

Donlin Subsistence Community Advisory Committee (SCAC)

May 29, 2026 Virtual Meeting Summary – Draft Subsistence Plan Introduction

Meeting Overview

When	Friday, May 29, 2026 1:00-2:00 PM
Where	Virtual via Zoom
Objectives	• Introduce and walk through the draft Subsistence Plan. • Discuss the SCAC review process and timeline. • Share and discuss related updates about upcoming meetings and site visit plans.

INVITED PARTICIPANTS

** Participated in meeting.*

SCAC Members	Seat	DATROC and Other Attendees	Affiliation
Phyllis Evan	SCAC Member, Seat A	Rachel Klein (TKC)	DATROC Member
William Hunter*	SCAC Member, Seat A	Tisha Kuhns (Calista)*	DATROC Member
Nicholas Kameroff*	SCAC Member, Seat A	Thom Leonard (Calista)*	DATROC Member
Joe Kameroff	SCAC Member, Seat B	Chris Eckhart (Donlin)*	DATROC Member
Mark Leary*	SCAC Member, Seat B	Enric Fernandez (Donlin)*	DATROC Member
Denny Thomas*	SCAC Member, Seat C	Rebecca Wilmarth (Donlin)*	DATROC Member
Julie Zaukar*	SCAC Member, Seat D	Shelly Wade (facilitator)*	Agnew::Beck
Debby Hartman*	SCAC Member, Seat E	Blair Schoenborn (facilitator)*	Agnew::Beck
Fritz Charles*	SCAC Member, Seat F		
Sam Berlin*	SCAC Member, Seat G		
Ralph Kiunya	SCAC Member, Seat H		
Nathan Lake	SCAC Member, Seat I		
Wassily Alexie	SCAC Member, Seat J		
Nathan Elswick	SCAC Member, Seat K		
Vicki Otte*	SCAC Member, Seat L		

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Participation.** We continue to have great participation and engagement! We had 10 of 16 members join us for the discussion. Thank you to those of you who could join us!
- **Subsistence Plan scope.** The Donlin Gold team provided an overview of what is included in the Subsistence Plan and what it covers. The Subsistence Plan, required by land agreements with TKC and Calista, covers land leased by Donlin Gold (Jungjuk Port, the Donlin-Jungjuk road, the airport road, and the mine site) and outlines plans for subsistence use and access for TKC and Calista shareholders. It includes sections that detail roles and responsibilities for parties involved, the review and amendment process, subsistence resource identification, development of harvest plans, access restrictions, and more.
- **Review process.** SCAC Members have until July 15th to review and provide feedback on the draft Subsistence Plan. On July 15th, the SCAC and DATROC will convene for another virtual meeting to hear SCAC input and feedback. From July 15th to August 6th, the DATROC will consider input from the SCAC and prepare responses. At the in-person meeting on August 6th, the DATROC and SCAC will discuss the DATROC's responses before the draft is revised.
- **2026 meeting schedule.** The Donlin Gold team has arranged a site visit to Red Dog mine on August 5th. It will be a one-day trip up to the mine and will include a tour. An in-person meeting will follow on August 6th. Details about the site visit and meeting logistics will be shared soon.

Meeting Notes *(See also: Guiding Slides & Draft Subsistence Plan)*

Agenda Topic	Summary Notes
Welcome & Connecting	• Nels shared a prayer before we opened the conversation. • Shelly shared a Land Acknowledgment and reviewed the meeting objectives.
Draft Subsistence Plan Review Process Presenters: <i>Enric Fernandez,</i> <i>Chris Eckert</i> <i>(Donlin Gold)</i> Materials: <i>Guiding Slides,</i> <i>Draft Subsistence Plan (attached)</i>	Introduction <i>Subsistence Plan Purpose and Introduction to Process</i> • A quick project update: The project feasibility study is underway, including some design work, and things are progressing well. On the site, there are many geotechnical studies and other geotechnical work around mine site that will continue through the summer. • Drafting a Subsistence Plan is required under the land agreements with TKC and Calista to provide access for subsistence use to surface land leased by Donlin Gold. It is subject to regulatory compliance and safety considerations, however. • In brief, it covers surface lands for Jungjuk Port, Donlin-Jungjuk Road, the airport road, and mine site, the core operating area. Donlin Gold has extended it to include all lands between the port and the land. • Today we're introducing the plan and then we'll share it with you for a deeper read and a longer time to provide notes / comments. • This draft plan has been created with TKC and Calista.

Draft Subsistence Plan Overview

- Chris provided a brief overview of the way the plan is organized:
 - Roles and Responsibilities: who is responsible for implementing the plan, who is responsible for reviewing it, and what role do the DATROC and SCAC have.
 - Review and Amendment Process: how the plan will evolve over time.
 - Plan Areas: what lands and areas are covered in the plan.
 - Identification of Subsistence Resources: what resources do we need to track and make harvest plans for.
 - Development of Subsistence Resource Harvest Plans: when and where do harvest activities happen.
 - Project Periods and Access Restrictions: how will access be impacted at different phases of the project life.
- We're especially looking for SCAC feedback on the development of subsistence resources identification and harvest plans as well as access restrictions.
- Access restrictions are in place for safety reasons and are dictated by entities like Mine Safety and Health (MSHA) and the US Coast Guard. Access restrictions will change at different phases of the project (e.g., construction, reclamation, and post-closure).
- Review schedule (NOTE: this clarifies what was discussed during the meeting):
 - May 29: SCAC received draft Subsistence Plan.
 - July 15: virtual meeting for SCAC to share comments.

