

1 SOUTHEAST ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6 VOLUME I

7
8
9 James and Elsie Nolan Center
10 Wrangell, Alaska
11 October 21, 2014
12 9:33 a.m.

13
14
15 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

16
17 Bertrand Adams, Chairman
18 Michael Bangs
19 Arthur Bloom
20 Michael Douville
21 Donald Hernandez
22 Aaron Isaacs
23 Kenneth Jackson
24 Harvey Kitka
25 Cathy Needham
26 Patricia Phillips
27 Robert Schroeder
28 Frank Wright
29 John Yeager
30
31
32
33
34
35 Regional Council Coordinator, Robert Larson

36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45 Recorded and transcribed by:
46
47 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
48 135 Christensen Drive, Suite 2
49 Anchorage, AK 99501
50 907-227-5312/sahile@gci.net

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Wrangell, Alaska - 10/21/2014)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Good morning,
everyone. Can you hear me all right?

REPORTER: Yes.

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. In my language,
good morning, we say yak'ei ts'ootaat. Anyhow,
welcome. Welcome to -- sorry. This is October 21st,
2014. And we are starting at, according to my time,
about 10 -- 9 -- oh, 9:33. So we'll have Harvey do a
roll call for us, please.

Harvey.

MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Arthur Bloom.

MR. BLOOM: Present.

MR. KITKA: Frank Wright, Jr.

MR. WRIGHT: Here.

MR. KITKA: Patricia Phillips.

MS. PHILLIPS: Here.

MR. KITKA: Michael Douville.

MR. DOUVILLE: Here.

MR. KITKA: Harvey Kitka's here.

Bert Adams.

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Here.

MR. KITKA: Robert Schroeder.

MR. SCHROEDER: Here.

MR. KITKA: Donald Hernandez.

1 MR. HERNANDEZ: Here.
2
3 MR. KITKA: Kenneth Jackson.
4
5 MR. JACKSON: Here.
6
7 MR. KITKA: Aaron Isaacs.
8
9 MR. ISAACS: Here.
10
11 MR. KITKA: John Yeager.
12
13 MR. YEAGER: Here.
14
15 MR. KITKA: Michael Bangs.
16
17 MR. BANGS: Here.
18
19 MR. KITKA: Cathy Needham.
20
21 MS. NEEDHAM: Here.
22
23 MR. KITKA: Mr. Chair, we have a
24 quorum.
25
26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Kitka.
27 We do have a quorum.
28
29 Yesterday, when I was waiting at the
30 airport in Juneau to come down here, I was sitting, you
31 know, in a chair there. And I was -- there were just a
32 very few of us. I was there a couple of hours early.
33 There were just a very few of us in the terminal at
34 that time.
35
36 And so I was busy, you know, going
37 through the agendas and reading material and
38 everything. And lo and behold, Mr. Schroeder and Mr.
39 Wright came and sat at my back. They didn't see me.
40 And I didn't recognize them until I heard them talk.
41 And I sat there and listened for a long time. And, you
42 know, folks, you should have been there.....
43
44 (Laughter)
45
46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:and hear about all
47 of the bad things they were saying about their
48 Chairman.
49
50 (Laughter)

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So I finally tapped
2 Mr. Schroeder on the back and they shut up right there.
3 So.....
4
5 (Laughter)
6
7 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:anyhow, just
8 thought I'd share that story with you.
9
10 We're going to go through the
11 introductions. Let's start with Mr. Yeager, please,
12 and work on down the -- down the Coast here.
13
14 MR. YEAGER: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
15 My name is John Yeager and I'm from Wrangell.
16
17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you.
18
19 MR. SCHROEDER: Bob Schroeder. I'm
20 from Juneau.
21
22 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Welcome, Bob.
23
24 MR. HERNANDEZ: Don Hernandez. I'm
25 from Point Baker.
26
27 MR. WRIGHT: Frank Wright from Hoonah.
28
29 MS. PHILLIPS: Patricia Phillips,
30 Pelican.
31
32 MR. LARSON: Robert Larson. I'm the
33 Council's Coordinator. I live in Petersburg.
34
35 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: And I'm glad that
36 Patty made it.
37
38 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you.
39
40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: It's always been a
41 challenge.
42
43 Bert Adams, Yakutat.
44
45 MR. KITKA: Harvey Kitka, Sitka,
46 Alaska.
47
48 MR. BANGS: Mike Banks, Petersburg.
49
50 MR. KITKA: Harvey Kitka, Sitka.

1 MR. JACKSON: Ken Jackson, Kake.
2
3 MR. BLOOM: Arthur Bloom, Tenakee
4 Springs.
5
6 MR. DOUVILLE: Mike Douville. I'm from
7 Craig.
8
9 MS. NEEDHAM: Cathy Needham, from
10 Juneau.
11
12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. And so -- I'm
13 sorry. Are you going to start fining me again. And I
14 can turn on my light, ah, there we go, thank you, Tina.
15
16 We do have a quorum. And thank you for
17 coming to this meeting. It's always a good -- good to
18 be able to see everyone. Even though it might be, you
19 know, several months before we have a chance to gather
20 together like this.
21
22 We're going to start with the
23 introductions from the audience, Staff, Federal, and
24 State, please. We'll go with the Federal.
25
26 My buddy Glenn over there. How are you
27 doing.
28
29 MR. CHEN: Aloha, Council members. My
30 name is Glenn Chen from the subsistence branch for the
31 Bureau of Indian Affairs.
32
33 MR. CALSIPIT: I'm Cal Casipit. I'm
34 the Subsistence Staff Biologist for the Forest Service
35 in Juneau.
36
37 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Next, please. We're
38 going with Staff.
39
40 MR. ARDIZZONE: Federal Staff.
41
42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Chuck. Uh-huh, go
43 ahead.
44
45 MR. ARDIZZONE: Okay. Good morning.
46 I'm Chuck Ardizzone. I'm the Deputy at the Office of
47 Subsistence Management. It's good to be here today.
48
49 Thank you.
50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Any more Staff.
2
3 MR. KOLLER: Good morning. Justin
4 Koller, Sitka, subsistence biologist for Sitka and
5 Hoonah Ranger Districts.
6
7 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Justin.
8
9 MR. SUMINSKI: Good morning, Council.
10 I'm Terry Suminski. I'm the Subsistence Programming
11 Leader for the Tongass National Forest.
12
13 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Okay. And
14 then other people, I see a Forest Service person over
15 here.
16
17 MR. DALRYMPLE: Good morning. I'm Bob
18 Dalrymple. I'm the District Manager here on the
19 Wrangell District. I'm also the unseated Manager for
20 Federal lands within the District. And that includes
21 the Stikine River Subsistence Fishery. I'd also like
22 to introduce Joe Delabrue. He's a Wildlife Biologist
23 that helps me out.
24
25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Thank you.
26 What was Joe's last name.
27
28 MR. DELABRUE: Delabrue.
29
30 MR. DALRYMPLE: Delabrue.
31
32 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.
33
34 Next, please, yeah.
35
36 MR. ENGE: I'm Arnold Enge from
37 Petersburg. I'm on the Petersburg Advisory Committee
38 and I'm also the gillnet Panel Member on the
39 TransBoundary River Panel for the Pacific Salmon
40 Commission.
41
42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Welcome, Mike. We
43 look forward to your participation in this meeting.
44
45 Next person, please.
46
47 MR. EAGLE: Good morning. I'm Brendan
48 Eagle. I'm representing the Wrangell Fish and Game
49 Advisory Committee. I live here in Wrangell.
50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Gentleman in
2 the back.
3
4 MR. ASHTON: Good morning. Brian
5 Ashton. Just public member at large -- or public at
6 large.
7
8 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. And the
9 gentleman who just walked in. Please -- would you
10 introduce yourself, please, let us know who you are.
11
12 MR. COVALT: Kim Covalt. I'm a
13 subsistence fisherman up river.
14
15 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Thank you.
16
17 Anyone else in the room.
18
19 MR. KITKA: Tina.
20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Huh?
22
23 MR. KITKA: Tina.
24
25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gina.
26
27 MR. KITKA: Tina.
28
29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Tina, oh.
30
31 (Laughter)
32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh, yes. She's always
34 such a quiet participant in all of these meetings but
35 we need to recognize Tina for all of the good work that
36 you do. Thank you very much, Tina.
37
38 REPORTER: Thank you, Bert.
39
40 Okay. Moving on with the agenda now.
41 We're going to turn the time over to Chuck and he is
42 going to -- he's going to share some information with
43 us, please.
44
45 (Pause)
46
47 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Bob from the
48 Forest Service, do you want to step forward and, you
49 know, welcome us to the -- the way I would say this to
50 my Tlingit people is (in Tlingit).

1 It means come forward and sit down in
2 that chair over there. Please.

3
4 MR. DALRYMPLE: Thank you, Chairman
5 Adams.

6
7 I want to welcome the Council to
8 Wrangell and to the Wrangell District. I don't know if
9 -- I think it was maybe three years ago that you were
10 here and I got to the first time ever sit in on your
11 proceedings and I'm looking forward to this week as
12 well.

13
14 Just a little background on the
15 District. It's about 1.7 million acres. It's in the
16 heart of the Tongass National Forest. It's boundary
17 roughly coincides with the Wrangell Borough. And
18 within the Wrangell Borough, there's two subsistence
19 communities -- Wrangell and Meyers Chuck.

20
21 I would say that of that 1.7 million
22 acres, most of those acres contribute to some kind of a
23 subsistence resource for the residents here.

24
25 Of course we have hunting and gathering
26 of Forest products, firewood that -- from the uplands.
27 But also the Stikine provides a subsistence fishery.

28
29 I think the subsistence management is
30 an important part of my job. I work with the citizens
31 here quite a bit. I work with the Wrangell Cooperative
32 Association, which is the Federally recognized tribe.
33 And I work quite a bit with John Yeager on Council
34 matters.

35
36 So like I said, subsistence is an
37 important part of my job. And I just want to kind of
38 -- I think you guys know this, but subsistence is very
39 important to this community. And I want to thank you
40 all for your work on the Council. A lot of times the
41 residents here don't express, you know, their opinions
42 in an open environment like this. But through the --
43 more of the conversational methods in the back
44 channels, I do get a lot of support on subsistence.
45 And it's a very important aspect to our management
46 here.

47
48 Thank you.

49
50 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: And so Bob, are you

1 going to be here throughout the meeting or.....
2
3 MR. DALRYMPLE: I will try to be
4 through most of it, especially the Stikine discussions.
5
6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. So I'm sure
7 that there will probably be a lot of questions from
8 Council Members, you know, about your activities here.
9
10 MR. DALRYMPLE: Okay.
11
12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So.....
13
14 MR. DALRYMPLE: Yeah.
15
16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:we appreciate
17 your participation.
18
19 MR. DALRYMPLE: Thank you.
20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you.
22
23 I did ignore one thing on the agenda
24 here. We always have an invocation before we begin our
25 meeting, so I apologize for that.
26
27 And I just would like to see if Aaron
28 -- would you like to give an open prayer for us,
29 please.
30
31 MR. ISAACS: Okay.
32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Pray for us.
34
35 MR. ISAACS: Please rise.
36
37 (Invocation)
38
39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh.
40
41 So we have Chuck now, who is going to
42 play your part in this part of the agenda. Are you
43 going to -- you're the OSM lead, so do you want to come
44 forward and say your piece.
45
46 MR. ARDIZZONE: Recognition
47 presentations.
48
49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: It has to with
50 presentations, okay.

1
2 MR. ARDIZZONE: The recognition awards?
3
4 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah.
5
6 MR. ARDIZZONE: Okay. Now I'm on the
7 same page you are.
8
9 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. So I have a
10 different agenda than the one in the book -- from the
11 folks. So it's kind of.....
12
13 MR. LARSON: I'll get you a current
14 one.
15
16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah. Go ahead, sir.
17
18 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, for the
19 record, my name's Chuck Ardizzone. I'm the Deputy at
20 the Office of Subsistence Management. And I guess I'm
21 up here right now to present several service awards.
22 We have several Council Members who have reached
23 milestones in their service on the Council. I just
24 wanted to say, you know, thank you very much to those
25 individuals.
26
27 I have two awards. And I don't only
28 want to thank them but I want to thank everybody for
29 their service on the Council. Our program wouldn't be
30 the same without your participation.
31
32 But like I said, I have several people
33 who have reached milestones. The first individual is
34 Mr. Frank Wright, Jr. In recognition for his
35 contribution to the Federal Subsistence Management
36 Program, as a Member of the Southeast Alaska
37 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council for the years of
38 2004 to 2014.
39
40 (Applause)
41
42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Congratulations, Mr.
43 Wright. Well deserved.
44
45 MR. WRIGHT: Thanks for the award. I
46 didn't know I was here that long.
47
48 MR. ARDIZZONE: Time flies when you're
49 having fun.
50

1 MR. WRIGHT: But it's an honor to be
2 here. Gunalcheesh. Thank you.

3

4 MR. ARDIZZONE: Thank you.

5

6 And the second service award I have is
7 for Chairman Adams. Presented to Bertrand Adams, Sr.,
8 in recognition of his contribution to the Federal
9 Subsistence Management Program, as a Member of the
10 Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
11 for the years 1999 to 2014.

12

13 Thank you very much.

14

15 (Applause)

16

17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Chuck.
18 Like Frank, I didn't know I was here that long.

19

20 Any more?

21

22 MR. ARDIZZONE: And that's all I have
23 for today. But I -- like I said, I'd like to thank
24 everybody for their service. Without everyone's
25 participation, this program would not be where it is
26 today.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: And I, too, would like
31 to thank everyone for your participation. You've been
32 really, you know, great people to work with. And I
33 always brag about you when I go to the Board meetings
34 and so forth. And I just can't say enough for the
35 great work that you guys do. So gunalcheesh and thank
36 you.

37

38 Then the -- we need to take care of the
39 agenda now, folks, and there's only a couple of
40 changes.

41

42 The Sea Otter Population Assessment
43 Update -- we have been trying to get people to come and
44 make a presentation. I know Bob has really worked hard
45 with people that -- the people who were doing this, you
46 know, are no longer there, so trying to replace someone
47 who could gather enough information and share
48 information with us about the sea otter issue has been
49 a real problem. So that is going to be deleted from
50 the agenda.

1 And then under new business we want to
2 add TransBoundary Mining, public testimony, and Council
3 discussion. So that is the only addition that we have
4 here at that time.

5
6 So as you go through the agenda, I want
7 to ask you, is there anything that you would like to
8 add to the agenda, or even subtract, if you want.

9
10 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

11
12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Patty.

13
14 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
15 move to adopt the agenda as a guide.

16
17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you.

18
19 MR. KITKA: Second.

20
21 MR. BANGS: Second.

22
23 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Patty.
24 We always, you know, adopt the agenda as a guide so
25 that we don't have to be stuck, you know, with item
26 right after another. We can move items around, you
27 know, whenever we feel like it.

28
29 So thank you.

30
31 Any further discussion -- any
32 discussion on this issue.

33
34 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chair.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes.

37
38 MR. WRIGHT: Second the Motion.

39
40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You what.

41
42 MR. WRIGHT: Second.

43
44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh. I think it was
45 seconded already.

46
47 MR. WRIGHT: Oh.

48
49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: But anyhow, you can
50 third it.

1 (Laughter)
2
3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Any further
4 discussion.
5
6 Did you get the first and second, Tina.
7
8 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)
9
10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.
11
12 Okay. Hearing none, all in favor,
13 please say aye.
14
15 IN UNISON: Aye.
16
17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Opposed, nay.
18
19 (No opposing votes)
20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Motion is carried.
22
23 So now we have an adopted agenda and we
24 use it as a guide.
25
26 The next thing is our minutes. Why
27 don't you take a few minutes to go over the minutes.
28 Do you want to take a little bit of a break for the
29 minutes? Why don't we take a five-minute break and
30 give you time to go over the minutes and then we'll
31 come back into session, okay.
32
33 (Off record)
34
35 (On record)
36
37 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Do we have anybody
38 online, do we know, Tina.
39
40 REPORTER: No, we can't monitor who's
41 on line, just that there's someone on line. Ask them
42 to introduce themselves.
43
44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. What?
45
46 REPORTER: Ask them if they can
47 introduce themselves.
48
49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. We'd like to
50 recognize people online at this time. And so if you're

1 there, would you please identify yourself.
2
3 MS. HANSON: Bert, this is Kathy Hanson
4 with Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance.
5
6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, Kathy. Thank
7 you.
8
9 Anyone else.
10
11 MR. SHARP: Good morning, Mr. Chairman.
12 This is Dan Sharp with Bureau of Land Management in
13 Anchorage.
14
15 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, Dan. Thank you.
16
17 MR. BROOKS: Good morning, Mr.
18 Chairman. This is Jeff Brooks in the Office of
19 Subsistence Management in Anchorage.
20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Hello, Jeff. How are
22 you doing?
23
24 MR. BROOKS: I'm fine. Thank you.
25
26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you.
27
28 Anyone else.
29
30 (No comments)
31
32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Well, thank
34 you.
35
36 MR. LARSON: And I've got a few
37 announcements here. If.....
38
39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah. And while we're
40 on a break, I'll let Robert make a few announcements,
41 please.
42
43 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
44
45 A couple of things. I think everybody
46 has probably found them by now but the restrooms are
47 just out through the main gate here. And -- but we do
48 have wifi here. The server is the SEC. That's your
49 wireless modem. And the code -- the key code to access
50 it is ten digits, 0123456789.

1 During, if you are talking to or
2 referencing anybody on the phone, if we want them to
3 hear us, you have to push the button on your
4 microphone. If you don't, then they won't be able to
5 hear. I would ask that when we're on breaks, that
6 everybody makes sure that their microphones are off and
7 that way you don't transmit conversations that are not
8 meant to be on the record.

9

10 (Laughter)

11

12 MR. LARSON: There is a sign-up sheet.
13 It's over at that side table. I ask everybody to
14 please sign in.

15

16 We also have blue forms that look like
17 this. If you wish to provide testimony to the Council,
18 please fill out a blue testifier form. And that will
19 be -- I'll collect those. And you can give that to me
20 and we'll make sure that you get heard.

