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NORTH SLOPE SUBSISTENCE  
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING

DENA'INA CIVIC AND CONVENTION CENTER  
Anchorage, Alaska  
March 8, 2024

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Brower Frantz, Acting Chair
- Steve Oomittuk
- John Adams
- Wanda Kippi
- Peter Williams
  
- Regional Council Coordinator, Gisela Chapa  
Leigh Honig

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Anchorage, Alaska - 3/8/2024)

(On record)

ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Good morning, everybody. First item on our agenda is invocation. Steve, would you mind starting us off with a prayers here.

MR. OOMITTUK: Okay. Thank you and good morning, everybody. This is Steve Oomittuk from Point Hope. Can we have a moment of silence. We've had so much tragedies in the last few weeks throughout all of our communities, and can we have a moment of silence for all the people within all of our regions.

(Moment of silence)

MR. OOMITTUK: Taikuu. It's a great honor to be a part of the North Slope Regional Advisory Council for the last nine years, and I was looking forward to being there in person and I had some medical issues so hopefully I'll be out today, but, you know, I'd like to say the Lord's prayer.

(Prayer)

MR. OOMITTUK: All right. Thank you.

ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you, Mr. Oomittuk. All right. So it is 8:22 a.m. We'll call this meeting to order. Yeah. Yeah, 8:22. So are we moving on the agenda?

Item Number 3, roll call and establish quorum. Can we get a roll call, please.

MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair, I have a few housekeeping announcement if you don't mind.

ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. We'll go through that.

MS. CHAPA: Sounds good. For the record my name is Gisela Chapa. I am the Council coordinator for the North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council and designated Federal officer. I'll try to be

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1 brief.

2

3

4 Just a reminder, we have some sign-in  
5 sheets in the back if you can please sign in. We also  
6 have some testifier forms in the back. There's blue  
7 half sheets of paper. If you have any comments, please  
8 fill one of those out and give them to me.

8

9 We ask everybody in the room that you  
10 please silence your phones to minimize disruptions. We  
11 also have Council members calling in so your lines will  
12 be automatically muted. If you want to raise your  
13 hand, please press star 5; to unmute yourself please  
14 press star 6.

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One final announcement. We have our --  
our Council has three vacant seats and we're currently  
accepting applications for new Council members. And  
the deadline to apply is March 15th for this round.

Thank you.

ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you for  
that. Is that all the announcements that we have?

(No audible response)

ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. All right.  
Now item 3, roll call and establish quorum. Can we get  
a roll call, please.

MS. CHAPA: Wanda Kippi.

MS. KIPPI: Here.

MS. CHAPA: Steve Oomittuk. I believe  
he's on the line.

REPORTER: Yeah. He's muted.

MS. CHAPA: Okay. John Adams.

REPORTER: He'll be here, soon, it's in  
the record.

MS. CHAPA: Steve Oomittuk, if you can  
please unmute yourself.

MR. OOMITTUK: That's it.

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1 MS. CHAPA: Thank you. John Adams.

2

3 MR. ADAMS: Here.

4

5 MS. CHAPA: Martha Itta. I believe  
6 she's running behind. Esther Hugo, and she has an  
7 excused absence. Brower Frantz.

8

9 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Here.

10

11 MS. CHAPA: Peter Williams.

12

13 MR. WILLIAMS: Here.

14

15 MS. CHAPA: Thank you. We have four  
16 members present over seven filled seats, so we do have  
17 quorum. Oh, sorry, and John is on the line. I  
18 apologize. Five. Five members present.

19

20 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. So it  
21 looks like we do have a quorum. We'll be able to make  
22 the action items if everybody's still here during the  
23 action items.

24

25 All right. Must be a typo. Item  
26 Number 5 on the welcome and introductions. Maybe we'll  
27 go around the room, well, introduce ourselves. It's --  
28 well, no? Nobody? Okay. We'll start, I guess, here.

29

30 MS. GREDIAGIN: Yeah. Mr. Chair,  
31 Council members are welcome to introduce themselves now  
32 or during your Council Member reports, but we generally  
33 do at the beginning of Council meetings ask everyone in  
34 the room and on the phone to just introduce themselves.

35

36 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay, yeah, so  
37 we'll go through introductions. I guess we don't have  
38 any special guests or anything here.

39

40 Is there anybody else on the line that  
41 -- that we don't know that's calling in other than our  
42 members.

43

44 MS. DAGGETT: Mr. Chair, this is Carmen  
45 Daggett with Alaska Department of Fish and Game. I'm  
46 just listening today. Thank you.

47

48 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Good morning,  
49 Carmen. Thank you.

50

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1 Anybody else on the line.

2

3 MS. MIKOW: Good morning. This is Beth  
4 Mikow. I'm the Anthropologist for the Arctic District  
5 Office. I'm just listening in today.

6

7 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Good morning.  
8 Anybody else online.

9

10 MS. BRAUM: Good morning. This is Nikki  
11 Braum and I'm the Cultural Anthropologist here in Nome  
12 at the National Park Service.

13

14 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Good morning.  
15 Anybody else online, we got quite the list here.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. Yeah,  
20 I guess we can go around the room.

21

22 MS. GREDIAGIN: Good morning, Council  
23 members. My name is Lisa Grediagin, I'm the Wildlife  
24 Division Supervisor with the Office of Subsistence  
25 Management and I'll be serving as the LT, Leadership  
26 Team, member for this meeting today.

27

28 Thanks.

29

30 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you.

31

32 MS. JOCHUM: Good morning, Mr. Chair and  
33 Council. This is Kim Jochum. I work for the National  
34 Park Service at the Regional Office, Subsistence  
35 Program.

36

37 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Good morning.

38

39 MS. JOCHUM: Good morning.

40

41 MS. OKADA: Hi. Good morning. My name's  
42 Marcy Okada. I'm the Subsistence Coordinator for Gates  
43 of the Arctic National Park and Preserve based out of  
44 Fairbanks. Good morning.

45

46 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Good morning.

47

48 MR. PLANK: Good morning. Tom Plank,  
49 Wildlife Biologist, Office of Subsistence Management.

50

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1 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Good morning, OSM.

2

3 MR. UBELAKER: One more. Good morning,  
4 Council. Brian Ubelaker, Wildlife Biologist with OSM.

5

6 MS. HYER: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,  
7 Council members. I'm a Fisheries Biologist with OSM  
8 and I am the biologist that works with the North Slope  
9 RAC.

10

11 UNIDENTIFIED: Could you state your  
12 name?

13

14 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Uh-huh.

15

16 MR. WOODS: (In Inupiat) Raymond Wood,  
17 Northwest RAC. Thank you. (In Inupiat)

18

19 MS. HYER: Good morning again. I don't  
20 have my placard up here. It's Karen Hyer, Fisheries  
21 Biologist, OSM.

22

23 MS. VOORHEES: Good morning. Hannah  
24 Voorhees. I'm the Anthropologist with Office of  
25 Subsistence Management for the North Slope Council.  
26 Thanks.

27

28 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Good morning.

29

30 MS. HONIG: Hi. Leigh Honig, Council  
31 Coordinator. Thank you.

32

33 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you, Lee. I  
34 think we're -- yeah, I think we're good for  
35 introductions.

36

37 Move on to Item 6, review and adopt the  
38 agenda. Any.....

39

40 MR. WILLIAMS: I make a motion.

41

42 REPORTER: Oh, your microphone.

43

44 MR. WILLIAMS: I make a motion.

45

46 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Motion made by  
47 Peter Williams.

48

49 MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair.

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1 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yes.

2

3 MS. CHAPA: I do have some updates on  
4 the agenda.

5

6 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay.

7

8 MS. CHAPA: Okay. I just want to make a  
9 note of Item 10.A.1, deferred Wildlife Proposal WP-24-  
10 29/25. This was the item that was discussed yesterday  
11 in the four-Council meeting, and the Council voted on.  
12 There was one action item from that joint meeting which  
13 was the selection of a Council member to work -- to  
14 form a working group and draft a letter to address the  
15 issue of non-resident hunting of caribou, not resident  
16 hunters.

17

18 And I also wanted to point out Item  
19 12.A, correspondence update. There are no updates for  
20 the North Slope RAC.

21

22 And lastly just a reminder under 12.C  
23 there are some items from the joint Council sessions  
24 which was the review of joint Council draft letters as  
25 discussed in those sessions.

26

27 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So are these  
28 changed already or is that something that we're going  
29 to have to note?

30

31 (No audible answer)

32

33 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So any  
34 questions on the -- the changes to the agenda.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 MS. KIPPI: Mr. Chair. I'd like to  
39 approve the agenda with the changing -- or the add ons.

40

41 MR. WILLIAMS: Second.

42

43 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Seconded by Peter  
44 Williams. Any discussion.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chair. Question.

49

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1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: The questions been  
2 called for. All those that are in favor to review --  
3 or to adopt the agenda say aye.

4  
5                   IN UNISON: Aye.

6  
7                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: No same sign.

8  
9                   (No opposing votes)

10  
11                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none, the  
12 agenda has passed.

13  
14                  Moving on to Item Number 7, election of  
15 officers. So it looks like we're due for electing a  
16 new Chair and Vice Chair or Secretary and announcing  
17 RAC vacancies, accepting applications through March 15.  
18 It looks like they discussed earlier on that. So the  
19 three positions are open, so any recommendations on a  
20 Chair.

21  
22                  MR. WILLIAMS: Chair.

23  
24                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Peter.

25  
26                  MR. WILLIAMS: I do wish to table this  
27 until we get all our members here because the last time  
28 we did that, we had.....

29  
30                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So for the -- for  
31 his recommendation, would you like to have a Chair in  
32 the meantime, or is tabling it okay on your side?

33  
34                  MS. CHAPA: I believe under the charter  
35 you can defer the action to the next meeting. And what  
36 happens is that the current officers retain their seats  
37 until they have your -- until you have your election of  
38 officers. And I'm going to verify real quick.

39  
40                  MR. WILLIAMS: Chair.

41  
42                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.

43  
44                  MR. WILLIAMS: The reason why I said  
45 this because my term is up in three -- in this year, so  
46 I think these people that's got their's extended like  
47 '25 and '26 to '27, anyway I think they should be voted  
48 in, and that's why I want to table this.

49  
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1 Thank you.

2

3 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So if that  
4 is the wish, I guess if everyone's in agreement with  
5 that, then we can table it until the next meeting.

6

7 MS. CHAPA: And Mr. Chair, I believe you  
8 will need a motion.

9

10 MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair, this is Steve.

11

12 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.

13

14 MR. OOMITTUK: Yeah, this is Steve here.  
15 Yeah, you know, I wish I could be there in person, and,  
16 you know, I'm almost ready to retire, but I think that  
17 -- I thank you for chairing the meeting and being  
18 there. And I do wish we could move forward, but we do  
19 need more of our members there.

20

21 Thank you.

22

23 And during the meantime I think we  
24 should appoint you. I know it's just this meeting, but  
25 if there are any other meetings, you Chair the meeting  
26 themselves, then we could reorganize.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Sounds good.  
31 Maybe we'll do them per meeting individual I guess  
32 whoever's attending, but it looks like we're going to  
33 need a motion. Anybody care to make the motion for  
34 Chairing the -- or tabling the election of officers  
35 here.

36

37 MR. OOMITTUK: So move, Mr. Chair.

38

39 MS. KIPPI: Second.

40

41 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Moved by Steve  
42 Oomittuk, seconded by Wanda Kippi from Atqasuk.

43

44 MR. WILLIAMS: Question

45

46 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Question called  
47 for. All those in favor of Chairing [sic] the election  
48 of officers until the next meeting say aye.

49

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1 IN UNISON: Aye.

2

3 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: No same sign.

4

5 (No opposing votes)

6

7 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none, the  
8 motion has passed, election of officers has been tabled  
9 until the next meeting.

10

11 All right. We'll just put it out there  
12 again announcing RAC vacancies, accepting applications  
13 through March 15th. Make sure to let your individuals  
14 in the communities of the North Slope know that there  
15 are vacancies open and we encourage anyone that is  
16 knowledgeable on their communities to apply. That way  
17 we can have a quorum every meeting.

18

19 All right. Item 8, review and approve  
20 previous meeting minutes.

21

22 MR. WILLIAMS: Chair, can I say  
23 something before we move on.

24

25 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yes.

26

27 MR. WILLIAMS: That when I spoke to  
28 (Indiscernible) yesterday, they went to Northwest for a  
29 meeting, that some of them didn't make it from  
30 Anaktuvuk Pass, and, well, when we're at the meeting in  
31 Anaktuvuk we consider -- we asked these young people to  
32 step in because they've got to learn something from  
33 this kind of discussion. So a lot of them went to that  
34 meeting and they learned quite a bit. And what we're  
35 trying to do is try and make a commission, but, you  
36 know, we've got to write a letter to Federal Board.  
37 That's the way it sounded to me and so when I get home  
38 I have to write up a memo or something to see if I  
39 could get Taqulik to put a little input in on it.

40

41 And anyway, what (Indiscernible) said  
42 was a lot of positive seeing how people spoke up for  
43 Anaktuvuk about caribou declining and cut us down to a  
44 limited and it's all written in the paperwork, so I  
45 don't have to discuss this matter because really need  
46 these young people to step up to our plate because  
47 we're not going to be here all the time.

48

49 Thank you very much. Mr. Chair.

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1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you for  
2 that. Any other comments before we move on.

3  
4                   (No comments)

5  
6                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none,  
7 we'll move on to Item 8, review and approve previous  
8 meeting minutes. And where are these?

9  
10                  MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair.

11  
12                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yes.

13  
14                  MS. CHAPA: This is Gisela Chapa again.  
15 You'll find the meeting meetings in the fall -- sorry,  
16 for the fall 2023 meeting on Page 5 of your book.

17  
18                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: I'm looking at the  
19 wrong book. Oh, okay. Yeah.

20  
21                  MR. WILLIAMS: Chair.

22  
23                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Peter.

24  
25                  MR. WILLIAMS: I'd like to make a motion  
26 to accept the minutes of November 1, 2023.

27  
28                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: A motion on the  
29 floor to approve the minutes.

30  
31                  MR. OOMITTUK: Second. This is Steve.

32  
33                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Seconded by Mr.  
34 Oomittuk. Any discussion on it.

35  
36                  (No comments)

37  
38                  MR. OOMITTUK: Question call for.

39  
40                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: The question's  
41 been called for. All those in favor of approving and  
42 adopting the agenda say aye.

43  
44                  IN UNISON: Aye.

45  
46                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Or, sorry, the  
47 previous meeting minutes.

48  
49                  MR. OOMITTUK: The meeting minutes.

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1 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yes.

2

3 IN UNISON: Aye.

4

5 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: No same sign.

6

7 (No opposing votes)

8

9 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. The  
10 motion has passed.

11

12 All right. Moving.....

13

14 MS. WESSELS: Mr. Chair.

15

16 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.

17

18 MS. WESSELS: Sorry. For the record my  
19 name is Katya Wessels, and I'm Council Coordination  
20 Division Supervisor with OSM.

21

22 It came to my attention that your  
23 Council did not vote to elect the officers, that you  
24 had a motion to defer the election of officers. I  
25 would suggest that you hold the election just, you  
26 know, elect a Chair for this meeting, because from a  
27 legal standpoint that's what we need to do. And then  
28 you can hold another election in the fall.

29

30 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So are you  
31 saying that the election was kind of unofficial this  
32 morning so we need to.....

