

TABLE 4.14.1-3

Baseline Subsistence Characteristics

Subsistence Characteristic	Description of Subsistence Characteristic	Change Indicator	Data Source
Subsistence use area	Geographic extent of harvest pursuits	Change in use area may reflect quality and abundance of resources, physical or regulatory restrictions to access, time, and funds available to harvester	ADF&G 1-year mapping and subsistence mapping for 10 years of subsistence
Harvest amount	Harvest by species are represented as pounds of edible resources	Change (decrease) in harvest amount has implications for household nutrition, quality of life, and cultural continuity	ADF&G household surveys for harvested pounds and per capita
Harvest effort	Time and money spent on harvest activities as measured on a resource-specific basis	Change in the percentage of households attempting to harvest a specific resource as a result of changes in the number of harvesters, geographic distribution of resources, frequency of harvest trips, or months of use	ADF&G survey of percent of households trying to harvest and from subsistence mapping interviews percent of active harvesters trying to harvest by resource category for last 10 years and last 12 months
Harvest timing	Season of use	Changes in annual cycle as a result of changes in seasonal abundance, physical and regulatory restrictions	Subsistence mapping interviews for last 10-year use area/harvesters by month and last 12-month trips by month
Harvest participation	Harvest participation measured as the percentage of households attempting to harvest, harvesting, using, giving, and receiving specific subsistence resources	Changes in resource abundance and quality, season and bag-limits; changes in physical access, time, and funds available for harvest	ADF&G household harvest surveys as reflected in the percent of households using subsistence resources
Harvest success	Harvest success as represented by comparing the percentage of households attempting to harvest a resource and those reporting successful harvests	Change in abundance and availability of subsistence resources	ADF&G household harvest surveys as reflected in the percent of households successful and mapping interviews for successful number of trips by resource category for last 12 months
Harvest sharing	Percentage of households that give and receive subsistence resources	Change in social bonds in a community	ADF&G household harvest surveys as reflected in percent of households giving and receiving
Harvest diversity	Number of different resources harvested	Change in diet and potential change in nutrition	ADF&G household harvest surveys as reflected in list of species/resource categories harvested and subsistence mapping of resource categories targeted for the last 10-year use area and last 12 months
Transportation methods	Method of transportation during subsistence pursuit (foot, snowmachine, truck, plane, boat, etc.)	Change in access to harvest area or weather variability	Subsistence mapping interviews as reflected in access and search methods for the last 10-year use area
Duration of harvest trips	Length of harvest trips	Change in resource distribution, abundance or access, harvester's available time, methods of transportation, or distance of travel	Subsistence mapping interviews as reflected in the number of overnight trips by resource category during the last 12 months

TABLE 4.14.1-3 (cont'd)

Baseline Subsistence Characteristics			
Subsistence Characteristic	Description of Subsistence Characteristic	Change Indicator	Data Source
Frequency of harvest trips	Number of times harvest trips occur	Change in harvest success, cultural value of an area, distance of resource, harvester's available time, funds to support trips and access to subsistence areas	Subsistence mapping interviews as reflected by the number of trips during the last 12 months by resource category
Resource change and status	Local observations or traditional knowledge of resource use, abundance, quality, and distribution/migration; counts of observations constitute baseline indicators of status whereas the observations represent traditional knowledge	Changes in residents' satisfaction with their use of a resource (effort and harvest amount), resource availability (abundance, distribution/migration), and health (quality)	Subsistence mapping interviews reflected in the availability, harvest quantity, health/quality, time and effort

Subsistence use area refers to the locations in which subsistence users search for and harvest subsistence resources. The use of an area is dependent upon a harvester's ability to access the area and on the availability of the subsistence resources within the area. Abundance, distribution, migration, quality of subsistence resources, physical restrictions to access, visual and social disturbances, and the time and funds available to the harvester are all factors that could affect the subsistence use area for an individual resource. Subsistence use areas can range in size, depending on the targeted resource, from a small berry patch to an expansive overland caribou hunting area. Changes in subsistence use areas are a leading indicator of change in subsistence because harvesters are likely to compensate for impacts in one geographic area by increased use of other areas.

In addition to the mapped data associated with subsistence use areas, subsistence baseline indicators that are useful in characterizing a subsistence use area, such as harvest effort (e.g., frequency and duration of trips), have also been analyzed and are summarized in table 4.14.1-3. Within a subsistence use area, harvest activities follow a seasonal cycle. The harvest activities are characterized by highs and lows for different resources throughout the year. The timing of these activities are influenced by a number of factors, including wildlife and vegetation availability, climate and weather conditions, harvest regulation, and personal reasons (e.g., work commitments and family needs). Individual resources are not typically pursued continuously throughout the year.

If a portion of a community's subsistence use area is within the Project footprint, a direct impact on subsistence use would occur. In general, with the exception of downstream effects (e.g., movements of migratory terrestrial species), the farther a community's subsistence use area is from the Project area, the less the potential exists for a direct impact on residents' subsistence uses.

Harvest amount is a measurement by species in pounds per edible resource. Changes in harvest amounts constitute one of the primary indicators of changes in subsistence. A decrease in the harvest of major species or in overall harvest amounts could reduce household nutrition, quality of life, and cultural continuity. Changes in overall harvests for a community may be influenced by changes in population. Other baseline indicators (e.g., subsistence use areas, harvest success, harvest participation) are important to understanding changes in harvest amounts.

Harvest effort is a product of the time and money spent on harvest-related activities. Changes in the number of harvesters, the geographic distribution of subsistence use areas, the frequency of trips to subsistence use areas, and the harvest months reflect the harvest effort. Harvest effort is expressed as the