21

22 And I think that's -- I think that's
23 what we have.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Great, thanks, Robert.

26

27 Have you had a chance to go through the
28 minutes -- I'll give you a couple of minutes more.

29

30 (Pause)

31

32 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: As you probably have
33 already noticed, these minutes are minutes of the
34 meeting that we had with the Joint Session with the
35 Southcentral Regional Advisory Council. So I thought
36 that was a pretty productive meeting. And if you have
37 any comments to make about that meeting, it would be
38 nice to have that recorded. Thank you.

39

40 Robert also brought to my attention
41 that in 2016 there is going to be an All Council
42 meeting. A winter meeting.

43

44 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Pardon?

47

48 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, that's -- that
49 agenda item is -- for the All Council Meetings is to
50 solicit interest in whether this Council would be

1 interested in having a joint Council meeting with all
2 the Councils present.

3

4 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh, okay.

5

6 MR. LARSON: So it's -- it certainly is
7 not a -- something that is being planned. But it's
8 been brought to the attention of the Office of
9 Subsistence Management by several Councils and they're
10 soliciting our interest. So that's something to think
11 about. And we'll talk about that when the time comes.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thanks for clarifying
14 that, Robert. It's something that we can keep at the
15 back of our minds as we go through the agenda.

16

17 Any comments on the minutes.

18

19 Mr. Bangs.

20

21 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
22 would like to thank OSM for getting our books out to us
23 ahead of time. I really appreciate that.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I think they got it
26 out too much ahead of time.

27

28 (Laughter)

29

30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: But thanks again.

31

32 Well, let's go ahead and call the
33 meeting back into session. Is there a motion to accept
34 the minutes.

35

36 Mr. Kitka.

37

38 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
39 move to accept the minutes from March 11th through the
40 13th.

41

42 MR. BANGS: Second.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. It's been
45 moved and seconded.

46

47 Did you get the second, Tina?

48

49 REPORTER: Yes.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.
2
3 So is there any discussion about the
4 minutes.
5
6 MR. KITKA: Mr. Chairman.
7
8 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead.
9
10 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman.
11
12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead. Harvey and
13 then Frank.
14
15 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
16 really thought this meeting with the Joint Councils was
17 very productive. It really helps to see what other
18 Councils are doing and what they're talking about. We
19 probably didn't see things the same as them, but it
20 really helped open communication between us.
21
22 Thank you.
23
24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.
25
26 Mr. Wright.
27
28 MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, on Page 12,
29 under National Marine Fishery Council, I believe we had
30 stated that to get stronger support for putting a
31 member -- one of our members on the National Fishing
32 Service that we would like someone from our Council on
33 there.
34
35 Thank you.
36
37 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thanks for bringing
38 that to our attention. So we need to kind of keep
39 track of that.
40
41 Anything else.
42
43 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.
44
45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, Patty.
46
47 MS. PHILLIPS: One of the Southcentral
48 Council Members talked about climate change in a
49 written report she had done and I don't see any
50 reference to that Council comment. I thought it was

1 very well-stated.
2
3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah. I remember
4 that.
5
6 MS. PHILLIPS: THANK YOU.
7
8 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So you didn't notice
9 it in the minutes?
10
11 MS. PHILLIPS: No, Mr. Chair. I did
12 not.
13
14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Well, we need
15 to include that into the minutes. Do you remember who
16 the individual was that gave the report? Okay. I
17 guess we can find out.
18
19 MR. LARSON: That was -- oh, yeah.
20 That was Maryann. Yeah.
21
22 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.
23
24 MR. LARSON: Yeah.
25
26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Robert. Good.
27
28 MR. LARSON: Yeah. That's -- yeah.
29 That was Maryann.
30
31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Anyone else,
32 please.
33
34 MR. KITKA: Call for the question.
35
36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Question has been
37 called for. All in favor, please signify by saying
38 aye.
39
40 IN UNISON: Aye.
41
42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Opposed, nay.
43
44 (No opposing votes)
45
46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Motion is carried.
47
48 When I call for the vote, I'm always
49 reminded about Floyd Kookesh and how he would say yay
50 or nay. So once in a while, I'll bring that up.

1 Anyhow, with the minutes being taken
2 care of, we need to go to the next part of the agenda.

3
4 On that, our reports. We'll take
5 reports from the Council Members. You remember that,
6 you know, we offer you an opportunity to talk about
7 things in your area, and, again, we need to be reminded
8 that Floyd Kookesh says we represent the whole region
9 and so forth. So please, you know, we'll start with
10 Cathy this morning.

11
12 Thank you, Cathy.

13
14 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15
16 Over the -- since we last meant -- this
17 things seems very loud.

18
19 (Laughter)

20
21 MS. NEEDHAM: Since we last met, things
22 have been really busy for me personally. And it seems
23 like I have taken a step back from being able to work
24 with some of the groups that I normally have in the
25 past and learn more about our region for subsistence.
26 But there are a few things that I have been kind of
27 paying attention to through communications, and one of
28 those is climate change. And I'm really glad that
29 Councilwoman Phillips brought that back into the
30 minutes.

31
32 There seems to be a lot of different
33 concerns out there that people are expressing in our
34 communities about how climate change is impacting them.
35 And I'm starting to see more and more studies come
36 about and looking at those things.

37
38 Those include things like temperature
39 monitoring in streams and looking at fish run timing
40 and how those things might be shifting because of water
41 temperatures and those temperature cues that salmon
42 need to get back into our stream. And so I'm
43 encouraged that some of that data collection is
44 actually really looking at that specifically with
45 respect to climate change.

46
47 And I also noticed recently that the
48 Sitka Tribe of Alaska is making a big push for putting
49 together a PSP Testing Laboratory for looking at
50 impacts to shellfish. And I know a number of tribes,

1 I think it's six, are going to be initiating a
2 cooperative program to look at testing beaches locally
3 for the -- whether or not shellfish are safe to eat
4 around the communities. And so that -- I think those
5 efforts should be recognized. And it would be
6 interesting to learn a little more about what they're
7 doing as we go through -- as they go through putting
8 that testing laboratory together.

9

10 I heard a lot about transboundary
11 mining issues. We've heard it here in our Council
12 meetings. I know that there's a group of tribal
13 representatives across the region that are now meeting
14 regularly, trying to address water quality issues in
15 communities that have transboundary rivers. And I know
16 that even though the effort isn't very well-funded,
17 which would fall under probably the Environmental
18 Protection Agency for the most part, there is larger
19 efforts trying to go on to get -- especially now after
20 the mining disaster that we saw on a transboundary --
21 or on a Canadian mine. I think that's starting to open
22 eyes. People realizing that maybe some of these
23 practices aren't as well put together as we think that
24 they are and that problems can happen. And then we're
25 applying that to that transboundary mining movement out
26 there.

27

28 So I see a lot of that action kind of
29 going on.

30

31 And then a couple of weeks ago I sent
32 out an email that I know was shared with the Council
33 regarding the Sea Otter Study that the University is
34 implementing through a National Science Foundation
35 Grant. And it seems to be one of the bigger studies.
36 A few years ago we heard a lot about sea otters and
37 their impacts to commercial fisheries and the study
38 that has been going on. And we had even said in these
39 meetings that it would be good to know what those --
40 like what the dollar -- so the social impact as well as
41 the dollar impact that sea otters might be having on
42 subsistence resources. And a study like that got
43 funded. It's through the University. They're focusing
44 on three communities: Hydaburg, Klawock, and Kake, and
45 are going to be doing a number of community meetings
46 and interviews and coming up with survey forms for
47 documenting the amount of use of noncommercial
48 shellfish by community residents.

49

50 And I think that it would be a good

1 idea for those that are interested in that study to
2 also say well, there are other communities that are
3 being affected. I know that Hydaburg and Kake are
4 really big ones because the population of sea otters
5 have expanded there so fast and have become very large.
6 But there are other communities that probably could
7 weigh in. And that impact is still just as much to the
8 livelihoods of the people that live in those
9 communities.

10

11 And so, you know, it would be -- I
12 think it would be a good idea to try to encourage the
13 research that's going on to learn a little bit more
14 about how they're doing it and how they're going to
15 extrapolate that beyond the communities that they're
16 currently working with.

17

18 And other than that, I think that's it.

19

20 So I appreciate your time, and thanks.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Cathy.

23

24 Mr. Douville.

25

26 Oh, by the way, Mike, I don't know what
27 you're going to do with me, but I forgot the thing at
28 home.

29

30 (Laughter)

31

32 MS. PHILLIPS: The hammer.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: The hammer.

35

36 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

37

38 Just a couple of things I want to touch
39 on.

40

41 One is there is quite a bit of concern
42 about this endangered species thing on wolf -- on the
43 island. And the ADF&G is working on it with help from
44 the Forest Service, I believe. And hopefully we can
45 determine that they're not endangered.

46

47 Everybody fishing and stuff, a pretty
48 fair fishing year, it seemed like, in spite of being an
49 off year for humpies. And we're still affected by road
50 closures out there. They're not just used for hunting,

1 you know. We use them to get wood and things like
2 that.

3

4 So -- but anyway, that's all I have.

5

6 Thank you.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Michael.

9

10 Mr. Bloom.

11

12 MR. BLOOM: Thank you. I would only
13 like to note that for the first time this summer sea
14 otters seem to have found their way into Tenakee Inlet.
15 So I think that's something we'll need to keep track
16 of.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Is that it?

21

22 MR. BLOOM: (Nods affirmatively)

23

24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Short and sweet.

25

26 Yeah. That is a big concern. It's too
27 bad that we don't have any representatives who can come
28 and really, you know, give us a report on what's
29 really happening. I'm sure that it's happening all
30 over the country now, you know, that's too bad.

31

32 I'll share something with you a little
33 bit later on, I think during my report about the sea
34 otters in Yakutat.

35

36 Ken, go ahead.

37

38 MR. JACKSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

39

40 In Kake, the sea otter population is
41 growing. Steve Langdon and his assistant were there
42 last week. We had a very good meeting. And we talked
43 about how they try to count them. And some of the
44 people had come up with this drone thing that they use
45 with little helicopters to go up in the air. You know,
46 I think we saw it on orcas. Somebody put it on
47 Facebook. But because when you go toward them, they go
48 under, and, you know, you can't count them. But you
49 can remotely control that little helicopter and you can
50 go over those and count exactly -- well, better than

1 you can count if you're on a boat.

2

3 And they have been wiping out
4 everything -- pretty much everything on Kuiu Island, at
5 least on the west side. I'm not sure about this side.
6 The sea cucumbers, sea urchins, crab, king crab. And
7 just about everything that we subsist on, except for
8 the fish itself.

9

10 But we're starting to see -- some of
11 the guys are hunting them now, especially closer to
12 Kake, and it made an impact on the sea otters. But
13 they raft in like 200 to 300, you know, in a raft. And
14 they'll drift sometimes five miles in one tide to feed.
15 I've watched this. And it's impressive that, you know,
16 a king crab will go -- I mean a sea otter will go down
17 85 fathoms. Because this guy was watching it on his
18 speedometer outside of Kingsville. And he watched it
19 go all the way down. And he watched it come all the
20 way back up. And it had a -- like a gooey duck on its
21 chest. And it was opening it up.

22

23 So they go to excessive steps just to
24 feed. And I think that even though it's harder for us
25 to go out and -- not harder for us to kill them. It's
26 the market with this -- that you have to have
27 significantly altered the hide itself to sell the
28 product that you make. And it would be nicer if, you
29 know, they -- that wasn't such a thing to hold it
30 back. But now the price of gas, the price of ammo --
31 you can't even find ammo, and all these other things
32 are coming into play.

33

34 But, you know, putting sea otters
35 aside, you know, the fishing wasn't bad this last
36 summer. It wasn't as good as last year. The king
37 salmon seems to be better around Kake.

38

39 The deer population seems to be
40 increasing.

41

42 The moose population is definitely
43 increasing.

44

45 And we've put in a couple of
46 resolutions on -- and I just talked to the Council this
47 last week. And I think we're submitting them -- or
48 they submitted them to Robert. And one of them was
49 about the sea otters. And possibly putting a
50 moratorium between some boundaries outside of Kake to

1 shut down the crabbing -- the dungeness crabbing for a
2 while to have them come back if we start depleting the
3 sea otter populations. But not forever. Just like
4 maybe every two or three years open it back up.

5
6 Because conservation is a big part of
7 our proposals. And that's what I keep repeating to the
8 Councils. We were told that if you want a resolution
9 to pass, that conservation should also be part of the
10 resolution. And the sockeye in Pillar Bay, I don't
11 know if we're ever going to get that back because the
12 beavers sealed off the stream. I went there after one
13 family went down. They got enough, but they took
14 everything because the sockeye couldn't go up the
15 stream. They were all in a saltwater. And the beaver
16 ponds up there just completely sealed off the stream.
17 When I went there, there was no water at all in the
18 stream. And there were a few out there, but I don't
19 know how long that run will last. So there are other
20 impacts on sockeye.

21
22 And the other resolution that we were
23 going to submit was this one that we spoke of. And I
24 spoke of it with Mr. Yeager last year, about
25 sportsfishing versus subsistence. In areas where we
26 are only allowed 10 fish a day and 20 annually per
27 family -- you could have a family of six, 10 people and
28 all you're allowed is 20 fish for that year. But
29 sportsfishermen can go in there and take six a day per
30 person. And the next day if they process those they
31 can take six more indefinitely. There's no limit on
32 the amount of sockeye they can take.

33
34 We'd like to see -- if they cut us off
35 at 20 fish annually, to cut the sportsmen's, you know,
36 off at 20 fish annually in those bays that they cut us
37 off in. I think that's only right. Because it's
38 harder for us to go from Kake. And the only place we
39 can get sockeye now is on Baranof, and that's, you
40 know, 25, 30 miles away. And it's over rough waters
41 between, you know, Frederick Sound. And a lot of the
42 guys go out on small boats.

43
44 So it's just something that we're going
45 to have to look at and try to -- you know, we don't
46 want to fight with anybody, especially sportsfishermen.
47 I think that we can come to a consensus where -- I
48 think that there should be an opening or a place or
49 somebody can recommend something about being equal in
50 the eyes of, you know, the fishermen. Because we don't

1 mind sportsmen. We don't want to stop tourism.
2 Because a lot of the guys that come and fish that are
3 tourists. But for subsistence, I, myself, only got 25
4 sockeye. And that's for my whole family. And I have a
5 family of four. And, you know, I saw yachts out there
6 that were out there two weeks. And they were putting
7 up sockeye. And there was like three or four people
8 aboard the boats, so you know they had lots. Plus they
9 get to get halibut and everything else. But we can't
10 afford to stay out there. We don't have the yachts
11 that they have. And it was a lot of yachts in Gut Bay
12 and Falls Lake there. We traveled back and forth
13 because they were closer.

14
15 And the other thing was we were talking
16 about up north they have a hunt that starts two weeks
17 ahead of a normal season. And I'm not really sure
18 about this, but they start two weeks ahead of a normal
19 season for the subsistence hunters, and we still have
20 to find out information on it. Just to give an
21 advantage to our hunters. Because of the 18 moose that
22 were taken by Kake this year, from September 15th to
23 October 15th, most of them were by outsiders that came
24 in on the ferry. They took the moose. And a lot of
25 them came from Juneau and, you know, further up or from
26 further down.

27
28 But I know Wrangell has a pretty good
29 moose population. And Kake actually can support that.
30 But we're -- I don't know how serious of an issue
31 that's going to be. But I know the Council has asked
32 -- was asked to look into it.

33
34 And OVK is in support of opposing the
35 transboundary mining in Canada. They are going to put
36 a proposal or a resolution out for that.

37
38 And the wolves -- the hunting of wolves
39 is starting to increase on Kupreanof and it does make
40 an effect on the increase of deer. We're finding that
41 out. You know, it's not -- it's not that we like to
42 hunt the wolves. But it's necessary.

43
44 So -- well, that's all I have.

45
46 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

47
48 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, sir.

49
50 Aaron, go ahead.

1 MR. ISAACS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2 These three people ahead of me have pretty much covered
3 everything I was going to cover.

4
5 But nonetheless, our local IRA Council
6 is going through a disturbing transition, their members
7 are quitting and getting fired. And they're the ones
8 that in my estimation are the real, true Councils that
9 can help the effort that we're involved with.

10
11 And again the first thing that I was
12 told from the Council was the sockeye. The word that
13 they used when I asked them -- their sockeyes were
14 running out. And this year the sockeye -- the permit
15 process was later. It gets later every year. Isn't
16 that what we're finding Mike.

17
18 MR. DOUVILLE: (Nods affirmatively)

19
20 MR. ISAACS: Out in front of my house
21 is where we watch the sockeye fishing. But this year,
22 it was into the -- almost the end of July before the
23 sockeye started coming in. So we need to be aware that
24 they are getting later. But the good thing about that
25 later on, different ones told me that there were huge
26 sockeye. Klawock River has always been known for
27 having large sockeye.

28
29 And they were talking about they need
30 reports -- they need research on the sockeye. Where
31 they're coming in. When they're coming in.

32
33 And the other thing that came up there
34 from the IRA Council was realizing that halibut -- the
35 halibut fisheries is conducted by the U.S. Fish and --
36 halibut is conducted by Fish and Game -- U.S. Fish.
37 But the big complaint was -- and I've seen it -- the
38 charter boat people. Not so much the skippers -- well,
39 they're allowing it. They're bringing in what we call
40 ping pong paddle sized halibut. You're looking at
41 little, bitty halibut. But people from out of state
42 just think that's a great thing to do. And no matter
43 if it's enforced by a different agency, it needs to be
44 looked at. It needs -- literally needs to be stopped.
45 Stop the harvesting of those tiny, little halibut
46 because it is a very large part of our subsistence use.

47
48 And the wolf hunt -- I believe there's
49 a -- I saw a poster at the Klawock store that there's a
50 large meeting of wolf hunts. I think it's this week or

1 next week. But they're -- different ones that I've
2 talked to talk about there -- there are more wolves
3 around our area. I guess it depends on who I'm talking
4 to, too.