33

34 MS. WESSELS: Well, I heard that you're  
35 just being asked to serve as the Chair but it's not  
36 like you held a vote for you to serve as the Chair. So  
37 if you were nominated to serve as a Chair, did  
38 you.....

39

40 MS. GREDIAGIN: There was no official  
41 vote. No official vote. (Away from microphone)

42

43 (Whispered conversation)

44

45 MS. WESSELS: Yeah. So if you were  
46 going to hold an official vote for that, for you to  
47 serve as the Chair for this meeting, that would be  
48 great.

49

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1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. It looks  
2 like we need a motion on the floor to elect a Chair.

3

4                   MS. WESSELS: It's not really a motion.  
5 It's just that you -- like we hold -- you were  
6 nominated, so.....

7

8                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah.

9

10                   MS. WESSELS: .....You can just do a  
11 vote.

12

13                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Oh, so we just  
14 need to vote. Okay.

15

16                   MS. WESSELS: Yeah.

17

18                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. For  
19 those online I guess we'll open voting session for  
20 nomination of this meeting's Chair.

21

22                   MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair. This is Steve.  
23 I make a motion to nominate Mr. Brower Frantz to Chair  
24 the meeting until the reorganization.....

25

26                   MS. CHAPA: Thank you, Steve.

27

28                   MR. OOMITTUK: .....of the North Slope  
29 Subsistence Advisory Council.

30

31                   MS. CHAPA: Thank you, Steve. And for  
32 the record this is Gisela Chapa. And so I believe at  
33 this moment we just need votes to accept the nomination  
34 for Brower to Chair today's meeting.

35

36                   MR. WILLIAMS: Chair. Like to close the  
37 nomination.

38

39                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So there was a  
40 recommendation -- well, actually it was a motion. Do  
41 we need to rescind the motion?

42

43                   (Whispered conversation)

44

45                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: No? Okay.

46

47                   MS. WESSELS: You don't need to rescind  
48 the motion. The motion was not seconded so it died and  
49 Gisela just will need to ask for votes. She is the one  
50

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1 in a way like running the election.

2

3 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay.

4

5 MS. CHAPA: Okay. So we'll go -- we'll  
6 do a roll call vote. So, Ms. Kippi.

7

8 MS. KIPPI: Yes.

9

10 MS. CHAPA: Mr. Williams.

11

12 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

13

14 MS. CHAPA: Mr. Oomittuk.

15

16 MR. OOMITTUK: Yes.

17

18 MS. CHAPA: Mr. Adams.

19

20 MS. GREDIAGIN: I don't know if he's  
21 muted. (Away from microphone)

22

23 MS. CHAPA: He did inform me he had an  
24 appointment at 8:30 so he may have left. Okay. Okay.  
25 So the motion has passed.

26

27 MS. GREDIAGIN: Mr. Adams -- it's not a  
28 motion. (Away from microphone)

29

30 (Whispered conversation)

31

32 MS. CHAPA: Sorry, I apologize, not a  
33 motion. We have four votes.

34

35 (Whispered conversation)

36

37 MS. CHAPA: Okay. Brower, we need your  
38 vote.

39

40 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yes.

41

42 MS. WESSELS: Sorry for this.

43

44 MS. CHAPA: All right. Thank you,  
45 Brower. I think you are our official Chair for today's  
46 meeting.

47

48 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay.

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1 MS. CHAPA: Thank you.

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MS. CHAPA: Thank you.

ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. So we've reviewed and approved the meeting minutes. Item 9 is reports, Council Member reports. Maybe we'll start with Atqasuk.

MS. KIPPI: Good morning, everybody. This is Wanda Kippi from Atqasuk, North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Member.

Our freeze up was a little different. It felt eery like there was -- can you hear me clearly? Yeah? Okay. Our freeze up was late as usual and I didn't get to go ice fishing like I normally do. Even last year's was a little late. For these past few years it's been a late freeze up and I didn't actually go ice fishing. I went back home middle of October and it's supposed to be frozen already. But after I went home it froze up maybe two, three days later and I didn't even bother to go back to camp because I was so upset. I waited for two weeks to go ice fishing at camp and it never froze thick enough to walk on the ice, so I went home.

But during the hunting season for the caribou, they had to go far. A lot of them went way far to go caribou hunting. There would be females and young around, but they weren't -- I didn't see a lot of them. They were towards Barrow area I think, a lot of them were. I saw some but not -- a lot of calves and females all over around.

And our geese hunting was good.

Our fishing -- fishing started late. People were fishing at -- near our village, about a mile up or down. They were fishing and the creeks were open still on some of the areas near town by the creek.

And I think there was -- it felt very eery at my cabin this year because I didn't see hardly any birds, hardly any foxes. There had to be something out there, some predator, because there was no caribou around. It didn't feel right while I was up there. The two weeks I was up there it felt very eery and too quiet, you know. Not even a bird. I finally saw a raven and a fox within those two weeks only once and I usually see them more. There was ptarmigan, there was

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1 some ptarmigan coming and going, but the rest of the  
2 time I hardly saw them so I'm pretty sure there was a  
3 predator, but I didn't see any with my own eyes, but it  
4 felt like there was something out there.

5

6 There was a polar bear that was caught  
7 within our boundaries of our community on the other  
8 side of the air strip and it was a female. And it was --  
9 it came all the way up from maybe the Barrow area or  
10 Wainwright area somewhere. Probably from the Barrow  
11 area. So we're 70 miles in. That's how many -- that's  
12 one out of how many years a polar bear come up to our  
13 village. And that was put down and shared with the  
14 community.

15

16 And I don't know, I think I'm pretty  
17 much done, Mr. Chair.

18

19 Thank you.

20

21 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you for your  
22 report, Wanda. That's very unusual for polar bears to  
23 be going that far inland, so that was definitely  
24 something to document.

25

26 Let's see. Steve. You have a report  
27 from Point Hope.

28

29 MR. OOMITTUK: So good afternoon. Good  
30 morning. This is Steve Oomittuk from Point Hope, North  
31 Slope Subsistence Advisory Council.

32

33 Yeah, it's been a good year in some  
34 ways. You know, the caribou, we had a late freeze up  
35 as usual, but we celebrated the form of the ice, and  
36 when it's clear, you know, we bring out the whale's  
37 tail and it seems to be getting later and later into  
38 late November. It usually happens in September, late  
39 September, you know. And usually snow falls in --  
40 before -- you know, in September and October. This  
41 year, you know, we had -- it usually -- normally don't  
42 snow once -- it snows on Halloween day and this year it  
43 didn't snow on Halloween, and an abundance of -- you  
44 can tell when it's not stormy and you have a lot of  
45 Halloween trick-or-treaters, you know.

46

47 But, you know, the caribou stuck around  
48 even though the population had dropped down. Usually  
49 the Western Arctic Caribou Herd starts migrating south

50

0017

1 in first part of July it comes through our community,  
2 and that's when we gather the eggs usually in July, the  
3 first of July the bird eggs at Cape Thompson and then  
4 at Cape Lisburne, but this year they were early. They  
5 were getting eggs in middle part of June, you know,  
6 which is probably much earlier.

7

8 You know, we've always lived a cycle of  
9 life where we do -- once you get eggs or what animals  
10 are coming, you know, it's been passed from generation  
11 to generation. We're very fortunate for the abundance  
12 of food that migrates through our area.

13

14 And, you know, the caribou, we had a  
15 lot of hunters, drop off planes, like circling caribous  
16 up north, up towards Kayak on the other side of -- by  
17 Kupuk River along the creek there that goes to the sea  
18 up ridge and further north, but they notice every time  
19 they go up they see planes like they're circling and  
20 trying to reroute the caribou that are supposed to be  
21 migrating south. And that's one of the concerns we  
22 had, that, you know, the old days the elders told us,  
23 you know, you let the first herd of caribou come  
24 through and the rest will, they'll follow. You know,  
25 it seemed like it's been changing. We're very  
26 fortunate.....

27

28 Can you still hear me? I hear  
29 something beeping.

30

31 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah, we can still  
32 hear you, Steve.

33

34 MR. OOMITTUK: Okay. Okay. I wasn't  
35 sure, you know. Okay. But, you know, we're very  
36 concerned on the division of the Western Arctic Caribou  
37 Herd down to about 140,000, you know, especially when  
38 it was at a high of close to 500,000. And, you know,  
39 the Federal Subsistence Board, you know, when it  
40 decreased our numbers of harvesting, and yet they still  
41 will allow out of state hunters and non-residents to  
42 come into our region and hunt for theirs, you know,  
43 and, you know, every year, the Northwest -- the  
44 Northwest Territory, I mean the Western Arctic Caribou  
45 Herd is one of the longest migration routes and a lot  
46 of people depend on that, especially the inland people  
47 that, you know, with their low income and high cost of  
48 living, high cost of transportation, it's a real burden  
49 for them to try to put food on the table when the  
50

0018

1 migration of the Western Arctic caribou herd doesn't  
2 make it through their communities. And you could see  
3 that migration routes are changing. And, yet, we still  
4 have to, you know, even though we're an advisory  
5 council for the North Slope Borough and the Northwest  
6 Arctic Council, you know, we always support each other,  
7 but it seems like we get shut down by the Federal  
8 Subsistence Board when we put in proposals towards  
9 them, and that's not right, you know. I think each  
10 time that, you know, as tribal members, Council  
11 members, you know, we have a government to government  
12 relationship and that's our way of life and it's  
13 changing and, you know, the high cost of living, and  
14 it's something that subsistence has always been around,  
15 and you know, it's trying to get the best of both  
16 worlds, but with the low economy and it's a struggle  
17 for a lot of people. And, you know, if we keep arguing  
18 and arguing about our food source, you know, we've  
19 often been told when we can hunt, where we can hunt,  
20 calmly, we can then, you know -- and whether they are  
21 Federal lands, public lands, Federal lands, and yet,  
22 you know, they still allow all these out of state and  
23 non-resident people in, and that's something -- you  
24 know, that's the communities, you know, within the  
25 region should be a priority. You know, they are going  
26 to deplete our harvest of certain species, yet, you  
27 know, they look at, you know, not allowing non-  
28 residents or out of state hunters to come into our  
29 territory and, you know, hunt for their pleasure. You  
30 know, the majority of the meat, you know, in fact we  
31 use everything on the caribou, you know, I mean. And  
32 yet, you know, you don't see very many people having  
33 any antlers hanging on their walls or anything like  
34 that. So it's something that, you know, as far as the  
35 people of the North and Northwest and, you know, within  
36 Alaska and all over the State have always been there  
37 because of the abundance of food that migrates to the  
38 north, you know, and it's, you know, they fed us, they  
39 clothed us, they sheltered us since time immemorial,  
40 and made us who we are. gave us as our identity as a  
41 people and we see it slowly deteriorating. You know, I  
42 mean it's something that our parents, our grandparents  
43 fought for, you know, when they were trying to stop our  
44 hunting, and the -- and, you know, one of the old  
45 sayings, I can't remember what it was, but  
46 (Indiscernible) but, you know, when he did his speech  
47 and he said, you know, hunger knows no law. You know,  
48 when you're hunger, you know, you catch what's there  
49 and available right then and now. We don't have such  
50

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1 things, you know, the caribou go down and migrate on  
2 certain lands or hungry and when we see them, but, you  
3 know, our younger generation, you know, our elders, you  
4 know, worked very hard to put food on the table and,  
5 you know, the old saying of hunger knows no law when it  
6 started becoming when we were overrun by the State. I  
7 think it's time that we -- you know, we're going to  
8 make our own subsistence ways, you know, because we're  
9 concerned about the animals, too.

10

11 And I wish I was there in person to be  
12 at these workshops and to speak out, too, also, but I  
13 thank you guys. I've been listening and hopefully this  
14 will open a lot of eyes to a lot of the people out  
15 there, especially to the Federal Subsistence Board and  
16 how we get overrun by them in our own region when a  
17 majority of them don't even live within our areas or  
18 see our lifestyles or the hardships that are there,  
19 because subsistence is very vital to our communities.

20

21 Thank you. That's all I had.

22

23 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you, Mr.  
24 Oomittuk. Very knowledgeable of your location there, a  
25 lot of good recommendations and discussions to be had  
26 on these items, so thank you for your report. It's  
27 very good to hear your conversations and enjoy the  
28 discussion.

29

30 MR. OOMITTUK: Thank you. Taikuu.

31

32 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. Next  
33 on the list we have AKP, Peter Williams.

34

35 MR. WILLIAMS: Good morning. Peter  
36 Williams for RAC from Anaktuvuk Pass. We had some  
37 caribous coming in this fall. Everybody got lucky and  
38 these young guns we call them, they've been going out  
39 with the young boys and teaching them, you know, the  
40 ropes, well, my ways, we always leave some gas around  
41 because young kids always want to go out hunting and  
42 they don't have nowhere to turn to. Like I said  
43 before, you know, we've got to teach our young kids how  
44 to step up to the plate, because, you know, we're not  
45 going to be here for them to be of -- surviving them.

46

47 We did pretty good this year on caribou  
48 and those kids were happy. Even at the school they  
49 brought up -- you know, the teacher, you know, about  
50

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1 giving them a couple days off if they want to go  
2 hunting and that sounds pretty good, and that turned  
3 out pretty good. They went out, studied caribou, about  
4 how they migrate and the elders telling them where they  
5 go and they don't always come through Anaktuvuk like  
6 they always used to. Used to be 100 -- 2, 300,000 come  
7 through there about five, six years ago, and now we  
8 just -- we're finally coming back up and lately we've  
9 been hunting at Nuiqsut and we're really happy about  
10 that because, you know, we had no meat source.

11

12 We had plentiful of berries. A lot of  
13 ptarmigans come back and rabbits are popping up again.  
14 I don't know, if that's the eight-year cycle, but  
15 there's a lot but people don't eat rabbits up there, so  
16 there's a lot of rabbits popping around.

17

18 And, waterfowl, a lot of us go up into  
19 the mountains to go hunting but this year they said  
20 that it was kind of -- they showed up much like it used  
21 to.

22

23 And a lot of caribous went toward  
24 Coldfoot, but they stayed around up there on  
25 (Indiscernible) like they can't cross the river, like  
26 Brower said, you know, on the ice, when the ice gets  
27 thin, you know, they don't wander around, they just  
28 stay because, you know, I don't want to step on the  
29 ice, too, because it gets it gets slippery and cracks,  
30 you know. And elders spoke up about those, about how  
31 caribous act, they know about the weather, time of  
32 change of weather, and it's just like they sense it.  
33 Sometimes they go up to the mountains, because, you  
34 know, they got nowhere to go.

35

36 They said there was some Porcupine Herd  
37 coming through but they stop above Venetie below Arctic  
38 Village. We keep contact with them people there about  
39 caribou migration and how they route. And lately they  
40 haven't come through that Dalton Highway side, you  
41 know. I don't know, there's a lot of sportshunters on  
42 the road too so, you know, you got to be aware because--  
43 we keep close touch with Jack Reakoff too so there's  
44 another good reason why -- we depend on caribou to be  
45 survival.

46

47 We're the only people from Anaktuvuk  
48 that speak up for caribou because they're caribou  
49 people, and we're trying to step up to it. The last 20  
50

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1 years we've been trying to step to say to explain to  
2 them that we need some kind of commission or a  
3 committee to run -- but every time I turn around and  
4 ask they say I've got to write a letter. We asked the  
5 village to write a letter, or ask the village to ask a  
6 letter, and does this get back to the table, I don't  
7 know what the Federal Subsistence Board is on, but, you  
8 know, we need to get their attention. I'm glad this  
9 meeting that we're having with the whole Alaska people,  
10 that we stand up and that's the only way we'll get more  
11 power and work together.

