



**Aleut Community of St. Paul Island
Tribal Government
Ecosystem Conservation Office
PO Box 86
2050 Venia Minor Road
St. Paul Island, Alaska 99660
907-546-3200 (voice)
907-546-3253/3254 (fax)**

August 31, 2006

Michael T. Williams, Pribilof Islands Fur Seal Coordinator
NOAA Fisheries
222 West 7th Avenue, Box 43
Anchorage, Alaska 99513

RE: 2006 Subsistence Fur Seal Harvest on St. Paul Island Memorandum for the Record

Aang (Greetings):

Enclosed below, please find the Memorandum for the Record for the 2006 subsistence fur seal harvest on St. Paul Island. This memorandum has been prepared to satisfy the reporting requirements of the National Marine Fisheries Service Contract No. AB133F05CN1146.

The 2006 subsistence fur seal harvest season on the St. Paul Island was conducted in four harvests. The harvest season began on 22 July 2006 and ended with a final harvest on 08 August 2006. A total of 396 fur seals were taken for subsistence within four harvests at four different haulouts (Reef/Gorbatch, Zapadni Sands, Polovina, and Gorbatch) on the St. Paul Island during 2006 (Table 1). Refer to attached harvest monitoring log. Of the 396 fur seals taken for subsistence 392 were sub-adult males.

Table 1: Locations, numbers of harvests and fur seals harvested at the locations for the 2005 Subsistence Fur Seal Harvest on the Pribilof Islands, Alaska.

LOCATION	NUMBER OF HARVESTS	NUMBER OF SEALS HARVESTED
Reef/Gorbatch	1	80
Zapadni Sands	1	90
Polovina	1	83
Gorbatch	1	143
Total	4	396

One of the sub-adult male fur seals harvested on the 22 July harvest at Reef/Gorbatch had a severe infected bite wound and was condemned for human consumption by the humane observer.

By-products and Waste

An undocumented number of fur seal pelts, throats, teeth, and whiskers were taken for arts and crafts purposes on St. Paul Island during the 2006 subsistence fur seal harvest. No waste occurred on the harvest field in accordance to 50 CFR §216 Subpart F on St. Paul Island.

The reasons for and the full extent of the occurrence of waste beyond the harvest field is unknown. However, on 30 July 2006 T. Spraker reported 20 bags of seal meat minus their front flippers were dumped at the “blubber” dump site. On 31 July 2006 P.A. Zavadil and M.T. Williams confirmed T. Spraker’s observation, but counted 32 seals carcasses instead of 20 along with trash items that included aluminum cans, rubber gloves. These seals were assumed to be from the recent harvest on 28 July 2006. Additionally, on 01 August 2006 P.A. Zavadil and M.T. Williams confirmed a report of 5 bags of seal meat disposed of over the cliff near the gate to Reef Rookery.

Adult Males and Female Seals Killed or Struck

One adult male fur seal (Reef/Gorbach on 22 July 2006) and four female fur seals (1 at Zapadni Sands on 28 July 2006 and 3 at Gorbach on 08 August 2006) were struck and killed during the harvest on St. Paul Island in 2006. All of the females killed were taken for subsistence.

Heat Strokes

No deaths of any fur seal occurred due to heat stroke (over heating) during or as part of the 2006 subsistence fur seal harvest on St. Paul Island.

Entanglement

Four entangled male seals were observed during this year’s subsistence fur seal harvest on St. Paul Island. All four entangled fur seals on St. Paul Island were successfully disentangled and released. Two male fur seal with a scar indicating evidence of previous entanglement was observed at a harvest on St. Paul Island.

Oil Contamination

No evidence of oil contamination on fur seals pelts of harvested animals during the subsistence fur seal harvest was observed on St. Paul Island in 2006.

Other Mortality

No other fur seal mortality occurred during this year’s subsistence fur seal harvest on St. Paul Island.

Anomalies

No anomalies occurred during the subsistence fur seal harvest on St. Paul Island.

We thank the St. Paul Island sealers for their participation and cooperation, our staff, and National Marine Fisheries Service for making this memorandum possible.

If you have any questions please contact us by telephone, or via email pazavadil@tribaleco.com,
adlestenkof@tribal.com.

Qaqaalakux... Thanks,



Aquilina D. Lestenkof
Co-Director



Phillip A. Zavadil
Co-Director

Cc. Robert Melovidov, Harvest Foreman
Tribal Council of St. Paul Island
Kaja Brix, NOAA Fisheries
Tom Gelatt, National Marine Mammal Laboratory
Andrew Malavansky, Kayumixtax Eco-Office
NOAA Contract No. AB133F05CN1416 File
ECO Public Files

2006 Northern Fur Seal Harvest Monitoring Log
 St. Paul Island, Alaska

Harvest Identification Number	Harvest Date	Harvest Location	Drive Time	Harvest Time	Temperature (C)	Wind Direction	Wind Speed (MPH)	Weather Condition	Grass Condition	# Seals Harvested
SNPNFSHV0601	22-Jul-06	Gorbatch Reef	13:44-13:49 13:49-14:00	14:10-15:05	47	ENE	10	overcast	dry	80
SNPNFSHV0602	28-Jul-06	Zapadni Sands Haulout	14:55-15:10	15:20:16:43	50	SW	30	overcast	damp	90
SNPNFSHV0603	26-Jul-06	Polovina	15:25-15:35	15:47-16:39	50	SW	25	overcast	damp	83
SNPNFSHV0604	8-Aug-06	Gorbatch	14:06-14:15	14:25-16:07	48	SW	12	overcast/fog	wet	143

Harvest Identification Number	# Entangled Seals	# Seals Disentangled	# Scarred Seals	# Adult Males Stunned	# Adult Males Killed	# Females Killed	# Heat Strokes	Observer Initials
SNPNFSHV0601	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	PAZ
SNPNFSHV0602	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	ADL
SNPNFSHV0603	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	ADL
SNPNFSHV0604	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	ADL