5
6 But that's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

7
8 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Aaron.

9
10 Mr. Bangs.

11
12 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13
14 I just have a couple of comments.

15
16 I think that it's pretty much region
17 wide we've noticed -- and the people I've talked to
18 found that the halibut stocks are very, very healthy in
19 2C, in our area. And subsistence fishermen were real
20 successful. I think that's a real good thing. The
21 population seems to be growing.

22
23 And on another note, I mentioned last
24 meeting that we had a fire at our hatchery at Crystal
25 Lake. And the incubator room was destroyed. Well,
26 they were able to secure funding right away and the
27 building is going up as we speak. So that will be back
28 online, which is going to really help this immediate
29 area for personal use and sportfishing for king salmon.
30 That was a -- everybody was worried quite a bit about
31 that.

32
33 Another thing -- our Borough Assembly
34 has been working with fishing organizations and
35 different tribal members in the area to work on this
36 tribal -- transboundary river mines. You know, just
37 like what a couple of other people mentioned, it's
38 become a big issue, especially here on the Stikine and
39 the Taku, the Unuk. Just trying to get some baseline
40 water studies done so that we know what we have now.
41 And if something happens in the future, we'll have
42 something to go by.

43
44 And we found that it wasn't a very
45 expensive project to take baseline water studies, and I
46 think we had the Legislature behind it. And we're just
47 hoping that more organizations speak out about it.
48 Because it is very important, especially in our
49 region.

50

1 That's all I have. Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Bangs.

4

5 Harvey, (in Tlingit)

6

7 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8

9 In our community -- and when I speak of
10 herring, I speak of herring for the -- all of
11 Southeast. Basically, herring now is -- oh, Sitka for
12 the last probably 10 years has supplied most of the
13 Southeast with subsistence herring. And into the
14 countless ages of time we supplied herring for pretty
15 much all of the Southeast even then. Basically,
16 because of the way the herring used to spawn. They
17 used to spawn for anywhere from a week to about 20
18 days, and sometimes even up to 30 days to spawn.

19

20 Now we get a total of about five days
21 to spawn. And some of it is not a continued spawn. So
22 that's one of our concerns.

23

24 There is some of the people worried
25 about the -- how the goat season is being regulated.
26 We're hoping to get some sort of a subsistence permit
27 for it since the goats on Baranof Island have been
28 there a long time.

29

30 The sea otter is always a concern.
31 They seem to go in cycles. And they almost disappeared
32 for a while, but they're building in Sitka Sound again.
33 And when they build to a certain point, we haven't been
34 able to get some of our subsistence food that we -- we
35 haven't gotten -- I myself haven't got abalone in about
36 almost eight years now. So -- and it's one of our
37 delicacies.

38

39 We also have a concern about the
40 TransBoundary and I talked with our officials in Juneau
41 about it. And from what they are able to talk to
42 Canada about, Canada doesn't want to listen to them.
43 So we don't know where that's going to go.

44

45 We are concerned about the cruise ship
46 discharge, which seems to go lightly with the State,
47 but anytime they got discharge within our waters, it
48 causes some problems.

49

50 We are concerned somewhat about the

1 sockeye. And basically the tribe is concerned about
2 the money for monitoring and how they're listed on the
3 list to get money to keep monitoring the sockeye.

4
5 I guess that's pretty much what we have
6 some concerns with.

7
8 Thank you.

9
10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Kitka.

11
12 I'm just going to start off by making
13 some comments about the sea otters. You know, we've
14 had serious problems in the Yakutat area over the many
15 years. But -- and I think Aaron made reference to the
16 fact that they are -- in your area they're allowing a
17 little bit of hunting, and it seems to be making a
18 difference.

19
20 I have a grandson who hunts sea otter.
21 And he processes it. He makes all kinds of good stuff
22 out of it. And a couple of other hunters that really
23 do a lot of sea otter hunting in Yakutat. And we have
24 noticed a difference. They've been keeping the sea
25 otters, you know, further and further away from where
26 our subsistence foods are. Like the clams and cockles
27 and gumbots and sea urchins, and they're starting to
28 come back now.

29
30 So I think, you know, this is real good
31 information. And if people, you know, who are really
32 working on this project, you need to look at the
33 possibility of making it easier for people to take
34 those sea otters, but not have any real serious impact
35 on the population and so forth. Just enough to keep it
36 down to where -- I think, you know, to where everyone
37 balance -- everything balances out.

38
39 Yeah. That's one thing I wanted to
40 share with you.

41
42 Then Susan Oehlers, who is not here.
43 Is the biologist with the Forest Service in Yakutat. I
44 had met with her one day last week. And she made some
45 information available to me and it was all written up
46 in the form of a report, which I forwarded to Robert,
47 to have him forward on to you.

48
49 So she talked about the moose. For one
50 thing, if you remember, you know, the comments that

1 were made in the past about how the Yakutat area is
2 divided into two groups -- I mean two sections or
3 districts. There's the 5A and then there's the 5B. 5A
4 is on the western side of the Dangerous River and the
5 other district is on the eastern side. And because of
6 the high hunting pressure, you know, on 5A, the cow --
7 bull/cow ratio was way down below, you know, the --
8 what is required for a healthy population. And so
9 they've knocked the hunting down from 30 bulls on that
10 side to 25 bulls. However, this year a real big
11 surprise took place and people began to shoot a lot of
12 moose in that area; within days after the moose opened,
13 they had to close it because they had reached the 25,
14 you know, I think on a certain day. And then took a
15 couple of days for it to level off. And I think the
16 final take, you know, was about 28 moose for that area.

17
18 So I don't know what to expect for next
19 year. I think the weather had a lot to do with it.
20 And people were at the right places at the right time.
21 However, on the other side, you know, that's still
22 open, as far as I know.

23
24 She also mentioned eulachons. You
25 know, they used to have a pretty steady survey over the
26 past -- well, after -- the past couple of years have
27 been difficult because the person who would do the
28 survey flying, you know, went out of business and so
29 they have a hard time getting someone -- a pilot, you
30 know, who is licensed to fly for the Forest Service to
31 make surveys down there. So what they have done is
32 they've taken -- chartered a plane. Like for instance
33 Wings, you know, from Juneau to come up there and do a
34 survey. And so they haven't been doing it as often as
35 it has been in the past. I think there was only two
36 surveys done.

37
38 I went on one of them. And I wasn't
39 really too impressed with the amount of eulachons that
40 were coming into some of the rivers. But anyhow, we've
41 managed to get a good bunch into Situk. That's what I
42 was concerned about in the past. And so people were
43 able to get, you know, their eulachons, you know, from
44 the Situk.

45
46 Let me see. There's a report in her
47 document about the deer. So it's there for you to --
48 you know, to review if you already haven't, you know,
49 it will be forthcoming to you.

50

1 So that's about the extent of my
2 report. I'll share some other parts that I'm involved
3 in during the Chair's Report.

4
5 But we'll go over to Patty next.

6
7 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8
9 Our deer populations in our area are
10 healthy. And we're seeing a lot of does and young
11 deer. And I want to thank Justin Koller for his
12 outreach to my community to find out if we're -- if our
13 hunters are getting deer. Because they are. And in
14 fact on the first week of the opening, you know, we
15 always have community conversations about who's
16 bringing deer in and where they got them. And so it's
17 important to our community.

18
19 Let's see.

20
21 In my last report I talked about the
22 problem bears that we're have -- we have habituated
23 bear populations around my community. And I've talked
24 about this in the past. So my -- our population about
25 10 years ago was about 160. And now it's about 80.
26 But we have a highly seasonal population that comes in
27 and so they'll pop up to about 200 depending on what
28 week of the year you're in, in the summer months.

29
30 So what we have is nonresident property
31 owners who are purchasing up dwelling and doing their
32 sport activity, recreational activities that are
33 impacting us who live there year-round. And how do I
34 mean that, and that is so you have empty dwellings that
35 bears bust into and get the food that's been left
36 inside their dwellings and then the bears are
37 habituated and then they start to break into houses
38 that people live in. So we actually had to put a bear
39 down this summer that was breaking into a house that
40 had, you know, a husband and wife and two kids.

41
42 So -- and it's been this -- it's this
43 pattern that has been happening. First, it was just
44 vacant houses that are lived in a few weeks of the
45 year. And now it's going to homes where there's people
46 living year-round.

47
48 So, you know, those of us who are rural
49 residents in Pelican, Alaska are, you know, feeling the
50 experience of nonresident property owners who use our

1 area to recreate.

2

3 We also have -- due to climate change
4 effects, I believe that we're having more fierce wind,
5 sea and swell conditions. And because we live in a
6 remote area on the fringe of the Pacific Coast, we do
7 experience these, you know, high wind events and sea
8 and swell conditions. But they're more frequent and
9 they're happening earlier in the shoulder seasons. And
10 so we just have to be careful when we're out and about.
11 And, you know, we know when to hole up when we have to.

12

13 But in October alone, we had 21 inches
14 of rain. That was when I last looked. And it's still
15 raining. And we had 10 inches of rain in 72 hours.
16 And we've -- it's been more frequent of these downpour
17 deluges with these warmer seasons.

18

19 I think that's all I'll talk about.

20

21 Thank you.

22

23 VICE CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Patty.

24

25 Frank.

26

27 MR. WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

28

29 First of all, I'd like to thank the
30 Alaska Department of Fish & Game. They -- every year
31 they give me the opportunity to take my seine boat, go
32 over to Excursion Inlet, and go subsist fish for the
33 community. So that's -- you know, after the season was
34 over, a guy in Juneau says oh, do you want a permit to
35 fish for your community. and I said of course, so
36 that's a good thing.

37

38 Another thing is that our moose
39 population on Chichagof is building. So I'm hoping we
40 just let it build for a while.

41

42 The deer population is doing good.
43 Last year's warm season -- I mean soft winter was good.
44 We have a lot of small deer that are running around.
45 So that's.....

46

47 And one thing I've got to say about the
48 sockeye is that, you know, as a Tlingit person, if I am
49 going to have a (in Tlingit) for the memorial service,
50 20 sockeyes is not enough. As a household person, I

1 would have to go out -- for one party last year, I had
2 put up 40 -- yeah, 45 fish for the 90 that I had to
3 give out at the party, so that leaves me with -- in
4 order for me to get anything for myself, without having
5 to deal with the (in Tlingit), I would have to go get
6 more. So I think 20 fish is not enough.

7
8 You know, so the halibut -- there seem
9 to be a lot of halibut that are coming into the harbor,
10 you know, but I think that the people that are
11 butchering them into float need to learn how to butcher
12 it right so that they don't just leave the stomach
13 without a pole in it. That when it -- when the fish
14 start to rot, they start floating to the surface. And,
15 you know, it stinks up the harbor. So if they're going
16 to do that -- and with the ping pong paddles. Another
17 thing is that, you know, the ping pong paddles -- when
18 I had testified up in Anchorage, one of the things that
19 the National Marine Fisheries Service says -- well,
20 they're not the breeding stock. And I says how do you
21 get ping pong paddles that get to breeding stock,
22 you've got to let them go so that they get them to
23 breeding stock. So that's something that needs to be
24 addressed.

25
26 You know, you've got a lot of people
27 that don't know anything about how to take care of
28 fishing. And that's -- another thing is about the
29 halibut. You can only put a halibut in the freezer so
30 long. Even when you vacuum pack them, they don't last
31 that long. So it's kind of like, you know, you see
32 people leaving Hoonah with hundreds of pounds of
33 halibut because they go out sportfishing. I can't even
34 -- I can't put 100 pounds of halibut in the freezer.
35 And I won't. All my halibut is fresh. I eat --
36 whenever I eat it, it's fresh. Or if I do put it in
37 the freezer, it's in there for about a month and that's
38 it. Otherwise you'll -- even if you vacuum pack them,
39 they burn. They don't taste good.

40
41 And on a good note, you know, there was
42 -- probably before I was born there was a hydro-
43 electric plant being considered in Hoonah. And after a
44 while they -- an old man -- his name was Sardis (ph)
45 got hurt. And the project stopped. Right now we have
46 poles that are -- telephone poles that are up. Running
47 from Gardini, running down toward Hoonah. They're
48 already in to Hoonah with the poles so that hydro-
49 electric plant is going. And the people are pretty
50 happy about at least cutting down on the diesel that's

1 being spent.

2

3 One thing about the hot water that --
4 the waste heat that comes off, it's -- a lot of that
5 heat is being transferred to the school. Transferred
6 to the senior citizens. So it's saving money for the
7 schools and the senior citizens.

8

9 And the sea otters, that's going to be
10 an issue that's going to be with us forever. You know,
11 what can you do about it? You know, there's only so
12 much -- you know, for one thing, I don't like shooting
13 animals. But there's -- you know, when you've got them
14 in Port Frederick and you've got -- I know there's
15 dungy commercial fishermen that go up to their crab
16 pots up the bay and then the next two days, they're
17 already moving pots out of Port Frederick. You know,
18 the sea otters are already up there. And our cockle
19 beds are way up the head there. So that's -- that
20 would be diminished pretty quick. So what can we do
21 about the sea otter, you know?

22

23 And, you know, another thing is that,
24 you know, these mines that are going up in Canada --
25 you know, when the Exxon Valdez hit a rock, they said
26 it would never hit a rock. It was out there in the
27 middle of nowhere. And they think that's not going to
28 happen. They're crazy. All it's got to do is a breach
29 of something where -- to break.

30

31 You know, Bristol Bay's going to be
32 gone. Not only is the Bristol Bay salmon be gone. The
33 culture of the area. The indigenous people of the area
34 will suffer because of it. It's not only about fish.
35 It's about the people of the area. I as a Tlingit
36 would be appalled that anything like that was being
37 proposed around my area. I would fight it as hard as I
38 could. Because I am Tlingit. That's the way I'm going
39 to stay. And my family -- I would prefer my family
40 stay Tlingit. And fish is part of our culture.

41

42 You know, my daughter moved -- when we
43 moved from Anchorage and moved to Hoonah, that was the
44 best thing that I ever did for my daughter. Whenever
45 she comes home, she eats seal meat. She eats
46 everything that we put together. If we lived in
47 Anchorage, that would not have happened.

48

49 Gunalcheesh.

50

1 VICE CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
2 Wright.

3
4 Mr. Hernandez.

5
6 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you.

7
8 First thing I had on my list was the
9 dam breach at the Mount Polley Mine there in British
10 Columbia. That was kind of a shocker to everybody
11 that, yeah, it can happen. We have to be vigilant in
12 our efforts to keep those mines under control on our
13 transboundary rivers.

14
15 Second thing is concern -- is what's
16 happening with the Forest Policy. We're going through
17 this transition phase and we have this Tongass Advisory
18 Committee operating now to kind of determine how that
19 might go. My community's watching that closely. We
20 have some concerns that our communities, which are
21 pretty much wholly fisheries-based, don't really agree
22 with what happens on the rest of the island, where so
23 many of the communities there are so timber-based, and
24 we think the Advisory Committee is going to be kind of
25 focusing more towards keeping the timber-based
26 communities healthy and maybe ignoring some of our
27 fisheries-based communities and more subsistence-based
28 communities.

29
30 Along that line, I'd also like to point
31 out that Central Southeast seems to be -- or has been
32 suffering for the last number of years in the deer
33 populations Unit 3. In particular, Kupreanof, Mitkof,
34 Zarembo, harvests haven't been that good. They really
35 suffered from those hard winters that we had back in
36 '06, '07. They are -- seem to be building back, but
37 the numbers have remained fairly low. I think we have
38 a problem there.

39
40 I don't want to be kind of lulled into
41 a complacency. We have an awful lot of timber harvest
42 that's occurring in this region, Prince of Wales Unit
43 3. It's all impacting high value, winter deer habitat.
44 We may be benefitting from some mild winters now. And
45 everybody might be getting a little complacent. But we
46 do have to keep in mind that, yeah, it can happen. You
47 know, we really took a hit a number of years ago and it
48 can happen again. So that's of concern.

49
50 Fishing related. Something that we see

1 an awful lot of in our community is the lodge activity.
2 And primarily the halibut fishing. Salmon fishing is
3 not that much of a concern, but halibut fishing and
4 rock fishing by lodges that are primarily geared
5 towards the non-guided sport fisherman. National
6 Marine Fisheries may have felt that they kind of
7 handled this problem when they addressed the guided
8 sportfishing industry, but there's a huge loophole.
9 And we really see it in our community where we have a
10 couple of lodges operating that the people in those
11 lodges outnumber the local population for most of the
12 summer. And what you see is they're just renting
13 skiffs. Unguided hunting. So they're sportfishing
14 under the sportfishing regulations where, you know,
15 they have a bag limit and a possession limit, and once
16 your fish is processed, it's no longer in your
17 possession so that really opens up an opportunity for
18 people going out, making numerous trips a day.

19
20 I personally have sat there on the
21 float and I watch people filleting out halibut at 7:00
22 o'clock in the morning. You know, they're out there at
23 daylight. They bring in their fish at -- I've seen it
24 as early as 7:00 o'clock in the morning; they're
25 filleting it, bagging it, freezing it. You know, how
26 many times a day can they do that, that fish is no
27 longer in their possession. They're perfectly legal to
28 go out and get another bag on it. And, you know, you
29 got like 30 people just fishing away. Like I mean it's
30 incredible how intense they fish. And I see these
31 skiffs going in and out. I don't know how many trips
32 they make a day. And the fish boxes that go out of
33 there is just -- it's just kind of amazing.

34
35 So the Council put in a proposal to the
36 Board of Fish to help address this issue. And I really
37 hope that that will be supported.

38
39 So thank you.

40
41 VICE CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Don.

42
43 Mr. Schroeder.