12

13 Thank you.

14

15 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you for your  
16 report there, Mr. Williams.

17

18 Do we have anybody else on the line, is  
19 Quincy on?

20

21 MS. GREDIAGIN: I don't think so, but  
22 maybe remind them to press star six. (Away from  
23 microphone)

24

25 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: If not -- okay,  
26 so if you're on the line, any of our other RAC members,  
27 I know Quincy was on earlier. Quincy, if you're on,  
28 press star six for a Council member report.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Well, if he's not  
33 on, I believe that's it for our Council member reports  
34 as far as who's online or here. Well, would mine be  
35 the Chair's -- okay, we'll move on to Chair's report.

36

37 Brower Frantz from Utqiavik, North  
38 Slope Regional Advisory Council. We've had a really  
39 good year in Barrow for caribou. Caribou are walking  
40 through town right now as we speak just occupying the  
41 space. They're in town, around town, walking around on  
42 the ocean ice too. Thousands of them, so we're having  
43 a pretty good caribou year. So they're sticking around  
44 and have been for the last few months at least. So  
45 everybody's getting their fill of caribou, but you can  
46 tell it's kind of few and far between that when they're  
47 around like that, everybody seems to not go crazy on  
48 hunting them. You see a few being taken, but not what  
49 you would think. They're actually -- they look like  
50

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1 they got used to the traffic and they're not running  
2 away so it gives you the sense that everybody's really  
3 respecting the movement, the migration pattern that  
4 they're taking right now and enjoying them while  
5 they're around. So caribou has been good. I didn't  
6 see any real issues with them, sickness-wise. They did  
7 look like a healthy population for what was around.

8

9 Whaling was a really good season this  
10 year. It was a year of very successful hunt for Barrow  
11 area, and they were younger whales which was a good  
12 sign for the reproduction side of it. It was a year of  
13 medium to small size whales and they seemed pretty  
14 healthy. And everybody loves the smaller whales  
15 because they're not so tough. The muktuk is easier for  
16 them to eat, especially for the older folks. The  
17 larger the whale, the tougher, the muktuk is. It gets  
18 really tough to eat. So when they get a year of small  
19 whales like that it really helps the community to have  
20 like a better vibe to it because of the condition of  
21 the muktuk. It's very -- it's like having a buttery --  
22 they call them butterball whales, they're very easy to  
23 eat, lots of oil content and more rich. But they tell  
24 you to eat less of that kind because it's -- the oil  
25 content is pretty rich.

26

27 They had a good walrus season. That's  
28 the first year, I didn't get a walrus in a couple  
29 years, so walrus season was pretty good. So was the  
30 bearded seal season. We didn't seem to have near as  
31 many sick bearded seal as in previous years, so -- at  
32 least none that I noticed so the seal season was good.

33

34 Tons of snow geese for the spring time.  
35 You can tell the higher population has hit and snow  
36 geese are abundant which is -- we used to try to go for  
37 them because they were a little different now they're  
38 all over the place so -- so are the geese. The geese  
39 population seemed good for the white-fronted goose.

40

41 Eiders were plentiful. We didn't see  
42 any issues with any of the migrating eider ducks, any  
43 of their species. Actually there was an increase in  
44 Stellar and spectacled eider sightings around Barrow so  
45 that was a really good sign for the endangered or the --  
46 I'm not sure what the listing is right now on them.  
47 But they were more abundant than in previous years, so  
48 that was a really good sign. And they weren't -- they  
49 were next to the roads and generally they were --

50

0023

1 according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services that  
2 they were having issues during nesting. It didn't seem  
3 to be the case, at least for this year, so it seemed  
4 pretty good on that side, so hopefully we start seeing  
5 more of those species.

6  
7 Shorebirds, we did notice that a lot of  
8 shorebirds have been on the rise. Over the last 10  
9 years or so there has been a lack of the smaller birds  
10 like the red farolops and it wasn't a big deal or  
11 anything. We don't hunt them, but back when I was  
12 younger there was hundreds of thousands of them  
13 flocking around during the falltime, flying around and  
14 over the last 10 years there was barely any which was  
15 kind of an odd thing. We noticed that it wasn't like  
16 that anymore, but over the last year the smaller  
17 shorebirds have made a comeback and it seems like  
18 they're starting to get more abundant like we used to  
19 see when we were small. So that was just something  
20 that I've noticed.

21  
22 Moose has been good. We went way south  
23 and we ended up finding some moose in the willows, so  
24 it seemed like there was a good population at least in  
25 the valley of the willows to where we've been keeping  
26 track of for a while. So there was more moose this  
27 last fall in that area than any other previous year  
28 that we had seen, so it was a good sign for moose at  
29 least in the southern portion of the North Slope.

30  
31 Let's see. I believe that should be  
32 about it for me. We haven't had any issues with fish.  
33 Fish has been good.

34  
35 Yeah, the only other thing I haven't  
36 talked about is maybe squirrels, but we -- that's okay.

37  
38 That's it for my report, so up next on  
39 the agenda we have action items. Anybody want to go  
40 through these action items.

41  
42 MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair. This is Gisela  
43 Chapa. And I just wanted to point out that the first  
44 action item, WP24-28/29 has already been addressed  
45 during the four-Counsel meeting held yesterday morning.  
46 There was only one action item left over from that  
47 meeting which was selecting one RAC member from this  
48 Council to be part of a working group to draft a letter  
49 in regards to the issue of non-resident hunters on  
50

0024

1 caribou.

2

3 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So are we looking  
4 to make that selection now?

5

6 MS. CHAPA: Yeah, if it's the Council's  
7 wish.

8

9 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: What's the wish of  
10 the Council.

11

12 MR. WILLIAMS: Chair.

13

14 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Peter.

15

16 MR. WILLIAMS: Anyway, Peter Williams  
17 for RAC. I would accept Brower Frantz to be our main  
18 person. Thank you.

19

20 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So is this going  
21 to be a vote?

22

23 (No comments)

24

25 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. Maybe  
26 we'll do a roll call for the vote similar to what we  
27 did for -- or is this.....

28

29 MS. CHAPA: No, I think for this motion  
30 you will need a second and then you can vote.

31

32 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So it's a  
33 motion, was that a motion?

34

35 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

36

37 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. Motion was  
38 made to make -- oh, go ahead.

39

40 MS. GREDIAGIN: Sorry, just for -- Lisa  
41 Grediagin for the record. And just for clarification,  
42 you can nominate more than one person. It doesn't have  
43 to be just one. There could be two or more, but just  
44 -- one's fine, but I just wanted to clarify you can  
45 have more than one.

46

47 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay.

48

49 MS. GREDIAGIN: Thanks.

50

0025

1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: I thought it --  
2 oh, I see what you're saying. Any other nominations  
3 for -- well, it was a motion though, so.....  
4

5                   MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair. I think you can  
6 go ahead and vote on that, and if you want to have any  
7 other people to be part of that working group, you can  
8 also do that. Or select an alternate if desired.  
9

10                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So motion  
11 was made to make myself, Brower Frantz, the selected  
12 individual for the working group.  
13

14                  MR. WILLIAMS: Chair.  
15

16                  (Whispered conversation)  
17

18                  REPORTER: Speak into the mic.  
19

20                  MR. WILLIAMS: Chair.  
21

22                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.  
23

24                  MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, I wonder, yeah, we  
25 need an alternate for some time while -- you know, if  
26 something happened to our rep and, you know, we need  
27 someone to represent us. We've been having a problem  
28 with that in the past. Thank you.  
29

30                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So any  
31 recommendations on an alternate.  
32

33                  MS. GREDIAGIN: Yeah, Lisa Grediagin for  
34 the record. And just for the sake of this working  
35 group you can -- it doesn't really need to be an  
36 alternate. You can just have two people and if one  
37 person isn't able to make a meeting, you know, that's  
38 fine sort of thing, but, yeah, it might be easier to  
39 just vote on one.  
40

41                  MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair.  
42

43                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.  
44

45                  MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair. This is Steve  
46 for the record. Is this for the Western Arctic Caribou  
47 Herd or can you.....  
48

49                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yes.  
50

0026

1 MR. OOMITTUK: Okay. Thank you. I'm on  
2 that board. I've been on there for over 25 years, I  
3 think somewhere in that area with the Native Village of  
4 Point Hope. And it would be good to have somebody  
5 also, you know, from the North Slope region in that  
6 area. You know, the Western Arctic Caribou Herd  
7 Working Group spreads all over the State of Alaska.  
8 It's something from the Panhandle to the Aleutian  
9 Islands and the Yup'ik people, it's all Athabascans,  
10 every -- it's quite a few members in this Western  
11 Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group. And it's something  
12 that, you know, even though the migration of the  
13 Western Arctic caribou isn't as far, you know, past  
14 more than Unalakleet, but it's a big -- they have  
15 meetings at least once a year.

16  
17 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.

18  
19 MS. GREDIAGIN: Yeah, Lisa Grediagin for  
20 the record. And just to clarify for you, Steve, this  
21 working group is not the Western Arctic Caribou Herd  
22 Working Group that you're thinking of that, you know,  
23 meets once a year in December. It's -- I don't think  
24 you were listening yesterday during the joint Council  
25 meeting, but.....

26  
27 MR. OOMITTUK: Yeah.

28  
29 MS. GREDIAGIN: .....this is a working  
30 group to write a joint letter on issues dealing with  
31 non-local hunters within the range of the Western  
32 Arctic Herd. So it's primarily to write a joint  
33 letter, again, addressing like transporter.....

34  
35 MR. OOMITTUK: Okay.

36  
37 MS. GREDIAGIN: .....non-local, non-  
38 resident hunting issues and some user conflicts issues.

39  
40 MR. OOMITTUK: All right. Okay. Thank  
41 you for clarifying that. Yeah, I did miss some of the  
42 sessions yesterday.

43  
44 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So there was a  
45 motion on floor for making a selection for me to be on  
46 this working group. Any second.

47  
48 MS. KIPPI: Second the motion. Wanda.

49  
50

0027

1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Seconded by Wanda.  
2 Any quest -- or any discussion in the.....

3  
4                   (No comments)

5  
6                   MR. WILLIAMS: Question.

7  
8                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Question.....

9  
10                  MR. OOMITTUK: Under discussion. Mr.  
11 Chair. I think there was a recommendation to have an  
12 alternate in case the primary couldn't make it that  
13 they have an alternate to be a part of discussion with  
14 this working group.

15  
16                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So is this  
17 where we might be able to select or at least have an  
18 option for alternate? And if that was the case, I  
19 would maybe suggest that Mr. Williams be an alternate  
20 for the group in the event that the -- in the event  
21 that I'm not there.

22  
23                  MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chair. I accept  
24 that. Thank you.

25  
26                  MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair. I just.....

27  
28                  MR. OOMITTUK: So move.

29  
30                  MS. CHAPA: .....wanted to clarify  
31 first. There was a motion by Mr. Williams.....

32  
33                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah.

34  
35                  MS. CHAPA: .....to select to be the  
36 point person for this working group on behalf of this  
37 RAC. You had a second, but you didn't have a vote.

38  
39                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah. Seconded  
40 and under discussion. We just discussed maybe having a  
41 second person. And any other discussion on this  
42 motion.

43  
44                  (No comments)

45  
46                  MR. WILLIAMS: Question.

47  
48                  MR. OOMITTUK: Just -- just.....

49  
50

0028

1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Question's been  
2 called for by Mr. Williams. All those in favor of  
3 making myself, Brower Frantz the selected individual  
4 for the working group say aye.

5  
6                   IN UNISON: Aye.

7  
8                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: No same sign.

9  
10                   (No opposing votes)

11  
12                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: We now have a  
13 selected individual for the working group. So  
14 maybe.....

15  
16                   MS. GREDIAGIN: If you want an  
17 alternate, just do another motion.

18  
19                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah, so if we'd  
20 like to make a motion for an alternate, now is the time  
21 to do it.

22  
23                   MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah.

24  
25                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: We did one for the  
26 selected individual, then we'd under discussion.....

27  
28                   MS. KIPPI: Oh, now we've got to vote  
29 for alternate, do we need to make a motion?

30  
31                   MS. GREDIAGIN: Well, you need to make  
32 a motion.

33  
34                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Need to make a  
35 motion for an alternate.

36  
37                   MS. KIPPI: Are you asking if we need a  
38 motion on that.

39  
40                   MR. WILLIAMS: You can put me down for  
41 an alternate so we need a motion on that.

42  
43                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: We need a motion  
44 to select Mr. Peter Williams -- well, to -- well, we  
45 need a motion to select an alternate.

46  
47                   MR. OOMITTUK: So moved, Mr. Chair. I  
48 make a motion to select Peter Williams as the alternate  
49 in case Mr. Brower cannot make it.

50

0029

1 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: A motion on the  
2 floor to.....

3  
4 MR. OOMITTUK: And I ask for....

5  
6 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Oh, go ahead.  
7 Sorry.

8  
9 MR. OOMITTUK: And I ask for unanimous  
10 consent.

11  
12 MS. GREDIAGIN: A second.

13  
14 MS. KIPPI: Second the motion.

15  
16 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Motion was made by  
17 Steve to select Peter Williams as the alternate to the  
18 working group for the caribou, seconded by Wanda Kippi.  
19 Any discussion on this.

20  
21 (No comments)

22  
23 MR. WILLIAMS: Question.

24  
25 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Question's been  
26 called for. All those in favor of making Peter  
27 Williams the alternate for the caribou working group  
28 say aye.

29  
30 IN UNISON: Aye.

31  
32 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: No same sign.

33  
34 (No opposing votes)

35  
36 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: The motion has  
37 passed. We now have an alternate.

38  
39 So beings that we've already discussed  
40 and gone through WP-24-28/29, are we moving on to the  
41 sheep, so I guess give us some insight on this.

42  
43 MR. UBELAKER: Good morning, Mr. Chair,  
44 Council Members. My name is Brian Ubelaker for the  
45 record, Wildlife Biologist with the Office of  
46 Subsistence Management. I will give you a brief  
47 presentation on Wildlife Proposal WP-24-26 which was  
48 submitted by the Western Interior Alaska Subsistence  
49 Regional Advisory Council. You can find a copy of this  
50

0030

1 analysis starting on Page 89 of your meeting books.

2

3

4 The request of this proposal is to  
5 extend the closure to Dall sheep hunting in Units 24A  
6 and 26B west of the Sagavairktok River for the 2024 to  
7 2026 regulatory cycle. This will be a two-year  
8 continuation of the closure that was initiated with  
9 WSA22-02.

9

10 The Western Arctic Council -- excuse  
11 me, the Western Interior Council -- sir?

12

13 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Which page again?

14

15 MR. UBELAKER: 89 of your meeting books.

16

17 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay.

18

19 MR. UBELAKER: Okay. The Western  
20 Interior Council feels that the sheep population is  
21 still experiencing the hardships that were put into  
22 place in the winter of 2013/2014 which has led to  
23 greatly reduced numbers. There are very few breeding  
24 rams remaining in the population, and they feel that  
25 continuing this closure will contribute to the overall  
26 breeding success of the population that is left, and  
27 the diminished population cannot support any harvest,  
28 period.

