at the end of the Survey an Additional Comments option.
 - h. Tim Dabney suggested making the map in the introduction zoomable. Tim stated that questions 10 & 11 (appropriate activities/inappropriate activities) seemed duplicative and wondered whether these should be more area/river specific. Nancy Conklin suggested adding the OTHER option to these questions so that people could specify which rivers they would like certain activities/facilities to be allowed upon.
 - i. Stephanie Nowers suggested adding certain hyperlinks at the start of the User Survey.
 - j. Shelby Burrige asked the Board if they saw any issues with the functionality of the survey application. Board members saw no issues with the functionality.
- B. HB 120 Discussion:
- a. Monica Alvarez explained that the new CS for HB 120 expected to be adopted in House Resources committee on May 2, would remove the language repealing the Recreation Rivers.

III. Comments from Members of the Public (Maximum 3 minutes/person)

- a. Becky Long: I hope the Committee Substitute for HB 120 is adopted Monday. I will email House Resources members and inform them that there is an Advisory Board and the revision process is ongoing and is a good process.

IV. Comments from Board Members

V. Adjournment – Next Regular Meeting 5/25/2022

- a. Mike DeMaria MOVED to adjourn. Emma Pokon SECONDED. Without objection, the Board adjourned at 2:05 PM.