44
45 MR. SCHROEDER: Thank you. Just I
46 start off by saying that it's a real delight for me to
47 be back working with all you guys. And just seeing how
48 strong the Southeast Regional Advisory Council is at
49 the 20-year plus mark. And for people who saw this
50 program begin so long ago -- and that would be Patty

1 and other people on the Council -- I don't think
2 anybody believed that it would be going on this long.
3 I mean it was going to be this temporary program. And
4 now we're at 20 years plus. And I think this Council
5 in particular has done some really fine things to
6 ensure the subsistence protections continue in
7 Southeast Alaska and statewide. Because the strength
8 of this Council and the leadership of this Council has
9 been really important elsewhere in the state as well.

10

11 I sort of have two sets of comments and
12 things that I'm concerned with. First, I'd say all of
13 the above. And that's the problem with being at this
14 end of the circulation. And so I'll try not to repeat
15 things that people have already said.

16

17 I think it's really important -- some
18 of these things are totally frustrating because the
19 Council's weighed in on rural status and on C&T
20 determinations literally for decades now. And so on
21 the one hand, that's disheartening. On the other hand,
22 I think there continues to be the opportunity to make
23 needed changes.

24

25 And with that historical viewpoint,
26 when this program got going the idea was well, we
27 really don't want to shake the boat -- rock the boat
28 too much. Because State Management is going to be back
29 with us real soon, and why complicate things, why make
30 really big changes? And that, unfortunately, has the
31 program and this Council still doing a little bit of
32 catchup on trying to address things that are really
33 inherited regulations and inherited procedures from
34 things that were in place in more than 20 years ago.
35 That were in place, you know, 25, 30 years ago which
36 maybe sort of worked but they did not line up with
37 ANILCA requirements.

38

39 So I really look forward to continuing
40 to work on these things that -- specifically rural
41 status, C&T determinations, and whether they need to be
42 done at all. And to look at the inherited regulations
43 that we still have on the books not as something that
44 were written in stone when Moses came down the
45 mountain, but things that should be looked at freshly
46 and with no embarrassment, if this Council thinks that
47 no, these really don't line up with what subsistence
48 needs and realities are, then, you know, a number of
49 the comments have been like that. Just the fish limits
50 or what Frank was saying about the need to provide

1 subsistence foods for (in Tlingit) and other
2 celebrations.

3

4 So I think that's a whole area. And,
5 you know, it seems like this Council in particular is
6 really steadfast in recognizing that responsibility.

7

8 Then there's kind of like another area.
9 And many people commented on this -- or commented on
10 things that fall under this category. And that is that
11 the Southeast Regional Advisory Council is pretty much
12 the only Federal Advisory Committee Act Council that
13 exists for our area, that is empowered and chartered to
14 comment on things, and to advise the government on
15 actions that may affect subsistence uses. And so it
16 isn't at all out of bounds that someone's concern with
17 mining or transboundary mining -- or someone's concern
18 with logging and timber programs -- or that this
19 Council takes a good, hard look at climate changes
20 coming our way -- or sea otters, which really aren't
21 exactly under what the Federal Program is concerned
22 with. But it very much is something that we should be
23 concerned with.

24

25 And this Council is the only body
26 that's really empowered to say something in an official
27 way on these things. And that is our charter to deal
28 with all manners of things that could affect
29 subsistence uses and the subsistence way of life in our
30 areas.

31

32 So that's something else that's really
33 strong in this Council. Because this Council hasn't
34 been afraid to step beyond the boundaries of seasons
35 and bag limits and to look at things like spraying
36 herbicides, for example. That was something the
37 Council took up quite a few years ago. Or having
38 strong comments on Forest Management Plans.

39

40 So these are some of the things that I
41 hope we continue to work on. And I think we should be
42 real frank in wanting program support in these areas as
43 well from our Forest Service and Fish & Wildlife
44 Service Staff people. Because this is part of their
45 job. And part of the Program's job is to support this
46 Council and its actions in these areas, as well as in
47 the strict, more narrow balance of regulatory
48 proposals.

49

50 I also note something that I'm a little

1 concerned with. And that would be the declining
2 support for really good data gathering activities. And
3 the way I see it is that the testimony that comes in
4 and the experience that Council members have in their
5 communities and the testimony that comes to the Council
6 either in letter form or from Advisory Committees,
7 tribes, and community organizations is really very
8 strong, and it's a lot of what the Council depends on
9 for making decisions. But the Council also needs the
10 numbers. It needs escapements. It needs to know about
11 what actual harvests are for subsistence. It needs to
12 know -- to have things written up on cultural
13 significance of different things that are before us.

14
15 And I'm really distressed that this
16 aspect of the Federal Subsistence Program and for that
17 matter the State support -- State research support has
18 been taking a real nose dive. And I think this puts us
19 in a little bit of a precarious position because
20 decisions are supposed to be supported by substantial
21 data or at least cannot -- should be supported by
22 substantial data. And that's something that the
23 Council can't bring forward. It can't -- the Council's
24 not empowered to be doing research projects and
25 gathering that information, and I think that's a really
26 important ingredient that could hold us back in coming
27 years if the necessary studies, reports, monitoring are
28 not done.

29
30 So maybe I'll leave it at that. And
31 turn it over to John here.

32
33 VICE CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Bob.

34
35 John.

36
37 MR. YEAGER: Thank you.

38
39 Again, I'd like to welcome all of you
40 back to Wrangell and express how grateful I am that we
41 were able to decide to hold this meeting here because
42 of the importance of the Stikine River discussions. So
43 that means a lot to me and a lot to our community here.

44
45 So, again, thank you.

46
47 It's that time of year again for me to
48 recognize what a horrible moose hunter I am.

49
50 (Laughter)

1 MR. YEAGER: And it puts an extreme
2 amount of pressure on my family because I have to
3 decide which of my wife's chickens are going to get it.

4
5 (Laughter)

6
7 MR. YEAGER: Just to make up for my
8 moose hunting on the Stikine. However, I do most of my
9 moose hunting from a duck blind so I guess I'm -- I
10 can't say that I'm all not in tune with why I'm not
11 getting a moose.

12
13 (Laughter)

14
15 MR. YEAGER: The moose hunting on the
16 river -- we just closed on the 15th of October. And I
17 believe 36 bulls roughly were taken. And the only
18 moose I saw were in the bow of a skiff going down the
19 river.

20
21 (Laughter)

22
23 MR. YEAGER: But it was a good season
24 for a lot of the members of our community. And I also
25 think Kupreanof and the Petersburg area had good
26 numbers, too, from what I read in the paper. So it
27 sounds like that was a good moose season for a lot of
28 different communities here.

29
30 The sockeye fishing on the Stikine --
31 there was a fairly good effort up there from what I saw
32 this year and what I was told by people that were
33 fishing up there on the river. I don't know if Robert
34 has any of those numbers yet for us or not, but I do
35 know that people were able to get the fish that they
36 did need off the river.

37
38 And, again, I'm last in line here. But
39 a lot of the issues that were already brought up I've
40 heard from community members. Both subsistence users
41 and non-subsistence users about mining on the Stikine.
42 Their continued concerns with that and they would like
43 our Council to keep that in the forefront, and take
44 advantage of any opportunity to express that concern.

45
46 Also, the sea otter issue, that is
47 another one that they would like us to keep on the
48 radar as well.

49
50 Thank you.

1 VICE CHAIRMAN BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
2 Yeager.
3
4 Mr. Chairman, while you were out of the
5 room some additional Staff came in. I don't know if
6 you noticed that.
7
8 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I noticed that.
9
10 VICE CHAIRMAN BANGS: Okay, thank you.
11
12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So why don't they go
13 ahead and -- so new people came in. And I was out
14 taking care of business when you did, so you snuck in.
15
16 But let's go ahead. Let's start with
17 Staff first.
18
19 Mr. Kessler.
20
21 MR. KESSLER: Good morning. I'm glad
22 to be here for the Council meeting. Steve Kessler with
23 the Forest Service and InterAgency Staff Committee.
24
25 MR. VAN ALEN: I'm Ben Van Alen with
26 the Forest Service in Juneau, fisheries biologist.
27
28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, Ben.
29
30 Anyone -- any other Federal Staff --
31 oh, there he is.
32
33 MR. REEVES: Jeff Reeves. I'm also
34 Forest Service and I'm out of Craig.
35
36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.
37
38 MR. CHESTER: Dennis Chester, Juneau.
39 Forest Service.
40
41 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Any other new Federal
42 people.
43
44 (No comments)
45
46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Anyone else. I
47 see some new faces here; our favorite redhead.
48
49 MS. YUHAS: I think the only one, but I
50 thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 (Laughter)
2
3 MS. YUHAS: I'm sorry for the late
4 arrival. My name is Jennifer Yuhas, I'm the State's
5 Federal subsistence liaison to this program.
6
7 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Jennifer.
8
9 And then we see -- then there's a
10 couple of ladies over here.
11
12 MS. MARCIONI: I'm Meredith Marcioni.
13 I'm with the Division of Subsistence for the Alaska
14 Department of Fish and Game.
15
16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.
17
18 MS. WISE-EAGLE: I'm Susan Wise-Eagle,
19 local resident here, retired Forest Service.
20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Alrighty. Anyone
22 else.
23
24 MR. FELDPAUSCH: Jeff Feldpausch,
25 Research Protection Director for the Sitka Tribe.
26
27 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Welcome.
28
29 I guess that's about it, huh, alrighty.
30
31 So we'll move on then.
32
33 The .805 Report -- you know that's on
34 Page 15 in your book. And all it is is -- you know,
35 the Federal Subsistence Board has, you know, an agenda
36 item that has consensus items on it and those are items
37 that has come before them that probably won't cause any
38 real long discussion or action and so forth so they put
39 all of those together and, you know, they accept that.
40
41 And the .805 Report, you know, is in
42 that -- in that item. So on Page 15, if you want to
43 read that report, it's available there for you.
44
45 The Annual Report is something that we
46 submit every year. And on Page 18, you can read about
47 the Federal Subsistence Board's response to our Report.
48
49
50 So is there any comments or questions

1 about any of these two items so far.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: And if you get a
6 chance to read them -- you know, if you already haven't
7 -- and if you have some concerns about them, you know,
8 feel free to bring them up for discussion, you know,
9 throughout this meeting.

10

11 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Larson.

14

15 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair -- yes. I would
16 like to remind the Council to be cognizant of issues
17 that they wish to bring to the Board's attention. One
18 of the things that we'll talk about later in the
19 meeting are annual report topics for this year's annual
20 report; so that is something we should be thinking
21 about and then we'll have a discussion of that later in
22 the meeting.

23

24 Thank you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Robert. I
27 agree with that. Our annual report is pretty
28 important. So we need to make sure that we have every
29 little item that we want included in that Report, you
30 know, addressed. So we take care of that toward the
31 end of the agenda.

32

33 Thank you.

34

35 You know, the Chair's Report, I just
36 want to give, you know, a report on the Wrangell-St.
37 Elias Subsistence Resource Commission meeting I
38 attended here a week and a half or so ago. And I
39 appreciate, you know, the Council, you know, appointing
40 me to that position every year. And it's been a
41 pleasure, you know, going up and associating with the
42 people from the Interior. They're a great bunch of
43 people as well.

44

45 I remember when I first got appointed
46 and then I went to my first meeting and I came back and
47 gave a report. And if you -- many of you who were here
48 at that time remember Big Bill Thomas asked me if I was
49 elected Chair yet. And I said no this is my first time
50 attending a meeting and so he just kind of, you know,

1 huffed it away. However, the next year that I
2 attended, you know, I was elected to be their Chairman,
3 and then I served for several years, you know, as their
4 Chairman. And then we got a person on the Council who
5 is a member of the AHTNA Corporation and she's pretty
6 well informed on all of the issues up there and also,
7 you know, is pretty well at knowing how to conduct
8 meetings.

9
10 One of the things about the people in
11 that group, you know, when I first arrived there was
12 that they had a hard time, you know, conducting a
13 meeting and keeping the meeting going and so forth so
14 that was why I served on there. But now they have
15 their own and I feel real happy about that. It was a
16 good experience though.

17
18 At our last meeting, you know, we --
19 I'm just going to go through some of the issues that I
20 thought, you know, were pretty important or, you know,
21 that you might be interested in hearing.

22
23 There is an area up in the Wrangell-St.
24 Elias, you know, known as the Nabesna area. And over
25 the past few years, you know, they've been doing some
26 EIS studies, you know, about the impact of four-
27 wheelers and, you know, OVRs on that area. And one of
28 the concerns that they had -- you know, and they saw
29 this happening to this particular area because it
30 really -- I guess you might call it wetland and the
31 vehicles were going through there and -- and then as it
32 became more difficult to pass, you know, then they
33 would widen the trail. And so this became a concern to
34 the people up there. And so they finally came to a
35 conclusion, you know, this past -- at the past meeting,
36 and there was just an update that they gave in regards
37 to that at this meeting.

38
39 We've been dealing with the elder sheep
40 hunt and using aircraft, you know, to hunt sheep in
41 that area. That's been a very long discussion.

42
43 And another thing, you know, portable
44 motors. Not just four-wheelers, but issues like --
45 things -- items like chain saws, you know, anything
46 that makes loud noises, you know, are things that --
47 you know, that this Council, you know, is really
48 interested in talking about and trying to get resolved.

49
50 Firewood was an issue. You know,

1 taking -- the taking of firewood. In regards to
2 standing trees and dead trees, you can take dead trees,
3 but, you know, if you're going to cut down a wide -- I
4 mean a wild tree or a good tree, it has to be about
5 three inches in diameter and so forth.

6

7 So that is -- I thought maybe important
8 enough -- we're going to be talking a little bit later
9 on about a proposal, EP15-01 [sic]. We talked about
10 that up there. They passed it. And I'll -- when we
11 get to that portion of it in our agenda, I'll share
12 some experience with you on that.

13

14 Item number 15 on the agenda, I was
15 able to do a PowerPoint presentation on the Natural
16 Law. And actually this Power Point presentation is
17 about a half a day and in it, it talks about -- we talk
18 about six principles of the Natural Law that will help
19 us be better productive in our lives. And then another
20 part of it deals with how can you use Natural Laws, you
21 know, to better and efficiently run a business.

22

23 I gave that first part and it was
24 pretty well received. I did a half a day, you know,
25 just real quickly in about a half hour or so. I hope
26 maybe I can share that with this body here sometime in
27 the near future. I didn't contact, you know, Robert
28 and discuss it with him about this meeting. But maybe
29 in some future meeting.

30

31 The next meeting is going to be in
32 Yakutat, by the way, so I might be able to share it
33 with you then.

34

35 So, you know, the Wrangell-St. Elias,
36 you know, Subsistence Resource Commission meeting has
37 got some real old-timers like we do here. You know,
38 and they are very good people, too. And I guess, you
39 know, on all the Councils and Boards that I sit on, I
40 always feel like we have some very good people on
41 there. So I think, you know, Wrangell-St. Elias has
42 got some very talented people on that Council as well.
43 They're just like you and I, you know, on this Council,
44 concerned about subsistence issues.

45

46 So that's the extent of my report. So
47 folks, I'd like to maybe take a little break. And come
48 back here in about -- oh, let's try to reconvene at
49 about ten after -- ten after, okay?

50

1 MR. LARSON: It is ten after.
2
3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: No, I'm sorry.
4
5 MR. LARSON: It is ten after.
6
7 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: It is ten after.
8
9 (Laughter)
10
11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Come back --
12 let's take a 10 minute break, okay.
13
14 (Laughter)
15
16 (Off record)
17
18 (On record)
19
20 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Everyone, please take
21 your chairs and we'll get started. See how much we can
22 get done here before lunch.
23
24 (Pause)
25
26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, we're back in
27 session. So I'm going to turn a couple of minutes over
28 to Robert to share some information with us.
29
30 And for your information, Jennifer,
31 he's going to include that in his little report here
32 for us.
33
34 Thank you.
35
36 So, Robert, go ahead.
37
38 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
39
40 During the break, we've distributed
41 Board of Game Proposals that -- it's a list that the
42 Council might be interested in interviewing. That will
43 come a little later in the course of the meeting.
44
45 There's also a list of a Board of
46 Fisheries Proposals that you might want to look at
47 prior to that discussion.
48
49 We have a Summary of Federal
50 Subsistence Actions that is on your desks. I would

1 like to mention that -- that -- oh, I've found the
2 nameplates for Mr. Jackson, Mr. Bloom, and Mr. Isaacs
3 so that we'll all be able to recognize those people.

4
5 And again we have some new people in
6 the audience. If you wish to provide testimony to the
7 Council, there are some blue cards that are available
8 on the front desk. I encourage you to fill those out.

9
10 I also notice that we have quite a few
11 people in the audience now, but we only have three
12 people signed in to our sign-in sheet. So if you could
13 please do that for us, that would be greatly
14 beneficial.

15
16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Okay, thank
17 you, Robert.

18
19 Patty mentioned to me just before our
20 break that she has an issue to bring up on the annual
21 report. So we'll turn you -- we'll give you some time,
22 Patty.

23
24 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman
25 Adams.

26
27 The Agenda item was the Federal
28 Subsistence Board Annual Report reply, on Page 18. On
29 Issue Two, is adequate funding for subsistence program
30 and population assessment studies for fish and
31 wildlife. In the response -- in the bottom paragraph
32 -- or near the bottom -- these matters are still being
33 examined as part of the ongoing Secretarial review
34 process. The Board will continue to discuss this issue
35 at its next available work session and include the
36 Council's budgetary concerns.

37
38 When is this next Board work session?

39
40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Robert, do you have an
41 answer for that or -- oh, Chuck will be able to help
42 you on that, Patty.

43
44 MS. PHILLIPS: Good.