29

30 Recent regulatory history. In 2012 the  
31 Board allowed the harvest of half-curl or bigger rams  
32 in Unit 24A. Then in 2014 outside of the Gates of the  
33 Arctic National Park in 24A they changed that harvest  
34 limit from a 7/8th curl to one ram. There was little  
35 expected impact on abundance because the population  
36 appeared stable and the Federal harvest was minimal at  
37 the time.

38

39 Moving into 2015 in adjacent units,  
40 Units 23 and 26A, the Board of Game closed all sheep  
41 hunting because of drastic declines of sheep numbers.  
42 And since then all sheep seasons in Unit 23 have  
43 remained closed under State regulations.

44

45 In 2020 the Board of Game extended the  
46 State season within the Dalton Highway corridor  
47 management area by 15 days. They approved this  
48 extension because low numbers of sheep harvest were  
49 expected and they believed that fewer hunters would  
50

50

0031

1 access this area that late in the season. In  
2 combination with the stable population they felt that  
3 it was a good move.

4  
5 And then most recently in 2022 which  
6 you all just saw two years ago, the Board approved  
7 Special Action Request WSA22-02 which closed all sheep  
8 hunting on all Federal lands to all users for the '22  
9 and '23 cycle -- seasons, excuse me. The Board  
10 considered local residential knowledge in combination  
11 with biological data to come to their conclusion to  
12 close this season.

13  
14 Most recently on the biological side --  
15 well, I'll back up a little. I believe you guys saw  
16 all this data two years ago when this closure was  
17 initiated. Not much has changed, so I'm going to  
18 briefly touch on new updates. If anybody has any  
19 questions at any time or wants me to go into more  
20 detail, please let me know.

21  
22 Fish and Game count, they survey the  
23 1A/1B area, in kind of southern 24A, 25B. In 2021 they  
24 counted 469 total sheep. The last count they had  
25 increased, they counted 598 in 2022. Legal rams that  
26 they counted did, however decrease. 2021 they counted  
27 12. On their last survey they counted 10.

28  
29 In the same survey area, the 1A/1B, BLM  
30 surveys it. They use different methodology, so they  
31 came up with an estimate rather than a minimum count.  
32 In 2021 they counted 298 sheep, and then the recent  
33 count in 2022 went up to 573. Full curl rams also  
34 increased. They counted five -- excuse me, estimated  
35 five in 2021. In 2022 they estimated 10. Then in  
36 their full survey area, which encompasses the 1A/1B  
37 survey area -- this is going to get confusing and I  
38 apologize. If there are any questions, stop me at any  
39 time. Their full survey area which includes the 1A/1B,  
40 but also more of the Dalton Highway corridor area,  
41 their surveys showed in 2015 3,241. Then it decreased  
42 in 2021 to just over 1200 sheep. But then the last  
43 count in 2022 increased to 1,648.

44  
45 Park Service utilizes the same  
46 methodology to come up with an estimate. In their  
47 southeast Gates of the Arctic unit, which is west of  
48 the Dalton Highway corridor in Unit 24A, in 2015 they  
49 counted 2,525 total sheep. Then in 2021 it dropped  
50

0032

1 drastically to 1100 sheep. And then in 2022 continued  
2 to decline to 709 estimated sheep. In the Park Service  
3 Itkillik survey area, which is just north of the  
4 southeast Gates of the Arctic, west of the Dalton  
5 Highway corridor, they counted -- they estimated 504 in  
6 2021 and then which dropped in 2022 to 438 sheep.

7  
8 Trying to boil this down into something  
9 a little more easier to digest, the legal ram numbers,  
10 the BLM full survey area went from 59 in 2015 to 12 in  
11 2021 and then increased last year to 41 legal rams.  
12 Southeast Gates of the Arctic went from 137, dropped to  
13 47 in 2021 and then continued to decline last year to  
14 28 was their estimate.

15  
16 So harvest of sheep in this area, there  
17 are three Federal registration permits that have been  
18 active from 2017 to 2021. All have very low harvest.  
19 Last year there was no reported harvest because the  
20 season was closed. State averages 52 people per year  
21 harvesting about 17 sheep out of 24A. In 26B they  
22 averaged 66 people harvesting 18 sheep. Non-resident  
23 harvest on the State side is believed to average 43  
24 percent of total harvest reported on the State side  
25 from 2002 to 2021. However, resident hunters and  
26 harvest has declined since 2013 while non-resident  
27 numbers have remained constant since the decline.

28  
29 OSM considered one other alternative to  
30 this proposal which would be to close the area to only  
31 non-Federally qualified users under the assumption that  
32 Federal harvesters only take about five percent of the  
33 sheep that are harvested out of the area. Because  
34 harvest pressure is low, their impact on the sheep  
35 population would be negligible. However, this was not  
36 considered further because the sheep population had  
37 declined so drastically and the harvestable sheep  
38 number had declined that any harvest or disturbance to  
39 the sheep may have hampered the recovery.

40  
41 So, if adopted, this would continue  
42 keeping all Federal lands closed to all users for  
43 regulatory years 2024 and 2025. This would give no  
44 opportunity for anybody to harvest sheep in that area  
45 on Federal lands. State regulations would still be in  
46 effect on all State and private lands and people could  
47 harvest sheep there.

48  
49 Substantial conservation concerns  
50

0033

1 threaten the viability of the sheep population along  
2 the Dalton Highway corridor management area. And prior  
3 to the closure harvest rates appeared unsustainable as  
4 legal ram numbers had decreased considerably while  
5 hunter effort and harvest had not. The belief is  
6 extending the closure for an additional two years may  
7 aid in the recovery of sheep by increasing the survival  
8 of the full curl ram population.

9  
10 Therefore it's OSM's preliminary  
11 conclusion to support WP24/26.

12  
13 And hopefully I didn't confuse  
14 everybody with the sea of numbers that I threw out, but  
15 if you have any questions, please let me know.

16  
17 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So in short this  
18 just shuts it down for everybody including the local  
19 communities on the North Slope.

20  
21 MR. UBELAKER: Yes, for two years.

22  
23 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So Anaktuvuk Pass  
24 would not be able to get any sheep.

25  
26 MR. UBELAKER: This does not affect the  
27 Anaktuvuk Pass community harvest. This is outside of  
28 the Gates of the Arctic.

29  
30 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Sorry. Okay.  
31 Kaktovik.

32  
33 MS. CHAPA: (Indiscernible - no  
34 microphone)

35  
36 MR. UBELAKER: Yeah. The map of the  
37 closure area is on Page 93 in your meeting books, and  
38 it shows you all the area that is closed. I'm not  
39 certain on who has C&T.

40  
41 MS. GREDIAGIN: Yeah, but it's so far  
42 away from Kaktovik.

43  
44 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah, I see.

45  
46 (Talking with no microphones on)

47  
48 MR. WILLIAMS: Chair. Chair.

49  
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0034

1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Peter.

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MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah. Last fall when they had a sheep meeting they spoke about Arctic Village and the area, but they brought attention up in Anaktuvuk that they said -- they were talking about the users, but they said they were very limited. So anyway so last fall there's a couple boys got three sheeps so, you know, we're pretty lucky on that, and they were full curl so, you know, they were scared, they thought that the sheep season was closed but I told them that office said it's for the users so we were lucky on that. So I want to thank you for that.

ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So we're acting on this -- okay. So what's the wish of.....

MS. GREDIAGIN: You have to.....

ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Uh?

MS. GREDIAGIN: The back of your card. You don't have those?

MS. CHAPA: Yeah, he does.

MS. GREDIAGIN: Yes.

ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Oh, okay, report on Board consultation. Do we have any tribes or ANCSA corporations that have anything to say about the proposal.

MS. GREDIAGIN: And I'll just note for anyone online that would like to comment, if you're over the phone, please raise your hand by pressing star, five and then you'll need to press star, six to unmute yourself, so as we go through this process, if there's anyone in the public or another agency that wants to comment, please press star, five so we know you would like to comment and then press star, six to unmute yourself.

Thanks.

ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. Once again I need.....

MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair.

0035

1 This is Steve for the record.

2

3

ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Steve.

4

5

6 MR. OOMITTUK: You know, it would be  
7 good to always have, you know, before these proposals  
8 come before the Advisory Council that they do have  
9 public meetings or public comments within the areas,  
10 you know, because we're so widespread as an Advisory  
11 Council and way on the western side over 600 miles  
12 away, you know, and it would be good to hear from the  
13 regions itself on how on they feel about these  
14 proposals, especially from the local people when you're  
15 making decisions and such, have proposals on areas, you  
16 know, especially in that Advisory Council. I mean I  
17 don't feel comfortable without hearing what the  
18 communities -- I see that Anaktuvuk Pass, you know,  
19 it's not only that area but maybe Barter Island and --  
20 but, you know, I hear, you know, that it's difficult  
21 for them to -- you know, we saw sheep two years ago  
22 which a decline -- the sheeps are just coming back, but  
23 without hearing public comments or what's the wish of  
24 these certain communities it's hard to make a decision  
25 on proposals that come forward to us without public  
input or local input on these proposals.

26

27

Thank you.

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ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you for  
that, Mr. Oomittuk. Just I guess some quick insight on  
this. This area is just along the Dalton Highway. It  
looks like it won't affect any of the communities of  
Anaktuvuk Pass or Kaktovik, so this -- it looks like  
it's focused on shutting down the areas just around the  
Dalton Highway Corridor, but.....

MR. OOMITTUK: Oh, okay.

ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So we did have  
some discussion about this in the previous -- last year  
I remember talking to Mr. Reakoff about this and it  
looks like a good idea, but I guess we'll go through  
the card here to make sure everybody weighs in on it  
before we make any recommendations.

MR. OOMITTUK: All right. Yeah, thank  
you for clarifying that. And, you know, that's another  
thing, I don't have the agenda because I've been in the  
hospital so I didn't quite get to see some of these

0036

1 proposals yet, but, you know, in the past we talked  
2 about all these different units and areas and, you  
3 know, to our local people that are doing the -- you  
4 know, that when they have public meetings and they put  
5 these numbers, you know, Unit 23 or A, B or, you know,  
6 26, it would be best that, you know, if you are talking  
7 and having public meetings with people that Department  
8 of Wildlife, the State, that they use names that local  
9 people can understand, you know, especially in the  
10 areas that are going to be affected so we could have a  
11 better understanding exactly where they're closing or  
12 what. When you get numbers it's hard to figure out  
13 where that's at. And I think that the State agencies  
14 have to, you know, when they put out this information  
15 or at a public hearing that they use local names that  
16 hunting lands that local people are used to especially  
17 when they're dealing within the North Slope area, and  
18 that so they're familiar with the area.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you, Steve.  
23 Any other tribes or ANCSA corporations before we move  
24 we move on to agencies.

25

26 (No comments)

27

28 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none,  
29 ADF&G, anybody online for that to comment?

30

31 MR. UBELAKER: ADF&G submitted written  
32 comment. I can give you their position.

33

34 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Sure.

35

36 MR. UBELAKER: They were -- the Alaska  
37 Department of Fish and Game opposes the adoption of  
38 this proposal. There is no reason to reduce Dall sheep  
39 hunting opportunities in this area as it would have no  
40 biological benefit in the sheep population in the  
41 Brooks Range.

42

43 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you.  
44 Federal agencies. Anybody have any comments on the  
45 Federal side.

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Tribal entities.

50

0037

1 (No comments)

2

3 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Additional group  
4 comments. Other Regional Councils.

5

6 MR. UBELAKER: Mr. Chair.

7

8 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.

9

10 MR. UBELAKER: I can read you the  
11 Western Interior recommendation for this.

12

13 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.

14

15 MR. UBELAKER: They support WP24-26.  
16 The Council supports the continuation of the closure  
17 they originally requested. However if the counting of  
18 annuli is removed as a method of determining legality  
19 of harvest, the Council feels this closure would not be  
20 necessary. The closure remains necessary especially  
21 with the lack of caribou returning to this area  
22 further depleting available subsistence opportunities.  
23 Recruitment is low and the Council is still concerned  
24 with the potential of sub-legal take and the  
25 continuation of adverse weather events in the winter  
26 and spring.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Fish and Game  
31 Advisory Committees. Oh, or is that the only other  
32 Regional Council.

33

34 MR. UBELAKER: Yes, that is.

35

36 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. Fish and  
37 Game Advisory Committees.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Subsistence  
42 Resource Commissions.

43

44 MS. OKADA: Marcy Okada, Subsistence  
45 Coordinator for Gates of the Arctic National Park and  
46 Preserve. And the Gates of the Arctic Subsistence  
47 Resource Commission met in November of 2023 in  
48 Fairbanks, and they voted to support this proposal to  
49 allow the declining sheep population to recover.

50

0038

1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you. Any  
2 other Subsistence Resource Commissions.

3  
4                   (No comments)

5  
6                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: No. Summary of  
7 written public comments.

8  
9                   MR. UBELAKER: Mr. Chair. There were no  
10 submitted written public comments.

11  
12                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Any public  
13 testimony.

14  
15                   (No comments)

16  
17                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Regional Council  
18 recommendation. So is this for us?

19  
20                   (No comments)

21  
22                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. So  
23 hearing all of these discussions and comments by the  
24 commissions, committees, councils, agencies, what is  
25 the wish of the North Slope Regional Advisory Council.

26  
27                   MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair. With hearing  
28 all that, and it doesn't really affect any of our  
29 communities and to help the population of sheep come  
30 back up, I make a motion to adopt this proposal.

31  
32                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Motion made to  
33 adopt by Mr. Oomittuk.

34  
35                   MR. WILLIAMS: Second.

36  
37                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Seconded by Peter  
38 Williams. Any discussion on this.

39  
40                   (No comments)

41  
42                   MR. OOMITTUK: Question called for.

43  
44                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Question's been  
45 called for. All those in favor of supporting the  
46 proposal as it's written in front of us say aye.

47  
48                   IN UNISON: Aye.

49  
50

0039

1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Those opposed same  
2 sign.

3  
4                   (No opposing votes)

5  
6                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none, the  
7 motion has passed.

8  
9                   All right. So up next on the agenda we  
10 have review and approve the FY' 2023 annual report.

11  
12                   MS. CHAPA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
13 Gisela Chapa for the record. The explanation of what  
14 your annual reports are about are on Page 127 of your  
15 book and you will find the FY '23 annual report on Page  
16 129.

17  
18                   This Council brought five issues to the  
19 Board and those were increasing incidents with guided  
20 sport hunter for the North Slope region, Cross Island  
21 bowhead whale concerns; aircraft affecting caribou  
22 migration and harvest; sport hunting effects on caribou  
23 migration near Anaktuvuk Pass, and; climate concerns.

24  
25                   And as a reminder, no additional items  
26 can be added to the report. If there are additional  
27 items to add to the report, I can make note of those  
28 and include it for next year's report. And this is an  
29 action item, and Council should finalize the report by  
30 editing drafted language and then vote to submit the  
31 report with those suggested edits if needed. And the  
32 page number is 129.

33  
34                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Any comments or  
35 suggestions from the RAC on the draft. So it looks  
36 like we're reviewing and approving the annual report.

37  
38                   MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair, this is  
39 Oomittuk for the record.

40  
41                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Steve.