(SCAC has May 29-July 15 to review and provide feedback on the draft)

 - Aug 6: in-person meeting for DATROC to share responses to feedback and discussion of proposed revisions.

(DATROC has July 15-Aug 6 to review and consider SCAC input and feedback)

 - After the Aug 6th meetings, revisions will be incorporated and DATROC will review and approve the final draft.
 - When finalized, it will be posted to Let's Talk Donlin.
 - The Plan will continue to be revised as needed over life of the project.
- Summer field work is planned to identify subsistence resources in the road corridor and around the port. Based on that survey, Donlin will develop harvest plans. In 2027, subsistence resource surveys will occur around the mine site and develop the related harvest plans.
- The phased development and ongoing review allow the Plan to evolve as we learn from it each season.
- The procedure to develop the Harvest Plans is to take inventory of where the resources exist and when they are harvested and compare that to planned disturbances. Then the TKC Subsistence Coordinator will work with the project team to coordinate harvests. There are two examples in the current draft of the plan.
- Example Harvest Plan: Elagaq
 - We know elagaq grows along gravel banks and is harvested right around spring break up. We know there's a place near the port that has a spot where elagaq might be growing so we can survey for the plants and find out who is harvesting there so we can build the harvest schedule and make sure people know when the disturbance might happen.

- Donlin employees have conducted a survey already and will do so again after the ice melts. No elagaq was found, but a second survey will be conducted.
- There's language in the plan that articulates the adaptability of the plan and the intent to review and revise as needed. The DATROC will review annually.
- Instructions on how to provide feedback on the draft Subsistence Plan have been shared. It will be similar to the process we followed with the Barge Communications Plan.

Discussion

Q = Question, A = Answer

- Q (SCAC Member): Could we have a chance to review how our input will be incorporated before we come back together? Both for the Barge Communications Plan and the draft Subsistence Plan?
 - A (Project Team): July 15th SCAC shares comments, August 6th we all review together how the comments are incorporated. Team will do their best to share the proposed revisions and responses to the comments ahead of Aug 6th meeting. We'll also have responses to the comments submitted for the Barge Communications Plan at this meeting. We still have more work to do on this plan before it's ready, and it will need to be updated when we have more details on the project specifics.
- Q (SCAC Member): How long will the meeting be on July 15th?
 - A (Project Team): We're thinking it will be a few hours to make sure we have substantial time to hear and discuss comments. Ultimately it will depend on how many comments you have. And we can structure it to have a break in the middle.
- Q (SCAC Member): Will there have to be an addendum, or other subsistence plans for other areas like Beluga that go down into Donlin?
 - A (Project Team): Yes, there will be one for the pipeline too. We need to understand what areas will be affected and when and then develop plans to fit them. Permits with the State of Alaska make it clear that we need to have a forestry plan, but we need more information about the scope that will be covered by that plan to determine if an additional subsistence plan will be needed for timber harvests. In a nutshell, the project has three main components: barging, mine site, and pipeline and each one will have a plan. The Barge Communication Plan covers barging, the Subsistence Plan covers the mine site, and then there will be another plan for the pipeline.
- Q (SCAC Member): There is probably a lot of information out there that we don't know yet, like the barge traffic, what's included in the Subsistence Plan? Our main issue is always the river and what's going to happen to the river when the barging starts? Then once digging starts, there are also contaminants from the dust and other considerations from digging and operating the mine. Is the river covered in the Subsistence Plan?
 - A (Project Team): No, the Subsistence Plan is about subsistence access to the lands leased by the mine from TKC and Calista – the access road to the mine site, the mine site, and the areas we lease around the mine. The river is covered by the Barge Communications Plan.
- Q (SCAC Member): When you bring students in from the schools for subsistence activities, what school districts are you bringing them in from?

	○ A (Project Team): [This was clarified through discussion that the question was about the team that did the site survey for elagaq.] The people we brought in for the elagaq survey were actually Donlin employees. We sent them down to identify the sites where elagaq grows. ○ A (Project Team): This does bring up a good point of clarification though – harvest access is considered only for Calista and TKC shareholders. It provides a mechanism for shareholders to access subsistence resources that vets the safety and accessibility from an operations standpoint. But they need to be TKC or Calista shareholders. • Q (SCAC Member): There is a lot of berry picking in the area covered by the Subsistence Plan, between the port and mine site. It might be dangerous with all the road traffic. Is that the kind of thing the plan will address? ○ A (Project Team): Yes, and that is a good example of what we’re looking for in terms of input – consider the mechanics of it and the implementation and ask “does it make sense, will it work?” • Q (SCAC Member): How long is the road from Jungjuk Port to Donlin? ○ A (Project Team): 30 miles. • Q (SCAC Member): I have a question now that I’m hearing the amount of trucks traveling on the road in a day. Will there be dust control? ○ A (Project Team): Yes, we will be required to do dust control. • Q (SCAC Member): Will our trip to Red Dog be just one day? ○ A (Project Team): Yes, up and back and the tour all in one day, it will be a long day. • Q (SCAC Member): Does the Red Dog trip include a visit to the community down river from the mine? ○ A (Project Team): We will have more details about the visit for you soon, but that was not what we agreed to in December.
Next Steps & Wrap-Up	• Any further questions – email the project team! • SCAC Upcoming Meetings: ○ Virtual meeting to hear SCAC comments and feedback – July 15th ○ We have a date for a Red Dog Tour – August 5th ○ Our next SCAC Meeting will be the day after the Red Dog Tour – August 6th • Let’s Talk Donlin refreshed site is live! https://letstalkdonlin.com/