45
46 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah. Mr. Chair, there
47 isn't one scheduled at this time -- a work session.
48 The next Board meeting is in January to hear fish
49 proposals, but there is not a work session scheduled.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: But they always do
2 have one before the Board meeting though, don't they?
3
4 MR. ARDIZZONE: Not always.
5
6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: No?
7
8 MR. ARDIZZONE: No.
9
10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Not always, okay.
11
12 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, who makes
13 sure that these items -- subjects of concern -- are
14 carried forward to the Board to address?
15
16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Chuck.
17
18 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, our Council
19 Coordination Division Chief does have a working list of
20 all issues from all the RACs that need to be addressed
21 by the Board. We have a table in the office to try to
22 keep track of those.
23
24 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you. Is this on
25 it? Is this issue on it? On that list?
26
27 MR. ARDIZZONE: I'm not 100 percent
28 sure. But if there's anything that he felt that needed
29 to be brought to the Board, it should be on that table.
30 I can send a note and see if he's in the office and
31 then I can get back with you.
32
33 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you.
34
35 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Chuck. I'd
36 appreciate you following up on that for us. Thanks.
37
38 MS. PHILLIPS: Issue Three, deference
39 for rule determinations and customary and traditional
40 use determinations. The second paragraph in the
41 response says after receiving the letter from the
42 Secretaries, Board members made a decision to
43 affirmatively give such deference.
44
45 What does it mean by affirmatively
46 give, and what kind of teeth is in that affirmation?
47
48 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh. I thought Ben was
49 going to come up and answer that question for you.
50

1 (Laughter)

2

3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Who's got a good
4 answer for that? Chuck, do you want to try that again?

5

6 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, I'm sorry.
7 I was going to type that email. And so I'm not sure
8 where we're talking about.

9

10 MS. PHILLIPS: On Page 20, issue three,
11 deference for rule -- excuse me.

12

13 Page 20, issue three, deference for
14 rule determinations and customary and traditional use
15 determinations response, second paragraph. The last
16 sentence says the Board members made a decision to
17 affirmatively give such deference. In what form is
18 this deference being given? Just as a verbal
19 affirmation, or what teeth is there in that.....

20

21 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mister.....

22

23 MS. PHILLIPS:decision?

24

25 MR. ARDIZZONE: Excuse me. Mr. Chair,
26 I believe the Board stated on the record that they
27 would give deference, as they do for fish and wildlife
28 matters, to C&T and to rural status. It's not in
29 writing, but I believe it is on the record that they
30 would give the same deference they do for fish and
31 wildlife matters.

32

33 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Patty.

36

37 MS. PHILLIPS: My concern is that if
38 it's not a written policy or rule-making, that it could
39 be not adhered to with a change in the Board
40 membership.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Patty.

43

44 And I think that's a very good point.
45 Chuck, if we can relay that message to them, we'd
46 appreciate it.

47

48 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair, I don't know
49 if we should follow-up with that in our next annual
50 report.

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We could. It needs to
2 be put in there anyhow if it's a concern to you, Patty.

3
4 Okay, thanks.

5
6 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair, on the issue
7 four -- or excuse me.....

8
9 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair.

10
11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes. Go ahead, Chuck.

12
13 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Kessler just
14 informed me that the Board had discussed updating their
15 meeting guidelines.

16
17 Is that what you said, Steve?

18
19 MR. KESSLER: (Nods affirmatively)

20
21 MR. ARDIZZONE: Which would include a
22 deference on C&T and rural, which hasn't been done yet
23 but it is on the thing -- on the list of things to do.

24
25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So that would present
26 more teeth into it and what Patty's kind of addressing,
27 too.

28
29 MR. ARDIZZONE: Yeah. And then it
30 would be in writing.

31
32 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you.

33
34 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you.

35
36 Issue four, the appointment of
37 subsistence uses representative to the North Pacific
38 Fisheries Management Council. Under the response,
39 third paragraph, that second sentence says the
40 amendment requires the Governor to consult with
41 subsistence users prior to nominating someone to the
42 seat on the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council,
43 however, it does not provide for a subsistence seat.

44
45 The Council is requesting a designated
46 seat. And we've had subsistence -- members of the
47 public who are subsistence users apply to that Council
48 and have never been appointed. And so that's why we
49 were requesting that designated seat. And I don't
50 think they understand that the subsistence lifestyle

1 isn't addressed continuously through the North Pacific
2 Council process.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Is there an update on
7 that, Chuck? I know we talked about it quite a bit
8 during our combined meeting with the Central Council.

9

10 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, I'm not
11 aware of any updates.

12

13 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

14

15 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Patty.

16

17 MS. PHILLIPS: And thank you, Chairman.

18

19 So the issue four, last sentence, says
20 the lack of representation of subsistence users on the
21 North Pacific Fisheries Management Council is an issue
22 that affects all 10 Councils. And every other Council
23 should be made aware of the Southeast Council's
24 concerns and be given an opportunity to provide their
25 comments to the Board.

26

27 Did this happen, Mr. Chair?

28

29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Do you have an answer
30 for her, Chuck?

31

32 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, I'm not sure
33 if it happened at all Councils. But the Council
34 meetings I've attended, it has been discussed.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Are you done, Patty?

37

38 MS. PHILLIPS: Well.....

39

40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You got some more?

41

42 MS. PHILLIPS:I want to hear

43 what.....

44

45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Hmm?

46

47 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, at the Nome
48 meeting, I was -- I attended the Nome meeting here the
49 week before last. And they did have a discussion of
50 this exact topic regarding the North Pacific Fisheries

1 Management Council. And then in their context it was
2 all about chum interceptions and having their voices
3 heard at -- or on that body.

4

5 So thank you.

6

7 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair, I would
8 recommend that issue number four be put into a separate
9 letter and then distributed to each of the Regional
10 Advisory Councils throughout the State. Because what
11 I'm hearing now is not a positive affirmation that it
12 was presented to each of the 10 Councils.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 REPORTER: Bert. Bert.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thanks.

19

20 Thank you, Patty. I think we'll make
21 that a part of our -- an agenda item when we get to the
22 letter writing and so forth at the end of this meeting.

23

24

25 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

26

27 Finally I'd like to -- on the issue
28 number six, lack of support to the Council, I would
29 like to really thank the Office of Subsistence
30 Management for getting our meeting packet to us in a
31 very timely manner. And this is what I'm talking
32 about, right, I mean it was very well put together.
33 And thank you for the effort that went into it.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you for that
36 comment, Patty. And I'm sure that all of the Council
37 members really appreciated that as well.

38

39 Do you have another item, Patty?

40

41 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair, on item
42 number seven, is there going to be any more follow-up
43 on the enhancement opportunities for sockeye salmon at
44 Kanalku? Is that on our agenda?

45

46 MR. LARSON: I think so.

47

48 MS. PHILLIPS: Is it?

49

50 MR. LARSON: No, I guess not.

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Not the
2 enhancement part, Patty, I was just informed. So yeah.
3 We'll have to remember that.

4
5 MR. WRIGHT: It was just on the
6 petition.

7
8 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair, if it's in
9 our Annual Report, then I think it should be an Agenda
10 item in the future.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 That's all my comments.

15
16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Thank you for
17 those comments, Patty. Appreciate that.

18
19 Thank you, Chuck.

20
21 MS. PHILLIPS: More work for you.

22
23 (Laughter)

24
25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

26
27 (Laughter)

28
29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Chuck already
30 made the presentations. So we don't need to do that
31 anymore.

32
33 At this time we can take some public
34 comments on any of the non-agenda items. If there's
35 anyone here who would like to testify to the Council on
36 any item that you think -- or any issue that you think
37 is important, we can take that now.

38
39 This also will be available every day.
40 I think we'll try to make it available every morning.

41
42 Okay. So we understand that we have a
43 guest here that is going to have to leave this
44 afternoon. And Meredith -- I wanted to call her
45 Macaroni, but.....

46
47 (Laughter)

48
49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:if you want to
50 take your opportunity to address the Council now,

1 please come to the microphone over there and introduce
2 us and let us know what you are going to discuss with
3 us or talk with us about.

4

5 MS. MARCIONI: There we go. So my name
6 is Meredith Marcioni and I work with Division of
7 Subsistence. We're a small research-based branch of
8 Fish & Game. I'm sure you're familiar with us. And I
9 came today because I wanted to address the Council
10 about some of the Board of Fish proposals and Board of
11 Game proposals that have arisen so far this year.

12

13 So I want to first thank you guys for
14 having me and for fitting me in on such a tight Agenda
15 that you have. It's much appreciated.

16

17 So there are several proposals to the
18 Board of Fish and then there are a couple to the Board
19 of Game. The Division of Subsistence will be
20 presenting three Board Reports. And two of them are to
21 the Board of Fish and one of them is to the Board of
22 Game.

23

24 The game reports respond to two
25 proposals that were submitted to the Board of Game.
26 And one is Proposal 146, which was submitted by the
27 Alaska Department of Fish & Game and the other proposal
28 is 147, which was submitted by the Southeast Regional
29 Advisory Council.

30

31 So these two proposals ask the Board of
32 Game to consider revising the amount reasonably
33 necessary for subsistence uses for deer in Game
34 Management Areas -- or in Game Management Units --
35 excuse me -- 5 and 1A. The reports written by the
36 Division of Subsistence provide information on the
37 history of the customary and traditional use findings
38 for deer in the Southeast Alaska -- in Southeast
39 Alaska. The reports also provide options for revising
40 the amount necessary for subsistence based on the
41 history of customary and traditional use findings and
42 currently available harvest data for those areas.

43

44 The report written for the Board of
45 Fish responds to two proposals asking the Board to
46 modify findings regarding the amount of Pacific salmon
47 reasonably necessary to provide for subsistence uses in
48 the Southeastern Alaska Management Area. Proposal 146,
49 which was submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish &
50 Game, asks the Board to consider revising the amounts

1 reasonably necessary for subsistence for salmon for
2 Southeast Alaska Districts 12 and 14. Proposal 147,
3 submitted by the Federal Southeast Alaska Subsistence
4 Regional Advisory Committee or Council, asked the Board
5 to reconsider amounts reasonably necessary for
6 subsistence for salmon in the Angoon area. The
7 Division of Subsistence Report provides background
8 information pertaining to each of the areas addressed
9 by the proposals.

10

11 So these are the reports that we have
12 written in response to the proposals that were sent to
13 these different Boards.

14

15 I would also like to inform you of the
16 other proposals addressing subsistence that were
17 submitted to the Board of Fisheries so far this year --
18 or well, this year. The Proposals 117 through 121
19 address the Sitka herring fishery. Proposals 149
20 through 152 address the Klawock subsistence salmon
21 fishery. And Proposals 69 through 79, submitted to the
22 Board of Shellfish, are to close waters to commercial
23 fishing for dungeness crab in several areas throughout
24 Southeast Alaska.

25

26 All proposals are currently available
27 on the Board of Fish & Game websites. And the reports
28 written by the Division of Subsistence are not
29 available online at this time, but will be available
30 within the next few weeks.

31

32 And if you have any specific questions
33 regarding these proposals, we do have specific people
34 that are working in these areas that can respond to
35 these questions.

36

37 And thank you very much for your time.
38 If you do have any questions, I can try to answer them
39 for you. But if there ones that I need to direct you
40 to somebody else, I will let you know.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. So any
43 questions from the Council.

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So when is the Board
48 meeting?

49

50 MS. MARCIONI: Mr. Chair, the Board of

1 Fish -- Fin Fish for Southeast Alaska is February 23rd
2 through March 3rd and that is in Sitka. The Board of
3 Shellfish is January 21st through the 27th, and that's
4 in Wrangell. And the Board of Game is in Juneau, and
5 that's January 9th through 13th.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So these proposals
8 that you just addressed to us will be considered during
9 that meeting in February?

10

11 MS. MARCIONI: Yes.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: February -- yeah.

14

15 MS. MARCIONI: Well, the February one
16 will be for the fin fish.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

19

20 MS. MARCIONI: And then the crab -- the
21 dungeness will be addressed in January at the
22 Shellfish. And the two deer proposals will be
23 addressed.....

24

25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

26

27 MS. MARCIONI:in January also.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. And I
30 think Mr. Kitka had.....

31

32 MS. MARCIONI: Yeah.

33

34 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

35

36 I had one question. It just struck me
37 when you said that -- historical knowledge on these
38 fisheries. Just how far back does the State go back on
39 historical knowledge? Because we have a long history
40 of what happened and I know that they don't go back
41 very far sometimes.

42

43 MS. MARCIONI: Mr. Kitka, through the
44 Chair, that's a very good question.

45

46 And for our division, when writing
47 these reports, when we write a customary and
48 traditional use finding or an amount necessary for
49 subsistence and we refer to historical, we go back as
50 far as we have documented by anthropologists. Or we go

1 back as far as we have documented by elders in the
2 community that we've done interviews with, depending on
3 which one goes back farther. We would prefer to have
4 obviously knowledge of people in the community dating
5 as far back as possible, but sometimes that's not
6 always possible. I don't know if that answers your
7 question.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, Mr. Kitka.

10

11 MR. KITKA: (Nods affirmatively)

12

13 Any more questions, anyone.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Well, thank you.
18 We're happy that we were able to accommodate you. I
19 know -- you know, Bob and I were emailing back and
20 forth how to fit you into the agenda. So we got you
21 there. So thanks for coming. Appreciate it.

22

23 MS. MARCIONI: Mr. Chair and the
24 Council, I thank you very much.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You're welcome. Thank
27 you. Okay, then.....

28

29 REPORTER: Bert. Bert.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We've got about 12
32 minutes before noon. Do you want to take a lunch break
33 now or do you want to take on another item?

34

35 (Council nods affirmatively)

36

37 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Does that mean yeah,
38 you want to take a lunch break?

39

40 (Council nods affirmatively)

41

42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Let's go ahead
43 and take a lunch break. We'll be back here.....

44

45 MR. DOUVILLE: You read my mind.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: What did he say? What
50 did he say, Cathy? You're not going to tell on him?

1 (Laughter)
2
3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. How about 1:00
4 o'clock; is that enough time?
5
6 (Council nods affirmatively)
7
8 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, 1:00 o'clock.
9
10 (Off record)
11
12 (On record)
13
14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We'll go ahead and
15 come back into session. I've got about five minutes
16 after 1:00. Did everyone have a real good lunch.
17
18 (Council nods affirmatively)
19
20 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Bangs made an
21 observation after lunch. We're going to try to break
22 for lunch about quarter to noon tomorrow so that
23 everyone will have a chance to go, you know, get a seat
24 at the restaurants because it's pretty limited, you
25 know. So we'll try to leave early for lunch so that
26 none of us will lose out on having lunch. So I just
27 want to make that observation and let you all know
28 we're going to work on that.
29
30 Let me see. Anything else that we need
31 to talk about.
32
33 (No comments)
34
35 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Patty, thank you for
36 bringing up those issues on the annual report. I
37 appreciated that very much.
38
39 MS. PHILLIPS: You're welcome.
40
41 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh.
42
43 We're in old business now. Customary
44 and traditional use determination.
45
46 Mr. Brooks, are you there?
47
48 MR. LARSON: Mr. Brooks isn't available
49 until after 2:00.
50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh.
2
3 MR. LARSON: Yeah.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. I think
6 somebody mentioned that earlier. He won't be available
7 till after 2:00. So are you going to be Mr. Brooks?
8
9 MR. ARDIZZONE: No, Mr. Chair. But I'm
10 next on the agenda, so.....
11
12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. So we'll go
13 ahead and let you have the mic for now.
14
15 Anyone online that we need to be aware
16 of?
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: If there's someone on
21 the telephone connected to us, would you please
22 identify yourself?
23
24 MS. HANSON: Yeah, Bert. This is still
25 Kathy Hanson.
26
27 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Thank you.
28
29 Anyone else?
30
31 (No comments)
32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Without further
34 adieu, we'll go ahead and continue.
35
36 Go ahead, Chuck, you have the floor.
37
38 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, I'm going to
39 cover the rural review process. If you turn to Page 37
40 in your Council book, that's the.....
41
42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Before you go any
43 further though, Chuck, I just need to reiterate that
44 Pippa will -- let me see. Where are we on the agenda,
45 oh, yeah, the customary and traditional use
46 determination -- Mr. Brooks will be here later on. So
47 we'll take care of him at that point.
48
49 So you have the floor now, Chuck. Go
50 ahead.

1 MR. ARDIZZONE: Okay, Mr. Chair. As I
2 stated, I'll be covering the rural review briefing for
3 the Council. It's found on Page 37. It's a written
4 briefing, but I'm going to read it as I've done for the
5 other Councils, so everybody gets the same information.
6

7

8 So in October 2009, Secretary of the
9 Interior Salazar announced a review of
10 the Federal Subsistence Program. The
11 review was intended to ensure the
12 Program is best serving rural Alaskans
13 and that the letter and spirit of Title
14 8 are being met.
15

16 Secretary Salazar, with the concurrence
17 of Secretary of Agriculture Vilsack
18 requested that the Federal Subsistence
19 Board initiate a number of actions, one
20 of which was to develop recommendations
21 for regulatory changes to the process
22 of making rural/non-rural
23 determinations in Alaska.
24

25 At its January 2012 public meeting, the
26 Federal Subsistence Board elected to
27 conduct a global review of the
28 rural/non-rural determination process,
29 starting with the public and the
30 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
31 input. Logically, the global review
32 required the Board to stay its 2007
33 final rule, whole rural provisions
34 would otherwise have gone into effect
35 in May 2012.
36

37 The Board determined that the 1991
38 rural/non-rural determinations would
39 remain in place pending the outcome of
40 its rural -- excuse me -- of its review
41 of the rural determination process.
42 The conclusion of the review and
43 determination of the rural status must
44 be completed by March 2017.
45

46 Two areas of Alaska, the community of
47 Saxman and the Kenai Peninsula -- have
48 proven difficult for the Board to
49 categorize under the current rural
50 determination process. The Board has

1 gone back and forth on whether these
2 locations should be rural or non-rural.
3 Based on the Secretary's directive and
4 these high-profile back and forth
5 changes in rural status, using the
6 current rural determination process,
7 the Board decided to engage in a year-
8 long public review of the current
9 process.

10
11 On December 31, 2012 the Board
12 identified five elements in its rural
13 determination process for public
14 review. Populations thresholds; rural
15 characteristics; aggregation of
16 communities; time lines; and
17 information sources.

18
19 The Board posed eight general questions
20 for public input concerning these five
21 elements and one question requesting
22 any different, additional information.
23 The comment period for this review was
24 November 2013 through December 2013.