42  
43                   MR. OOMITTUK: I know in past that we  
44 talked about increased traffic with the sport hunters  
45 within Unit 23 on Federal lands within the North Slope,  
46 and, you know, dropping off sporthunters right in the  
47 middle of the migration routes when they're coming  
48 south. And it's something that we had concern. Well,  
49 I didn't hear anything about that in that report what's  
50

0040

1 stated and hopefully they can put that in there,  
2 because the people in Unit 23 are very concerned about  
3 the increased traffic especially with guided airport  
4 and coming in our area. I know there's some reports of  
5 violation of some sporthunters and guided services that  
6 were penalized for coming into the areas without  
7 hunting licenses, so I think there was three caught  
8 within the area. There could be more, you know. It's  
9 just a wide unit and it -- so I was concerned about how  
10 they regulate and watch all the non-residents and all  
11 the sport -- all the State's hunters coming into our  
12 regions and what percentage are being caught or, you  
13 know, we had asked how many out-of-state licenses were  
14 given out for each of our regions especially within the  
15 North Slope area and Northwest Arctic Board to see the  
16 number of people coming to our area that are non-  
17 residents or State hunters.

18

19 Thank you.

20

21 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you for your  
22 comments there, Mr. Oomittuk. Bullet points Number 1  
23 and Number 4 of this draft, there are multiple  
24 discussions of guided sporthunters on the North Slope  
25 region, 26A as well as.....

26

27 MR. OOMITTUK: Okay. I.....

28

29 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: .....near  
30 Anaktuvuk Pass so we did make sure have this in there.

31

32 MR. WILLIAMS: Chair.

33

34 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Mr.  
35 Williams.

36

37 MR. WILLIAMS: Peter Williams for  
38 Anaktuvuk RAC. We're been having this little problem  
39 with aircraft coming from Coldfoot, and we brought that  
40 attention up, and they haven't come through Anaktuvuk  
41 Valley for a while. Nobody has come through there.  
42 Now that Wrights Air is involved in this, too, now, and  
43 you see about like I said before, you know, we see all  
44 these antlers at the airport and, you know, this is  
45 kind of -- it breaks our hearts, because, you know, it  
46 ruins our cycle, you know, of hunting with people  
47 coming in and just, you know, moving and -- especially  
48 on sheep seasons, as we see a lot of hikers going  
49 around from Coldfoot to Anaktuvuk. And they ran into a  
50

0041

1 couple people around Finn Creek area, but they said  
2 they were just out hiking. And what they're doing way  
3 up there on the mountain then, you know. That's what  
4 they were asking those couple people, but we're having  
5 much problem with that -- that aircraft.

6  
7 I'm glad that our Advisory Council and  
8 the North Slope Borough stepped up to the plate on this  
9 aircraft problems. The last 20 years we've been  
10 fighting them. We finally got them out of Anaktuvuk by  
11 using a stop over, say, need to leave meat and stuff at  
12 the airport for people in the village, but that meat  
13 sits in plastic bags for three days and it gets kind of  
14 smelly, so they don't use that. So we've got to be  
15 aware about aircrafts coming around. We report it all  
16 every time we see one, so we're aware of that. And I  
17 just want to thank you to the Chair and the Advisory  
18 Council for supporting us.

19  
20 Thank you.

21  
22 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you for your  
23 comments there, Mr. Williams. So it looks like we have  
24 the draft. If you've had enough chance to review, it  
25 looks like we are trying to approve the draft report.

26  
27 MR. WILLIAMS: Do we have to do each  
28 one?

29  
30 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Well, we can do it  
31 as a whole if we need to.

32  
33 MS. KIPPI: Mr. Chair. I motion to  
34 approve this, the North Slope Subsistence Regional  
35 Advisory Council -- or this letter that is in support  
36 of the.....

37  
38 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: FY' 2023 Annual  
39 Report?

40  
41 MS. KIPPI: .....the villages on the  
42 sheet -- yes, that one.

43  
44 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Motion on the  
45 floor to approve the FY' 2023 Annual Report.

46  
47 MR. WILLIAMS: Second.

48  
49 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Seconded by Mr.  
50

0042

1 Williams. Any discussion.

2

3 MS. CHAPA: (Away from microphone)

4

5 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Uh?

6

7 MS. CHAPA: (Away from microphone)

8

9 MS. KIPPI: Was there second?

10

11 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Uh-huh.

12

13 MS. KIPPI: Question.

14

15 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Question's been  
16 called for. All those in favor of approving the FY'  
17 2023 Annual Report say aye.

18

19 IN UNISON: Aye.

20

21 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Those opposed,  
22 same sign.

23

24 (No opposing votes)

25

26 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none, the  
27 annual report draft has been approved.

28

29 MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair.

30

31 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yes.

32

33 MS. CHAPA: Just a quick reminder for  
34 the Council Members that are online to -- they can  
35 unmute themselves using star, six if they want to vote  
36 on this action. We have three votes so far.

37

38 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Mr. Oomittuk, do  
39 you have an aye for an approval if you're still on the  
40 line?

41

42 MS. GREDIAGIN: He's on but he's muted.

43

44 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Star, six. Star,  
45 six to unmute yourself.

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 MS. GREDIAGIN: I think John -- Quincy's

50

0043

1 on as well.

2

3 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Quincy, you're  
4 able to make a vote on the proposal -- or on the annual  
5 report. All right. Steve or Quincy, it looks like  
6 we're going to need a vote on that from either one of  
7 you in order for us to proceed.

8

9 MR. OOMITTUK: So moved. I -- I got cut  
10 off for a few minutes.....

11

12 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay.

13

14 MR. OOMITTUK: .....so I missed some of  
15 it, and I'm back on. Do you need a motion to add what  
16 I commented on the.....

17

18 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: No, no. Thank  
19 you, Steve.

20

21 MR. OOMITTUK: Okay.

22

23 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So we're good.

24

25 MR. OOMITTUK: Yeah, I'm good so.....

26

27 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right.

28

29 MR. OOMITTUK: You needed my vote to  
30 that for.....

31

32 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah, we got it.

33

34 MR. OOMITTUK: Okay.

35

36 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you. Thank  
37 you, Steve.

38

39 MR. OOMITTUK: Okay.

40

41 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: We'll move to the  
42 next agenda item.

43

44 MR. OOMITTUK: Okay. Thank you.

45

46 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Call for Federal  
47 fish and shellfish regulatory proposals. Do we have  
48 anybody up for this.

49

50

0044

1 (Laughter)

2

3 MS. HYER: I'm like what did I do wrong?

4

5 (Laughter)

6

7 UNIDENTIFIED: Lisa, you're next.

8

9 (Laughter)

10

11 MS. HYER: Good morning, Mr. Chairman  
12 and Council Members. Again my name is Karen Hyer, and  
13 I'm a Fisheries Biologist with OSM. And I am here with  
14 Dr. Hannah Voorhees who is the Anthropologist for OSM.  
15 And today we're going to provide you with an update for  
16 the Federal fisheries and shell fish proposals. This  
17 is not an action item. But the material is located on  
18 Page 132 of your books.

19

20 And soon the Federal Subsistence Board  
21 will be accepting proposals to change Federal  
22 regulations for subsistence fish take on Federal public  
23 waters 2025 through 2027. The Board will consider  
24 proposals to change Federal fisheries seasons, harvest  
25 limits, methods and means, and customary and  
26 traditional use determinations.

27

28 Again, the opportunity to submit  
29 proposals is not open yet, but when it does open  
30 individuals will be able to submit proposals. Our  
31 reason for bringing this to you today is if there is a  
32 proposal the Council wants to submit as a unit, you  
33 need to do it today because you're meeting today. And  
34 you can work with your Council Coordinator if there's a  
35 proposal you want to submit, and we'll get it drafted,  
36 and then when the window opens, we'll submit it.

37

38 So that is all I had to present to you.  
39 I just am asking the Council if there's a proposal that  
40 they are interested in submitting to the call when it's  
41 open.

42

43 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you for that  
44 great information. We'll discuss with our folks, maybe  
45 our wildlife biologist in Barrow and -- but I haven't  
46 heard anything as of yet. So nothing big on fish other  
47 than I think fish mold issues in the community of  
48 Nuiqsut, but I don't think we would need to change any  
49 proposals for issues of that nature.

50

0045

1 Thank you.

2

3 MS. HYER: Okay. Would you like me to  
4 move on to the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program  
5 next?

6

7 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yes.

8

9 MS. HYER: Okay. Perfect. So you said  
10 fish mold, so hold that thought.

11

12 So we're developing -- we're going to  
13 start to develop the 2026 Fisheries Resource Monitoring  
14 plan, and I just wanted to remind the Council that the  
15 plan is a group of research projects that OSM funds,  
16 and the projects are to help fisheries managers with  
17 information, so they're to provide information to  
18 fisheries managers.

19

20 The first step in the process is  
21 developing the priority information needs. That's the  
22 list that is investigators that are interested in  
23 submitting proposals for funding will use to guide in  
24 developing the proposals. The Council will develop  
25 this list at their next meeting. But before we  
26 actually develop the list it's helpful to meet together  
27 and to develop a draft list to present to the Council.  
28 So we are asking for volunteers from the Council to  
29 meet with us by telephone this spring and summer to  
30 develop a priority -- a draft priority list and we have  
31 a list from the last meeting that we'll start working  
32 off of.

33

34 But I heard the Council Chairman say  
35 mold, and what you will do is you will bring your  
36 concerns forward and we'll produce a draft list that  
37 will be used to work off of in our next Council  
38 meeting.

39

40 So I need some volunteers. So I don't  
41 have anything else to present. If anybody has any  
42 questions I'm happy to answer them and then I'd like  
43 anybody who's interested in volunteering to help  
44 develop that list to give us their name.

45

46 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So I think  
47 the interested party for the fish mold portion would be  
48 our Council Member Itta from Nuiqsut. I don't want to  
49 force her into this spot, but I believe she might be  
50

0046

1 the best person for that discussion, so we'll pass it  
2 forward to her maybe after the meeting or when she  
3 becomes available.

4

5 MS. HYER: Absolutely. We can reach out  
6 to her and see if she'd be interested. Is there anyone  
7 else that's interested in helping us.

8

9 MS. KIPPI: Is this just information or  
10 action item?

11

12 MS. HYER: No, this is a non-action  
13 item. We're just looking for volunteers.

14

15 MS. GREDIAGIN: Okay. So this is not  
16 like a working group.

17

18 MS. HYER: No, it's just.....

19

20 MR. OOMITTUK: Yeah, this is Steve.....

21

22 MS. HYER: .....a bunch of volunteers.

23

24 MR. OOMITTUK: .....I would -- yeah, I  
25 would volunteer. Mr. Chair.

26

27 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. Steve  
28 is.....

29

30 MR. OOMITTUK: I'm not sure what you're  
31 -- I mean, you know, we notice a lot of studies being  
32 done on the Bering Sea, and Point Hope, but we didn't  
33 know what was going on. I don't know if that's part of  
34 that fishery. They've been doing studies in six -- in  
35 boats that was out there for a few weeks, but we  
36 thought they were just waiting for their group to go up  
37 north, but apparently they were doing some sampling and  
38 seeing what kind of species were out there in July and  
39 August and somewhere in that area. Then we found out  
40 that they were doing a study, but maybe it's something  
41 again that, you know, presenting these kind of things  
42 to the communities where they're doing these studies,  
43 and not keeping us in the dark especially when it deals  
44 with our subsistence and our fishing and our way of  
45 life.

46

47 But thank you.

48

49 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So it looks like

50

0047

1 we've got one volunteer and a possible talk with  
2 Nuiqsut. Okay. Then we'll, I think, maybe continue  
3 this on with some of the other guys that are not online  
4 right now. One of them works with the Wildlife  
5 Department in Barrow so they may be interested in that.  
6 So we'll pass it along.

7

8 MS. HYER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
9 That ends my presentation.

10

11 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you.

12

13 MS. GREDIAGIN: It just looked like  
14 John or somebody -- or someone, oh, yeah, I think  
15 that's John (away from microphone) has his hand up.

16

17 MR. ADAMS: Good morning. Can you guys  
18 hear me?

19

20 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Good morning.  
21 Good morning, Quincy. Can you hear us?

22

23 MS. GREDIAGIN: Oh, he's -- star, six  
24 (away from microphone), there you go.

25

26 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Star, six.

27

28 MS. GREDIAGIN: Yeah, he's -- he's  
29 unmuted now. (Away from microphone)

30

31 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay.

32

33 MR. ADAMS: Yeah, I hit it all right.  
34 Can you guys hear me now?

35

36 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah, we can hear  
37 you now.

38

39 MR. ADAMS: Good morning. Quincy Adams,  
40 North Slope Subsistence RAC. I'm sorry, I called in a  
41 little late. My daughter had an appointment this  
42 morning. I was just catching up on the topic you guys  
43 are on. Fish and shellfish proposals?

44

45 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yes. Yeah,  
46 we.....

47

48 MR. ADAMS: Is there any maps or any  
49 other documents about where these.....

50

0048

1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: No. This one,  
2 they had a discussion of some of the -- sorry, maybe  
3 you can explain to him real quick?

4  
5                   MS. HYER: Mr. Chairman, Council  
6 Members. Yes. So for the regulatory bullet we just  
7 let the RAC know that the call for regulatory proposals  
8 will be coming soon, and we asked the RAC if there was  
9 anything they wanted to submit together as a group.  
10 You can also submit individual proposals when the call  
11 is open.

12  
13                   And then I asked for volunteers to help  
14 establish what priority -- what are the priority  
15 research needs in the Arctic. We are going to be doing  
16 a call for fisheries research and monitoring proposals  
17 next year, and so we want local input as to where we  
18 should direct that call and what data gaps exist. So  
19 if you'd like to volunteer, that would be fabulous.

20  
21                   MR. ADAMS: Okay. Have you had any  
22 meetings or discussions with any of the coastal  
23 villages?

24  
25                   MS. HYER: For what the priority  
26 research should be?

27  
28                   MR. ADAMS: Yes.

29  
30                   MS. HYER: No, we've not had any  
31 discussions yet. We are just asking for volunteers to  
32 help us begin the discussion. We have a draft list  
33 that went forward for the last call and we'll start  
34 there. And for that list we had talked to some of the  
35 coastal villages, but we're interested in any  
36 volunteers that will help us moving forward.

37  
38                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So just to jump in  
39 here. Just was -- I thought it was a good idea to have  
40 -- he's actually the person I was talking about. He  
41 works directly with the Wildlife Department, so he's a  
42 good resource for getting you connected with their  
43 biologist that deals with the fish mold directly from  
44 Nuiqsut, and that would be Todd Sformo.

45  
46                   MR. ADAMS: Todd Sformo.

47  
48                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yep. So he's been  
49 dealing directly with the fish mold and getting the  
50

0049

1 specimens transported back and forth to the lab  
2 facilities. So they would be a great resource. I just  
3 was throwing that out there maybe if he would bite the  
4 hook there, Quincy. Now at least he's.....

5

6 MR. ADAMS: Okay. I can talk with.....

7

8 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah, go ahead.

9

10 MR. ADAMS: I can talk with Todd here  
11 after the meeting and just have him a little study  
12 around the Nuiqsut area for proposals, okay. Fisheries  
13 issues.

14

15 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah, and they  
16 also fly back and forth to Point Hope for their fish  
17 studies every summer as well. So he would be a great  
18 resource. Just throwing that out there.

19

20 Thank you. Thanks, Quincy.

21

22 MR. ADAMS: All right. Yeah.

23

24 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. Now I  
25 think we're done. All right. So develop priority  
26 information needs for FRMP. Oh, that was the same one  
27 that we just got into. Okay.

28

29 Gates. All right. We're on action  
30 Items, E, Gates of the Arctic National Park and  
31 Preserve Subsistence Resource Commission appointment.