25
26 The Subsistence Regional Advisory
27 Councils were briefed on the Federal
28 registered notice during their winter
29 2013 meetings. At their fall 2013
30 meetings, the Councils provided a
31 public forum to hear the residents of
32 their regions deliberate on rural
33 determination process and provide
34 recommendations for changes to the
35 Board. Testimonies from members of the
36 public were also recorded during
37 separate hearings held to solicit
38 comments on the rural determination
39 process. The Board held hearings in
40 Barrow, Ketchikan, Sitka, Kodiak,
41 Bethel, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Kotzebue,
42 Nome, and Dillingham.

43
44 The government consultations on the
45 rural determination process were held
46 between the members of the Board and
47 Tribes. And additionally,
48 consultations were held between the
49 members of the Board and Alaska Native
50 Corporations formed under the Alaska

1 Native Claims Settlement Act.

2

3 In aggregate, the Board received 475
4 substantive comments from various
5 sources, including individual citizens,
6 members of Regional Advisory Councils,
7 and other entities or organizations
8 such as non-profit Alaska Native
9 Corporations and rural governments. If
10 you look on Page 45 through 63 of your
11 Council book, you can see the briefing
12 that was given to the Board and the
13 summary of those comments.

14

15 Based on Council and public comments,
16 government-to-government, and Alaska
17 Native Corporation consultations, and
18 brief materials from the Office of
19 Subsistence Management, the Board
20 developed a recommendation that
21 simplifies the process of rural/non-
22 rural determinations as shown below.

23

24 So the Board recommended to the
25 Secretaries to make the following
26 change in Secretarial Regulations.

27

28 The Board shall determine which areas
29 or communities in Alaska are non-rural.
30 All other communities and areas are
31 therefore rural.

32

33 The Board also recommended eliminating
34 from Secretarial Regulation the
35 specific criteria previously relied
36 upon by the Board in making rural
37 determinations, to include population
38 thresholds, the population data
39 sources, rural characteristics,
40 community aggregation, and the ten-year
41 review period.

42

43 If you look on Pages 39 through 44, you
44 can see the letter that Board wrote to the Secretaries,
45 and which makes their recommendation on the rural
46 process.

47

48 So the next steps in this process, if
49 the Secretaries adopt the Board's
50 recommendation, a series of steps are

1 required in order to meet the March
2 2017 deadline. The Secretaries may
3 decide to propose a rule to change the
4 current rural determination process
5 based on the Board's recommendation.
6 The Secretaries would need to act on
7 this recommendation because it affects
8 Sub-Part B of the Regulations which are
9 under Secretarial purview.

10
11 The Public Regional Advisory Councils,
12 Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations
13 would have the opportunity to comment
14 or consult during that rule-making
15 process. The Secretaries could then
16 decide to publish a final Rule,
17 specifying the rural/non-rural
18 determination process. The revised
19 process appears in Sub-Part D -- the
20 revised process would appear in Sub-
21 Part D of the Subsistence Regulations
22 under Secretarial authority. The Board
23 uses that rule to make non-rural, rural
24 determinations, publishing those
25 determinations in a proposed rule.

26
27 The Public Regional Advisory Councils,
28 Tribes, and Alaska Native Corporations
29 would then have the opportunity to
30 comment on that rule-making process.
31 The Board would then publish a final
32 rule with the revised rural/non-rural
33 determinations. The revised rural/non-
34 rural determinations would appear in
35 Sub-Part C of the Subsistence
36 Regulations, which are under Board
37 authority.

38
39 If no new rule-making is completed by
40 March 1st, 2017, specifying rural/non-
41 rural determinations, then the 2007
42 rule will become enforceable.

43
44 So basically where we are -- the
45 Councils, the public, the Corporations, Native Tribes
46 all made comments. They're summarized. The Board took
47 all those comments into consideration, made a
48 recommendation to the Secretaries, and it's still in
49 the Secretaries' office for them to take action.
50

1 If there's any questions, I'll try and
2 answer them.

3
4 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Questions, anyone.

5
6 Cathy.

7
8 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9
10 How long does the rule-making process
11 generally last? And by what time does that process
12 have to be initiated in order to meet the 2017
13 deadline?

14
15 MR. ARDIZZONE: Ms. Needham, that's --
16 through the Chair. Ms. Needham, that's a good
17 question. It takes months. It can take eight to 12
18 months to get a rule through. So hopefully the
19 Secretaries will decide soon, so we'll know either way.
20 Because it will take a while to get everything in place
21 if they decide to put a rule in, to get it all done
22 before March 2017.

23
24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Bob and then Don.

25
26 MR. SCHROEDER: Through the Chair. If
27 for whatever reason the Secretaries do not make a rule,
28 would that still allow the Board to change its 2007
29 decision?

30
31 MR. ARDIZZONE: Through the Chair. No.
32 But that decision would go into effect. And then we
33 are required to go through another rural/non-rural
34 process because of the new census.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Follow-up.

37
38 MR. SCHROEDER: Just a follow-up. It
39 would seem that the Board could revisit its 2007
40 decision, wouldn't that be under the Board authority to
41 do so?

42
43 MR. ARDIZZONE: It would take another
44 rule-making. So it would be another long process. It
45 would be the same thing. So no matter what happens, if
46 the Secretaries do decide to make changes or not, the
47 Board still has to go through the rural/non-rural
48 process again. And so they could readdress it, but it
49 wouldn't be a quick process.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Bob.
2
3 MR. SCHROEDER: Okay. So one branch
4 would be as you've laid out. That the Secretaries come
5 out with a rule and then the Board applies that rule,
6 which then would become final. If the Secretaries did
7 not for whatever reason come out with a rule, it would
8 seem that the Board could reopen this issue.
9
10 MR. ARDIZZONE: I think no matter what
11 happens, if something's not done -- completed by March
12 2017, no matter if -- what happens, the current 2007
13 rule would go into effect.
14
15 MR. SCHROEDER: Excuse me. For a
16 further follow-up, since this Council has been very
17 concerned about the -- particularly the status of
18 Saxman, and that's sort of on the table for this
19 Council. And the Council's been very clear about its
20 recommendation. It would seem -- perhaps there's
21 something the Council should do to say that if the
22 Secretaries don't come out with a rule that is then
23 applied by the Boards, that we could request the Board
24 to revisit this action based on the Council
25 recommendation, past recommendations, current
26 recommendation, and new information which has become
27 available since 2007.
28
29 The timing of that would need to be
30 such that the Board would have sufficient time before
31 March 1, 2017 to affect the process. So that would
32 probably be a year and a half before that.
33
34 I think I'm following some of your
35 thoughts as well, Cathy.
36
37 Am I correct in some of those
38 assumptions?
39
40 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Schroeder, I
41 believe you're correct.
42
43 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So I just want to make
44 a comment first, Don, before I lose my train of
45 thought.
46
47 If there is no rule coming forth from
48 the Secretaries here -- you say they're almost there
49 now -- then the ruling goes back to the 2007 ruling.
50 And that would make Saxman, of course, you know, the

1 thing that we're really concerned about here, non-rural
2 then.

3

4 So I just wanted to, you know, kind of
5 make that a point to consider when we go through this
6 process here.

7

8 But thank you.

9

10 The Chair now recognizes Donald.

11

12 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.

13 Chairman.

14

15 Yeah. Chuck, my question is kind of as
16 to the Regional Council's involvement. It sounds like
17 from what you just told us that we'll have two more
18 opportunities to comment possibly before any new
19 determinations are made. One chance, we get to comment
20 on the rule-making itself for the rural determination
21 process. And then if that rule-making is enacted, then
22 we also get a chance to comment on the actual
23 determinations being made before anything is
24 determined; is that true?

25

26 MR. ARDIZZONE: Through the Chairman.
27 Mr. Hernandez, that is correct. There would be -- be
28 able to comment on the Sub-Part B regulations, proposed
29 rural. And also the proposed rural/non-rural status.
30 That would also be -- the Council would comment on that
31 as well. Yes.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Patty.

34

35 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

36

37 So the Secretaries may decide to
38 propose, but it's based on the recommendation of the
39 Federal Subsistence Board. So is that proposed Rule
40 ready to roll once the Secretaries make the approval?

41

42 MR. ARDIZZONE: Through the Chairman.
43 Ms. Phillips, we are prepared to submit the Rule if and
44 when the Secretaries tell us what they would like to
45 do.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Cathy, go ahead.

48

49 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

50

1 Can you verify that Saxman has filed a
2 lawsuit regarding the rural determination process to
3 the Federal Subsistence Board, and, if so, is that
4 going to slow down the process or could it potentially
5 slow down the process as they go towards that? Is that
6 something that might defer the Secretaries from making
7 a decision to put a Rule forward?
8

9 MR. ARDIZZONE: Through the Chairman.
10 Ms. Needham, yes. Saxman did file a lawsuit. And it
11 may or may not have affects on the rural determination
12 process. I can't speak to that. But it could.
13

14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Anyone else.
15

16 (No comments)
17

18 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Anyone online like to
19 make a comment on this issue?
20

21 (No comments)
22

23 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Hearing none. Thank
24 you, Chuck. Appreciate it.
25

26 MR. ARDIZZONE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
27

28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Do we know when Jeff
29 is going to be in?
30

31 MR. LARSON: It will be after 2:00
32 o'clock.
33

34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: After 2:00. Okay.
35

36 So we'll go ahead and move on to Board
37 of Fisheries proposals.
38

39 MR. LARSON: Sure.
40

41 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Kootznoowoo position
42 to extend federal jurisdiction.
43

44 Mr. Cal? Yep. You.
45

46 Sorry. I had to sign off on my checks.
47 Otherwise.....
48

49 (Laughter)
50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead.

2

3 MR. KESSLER: Good afternoon, Mr.
4 Chairman, Members of the Council. I'm Steve Kessler
5 with U.S. Forest Service. I serve on the InterAgency
6 Staff Committee. And I will just start out and then
7 Cal will do most of the talking.

8

9 So I think everyone is pretty much
10 aware of the extraterritorial jurisdiction petition
11 from Kootznoowoo, the Alaska Native Corporation for
12 Angoon. That petition was in 2012 to exert
13 jurisdiction over the State-managed commercial fishery
14 in Southeast Alaska, in the region around Angoon. The
15 purpose was to reduce the commercial fishery's impacts
16 on salmon stocks important to local subsistence users.

17

18 Based on the recommendations of the
19 Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
20 and the Federal Subsistence Board, the Secretaries
21 deferred final action on the petition to allow
22 development of a locally originated solution to the
23 issues raised in the petition. So now, at this point,
24 several proposals to address the issues have been
25 raised from the petition will be considered by the
26 Alaska Board of Fisheries at its upcoming meeting this
27 Spring.

28

29 And Cal will go through and discuss
30 what some of those proposals are associated with the
31 extraterritorial jurisdiction petition that have some
32 bearing on the subsistence uses for Angoon. And if you
33 have any questions, either of us can address those
34 questions or Jennifer Yuhas from the Alaska Department
35 of Fish & Game will also be available.

36

37 So with that, I'll pass it over to Cal.

38

39 MR. CASIPIT: Thanks, Steve.

40

41 Thanks, Mr. Chair.

42

43 Again, my name is Cal Casipit. I'm the
44 subsistence Staff biologist for the Forest Service in
45 Juneau.

46

47 There are several proposals that have
48 been submitted to the Board of Fish that deal with
49 issues raised in the petition from Kootznoowoo. I'm
50 just going to go through them and kind of give you a

1 brief description on who the proponent is. And then
2 maybe later when we talk about Board of Fish proposals
3 we can talk about how we're going to develop comments
4 with the Council, with Staff support.

5
6 Okay.

7
8 So there's two proposals under
9 Subsistence A&S, Proposal 146 and 147. Proposal 146
10 was submitted by ADF&G. That requests to revise the
11 amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence for salmon
12 in Districts 12 and 14. And of course Proposal 147 was
13 submitted by this body, Southeast Regional Advisory
14 Council. And they asked that the Board reconsider
15 amounts for necessary -- reconsider amounts necessary
16 for subsistence in the Angoon area.

17
18 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair.

19
20 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Mr. Larson.

21
22 MR. LARSON: Yeah. I would like to
23 remind the Council that they can follow along with
24 Cal's presentation. There's a distribution they made
25 earlier before lunch that has the Board of Fisheries
26 proposals. And these proposals that Cal's referencing
27 are on that list.

28
29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Does everyone have a
30 copy of that?

31
32 MR. LARSON: Your copy is right here.
33 Use my copy here.

34
35 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

36
37 MR. LARSON: Okay. It's right there.

38
39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You all have one?
40 Great. I'm the only who didn't. He had it.

41
42 Go ahead.

43
44 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
45 I'll continue on. Under the subsistence gear category,
46 Proposal 153, again submitted by this body, Southeast
47 Regional Advisory Council, basically is to allow
48 subsistence harvest of salmon with purse seine and
49 gillnet gear in portions of District 12 and 13, near
50 Angoon.

1 There are several proposals under the
2 commercial salmon category. Proposal 173, from
3 Kootznoowoo, Incorporated, requests that the Board --
4 that's a proposal that requires the Board to address
5 habitat, conservation, and subsistence priority when
6 considering regulations and policies.

7
8 192, again from Kootznoowoo,
9 Incorporated, requests that in Districts 12 and 14
10 require reporting of commercially caught sockeye salmon
11 that are not sold.

12
13 And Proposal 193, again submitted by
14 Kootznoowoo, Incorporated, requests restriction and
15 prohibition of commercial purse seining in portions of
16 Districts 12 and 14.

17
18 Proposal 198, from Alaska Department of
19 Fish & Game, establishes closed waters around the
20 sockeye salmon streams in the Angoon area. These are
21 the same areas that are closed by emergency order by
22 Fish & Game every year during the fishery.

23
24 Proposal 199, from Angoon Community
25 Association, requests the prohibition of commercial
26 fishing for salmon with purse seine gear within the
27 possessory boundary of Angoon for five years.

28
29 Proposal 200, again from Kootznoowoo,
30 Incorporated, requests closing the waters within the
31 Admiralty Monument Proclamation Boundary to commercial
32 salmon fishing for purse seine gear.

33
34 And Proposal 201, submitted by this
35 body, Southeast Regional Advisory Council, requests the
36 closing of certain waters of Chichagof Island and
37 Admiralty Island to commercial salmon fishing with
38 purse seine gear. These are the same areas that are
39 closed by emergency order by Department of Fish & Game
40 during the fishing season.

41
42 And those are the proposals that are
43 before the Board of Fish -- that will be before the
44 Board of Fish at their meeting in Sitka, February 23rd
45 through March 3rd.

46
47 I'd be happy to answer any questions.

48
49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, you heard him,
50 folks. He'd be happy to answer any questions. Any of

1 you happy people have a happy question, or you can ask
2 Steve some questions, if you want.

3

4 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Patty.

7

8 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman
9 Adams.

10

11 What is the status of the genetic
12 sampling related to the Kanalku petition?

13

14 MR. CASIPIT: Well, I know that in our
15 fisheries resource monitoring programs in the Angoon
16 area we have been taking genetic samples of sockeye for
17 -- and then turning them over to Fish & Game for their
18 genetics lab to analyze. I'm not sure where they are
19 in that process of doing the baseline and doing the
20 sampling. In the commercial fishery. Perhaps Jennifer
21 might have more information on that.

22

23 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24

25 Thank you for your seat for a second
26 here, Cal.

27

28 I usually have those numbers for you at
29 your winter meeting. As far as where we're at with
30 that, you know, we've received samples and we're of
31 course putting them through the process. But it's much
32 more time-consuming than just reading the scale sample
33 and saying oh it's four years old. So I usually report
34 the specifics of that at your winter meeting.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Thank you,
37 Jennifer.

38

39 Mr. Wright, go ahead.

40

41 MR. WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

42

43 On 198, it says established closed
44 waters around sockeye salmon streams in the Angoon
45 area. Is this talking about all the systems that they
46 harvest their subsistence from or just Kanalku?

47

48 MR. CASIPIT: Through the Chair. Mr.
49 Wright, these are the -- currently, these are the areas
50 that are closed by emergency order by Fish & Game

1 during the season or preseason. What this proposal
2 does is actually put those closures into regulation.
3 Instead of Fish & Game doing it every year by emergency
4 order, it would go into regulation. And these are the
5 current areas that are already closed by emergency
6 order every year for the past -- I don't know --
7 several -- 10, 15 years.

8

9 MS. YUHAS: If I may, Mr. Chair. Thank
10 you.

11

12 Cal's exactly right. So it comes out
13 in an emergency order every year. And we've been asked
14 to put it into regulation. And the three-year cycle
15 has come around and so we're trying to make this
16 permanent. It's no difference in the boundaries. Of
17 course it could be by the time the Board of Fish is
18 done with it, based on public comment. If somebody
19 wanted a change in the boundaries, it could end up that
20 way. But the proposal was written exactly the same way
21 the emergency order comes out every year, so it's the
22 same boundaries.

23

24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Donald.

25

26 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
27 Chairman.

28

29 Is the Council going to get an
30 opportunity to support or oppose any of these proposals
31 before the meeting?

32

33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I'm sure. Yeah.

34

35 MR. HERNANDEZ: Is that an agenda item?
36 I'm not sure if it's.....

37

38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Not yet. But we
39 could. We could make it a part of the agenda. Thank
40 you, Donald.

41

42 Ken.

43

44 MR. JACKSON: Through the Chair. When
45 is the last time they had a meeting with the Angoon
46 residents or representative and what was the response?

47

48 MS. YUHAS: Through the Chairman. The
49 last time that there was a large scale meeting was two
50 springs ago, when we went out and met in the Angoon

1 Tribal Hall. Smaller meetings have taken place mostly
2 with our Subsistence Division interviewing people. And
3 so the question is Angoon residents, but we do have the
4 three entities out there, so we have the Tribe, the
5 Corporation, and the City Council. And so Lauren Sill
6 has met mostly with the Tribal members for household
7 interviews. Hazel Nelson has talked more with the
8 Corporation, and so has Kelly Hepler. It's just kind
9 of how it ended up. And I've tried to keep some
10 tidbits up with Matt Kookesh over at City Council and
11 see -- and Albert III, and just see where things are.
12

13 We've mostly been trying to solicit the
14 actual proposals. And so once the proposals were in,
15 we haven't talked a lot since then to try and do the
16 evaluation. And then here in the winter, when we've
17 got our evaluation on the proposals, to come back and
18 say is this doing what we thought, what do you guys
19 think about -- you know, where are you going to be at
20 on the proposals.
21

22 And so the large scale meeting was two
23 springs ago. But minor meetings and trying to talk
24 individually with people to see what the sense of the
25 area is. And it has been a little different between
26 the Tribe versus where City Council and where
27 Kootznoowoo may be. And so we're looking forward to a
28 bigger discussion now that all the proposals are
29 formalized. Last time you met, we didn't even have
30 proposals yet. We were hoping they'd emerge. And you
31 guys submitted a couple.
32

33 MR. JACKSON: Okay. Jennifer, through
34 the Board. Have there been any reports or have the
35 people showed whether the fish was increasing since
36 these emergency orders have gone into place?
37

38 MS. YUHAS: Through the Chairman. The
39 emergency orders are longstanding. And that's part of
40 why they -- we've had the request to make them
41 permanent. Increasing? We haven't really seen an
42 increase in the fish population coming home. Whether
43 it's stabilized things so that less fish are being
44 taken further out and that there might be more
45 available for local, that's the intent. We're just
46 trying to put a hold on things long enough to stabilize
47 them.
48

49 We're hoping that the Falls -- the work
50 that was done at the Falls, the geotechnical habitat

1 work, whatever we'd like to call it that doesn't say
2 blasting, that that will actually be helping increase
3 the fish. But the emergency more has just been to
4 close the outside so that the local area could have
5 more.

6

7 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Patty.

10

11 MS. PHILLIPS: Is there a statistical
12 chart available that we could post on the wall, so we
13 could sort of mull over what some of these proposals
14 are requesting?

15

16 MR. CASIPIT: Through the Chair. Ms.
17 Phillips, we don't have maps or charts made up right at
18 this time. But I was expecting that if -- I was
19 anticipating that the Chair would put together a
20 subcommittee of Council members to work with Staff to
21 develop comments to these proposals. And we can go
22 over with the subcommittee where all these things
23 happen on a map and what it all means, you know, what a
24 Monument proclamation boundary might be and that sort
25 of thing. And we can work through, you know, the
26 subcommittee and get you more information that way.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: And that committee
29 assignments and everything is forthcoming here very
30 soon.

31

32 Jennifer, go ahead.

33

34 MS. YUHAS: I just wanted to clarify
35 that I had been asked prior to the meeting, and, once I
36 had arrived, I had reiterated I would be available for
37 a detailed subcommittee meeting to go through each of
38 the proposals one by one. And it was my thought that
39 the RAC would be weighing in on most of them after a
40 subcommittee report. And that that would be part of --
41 that would be the agenda time when you would discuss
42 the details of each and make a recommendation to the
43 Board.

44

45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Thank you.

46

47 MR. BANGS: Bert.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Any more questions.

50

1 Mr. Bangs.
2
3 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
4
5 I recall we had charts. Basket Bay
6 closed area, Kanalku, there's already -- we had
7 handouts at a previous meeting of all those areas. So
8 they're here somewhere.
9
10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Thanks.
11
12 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.
13
14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Patty.
15
16 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you. I would like
17 to -- thank you -- thank you, Tina. Thank you,
18 Chairman Adams. I support that recommendation that we
19 have a subcommittee formed.
20
21 But I also have another -- so the
22 agenda item is the Kootznoowoo petition, so in our
23 annual report we talked about enhancement opportunities
24 for sockeye salmon at Kanalku Lake and the response
25 from the Board was that we should wait and see what's
26 going on with the modification at the Falls. But I
27 would like a conversation to continue. We can continue
28 to gather information. And the Board -- and the
29 Council request further information and discussion with
30 NSRAA. What is he director, Steve Reifenstuhl, and see
31 what he has to offer towards this ongoing conversation.
32
33 If we need a motion to do so, I will.
34
35 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Motion is in order,
36 Patty.
37
38 MS. PHILLIPS: I move to continue
39 conversations about Kanalku enhancement opportunities
40 by including or requesting a conversation with NSRAA
41 Steve Reifenstuhl.
42
43 MR. KITKA: Second.
44
45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Seconded by Harvey.
46 Thank you.
47
48 Do you want to just talk about it a
49 little bit. Mr. Bangs.
50

1 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2
3 At our last meeting where Mr.
4 Reifentstahl was here, he said that he was just waiting
5 for Kootznoowoo to ask him to come and do some
6 research. And as of that meeting, he hadn't been
7 requested to do any work on it. So I don't know where
8 we fit into that picture. But I think maybe asking
9 Kootznoowoo to request some investigation would be a --
10 may be appropriate.
11
12 Thank you.
13
14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah. I think that's
15 a good point. So he was wanting Kootznoowoo to invite
16 him there. So we need to kind of move the process.
17
18 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.
19
20 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: And so we can do that.
21
22 Yes.
23
24 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair, during our
25 Council members comments, Mr. Schroeder was talking
26 about, you know, our oversight of Federal lands within
27 our region. And Kanalku falls smack in the middle of
28 Tongass and Admiralty Forests. And so, you know, I
29 think it's very appropriate for us to request that as
30 follow through on our conversations that we have at the
31 RAC level. And to not -- we need to encourage this to
32 be expedited rather than to wait for someone else to
33 maybe ask, so that we can continue this conversation.
34 It's already been a delayed process as it is. So I
35 would -- I support the motion.
36
37 Thank you.
38
39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you much.
40
41 Any more comments.
42
43 (No comments)
44
45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. A motion is on
46 the floor. What do you want to do with it.
47
48 MR. HERNANDEZ: Call for question.
49
50 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Somebody called for

1 the question. Was that you, Donald.
2
3 MR. HERNANDEZ: (Nods affirmatively)
4
5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. All in favor of
6 that Motion, please say aye.
7
8 IN UNISON: Aye.
9
10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Opposed, nay.
11
12 (No opposing votes)
13
14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Carried. Thank you.
15
16 So what else here, any more comments or
17 questions of the two gentlemen and the young lady.
18
19 Cathy, go ahead.
20
21 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
22
23 Patty mentioned -- she mentioned
24 enhancement, but it got me thinking about the Falls.
25 The modification work that they did at the Falls. And
26 I was wondering, now that the 2014 sockeye season is
27 over, whether or not we're seeing any increases in
28 escapement as a potential result of that Falls in line
29 being opened up.
30
31 MR. CASIPIT: I'm trying to go back and
32 remember what I read about four weeks ago on an email
33 that I got from Fish & Game on the project. I think at
34 that time the count was about 13.....
35
36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Cal, you're not
37 supposed to get like that until you're my age.
38
39 MR. CASIPIT: Okay.
40
41 (Laughter)
42
43 MR. CASIPIT: I'm getting close. I
44 believe the count was somewhere around 1,300 fish that
45 had made it to the lake. And I believe they calculated
46 the passage at the Falls at about 60 percent, if I'm
47 remembering the.....
48
49 MS. YUHAS: Yeah. Around there.
50

1 MR. CASIPIT: Around there. And I want
2 to go on to say that, you know, Fish & Game and Forest
3 Service -- we worked together to modify the Falls
4 itself. We've done that work. We're watching to see
5 how the fish make that passage and use that
6 modification. If it turns out that it isn't working
7 quite what we expected, there's another step we're
8 going to take to raise the level of the jump pool below
9 the falls. And it would require construction of a
10 small coffer if we were to raise the level of that
11 lower jump pool about a foot, I think, and hopefully
12 improve the passage at that point. But we want to see
13 and watch for a couple of years to see how just the
14 modification works first.

15
16 And with a 60 percent -- you know, it
17 went from, you know, about a 60 percent passage through
18 the Falls. You know, that is an improvement over what
19 happened there historically. And I hate to think --
20 I'd hate for you to think that those 40 percent of the
21 fish didn't make it were somehow wasted or didn't --
22 the bears ate them, okay, and otters and animals and
23 stuff. So, you know, it's just part of the natural
24 ecosystem. And everybody knows that salmon support a
25 lot of things out there more than just people. And so
26 I hope that you don't come away with this feeling that
27 a 60 percent passage rate is somehow a failure. It's
28 not.

29
30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you.

31
32 Jennifer, you have something to add to
33 that?

34
35 MS. YUHAS: I do. And, you know, we
36 spend a lot of time at these meetings talking about
37 really hard stuff. And it's nice to put the good stuff
38 on the record sometimes. And if I mischaracterized
39 something, I trust my colleagues will correct me.

40
41 But with that work at the Falls, you
42 had already met and we were at the Federal Subsistence
43 Board Meeting when we got word that the work that had
44 been done might not be as effective because all the
45 rocks hadn't washed out of the pond so we went and we
46 found our opportunity and we went and did this work.
47 And then -- oh, no. It.....

48
49 MR. WALLACE: (Teleconference
50 interruption).

1 MS. YUHAS: It might not actually have
2 the effect we were looking for. Well, the agencies
3 worked together very quickly and very collaboratively
4 to go get hand divers out there and remove these rocks.
5 And make the pool what it was supposed to be for the
6 season. And there was a lot of nail biting those
7 couple of days and constant emails. And are we going
8 to be able to do this or not? And so, you know, the
9 work that we're hoping will have an effect. You know,
10 a lot of good collaboration went into that to give it a
11 good shot this year.

12
13 And there were some otters visible on
14 weir, I don't know if you got to see the footage from
15 that, but I heard there was some missing fish. And
16 then someone sent me a video with no title to it. I
17 thought all right. Fish passage. What am I watching,
18 a big, brown otter swam by stealing fish.

19
20 (Laughter)

21
22 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Were those sea otters
23 or land otters.

24
25 MS. YUHAS: Land otters.

26
27 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

28
29 Is there someone online that was trying
30 to break in here?

31
32 (No comments)

33
34 REPORTER: They hung up.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, thank you.

37
38 Donald, go ahead.

39
40 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
41 Chairman. While we're on the subject here, do we have
42 subsistence harvest numbers for Kanalku this year yet?

43
44 MS. YUHAS: Through the Chair. Those
45 numbers usually do take longer. Because we're looking
46 at household reports. And it's not like a weir or a
47 net that has a ticket that gets turned in every week.
48 So our Subsistence Research Division is usually doing
49 that work over the course of the winter. And doing
50 follow-up phone calls and household interviews. That's

1 why I usually don't have the best information until
2 your winter meeting. But that's going to be my punt
3 for information like that, is I usually bring it at the
4 winter meeting instead of the fall.

5
6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Did you guys
7 think that Jeff was walking down the stairway to rescue
8 you guys?

9
10 (Laughter)

11
12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Cal.

13
14 MR. CASIPIT: Excuse me. Yeah. We're
15 kind of in the same boat. That our permit returns
16 don't come in for another few weeks. So we won't have
17 the harvest numbers from the Federal side for this year
18 yet. But I would have to say that there's very little
19 Federal harvest there at Angoon. Most of it is under
20 State permits.

21
22 MR. KITKA: I had one question.

23
24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Harvey and then
25 Aaron.

26
27 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
28 know Cal has recommended two years, but I think the
29 return on sockeye is three years. So you might ask for
30 a little longer on it to see whether you get a better
31 result. It seems like you'd almost have to have two
32 cycles of the fish returns before you've got an actual
33 idea.

34
35 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Local knowledge there,
36 folks.

37
38 Aaron.

39
40 MR. CASIPIT: Duly noted, Chair. Thank
41 you.

42
43 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you.

44
45 Mr. Isaacs.

46
47 MR. ISAACS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Thank
48 you. I'm not sure who to address this concern to, but
49 I expect that it can be directed at both Fish & Game
50 and our Council. This past year, this sockeye fishing

1 season, the sockeye showed up almost into August. And
2 there was already a commercial opening. And I'm
3 wondering if there's going to be a conflict that's
4 going to cause us any kind of a loss.

5
6 End of the question.

7
8 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Anyone want to tackle
9 that one?

10
11 MR. ISAACS: Do you understand what I'm
12 saying?

13
14 (Laughter)

15
16 MR. CASIPIT: Through the Chair. Mr.
17 Isaacs, yes. I do. The interaction of commercial
18 fisheries and the potential effect on subsistence
19 fisheries I know is something that on the Federal side
20 and the State side we're very concerned about and try
21 to deal with as it comes up. You mentioned, you know,
22 sockeye showing up in August and that sort of thing.
23 We're seeing lots of things that are different. That
24 probably hasn't happened very much before in the past.
25 I don't know. You know, climate change, what have
26 you. But that's something we're going to have to learn
27 together. Together learn from each other and help each
28 other learn about what's going on. And hopefully
29 influence managers to try to accommodate some of these
30 changes that's coming down the road. That's about all
31 I can say there. We try to work together with our
32 State partners to minimize the effects of commercial
33 fishing on subsistence users and we'll continue to do
34 that. And that's a really good observation about, you
35 know, sockeye showing up later and later every year.

36
37 MS. YUHAS: Thank you. Through the
38 Chairman. What Cal said. And then also we do rely on
39 the in-season reports. And that's local knowledge as
40 well as harvest tickets and observations. Our managers
41 don't like it either when things aren't predictable.
42 It's much easier to do your job when you can predict
43 things. And when something out of the ordinary
44 happens, that's what we have the emergency order
45 process for on the State side. On the Federal side,
46 they call it special action but it's the same thing.
47 It's where the manager can take action based on new
48 information, where the regulatory changes only happen
49 every three years. When we see these types of things
50 happen, that's -- the most information we have in the

1 moment helps the manager make the decision and helps
2 them issue an emergency order to change things
3 temporarily while we have something different
4 happening.

5
6 We hope that it's not a hardship long
7 term because we hope that the process works. But that
8 requires as much information as possible.

9
10 MR. ISAACS: Mr. Chairman.

11
12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, go ahead.

13
14 MR. ISAACS: I'm hoping though that
15 again this observation will not cause any great
16 hardship on the local people who are trying to get
17 sockeye.

18
19 My house happens to be situated where I
20 can look out the window and see all the fishing going
21 on in the little bay. And knowing when the season's
22 permits expire and so on. And again I bring it up
23 because I just don't want to hear later on that the
24 people are not able to get their subsistence permits
25 because of the commercial opening.

26
27 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Cathy, you are
28 recognized.

29
30 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

31
32 In terms of process, we're coming up on
33 the sort of three-year period of where the Secretaries
34 said that they were deferring action of the Federal
35 Subsistence Board recommendation. And so my question
36 is what's going to happen next Spring, after this Board
37 of Fish process has been completed and we know the
38 results of any potential fisheries changes. Is there
39 anything in place that either this body is going to
40 make a recommendation for the next step, or is the
41 Federal Subsistence Board going to pick up from that
42 three-year deadline and remind the Secretaries that a
43 ETJ petition is on the table? I'm just curious what is
44 going to happen this next Spring and if we should be
45 ready to -- if we're going to be asked to make a
46 recommendation about whether or not the things that we
47 wanted to see happen in the three years, whether or not
48 those were accomplished or significant progress had
49 been made on them.

50

1 MR. KESSLER: Through the Chair. Ms.
2 Needham, after the actions are taken at the Board of
3 Fisheries meeting, at that point the Forest Service,
4 the Federal Subsistence Program, and I'm sure this
5 Council will go through a process to evaluate what
6 those changes -- those changes that have been made.
7 And I would anticipate that this Council at that point
8 would like to hear from the Angoon parties, including
9 Kootznoowoo Angoon Community Association, maybe the
10 City of Angoon and hear from each of them what their
11 take is on those -- on the changes that have occurred.
12

13 And then what we anticipate is that the
14 Federal Subsistence Board will then make a
15 recommendation to the Secretaries on further action to
16 take on the petition. And it could be that Kootznoowoo
17 at that point says, you know, that we're satisfied with
18 the conclusion. Ask to withdraw the petition. Or
19 something else happens.
20

21 But the exact process is a little
22 unclear. But I think it's virtually certain that the
23 Forest Service, the Federal Subsistence Board, and the
24 Regional Advisory Council will be part of those next
25 steps. This meeting of the Board of Fisheries is sort
26 of that end point, so that we know what would be -- and
27 we don't know what might result. I mean it might be
28 that some actions are taken and everyone says well, we
29 need to evaluate, you know, the effectiveness of those
30 changes. So it could be postponed further or it's --
31 it's a little bit unknown.
32

33 MS. YUHAS: Mr. Chairman, the outcome
34 is unknown, but I think the process is laid out that
35 that would be the next logical step. Board of Fish
36 meets. They take action. The Council weighs in on
37 whether or not they liked it. The agencies provide an
38 analysis. And the community residents weigh in on
39 whether or not they liked it. Before you make your
40 recommendation, that's the next steps.
41

42 And whatever the outcome is, we don't
43 know. But that was my understanding the last three
44 years. That that was to be the, you know, culminating
45 with the Board of Fish and then everyone evaluating
46 what happened after that before they make their final
47 recommendation to the Secretaries.
48

49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Wright. I like to
50 call on Mr. Wright.

1 (Laughter)

2

3 MR. WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
4 When you're doing the studies, you know, two years --
5 was it two years ago, we didn't fish Chatham. This
6 last year we didn't fish Chatham. So when fish counts
7 come in, does that account -- does that come into play,
8 because, you know, we didn't even fish Chatham this
9 year.

10

11 You know, and then weirder things
12 happened. You know, I was out in the ocean, about 30
13 miles offshore, three weeks ago when I saw more jumps
14 out there than I did in the spring. So, you know. So
15 I was just wondering what was jumping out there. But
16 anyway, they were silver.

17

18 Anyway, you know, I was just wondering
19 about that. Because the numbers that come into the
20 stream and, you know, in different years, you know,
21 they keep going up and down. So I'm just curious
22 whether that comes into account when we don't fish
23 Chatham.