32

33 MS. OKADA: Thank you, Mr. Chair,  
34 Council Members. My name is Marcy Okada. I'm the  
35 Subsistence Coordinator for Gates of the Arctic  
36 National Park and Preserve.

37

38 And I'd like to refer you to Page 135  
39 of your meeting book. On Page 135 is a letter from the  
40 Subsistence Resource Commission for Gates of the Arctic  
41 and they are requesting that Esther Hugo is reappointed  
42 by your RAC to the SRC. And a few weeks ago I did  
43 check in with Esther and she would like to continue on  
44 our SRC and she needs to be reappointed by your  
45 Regional Advisory Council.

46

47 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. So it  
48 looks like we may need to act on this. Do you have it  
49 open to Page 135?

50

0050

1 MS. KIPPI: Yes, I do.

2

3 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: What's the wish of  
4 the Council.

5

6 MS. KIPPI: Mr. Chair.

7

8 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Wanda.

9

10 MS. KIPPI: She represents her community  
11 pretty well. I would suggest that we would accept this  
12 letter as their recommendation for Anaktuvuk Pass as  
13 Esther Hugo for SRC.

14

15 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Is that in the  
16 form of a motion there?

17

18 MS. KIPPI: Yes.

19

20 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. Motion  
21 on the.....

22

23 MR. OOMITTUK: Second that.....

24

25 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. Motion  
26 on the floor.

27

28 MR. OOMITTUK: I second that motion.

29

30 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Seconded.

31

32 MR. OOMITTUK: By Steve.

33

34 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: By Steve Oomittuk.  
35 Any discussion on this.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 MR. WILLIAMS: Question.

40

41 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Question's been  
42 called for. All those in favor of reappointing Esther  
43 Hugo to the SRC say aye.

44

45 IN UNISON: Aye.

46

47 MR. WILLIAMS: Chair.

48

49 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: No, same sign.

50

0051

1 (No negative votes)

2

3 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none, that  
4 motion is passed.

5

6 Go ahead.

7

8 MR. WILLIAMS: Does she still have Riley  
9 Sikvayugak as alternate?

10

11 MS. OKADA: To Council Member Earl  
12 Williams. We have two seats on our Subsistence  
13 Resource Commission for Anaktuvuk Pass and Esther Hugo  
14 fills one seat appointed by this Regional Advisory  
15 Council. And Riley Sikvayugak, Jr. fills the other  
16 seat and he's appointed by the Governor of Alaska. So  
17 Riley's not an alternate, he holds a full seat.

18

19 MR. WILLIAMS: Okay. Thank you, ma'am.  
20 Does Esther need an alternate. Chair.

21

22 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: That's not  
23 anything we have on this, but I think that might be a  
24 discussion for the SRC.

25

26 MS. OKADA: Yeah, and we can put that on  
27 our agenda. Our SRC is actually meeting in Anaktuvuk  
28 Pass in April, so we'll be in your community and we can  
29 put that on the agenda for discussion.

30

31 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

32

33 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you. It  
34 looks like you have a newly reappointed, Esther Hugo.

35

36 MS. OKADA: Thank you.

37

38 MR. OOMITTUK: Mr. Chair. This is Steve  
39 for the record.

40

41 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Steve.

42

43 MR. OOMITTUK: Is there any other action  
44 items that you have a quorum, because I'm getting ready  
45 to be discharged.....

46

47 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay.

48

49 MR. OOMITTUK: .....and I might have to

50

0052

1 hang up. But I just want to make sure you have a  
2 quorum if there's any other action items that need to  
3 be.....

4

5 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: We do have action  
6 items, but as long as Quincy's available, we will have  
7 a quorum still.

8

9 MR. OOMITTUK: Okay. All right. And  
10 hopefully I see you guys this afternoon. Thank you.

11

12 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. Thank  
13 you.

14

15 MR. OOMITTUK: Okay. Bye.

16

17 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yep. Take care.

18

19 Quincy, are you still on? I believe I  
20 heard an unmute, but I didn't hear anything else.

21

22 MR. ADAMS: Yeah. Yeah, I'm on.

23

24 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. All right.  
25 We still have a quorum then. We wanted to make sure  
26 before we moved on.

27

28 So future meeting dates.

29

30 MR. ADAMS: Okay.

31

32 MS. CHAPA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And  
33 I'm going to point you to -- sorry. Gisela Chapa for  
34 the record -- point you to Page 182 of your book. And  
35 I just wanted to confirm the fall 2024 meeting date and  
36 location. As of now it's stated to be on August 19th  
37 and August 20th In Utqiavik.

38

39 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: You got that open  
40 in your booklet there, Quincy, Page 182.

41

42 MR. ADAMS: Yes, I'm looking at the  
43 dates right now. That does works for me. I don't have  
44 any attending meetings that are on that day. That's  
45 going to be up here.

46

47 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: How does it work  
48 for you guys there, Peter and Wanda?

49

50

0053

1 MS. KIPPI: It looks good. The date  
2 looks good.

3  
4 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: 19th and 20th in  
5 Barrow. If it's all -- it sounds like it's good to be  
6 accepted. We need it in the form of a motion.

7  
8 MR. WILLIAMS: I so move.

9  
10 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Moved to accept  
11 the meeting dates in August 19 and 20 in Utqiavik of  
12 2024. So Peter made the motion.

13  
14 MS. KIPPI: Second

15  
16 MR. ADAMS: Seconded.

17  
18 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Seconded by  
19 Quincy.

20  
21 MS. KIPPI: Question.

22  
23 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Question's been  
24 called for. All those in favor of going to Utqiavik  
25 August 19 and 20 say aye.

26  
27 IN UNISON: Aye.

28  
29 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Those opposed same  
30 sign.

31  
32 (No opposing votes)

33  
34 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none,  
35 we're going to Barrow August 19 and 20. Motion is  
36 passed.

37  
38 So it looks like.....

39  
40 MR. ADAMS: We can decide -- set up a  
41 meeting place as well given times.

42  
43 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: I think we can let  
44 them do the ground work on that as long as we have the  
45 date.

46  
47 It looks like we have up next select  
48 winter 2025 meeting date and location.

49  
50

0054

1 MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair.

2

3 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.

4

5 MS. CHAPA: Gisela Chapa again. I want  
6 to point you to Page 183 of your books. I wanted to  
7 let you know that the window for the winter 2025  
8 meetings open on February 17th and close on April 4th.  
9 I also want to point out that -- I don't have a print  
10 out of it, but other RACs are meeting and setting their  
11 dates. If you wouldn't mind just grabbing a pen and  
12 blocking these dates, these are the dates that are not  
13 available to us. Okay.

14

15 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chair.

16

17 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Quincy.

18

19 MR. ADAMS: I would recommend, depending  
20 on how many days they're going to need to meet,  
21 February 19, 20, 21. You know March and April, you  
22 know, that's going to be our spring whaling and our  
23 time of preparations and getting ready for kind of our  
24 busy months, March and April. If we can recommend, you  
25 know, February 19, 20, 21 if possible depending on how  
26 many days we meet.

27

28 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. I think she  
29 was going to block out some dates they have that are  
30 not available, so maybe we'll take a look at the  
31 blocked out dates here and then go forward.

32

33 MR. ADAMS: Okay.

34

35 MS. CHAPA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Again  
36 Gisela Chapa for the record. And I wanted to point out  
37 that the week of February 17th, like when the window  
38 opens, is not available because we already have two  
39 other RAC meetings. And that's about it. So I think  
40 the week of February 24th is still open and available.

41

42 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So the whole week,  
43 so 17 through 21 or 16 through 22 is not available?

44

45 MS. CHAPA: Correct.

46

47 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So the week after  
48 that is available. Is that only week that's not  
49 available, okay, so just the top row, 17 through 21,  
50

0055

1 Monday through Friday, is not available. The rest of  
2 it is open. So what do you guys think.

3

4 MS. KIPPI: I suggest to have the  
5 whalers pick the dates to accommodate them.

6

7 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chair.

8

9 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Quincy.

10

11 MR. ADAMS: Quincy Adams for the record.  
12 If we could -- yeah, February 24 would work best.

13

14 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So the week  
15 of.....

16

17 MR. ADAMS: That will be February 24  
18 would work best.

19

20 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Is that in the  
21 form of a motion?

22

23 MR. ADAMS: Yes.

24

25 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right.

26

27 MS. CHAPA: And, Mr. Chair, also a  
28 location.

29

30 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Location. So the  
31 location has not been selected there. Does anyone have  
32 any recommendations on a location for our meeting for  
33 the 2025 Regional Advisory Council meeting? Winter.

34

35 MS. KIPPI: It's usually suggested where  
36 to have our meeting with the public and the guys that  
37 come with our meetings sometimes.

38

39 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So during February  
40 24 through.....

41

42 MS. KIPPI: For our office I mean.

43

44 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Barrow.....

45

46 MS. KIPPI: Yeah.

47

48 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: .....Anchorage.  
49 It's open for suggestions. Atqasuk, I don't know. No.

50

0056

1 What do you guys think? The motion's up to you guys.  
2 So we need location though.

3  
4 MS. HONIG: You can select any  
5 community. We would just have to get approval. So  
6 like you said, you could do Utqiavik or Fairbanks or  
7 Anchorage as well, too, just put that on the table for  
8 you.

9  
10 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Any  
11 recommendation, Quincy.

12  
13 MR. ADAMS: I don't have  
14 recommendations, but we also have to accommodate for  
15 the village representatives as well for this, something  
16 that would be, you know, cost efficient. I don't have  
17 any recommendations right now on the place.

18  
19 MS. KIPPI: I recommend we meet in  
20 Barrow. Utqiavik. Wanda for the record.

21  
22 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Barrow? So  
23 Wanda's recommended Barrow and the dates, Quincy had  
24 recommended -- would somebody like to consolidate those  
25 two and make a motion out of it?

26  
27 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chair.

28  
29 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Quincy.

30  
31 MR. ADAMS: Quincy Adams for the record.  
32 I move to approve for the winter 2025 meeting for  
33 February 24 to 28, 2025, with the meetings to be held  
34 in Barrow.

35  
36 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Motion on the  
37 floor for date and location of 2025, February 24th  
38 through 28th in Barrow.

39  
40 MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair.

41  
42 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.

43  
44 MS. CHAPA: I just wanted to clarify,  
45 the meetings normally just take two days, so if you  
46 want to pick the 24th and the 25th, you don't  
47 necessarily have to go all the way -- it's not a week-  
48 long meeting.

49  
50

0057

1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So, Quincy,  
2 would you like to adjust those to 24/25 for the motion?

3  
4                   MR. ADAMS: Yeah. Yes.

5  
6                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So 2025  
7 winter meeting February 24 through 25, motion on the  
8 floor.

9  
10                  MS. KIPPI: Second.

11  
12                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Seconded by Wanda  
13 Kippi.

14  
15                  MR. WILLIAMS: Question.

16  
17                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Question's been  
18 called for. All those in favor of a winter 2025  
19 Regional Advisory Council meeting February 24/25 in  
20 Barrow say aye.

21  
22                  IN UNISON: Aye

23  
24                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Those opposed same  
25 sign.

26  
27                  (No opposing votes)

28  
29                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none,  
30 motion has passed for the winter 2025 meeting.

31  
32                  So up next we have the same thing,  
33 select fall 2025 date and location.

34  
35                  MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair. Gisela Chapa.

36  
37                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.

38  
39                  MS. CHAPA: And again I want to point  
40 you out to Page 184. I wanted to communicate the  
41 window opens September 15th and closes October 31st.

42  
43                  ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: And just before we  
44 get started on, is there any dates that are not  
45 available for this month?

46  
47                  MS. CHAPA: Yes. The week of October  
48 6th is not available, and the week of October 27th.

49  
50

0058

1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: And those are the  
2 only two weeks? The whole weeks are blocked out?

3  
4                   MS. CHAPA: Correct.

5  
6                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So Page  
7 184, any suggestions for a date? I guess maybe I'll  
8 start with one. I think September 16 through 19 is a  
9 good time for -- the in between time between fall hunt  
10 and whaling. It's right during freeze up time, so, you  
11 know, that's a good opportunity for me to be away is  
12 right in that in between time. But recommendations are  
13 open for suggestion.

14  
15                   MS. KIPPI: I'll go with our Chair,  
16 September 16th through 17th if there's anybody that  
17 wants to add or change it.

18  
19                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Location?

20  
21                   MS. KIPPI: Yeah, what you.....

22  
23                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Anchorage,  
24 Fairbanks, Barrow.

25  
26                   MS. KIPPI: Anybody have suggestions on  
27 where we should have the meeting? I chose the other  
28 one.

29  
30                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So we chose -- we  
31 got Barrow for the next two meetings. Any other  
32 suggestion for a location for the fall meeting of 2025.

33  
34                   MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chair.

35  
36                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.

37  
38                   MR. ADAMS: Quincy Adams for the record.  
39 In the fall time is usually our prime time for caribou  
40 hunting and again preparation for fall time hunting.  
41 That date would be just right. You said September 16  
42 and 17?

43  
44                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yes.

45  
46                   MR. ADAMS: You know, if we can have  
47 them also -- we can have those also in Barrow, you  
48 know. I think that way people won't have to travel and  
49 missed out on their fall time hunt as, too, because I  
50

0059

1 know Atqasuk and Anaktuvuk Pass, and pretty much the  
2 whole North Slope is going to be trying to catch the  
3 fall time caribou because that's the best time to get  
4 them when they're fat -- at their fattest and, you  
5 know, if we can have it close to home, you know, to  
6 where we don't have to go to Anchorage or Fairbanks,  
7 you know, is highly recommended.

8

9 MR. WILLIAMS: Chair.

10

11 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.

12

13 MR. WILLIAMS: I have no objection.

14

15 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. So it  
16 looks like we have a consensus on both the date and  
17 location. Any motion.

18

19 MR. WILLIAMS: I make a motion.

20

21 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Is that to make  
22 the date September 16 and 17 in Barrow?

23

24 MR. WILLIAMS: I make a motion to make a  
25 date of September 16 and 17 in Barrow.

26

27 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Motion on the  
28 floor, Peter Williams.

29

30 MS. KIPPI: Second the motion.

31

32 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Seconded by Wanda.

33 Any discussion.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 MR. ADAMS: Question.

38

39 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Question's called  
40 for by Quincy Adams. So all those in favor of  
41 September 16 and September 17, fall 2025, in Barrow,  
42 Regional Advisory Council meeting say aye.

43

44 IN UNISON: Aye.

45

46 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Those opposed same  
47 sign.

48

49 (No opposing votes)

50

0060

1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none, the  
2 motion passed. So it looks like we are through with  
3 the future meeting dates. We can move on Item 11,  
4 public and tribal comments and non-agenda items. Are  
5 there any non-agenda items or public and tribal  
6 comments. Well, should we open to the public now, is  
7 that all right, so if there's anybody online or in  
8 person now is the time for public comment. Anybody  
9 here for public comments.

10

11                   (No comments)

12

13                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Last call for  
14 online or in person public comments.

15

16                   (No comments)

17

18                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none, we  
19 will close public comments. Tribal comments. Any  
20 agencies around or tribal online.

21

22                   (No comments)

23

24                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: If we do have  
25 anybody here, tribal, star, six to unmute.

26

27                   (No comments)

28

29                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none, and  
30 we don't have any non-agenda items, we'll move to other  
31 business. Do we have any other business? We do.  
32 Council correspondence update.

33

34                   MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair. We have no  
35 updates.

36

37                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: No updates for A.  
38 We'll move on to B, 2024 charter change review.

39

40                   MS. CHAPA: For the record -- sorry, Mr.  
41 Chair. For the record my name is Gisela Chapa. Your  
42 Council's 2023 charter can be found on Page 186 of your  
43 book. I will point out there was a minor error in that  
44 charter, so you will have a manilla envelope with an  
45 updated copy of your charter. And the error in the  
46 book stated that our Council had 13 seats instead of  
47 10, so if you go to the manilla envelope, you will find  
48 this document. And I'll have a brief script to read  
49 for you regarding your charter.

50

0061

1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay, go ahead.

2

3                   MS. CHAPA: Okay. All 10 Subsistence  
4 Regional Advisory Councils were chartered under the  
5 Federal Advisory Committee Act. Under the Act each  
6 Council charter needs to be renewed every two years.  
7 So approximately a year before it is renewed, each  
8 Council can have a discussion to see if there's  
9 anything you want to change.

10

11                   Your Council, as well as other  
12 Councils, reviewed the charter last year. Your  
13 Council's proposed the following modification, and I  
14 believe your charter reads now the Council is composed  
15 of 10 representative members and one non-voting young  
16 leader member.

17

18                   And I can go ahead and read the rest of  
19 the charter if desired.

20

21                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. Was that  
22 just in the approval of the -- was it the addition of  
23 the young leader and the rest is the same as it was?

24

25                   MS. CHAPA: Yeah.

26

27                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. Go ahead.

28

29                   MS. CHAPA: Okay. I'll go ahead and  
30 read it. So the Federal Subsistence Board reviewed the  
31 Council's request for charter changes during its August  
32 2023 work session and recommended to add all Council  
33 charters language on a designation of one non-voting  
34 young leader seat. The Secretaries of the Interior and  
35 Agriculture approved the Board's recommendation and  
36 modified the language in the first paragraph of the  
37 Section 12, membership and designation to the following  
38 as I'd already stated.

39

40                   The Council is composed of 10  
41 representative members and one non-voting young leader  
42 member. All representative members must be residents  
43 of the region represented by the Council and must be  
44 knowledgeable and experienced in matters relating to  
45 subsistence uses of fish and wildlife. In addition to  
46 being a resident of the region represented by the  
47 Council, the one non-voting young leader member must be  
48 between the age of 18 and 25 and must participate in  
49 subsistence activities, be otherwise knowledgeable in  
50

0062

1 matters related to subsistence uses of fish and  
2 wildlife or be engaged in a resource management related  
3 field of study.

4

5 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you. And  
6 this is up for approval?

7

8 MS. CHAPA: No, Mr. Chair. This is just  
9 an update.

10

11 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. Just an  
12 update and that's the update?

13

14 MS. CHAPA: Correct.

15

16 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. Any  
17 questions or comments on the change.

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none,  
22 thank you for the update. Follow up on Joint Council  
23 action items, if any.

24

25 MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair. So there were  
26 some follow-up actions from the previous joint Council  
27 sessions, and I can provide a brief overview of what  
28 those are. I believe all Councils reviewed a letter to  
29 address bycatch, and if desired by the Council you can  
30 move to approve that language and have the NSRAC to be  
31 added onto that joint Council letter.

32

33 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So maybe  
34 for Quincy -- well, Quincy, are you aware of the letter  
35 that we are assisting with for the guys?

36

37 MR. ADAMS: Yeah, I already know about  
38 this meeting. I know this is the change that the  
39 representatives from 13 to 10 so that was the part  
40 right there I saw, but, yeah, I was copied along on the  
41 letter.

42

43 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: And that was the  
44 one about the fisheries.

44

45 MR. ADAMS: Yes.

46

47 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: That's the one  
48 we're talked about, right?

49

50

0063

1 (No comments)

2

3

4 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So what  
5 they're asking is we can make a motion to approve the  
6 language in it if we want to be added as kind of like  
7 our Advisory Council signs off on the language and is a  
8 part of it if we want to be. But if we wanted to do  
9 that -- if we wanted to back them up, we would have to  
10 make it in the form of a motion so that we can be on  
11 it. Is that -- I mean, I guess maybe we'll check with  
12 the rest of the Council to see their thoughts on it  
13 before we move or not. So what do you think, is this  
14 something we want to have our names attached to.....

14

15 MR. ADAMS: Yes.

16

17 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: .....and assist  
18 in getting them their fish back?

19

20 MR. WILLIAMS: Chair. Chair.

21

22 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chair.

23

24 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Quincy.

25

26 MR. ADAMS: I think it would be --  
27 Quincy Adams for the record, North Slope Subsistence  
28 RAC. My feeling would be it would be wise to have  
29 everybody at the table before we make a recommendation  
30 like this. That way everybody can be in consensus, on  
31 the same page.

32

33 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Leigh.

34

35 MS. HONIG: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Leigh  
36 Honig for the record. So at this time there was a  
37 draft letter that was passed around during the joint  
38 Council meeting, and so that is just a draft. So at  
39 this meeting, like you said, you can sign on to agree  
40 to that. There will be a chance to review this letter  
41 again. An option might be for the Council, you know,  
42 the Chair could review that letter and if they feel  
43 appropriate give the okay or elect maybe a volunteer to  
44 review that letter.

45

46 So our thought was that during the  
47 joint Council meeting -- I know there wasn't enough  
48 time, but hopefully everybody was able to express the  
49 vast majority of their opinions and then we would draft  
50

0064

1 this letter up and send it to all the Councils to  
2 review one last time.

3

4 MS. CHAPA: And, Mr. Chair, if I may, I  
5 just resent the letter that was reviewed to Mr. Adams  
6 by email so we can make sure to re-read it.

7

8 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. The other  
9 question is we're so far away from this and it  
10 virtually has no impact on we do, but, you know, it's  
11 just a matter of maybe getting numbers of Advisory  
12 Councils on their letter. So that's -- normally if  
13 things came up for proposals or things like that, it  
14 would be that we would either opt out to take no action  
15 on stuff like that, but this is, you know, being in the  
16 form of a letter is a little different. Or we would  
17 forward -- like we would just go along with what that  
18 region is going to do. So if that's what they're going  
19 to do, I guess it would make sense just to put our name  
20 down and say we agree with what they want to do,  
21 because basically it would have no impact on our region  
22 unless it wassomething negatively impacting all of us --  
23 by putting our name on that.

24

25 But I guess maybe, Quincy, take a look  
26 at that and let me know what you think. And also what  
27 you guys think.

28

29 MS. KIPPI: I feel the same way.

30

31 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: What?

32

33 MS. KIPPI: What you just mentioned.

34

35 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah.

36

37 MR. WILLIAMS: Chair.

38

39 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.

40

41 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, you know, the way  
42 it sound and all, us Natives got to support one another  
43 and, you know, be positive on one another, so, you  
44 know, I go with what Quincy said. Thank you.

45

46 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Am I able to get  
47 -- or take a look at what the new letter is?

48

49 MS. CHAPA: I know that there were some

50

0065

1 changes during the joint session, I don't have an  
2 updated letter. I just have the letter that was put on  
3 the screen and I can show it to you on my computer.

4

5 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: But you were  
6 saying it's going to be changed again or given another  
7 chance for review?

8

9 MS. HONIG: Mr. Chair. Leigh Honig for  
10 the record. So we will incorporate all of the  
11 Councils. So this is going before all of the Councils  
12 again today and yesterday, and if they wanted to add  
13 anything or anything of that sort, we would take it all  
14 together and then there will be a chance for the Chair  
15 or if you wanted to nominate somebody else to review  
16 that.

17

18 We may be able to as well, since the  
19 intent was put on the record, we may be able to do  
20 somewhat of a teleconference as well to review this  
21 letter one more time as a group.

22

23 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: But we're looking  
24 for action on this today?

25

26 MS. HONIG: Yes. Yes. So if you don't  
27 want to take action on this today, the other option is  
28 that you, you know, could vote not to put your name on  
29 the letter and then you could also, you know, take this  
30 up at your fall meeting if you wanted to and send  
31 something on behalf of yourself.

32

33 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. This isn't  
34 something that's really time restrictive, or is it in  
35 their best interest to get something?

36

37 MS. HONIG: If you want, if all the  
38 Councils want to sign onto it, that has to be done at  
39 this meeting. However, if you don't want to sign on to  
40 it, you could -- we could draft something up and then  
41 have it before you at the fall meeting if you wanted to  
42 do something as an individual Council.

43

44 MS. HOWARD: Mr. Chair.

45

46 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.

47

48 MS. HOWARD: Mr. Chair. Amy Howard,  
49 Assistant Regional Director for OSM. I just wanted to

50

0066

1 let you know that a recommendation would be to maybe  
2 take a brief recess to review the letter and then come  
3 back together and have a discussion and vote on it  
4 then. And as Leigh stated, to sign on for it to be all  
5 10 Councils, the hope is that that decision would be  
6 made at this meeting. And so that's where there is a  
7 bit of a timeframe on it. But giving you all a chance  
8 to review for 15 minutes. Also to take a break.

9

10 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah.

11

12 MS. HOWARD: Because you definitely have  
13 been working through this agenda. It might be a good  
14 idea and I just thought I'd offer that recommendation.

15

16 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. Anyone up  
17 for a 15-minute break for a review?

18

19 MS. KIPPI: I so move for a break.

20

21 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right.

22 Motion.....

23

24 MR. WILLIAMS: Second.

25

26 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: .....on the floor  
27 for a break. Seconded. Any discussion.

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Question.

32

33 MS. KIPPI: We need more tea.

34

35 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: You have the power.

36

37 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. Well,  
38 we'll take 15-minute break.

39

40 (Off record)

41

42 (On record)

43

44 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Quincy.

45

46 MR. ADAMS: Hey, Brower, I will have to  
47 hang up real quick. I've got to try and get some  
48 paperwork started for Point Hope, so right after I'm  
49 done I will call back in.

50

0067

1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hey, can we have  
2 you for two seconds, because I think this is the last  
3 action item.

4  
5                   MR. ADAMS: Okay. Yeah, I'll wait.

6  
7                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So it sounds like  
8 they're going to have like a draft and resend it to us  
9 later, but initially my thought process is that we  
10 would like to try and support the bycatch letter for  
11 the guys to try to get their subsistence fish back.  
12 It's just the language that they were working on  
13 through like the International Trawling and some  
14 additional language from the other day that they had to  
15 add and change.

16  
17                   But the over-all sense for me, I  
18 personally wouldn't have an issue going forth with  
19 approving our name being on that letter. That's really  
20 I think what we're going for here is just having all  
21 joint 10 of the RACS have their signature on that in  
22 order for them to make it more effective to submit.  
23 That, I think, is their intent and I don't have an  
24 issue with it if you guys don't.

25  
26                   MR. ADAMS: Yeah, I don't have no  
27 issues. I don't have no problems with that.

28  
29                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So in the form of  
30 a motion we would need -- how would we word this for  
31 like a motion to have the North Slope Regional Advisory  
32 Council's name on the -- so what's the name of the  
33 letter.....

34  
35                   MS. GREDIAGIN: Joint bycatch letter  
36 (away from microphone)

37  
38                   MS. WESSELS: Joint bycatch letter.....

39  
40                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Joint bycatch  
41 letter, so we would be in approval of that. We need  
42 that in the form of a motion.

43  
44                   MR. ADAMS: Okay. To support it?

45  
46                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yep.

47  
48                   MR. ADAMS: Okay, yeah, that'll work.

49  
50

0068

1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Anybody want to  
2 move?

3  
4                   MR. WILLIAMS: I'll move.

5  
6                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So we've got a  
7 motion on the floor to approve the North Slope Regional  
8 Advisory Council's name added to the bycatch letter.  
9 So motion to support that is on the floor.

10  
11                   MS. KIPPI: Second.

12  
13                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Seconded by Wanda  
14 Kippi. Any discussion.

15  
16                   (No comments)

17  
18                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: I've got a couple  
19 things that -- so under discussion, the reasoning  
20 behind the North Slope Regional Advisory Council to  
21 support this is to generally try and get their region's  
22 salmon back into the rivers so that they may start  
23 taking salmon eventually again, to get the numbers and  
24 population right so that they can effectively start  
25 feeding the communities again. So if I'm not mistaken,  
26 that was the intent of this letter. So in support of  
27 that, that's why we are trying to endorse this as one  
28 of the 10 Regional Advisory Councils. That's it for my  
29 discussion though.

30  
31                   Any question.

32  
33                   MR. WILLIAMS: Question.

34  
35                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: The question has  
36 been called. All those in favor of supporting the  
37 North Slope Regional Advisory Council's endorsement on  
38 the bycatch letter, all in favor say aye.

39  
40                   IN UNISON: Aye.

41  
42                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Those opposed same  
43 sign.

44  
45                   (No opposing votes)

46  
47                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none, the  
48 motion has passed to endorse North Slope Regional  
49 Advisory Council's name on the bycatch letter.  
50

0069

1 MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair.

2

3 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yes.

4

5 MS. CHAPA: There's two additional joint  
6 -- well, three additional joint letters that I can  
7 quickly go over while Mr. Adams is on the line. And  
8 I'll try to be as brief as possible to see if the  
9 Council wants to take action on those.

10

11 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So those  
12 are actionable?

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. Quincy,  
17 you got a couple minutes?

18

19 MR. ADAMS: Yes, I do.

20

21 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. Go ahead.

22

23 MS. CHAPA: Thank you, Quincy, and thank  
24 you, Mr. Chair. So the other letters that were  
25 discussed during the joint Council meeting was, 1, a  
26 joint Council letter to address Council compensation or  
27 honoraria while acting in an official capacity. And  
28 you do have a draft version in you packet, in that  
29 manilla envelope. And, Mr. Adams, I did email that to  
30 you. So if the Council so chooses, you can do the same  
31 as the previous letter, add the North Slope to this  
32 letter. And I will also go over the other two while  
33 you're reviewing if it's okay.

34

35 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay, go ahead.

36

37 MS. CHAPA: And the other letter was,  
38 again, a joint Council letter to Board and I also  
39 believe to the Secretaries to address any type of  
40 correspondence delays or getting responses from the  
41 Board. And you also have a draft version of it on Page  
42 2.

43

44 And, Mr. Adams, I did email you that as  
45 well.

46

47 MR. ADAMS: Yes, I have received it.

48

49 MS. CHAPA: And lastly there was the

50

0070

1 discussion of sending a joint Council letter to address  
2 caribou issues. It wasn't drafted as an actual letter,  
3 it was a lot of bullet points that were discussed as a  
4 joint Council, and again if the North Slope RAC so  
5 chooses, you can also take action on that.

6  
7 MS. KIPPI: Which one are you talking  
8 about?

9  
10 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: These ones that  
11 were in the Manilla.

12  
13 MS. KIPPI: The second page?

14  
15 MS. CHAPA: For record, Gisela Chapa.  
16 Ms. Kippi, I went over all of them. You only have two  
17 of them in front of you. You have the.....

18  
19 MS. KIPPI: And that's on the second  
20 page?

21  
22 MS. CHAPA: Give me a second. Let me  
23 see what you've got.

24  
25 MS. KIPPI: Thank you. I now have it.

26  
27 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So there are  
28 multiple letters and all you're asking for is for us to  
29 endorse them, is that what I'm getting?

30  
31 MS. CHAPA: It is the choice of the  
32 Council what to do with those, similar to the bycatch  
33 letter.

34  
35 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: And these ones are  
36 just compensation for the meetings on one of them.

37  
38 MS. CHAPA: Yeah. Mr. Chair. So the  
39 first one was for RAC Council members to send a  
40 request, I guess, to be compensated while in official  
41 capacity.

42  
43 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So are we looking  
44 to do these piecemeal, one at a time?

45  
46 (No comments)

47  
48 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. Okay.  
49 Which one would you like to start with? Oh, we'll  
50

0071

1 start with the joint Subsistence Regional Advisory  
2 Council, so it looks like the RAC -- let's see--  
3 Secretary of the Interior, a request from the Councils  
4 for fair Council Member compensation. What is the wish  
5 of the committee to this joint Subsistence Regional  
6 Advisory Council letter, would we like to support it?

7

8 MR. WILLIAMS: Chair.

9

10 MR. ADAMS: Move to support.

11

12 MR. WILLIAMS: I will support that, too.

13 Thank you.

14

15 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Quincy had made a  
16 motion to support.

17

18 MS. KIPPI: Second the motion.

19

20 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Seconded by Wanda  
21 Kippi. Any discussion on this.

22

23 (No comments)

24

25 MR. WILLIAMS: Question.

26

27 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: The question's  
28 been called for by Mr. Williams. All those in favor of  
29 supporting the joint Subsistence Regional Advisory  
30 Councils letter say aye.

31

32 IN UNISON: Aye.

33

34 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Those opposed same  
35 sign.

36

37 (No opposing votes)

38

39 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: The motion has  
40 passed. Then the second one that we have is the Federal  
41 Subsistence Board.....

42

43 MS. CHAPA: This one.

44

45 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Oh -- so I guess  
46 on this one if you want to give a little detail again  
47 before we make a motion, for the Federal Subsistence  
48 Board.

49

50

0072

1 MS. CHAPA: Gisela Chapa for the record.  
2 And I believe this draft is to address any sort of  
3 issues with not getting a response on letters that are  
4 sent forward to the Board, so that those issues can be  
5 addressed and try to respond in a timely manner.

6  
7 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So it says the  
8 Councils request the Board develop a more timely  
9 process in response to Council correspondence and  
10 coordinate with the Secretaries to implement procedures  
11 for their replies to the Councils. This sounds like  
12 something we would like to support. Any motion.

13  
14 MS. KIPPI: Mr. Chair.

15  
16 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yes.

17  
18 MS. KIPPI: I so move to support.

19  
20 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. Wanda Kippi  
21 has a motion on the floor to support the Federal  
22 Subsistence Board letter in regards to correspondence  
23 and timely on replies from the Council.

24  
25 MR. WILLIAMS: Second.

26  
27 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Seconded by Peter  
28 Williams. Any discussion.

29  
30 (No comments)

31  
32 MS. KIPPI: Question.

33  
34 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Question's been  
35 called for. All those in favor of approving the  
36 Federal Subsistence Board letter for correspondence and  
37 timeliness on the replies say aye.

38  
39 IN UNISON: Aye.

40  
41 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Those opposed same  
42 sign.

43  
44 (No opposing votes)

45  
46 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none, this  
47 motion for the letter has passed. Which one is next,  
48 this one that.....

49  
50

0073

1 MS. CHAPA: Yeah. Mr. Chair. I don't  
2 have a printout of that, but that was the bullet list  
3 that was reviewed in a session I believe it was yes --  
4 no, on Wednesday. Yes, on Wednesday. And it was to  
5 address caribou issues. If you recall, we went through  
6 the lines one by one. And, Mr. Adams, I will send you  
7 a copy in a little bit.

8  
9 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: All right. So  
10 this was the all Council meeting joint Council letter  
11 on caribou 2024, so what is the -- what are they  
12 looking -- I mean, what is the -- is this to get  
13 somebody to -- well, we already selected I believe an  
14 individual for that, right? So that's a separate.....

15  
16 MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair. I believe that's  
17 a separate issue from this letter.

18  
19 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So this  
20 one, are we looking to just support this as -- what it  
21 is, because it's kind of an incomplete draft without  
22 the letter. So I guess I might be looking for a  
23 suggestion on what to do next with this.

24  
25 MS. HONIG: Mr. Chair. Leigh Honig for  
26 the record. So, yes, this is a time for you to review  
27 that letter. If you want to add anything to it or  
28 subtract anything, you can at this time. Once, again,  
29 if it doesn't fit your region you can elect not to add  
30 your name to this joint letter that's to address the  
31 caribou issues statewide. You could, you know, take it  
32 up at your fall meeting as an individual RAC, a letter,  
33 of your own that you would like to write.

34  
35 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay, so I  
36 remember what we were doing now. So they looking to  
37 add or subtract language the other day and we did to a  
38 certain extent and came to a stop for another meeting  
39 which was -- it changed the agenda around that day.  
40 But -- so we're either going to approve this today or  
41 elect to create our own letter, but this is just a  
42 letter to the Secretary, right, or is this a letter --  
43 who is this being addressed to now?

44  
45 MS. HONIG: So that was -- through the  
46 Chair, this is Leigh. That was a discussion at the  
47 joint Council meeting of who this wanted to go to. So  
48 there was some discussion amongst all of the Councils  
49 where it was the Secretaries, the Board, I believe I  
50

0074

1 heard that there was Congressional delegation. So you  
2 could also at this time, you know, direct where you  
3 would like that letter to go to. Thank you.

4

5 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So based on  
6 the body of this content, in general it looks like it  
7 would be positive for us unless we wanted to create our  
8 own and go that route at a later time. So we're either  
9 looking to approve this today or create our own at the  
10 next meeting maybe. What's the wish of the Council.

11

12 MR. WILLIAMS: Chair.

13

14 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead, Peter.

15

16 MR. WILLIAMS: Can we just have this  
17 with our fall meeting?

18

19 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So is that to  
20 table it to the fall meeting or is that.....

21

22 MR. WILLIAMS: To the fall meeting.

23

24 MS. HONIG: Through the Chair, Member  
25 Williams. If you did not want to join on as one of the  
26 all 10 Councils signing onto this, that is definitely  
27 what you can do if you so choose. You could bring this  
28 up at the fall meeting and it would just be a letter  
29 from your North Slope RAC individually.

30

31 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So basically it's  
32 kind of like just exactly what we did with fish letter.  
33 It's just that that one got a lot more time and detail  
34 put into the letter. This one is just in the, like its  
35 infancy, and so.....

36

37 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, okay, thank you,  
38 Chair. I just wanted to -- you know, we support them,  
39 because, you know, we went through this process for all  
40 day, so....

41

42 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So you would like  
43 to support it?

44

45 MR. WILLIAMS: Yep. Thank you.

46

47 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Is that in the  
48 form of a motion?

49

50

0075

1 MS. KIPPI: A motion.

2

3 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah.

4

5 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, I so move.

6

7 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: So we have a  
8 motion on the floor to approve the North Slope Regional  
9 Advisory Council's endorsement on the caribou letter.  
10 That's on the floor.

11

12 MS. GREDIAGIN: It needs a second (away  
13 from microphone)

14

15 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Uh?

16

17 MS. GREDIAGIN: Is there a second (away  
18 from microphone)

19

20 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: No second yet.

21

22 MS. KIPPI: Second the motion.

23

24 MR. ADAMS: Second.

25

26 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Seconded by Wanda  
27 Kippi. Any discussion on this matter.

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 MR. WILLIAMS: Question.

32

33 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Question's been  
34 called for. All those in favor of having the North  
35 Slope Regional Advisory Council's endorsement on this  
36 '24 all Council meeting joint Council letter on caribou  
37 say aye.

38

39 IN UNISON: Aye.

40

41 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Those opposed same  
42 sign.

43

44 (No opposing votes)

45

46 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none,  
47 North Slope is endorsing the caribou letter.

48

49 MS. CHAPA: Mr. Chair.

50

0076

1                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yes.

2

3                   MS. CHAPA: Gisela Chapa for the record.  
4 I just wanted to state that because the letter is in  
5 its infancy state yet, we're going to develop a more  
6 thorough letter and because you are the Chair of our  
7 meeting, we would revert this letter back to you for  
8 review and final approval.

9

10                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: That sounds good,  
11 I'm in agreement with that. Looking at the agenda,  
12 where's my agenda.

13

14                   MS. GREDIAGIN: (Away from microphone)  
15 I think we don't have any more action items.....

16

17                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah.

18

19                   MS. GREDIAGIN: .....other than  
20 adjourning (away from microphone).....

21

22                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah.

23

24                   MS. GREDIAGIN: .....I don't know, you  
25 don't have a quorum (away from microphone).....

26

27                   MS. HONIG: Excuse me.

28

29                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yeah.

30

31                   MS. HONIG: So there's no agency  
32 reports, so closing comments and then adjourn.

33

34                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay. So agency  
35 reports, Number 13. They stated there are no agency  
36 reports written.

37

38                   Number 14, closing comments. Any of  
39 the Council have any words of wisdom as we come closing  
40 -- well, get close to adjourning. Wanda? Peter?  
41 Anybody?

42

43                   MS. KIPPI: I don't have anything to  
44 say.

45

46                   ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Okay.

47

48                   MR. WILLIAMS: Well, thank you very  
49 much. I really enjoyed this meeting, you know, that

50

0077

1 finally came upon us. We all got together as a group.  
2 Now we don't have to look over our back to speak up.  
3 Now we have people that will support us as we support  
4 one another. And it was a good opportunity for us and  
5 I want to say thank you to you all.

6  
7 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Quincy, you got  
8 any closing comments? Thank you for that, Peter.

9  
10 MR. ADAMS: I just want to thank you  
11 guys for this opportunity. This one being my first  
12 meeting, you know, it's definitely been a learning  
13 experience and it's -- so next time I'll go in person.  
14 Hopefully my schedule will be open, a little bit more  
15 open. But I just want to thank you guys, you know,  
16 it's a lot of work getting into this and a lot of  
17 reading material that's good material as well. I  
18 believe this will help us and benefit us in the future.

19  
20 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you, Quincy.  
21 Glad to have you on board. Good to have vocal  
22 community members on the Council and I appreciate that  
23 you work with the Wildlife Department there. I believe  
24 you'll benefit us greatly.

25  
26 Thank you, Wanda, for attending today  
27 in person, you as well, Peter. Thankful for Mr.  
28 Oomittuk and his words of wisdom as he called in  
29 earlier.

30  
31 Looking forward to trying to get our  
32 three additional seats filled over the next couple  
33 months. So once again, anybody on here, Quincy, Wanda,  
34 Peter, make sure to keep your eyes open for new  
35 enrollment opportunities in your communities just to  
36 keep pressing to get those positions filled so that we  
37 don't run into issues of non-quorum. Then, you know,  
38 we wouldn't be able to act on things, important  
39 matters, so it's good to keep our attendance up and  
40 keep the communications flowing within your  
41 communities. I encourage you to talk to your local  
42 hunters, your best friends across the areas to bug  
43 them, hey, how's the fish doing, how's the caribou  
44 doing, how's whaling; keep those communications up.  
45 It's really good to have the pulse of the communities  
46 at your hands. So keep up the good work, guys.

47  
48 Thank you for calling in. Thank you  
49 guys for having us. Thanks for letting us meet with  
50

0078

1 all Councils. And I look forward to maybe the next  
2 meeting. And thank you.

3

4 Go ahead, Wanda.

5

6 MS. KIPPI: Thank you, Mr. Chair. When  
7 you mentioned.....

8

9 REPORTER: Wanda, it's off.

10

11 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: It's off.

12

13 MS. KIPPI: Oh, is it on?

14

15 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Press it. There  
16 you go.

17

18 MS. KIPPI: Thank you, Mr. Chair. You  
19 mentioned trying to get others interested in as members  
20 in our board. There's a young man in our village who's  
21 -- he's young and he's very knowledgeable in our  
22 community. He goes out hunting and he was involved  
23 with another -- attending other meetings for a while  
24 until they stopped doing them. And I would attend them  
25 with him, he was my alternate, and he did pretty well.  
26 And his name is David Kippi from Atqasuk. If you could  
27 see if he's interested, you might have one from there.  
28 I think he'll do pretty good in our meetings.

29

30 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Maybe we'll have  
31 some applications printed out. We've got until the  
32 15th, so if you would like, you can bring that  
33 application.

34

35 MS. KIPPI: Younger generation.

36

37 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Yep. So maybe  
38 we'll do that. So awesome. Yeah, we'll work on that.  
39 Maybe we'll at least have a couple copies for each of  
40 us to bring back. Yeah, so we'll do that. Yeah, all  
41 of us have to look out for our Councils. If we're  
42 missing something, make sure to assist to get it taken  
43 care of.

44

45 MR. WILLIAMS: Chair.

46

47 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Go ahead.

48

49 MR. WILLIAMS: One more thing. I like

50

0079

1 the positive talk with these three agents that I met,  
2 George and there's a couple other agents that went to a  
3 meeting in Northwest in Kotzebue this winter. And they  
4 spoke about Anaktuvuk people. One of them is my son  
5 Jack Williams. I told my son that, you know, if you  
6 don't fight for your food, people -- somebody else is  
7 going to eat it, so you've got to step up to the plate  
8 I told him. So he went to the meeting, they say he  
9 sound like Earl, he'd sit there and tell you like it  
10 is, you know, but that's the way we grew up. We grew  
11 up on the land. It's educational I told him. Them  
12 kids, three of them that went to that meeting and I  
13 really encourage them to step up. A lot of people say  
14 that I'm just like a role model, but I don't use that  
15 example, I'm just trying to help our people, because,  
16 you know, sooner or later we've got things that are  
17 going to be opposite from us that are going to change  
18 our values. So I just wanted to say thank you to the  
19 agency that gave us a positive note on Anaktuvuk people  
20 that really spoke for their caribou.

21

22 Thank you very much. Chair.

23

24 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Thank you, Mr.  
25 Williams. I believe that's everything for our closing  
26 remarks. Next thing on the agenda is adjournment.

27

28 MR. WILLIAMS: I so move.

29

30 MS. KIPPI: Second the motion.

31

32 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Mr. Williams made  
33 the motion, and Wanda Kippi seconded the motion. Any  
34 discussion on adjournment.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 MS. KIPPI: Question

39

40 MR. WILLIAMS: Question.

41

42 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Question's been  
43 called for. All those in favor of adjournment say aye.

44

45 IN UNISON: Aye.

46

47 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Quincy, we need  
48 quorum.

49

50

0080

1 MS. KIPPI: Did he go?

2

3 MS. GREDIAGIN: (Away from microphone)

4 No, he's still on there so.....

5

6 MR. ADAMS: Aye.

7

8 MS. GREDIAGIN: (Away from microphone)

9 there you go.

10

11 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Motion's passed.

12 Well, any objections, same sign.

13

14 (No opposing votes)

15

16 ACTING CHAIR FRANTZ: Hearing none,  
17 motion has passed. Thanks, Quincy. You guys have a  
18 good day. And anybody else online, thank you for being  
19 there. Bye.

20

21 (Off record)

22

23 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

24

25

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C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA )  
 ) ss.  
STATE OF ALASKA )

I, Salena A. Hile, Notary Public in and for the state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered \_\_\_ through \_\_\_ contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the NORTH SLOPE SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING taken electronically on the 8th day of March 2024;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by under my direction and reduced to print to the best of our knowledge and ability;

THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 16th day of March 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Salena A. Hile  
Notary Public, State of Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 09/16/26