24

25 MR. CASIPIT: Through the Chair. Mr.
26 Wright, I think it's safe to say that issue will be
27 presented to the Board of Fish through the analysis
28 process that Fish & Game works on through analyzing all
29 -- you know, just like us. They analyze every proposal
30 and it goes to the Board of Fish. So I'm sure the
31 issue of commercial effort versus escapement will be a
32 part of that report that gets presented to the Board of
33 Fish. And that's probably available -- I'm sure it
34 will be on the website when it's available so that
35 you'll be able to look at it yourself.

36

37 MS. YUHAS: What Cal said.

38

39 (Laughter)

40

41 MS. YUHAS: But also specifically
42 asking the question of -- there is a principle both on
43 the State side and in the Federal program that in
44 evaluating the needs of an area -- and I might need
45 some help here from my Subsistence Division in choosing
46 the words. But loss of opportunity due to regulation
47 is not calculated as non-use by the area or non-need by
48 the area. It's -- it's kind of like your bowling team
49 gets a buy that week because you couldn't help it.
50 Because the regulations prevented you from -- something

1 was closed due to regulation, it does not -- it does
2 not get calculated as far as whether or not the area
3 needed it. They still needed it. They just couldn't
4 have it.

5
6 Does that answer the question? Am I
7 talking in circles? Do we need -- okay. I'm getting a
8 nod from the Subsistence Division, so I'm still on the
9 track anyway.

10
11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I think Mr. Kitka has
12 a question that he would like to ask.

13
14 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15
16 We had a -- Mr. Ken Jackson mentioned
17 this morning about sportfishing and how it's affecting
18 some of their sockeye places. I just wondered if there
19 was a sportfishing for sockeye in that area.

20
21 MR. CASIPIT: Through the Chair. Mr.
22 Kitka. For the Kanalku area -- now we're talking
23 Kanalku, okay, the lake in question here. There's, you
24 know, the State subsistence fishery that occurs at the
25 mouth. There's technically a Federal fishery that
26 occurs in freshwater that very few people use. It is
27 under the general sportfishing regulations under the
28 State, so a person could sport fish there. However,
29 under our Outfitter Guide Policies, guided freshwater
30 use in the Kanalku area is restricted. We don't allow
31 outfitter guided trips to Kanalku to harvest sockeye
32 under our Outfitter Guide Permitting process.

33
34 Now, what happens under the State
35 sportfishing regulations, that's beyond our control.

36
37 MS. YUHAS: Through the Chair. Mr.
38 Kitka. While the opportunity might be on the books, in
39 talking to our managers it's not utilized and we
40 haven't heard reports such as we heard this morning in
41 the other area. It is not utilized as a destination,
42 or, you know, if a local person came and used a rod and
43 reel and had a permit in their pocket, we expect
44 they're eating their fish, not practicing what we were
45 hearing about this morning.

46
47 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

48
49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Patty.

50

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you.

2

3 This Kanalku issue has been like
4 discussed before the Board for I don't know how many
5 years but what we had at Kanalku were increased
6 populations and then it started diminishing,
7 diminishing, diminishing, to where the Angoon people
8 voluntarily stopped fishing that stock. So I mean the
9 stream improvements was not -- well, I'm glad it
10 happened. I'm glad that collaboration was there. But
11 it was just one piece of the overall scope of what
12 diminished the population at Kanalku. Which the ETJ is
13 saying that the seine harvest has created their -- a
14 lack of escapement in their system.

15

16 So one of my recommendation -- one of
17 the RAC's recommendation was that the North and
18 Southeast Alaska Seine Fishery Management Plan and in
19 the Hidden Falls Hatchery Management Plan include
20 accommodations for State and Federal subsistence
21 fisheries. Is there any action on that?

22

23 MS. YUHAS: I hate being only person
24 trying to keep tabs on all of it and I'm going to
25 disappoint you because I don't know right now. You
26 know that I always do my best to try and call some --
27 phone a friend or just a colleague to try and get those
28 answers for you. But as far as the management plan, I
29 did all my prepping for the meeting and I didn't check
30 on all of the details on the status of the Management
31 Plan. So I apologize for that and I'll do my best to
32 get an answer before the meeting concludes, like I
33 usually do.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Patty, go ahead.

36 Follow-up.

37

38 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Ms. Yuhas. I
39 do appreciate you taking the hot seat. But we also
40 have a Federal Subsistence Program who could also be
41 looking into that as well. But thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: How are we doing
44 folks. Thank you, folks. Thank you, Steve and Cal and
45 Jennifer.

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 MR. LARSON: Jeff Brooks is on the
50 line.

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. I understand
2 that we have Jeff Brooks on the line. Am I correct in
3 assuming that?

4
5 MR. BROOKS: That's correct, Mr.
6 Chairman.

7
8 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, Mr. Brooks.
9 We'll go back up to the agenda and we'll put online
10 right now, and I understand you're going to talk about
11 customary and traditional use determination.

12
13 MR. BROOKS: Yes, sir.

14
15 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: All right. The floor
16 is all yours, or the mic is all yours.

17
18 MR. BROOKS: Thank you. Thank you, Mr.
19 Chairman.

20
21 Members of the Council, Mr. Chairman,
22 members of the public in the room, I would like to
23 introduce myself for the record. My name is Jeff
24 Brooks. I work with the Office of Subsistence
25 Management in Anchorage, Alaska. And I'm going to give
26 you a brief update on where the Federal Subsistence
27 Management Program is with the customary and
28 traditional use determination review process.

29
30 I'd like to thank everyone working
31 today for their time. I'd also like to express regret
32 that I can't be there in person. But I've been asked
33 to give this briefing to you and I'll try to do a good
34 job in a reasonable amount of time now.

35
36 It is not an action item. It is an
37 update. And the presentation is to tell you where the
38 Federal Program is in its review of the customary and
39 traditional use determination process.

40
41 As you remember, in 2010 the Secretary
42 of Interior asked the Federal Subsistence Board to
43 review, with Regional Advisory Council input, the
44 customary and traditional use determination process and
45 present recommendations for regulatory changes.

46
47 In 2011, all 10 Regional Advisory
48 Councils reviewed the process. Nine of the ten
49 Councils recommended no changes to the process.

50

1 Can everybody hear me?

2

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We hear you fine,

6 Jeff. Go ahead.

7

8 MR. BROOKS: Okay, thank you. The
9 sound changed on my end and I wanted to make sure I was
10 not cut off.

11

12 If you look at, for your information,
13 on Page 18 of the RAC book, where your annual report
14 replies are found, issue number one was customary and
15 traditional use. And there is a response there from
16 the Federal Program.

17

18 The Southeast Council had asked once
19 again the other nine Councils to review the customary
20 and traditional use determination process, which they
21 did in 2013 and '14. And that's what I was referring
22 to on Page 18. There's a small update there.

23

24 For your information, we have three
25 Councils that are still in the review process. They're
26 basically collecting more information from their Tribal
27 Councils and OSM Staff. These include the Bristol Bay
28 Regional Advisory Council, the North Slope Council, and
29 the Northwest Arctic Council. And the letter appears
30 on Page 30 of your RAC booklet. And it very succinctly
31 -- I think the letter does a very nice job. For those
32 that are interested, if you'd turn to Page 30 you will
33 see right down at the bottom, the last full paragraph,
34 that starts with the word enclosed, there are four
35 points there that summarize the Southeast Council's
36 request and their proposed changes to regulations for
37 customary and traditional use determinations.

38

39 And then further along in the book, on
40 Pages 33 through 34, interested parties can find the
41 current language in regulation and the Southeast
42 Council's proposed language.

43

44 So now it's time for the update. In
45 the winter of 2015, the Office of Subsistence
46 Management Staff are planning to develop and present a
47 detailed analysis of the Southeast Council's proposal
48 to all 10 Councils for their review and a
49 recommendation to the Federal Subsistence Board. The
50 Federal Subsistence Board may decide then to make a

1 recommendation to the Secretary of the Interior and the
2 Secretary of Agriculture.

3

4 I have a very brief timeline. In
5 February and March of 2015, Regional Advisory Councils
6 will meet and make recommendations on the Southeast
7 Alaska Council's proposal to change the customary and
8 traditional use determination process.

9

10 And at a date to be determined after
11 that, the Federal Subsistence Board will meet and make
12 a recommendation -- and may make a recommendation on
13 the proposal to the Secretary of the Interior and the
14 Secretary of the Agriculture -- or excuse me --
15 Secretary of Agriculture.

16

17 And just for everyone's edification who
18 may not have had a chance to review Page 30, the very
19 basic -- and in a nutshell the proposed changes would
20 be that the Councils would have the autonomy to
21 recommend customary and traditional use determinations
22 specific to their region. Again, this is the proposal
23 from the Southeast Council. Number 2, any restrictions
24 for the taking of fish and wildlife shall be
25 implemented using the criteria established in ANILCA
26 804 and repeated in this regulatory language.

27

28 Deference on customary and traditional
29 use determinations would be given to applicable
30 Regional Advisory Council. And the current eight
31 factors considered for making customary and traditional
32 use determinations would be replaced by the three
33 criteria in Section .804 of the ANILCA.

34

35 That's all I have for you, Mr.
36 Chairman. And I'm available to try to answer any
37 question that you may have or the Council members may
38 have.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Brooks.

43

44 Any questions.

45

46 Cathy.

47

48 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
49 So my understanding is that at our last meeting we put
50 proposed language forward and asked for an analysis.

1 And in reading the briefing paper, that process --
2 instead of having that analysis then by this meeting,
3 it'll happen after the other Councils have finished
4 meeting. But if you look on Page 31, at the top it
5 says the Council would also appreciate a review of the
6 proposed language, with possible modifications for
7 regularity clarity. Because at our last meeting, I
8 think our body recognized that we don't -- we're not in
9 the process of writing regulations.

10

11 And so we wanted to make sure that at a
12 minimum our intent was put forward. But I thought we
13 also had hoped that Staff would come up with a review
14 -- they would look at the language that we did and make
15 sure that regulatory modifications were made to that
16 proposal for us that still captured our intent.

17

18 And so my first question is has that
19 been done? And then will the analysis be on our worded
20 proposal or a potentially modified language that
21 clarifies our intent?

22

23 MR. BROOKS: That's a very good
24 question. Thank you. Through the Chair. Again, this
25 is Jeff Brooks, for the record. And I'm not the lead
26 person on this review, however, I do believe that when
27 the analysis is conducted, that it will be -- it would
28 start with the proposed language. And it's possible
29 that a modification could be recommended in the
30 analysis process.

31

32 So to answer your first question, I
33 don't know if we have taken a look at your proposed
34 language and made edits and gotten them back to you --
35 or suggestions. And it's very possible that Mr.
36 Ardizzone would have that information whether or not
37 we've done that.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Something to add
40 there, Chuck, go ahead.

41

42 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, to my
43 knowledge, we have not edited what you've submitted.
44 But I was going to bring -- well, Jeff pointed out that
45 when we did an analysis, we could recommend
46 modifications then that would add clarity. I think
47 it's pretty clear. But like I said, we have not, to be
48 honest, reviewed it and provided any edits back to the
49 Council.

50

1 Unless Mr. Kessler has something else
2 to say.

3
4 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
5 Just a little something to add was that the Staff
6 Committee had a discussion of this a few weeks ago. A
7 short discussion about sort of next steps. And one of
8 the parts of the discussion was that there probably
9 would need to be some modifications of that regulatory
10 language to deal with some of the cross-regional
11 concerns. Because there are customary and traditional
12 uses determinations that bridge multiple regions. And
13 so we had some of what of a discussion about what would
14 happen in those situations where we would want -- we,
15 being the Council, would want to defer to the local,
16 regional concerns for customary and traditional use
17 determinations but that there could be some
18 difficulties in doing that in some areas.

19
20 So there was a little bit of discussion
21 about ways to possibly fix some of that language or --
22 I don't know about fix, but to make some
23 recommendations for how that might differ. And my
24 understanding is that that would come back to the
25 Council at the winter meeting; that the work that
26 Council requested for this meeting has not been
27 completed, but it's still on the forefront. We do have
28 those other Councils that have -- as was described,
29 have not come that significant step forward that the
30 seven other Councils have done in considering this
31 Council's proposal.

32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Cathy, follow-up.

34
35 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you. Mr. Kessler.
36 So in what you just said, that any modifications would
37 come back before this Council, does that -- and then
38 what we heard in the report was that something was
39 happening in February and March of 2014, where the
40 other RACs would review the proposal. At that point in
41 time, does it mean the analysis would happen on the
42 proposal after the next RAC meeting, or is the plan to
43 do an analysis between now and the next RAC meeting?
44 And then they would -- I see heads shaking. So I'll
45 add on to that question.

46
47 If that's the case, how do we assure
48 that the analysis covers the intent of the proposal
49 that we originally submitted if there is modified
50 language?

1 (Pause)

2

3 MR. BROOKS: This is Jeff Brooks, for
4 the record. I think you addressed Mr. Kessler, but if
5 I understand your question correctly, you're asking
6 whether or not we would make any revisions to the
7 proposed language and go have a back and forth with the
8 Southeast Council on that before or after the actual
9 analysis. And I don't know the answer to that. I'm
10 hoping that one of my colleagues in the room can answer
11 it.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Sure. Thank you,
14 Chuck [sic]. During that long silence Mr. Kessler and
15 Chuck were in a little hot caucus over there. So.....

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:thank you for
20 interjecting in there and taking up that time.

21

22 Mr. Kessler, go ahead.

23

24 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
25 And that's the disadvantage of not being in the room,
26 that Jeff wasn't able to see that we were having a
27 little bit of a mini-discussion.

28

29 And what you bring up, Ms. Needham, I
30 think is important. And so the little discussion we
31 were having is that maybe to keep things moving it
32 would be a good idea for this Council to identify a
33 small group -- maybe the same group you've had before
34 -- to interact with Federal Staff to consider, you
35 know, if there are some modifications of that
36 regulatory language that Staff would propose, maybe
37 that it would be a good idea for Staff and that small
38 group of the Council to discuss those before it went
39 out to all the Councils at the winter meetings.

40

41 And it could be that you would identify
42 that same group that has been working on the customary
43 and traditional use policy changes all along or perhaps
44 some other group. But it seems like that would
45 facilitate action at the winter meetings, where
46 otherwise it could postpone everything another six
47 months.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Steve.

50

1 I thought that was a pretty good
2 working group. So if you guys don't mind, you know,
3 continuing on with that process, we'd appreciate it.

4
5 Cathy.

6
7 MS. NEEDHAM: How did I manage to
8 create more work for myself?

9
10 (Laughter)

11
12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Were you the only one?

13
14 MS. NEEDHAM: No. No. I would be
15 willing to do that. I want to make sure that -- I mean
16 we recognized as a Council at the last meeting that we
17 might not have been -- might not have had the best
18 language. But we went with the language that we had
19 because we wanted this to move forward, and recognize
20 that some changes may happen. And I want to make sure
21 that analysis that's done completely captures the
22 intent of our original proposal, even though it might
23 not be worded the same.

24
25 It's not that I don't trust that that's
26 going to happen. But I just think that we should make
27 sure that we follow-up on that. And it sounds like
28 since the analysis is going to be happening and then
29 being represented back to RACs across the State, that
30 we want to remain involved and not just sort of wait by
31 until next February -- or yeah, till the next cycle in
32 the Spring and just be at the same point where
33 everybody else is and when we're going through the
34 analysis all of a sudden disagree because our intent
35 wasn't met.

36
37 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So do you think it
38 would be a good idea to have a working group just like
39 -- that would be.....

40
41 MS. NEEDHAM: Yeah. If the Council
42 supports that idea. And I would also be happy to
43 continue working towards these efforts.

44
45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I thought.....

46
47 MS. NEEDHAM: And I would agree that
48 the original working group worked really well on that.
49 So.....

50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Well, that's what I
2 was kind of referring to, is that if that -- that was a
3 pretty good group in my opinion.
4
5 MS. NEEDHAM: Are you.....
6
7 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: If you just want to go
8 ahead and continue, then we don't have to fool with an
9 appointment anymore.
10
11 MR. LARSON: Okay. Let's say who it
12 is on the record.
13
14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: But do you remember
15 who they were, Cathy?
16
17 MS. NEEDHAM: Of course.
18
19 (Laughter)
20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Share those names with
22 us, please.
23
24 MS. NEEDHAM: I need to make a motion
25 or do I need to.....
26
27 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: No.
28
29 MS. NEEDHAM:just point fingers.
30
31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: No.
32
33 MS. NEEDHAM: Oh.
34
35 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I just want that group
36 to continue on with working on this thing.
37
38 MS. NEEDHAM: Okay.
39
40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So if you can just
41 identify the people who are on that group, then for the
42 record we would have that.
43
44 MS. NEEDHAM: Okay. It was myself, Ms.
45 Phillips, Mr. Hernandez, and Mr. Bangs. And previously
46 Mr. Ackerman, who's no longer on the Council of course.
47
48 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah. Okay. So if
49 it's in agreement with everyone, we'll just keep you on
50 that group and away you go.

1 Thanks.
2
3 (Laughter)
4
5 MS. NEEDHAM: Did they agree?
6
7 (Laughter)
8
9 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Well, they didn't say
10 no yet.
11
12 (Laughter)
13
14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Are we okay with that,
15 Patty?
16
17 MS. PHILLIPS: I see the Staff is.....
18
19 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah. I know.
20
21 MS. PHILLIPS:wants to say
22 something.
23
24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I know. Okay.
25
26 (Laughter)
27
28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Chuck.
29
30 MR. ARDIZZONE: Mr. Chair, I was just
31 going to say I'll ensure that our Staff works with Ms.
32 Needham and the subcommittee to make sure they're aware
33 of any modifications. I mean the person doing the
34 analysis will probably be Pippa. And we're well aware
35 of your intent, but we don't want you to get caught off
36 guard on any modifications that might be made to make
37 it clearer. I'll make sure she works with you guys, so
38 you'll -- but we have to continue the process with
39 analysis or it won't be ready for the next meeting
40 cycle.
41
42 And, you know, this meeting cycle we're
43 trying to get the other Councils up to speed. We know
44 you are fully engaged. You understand your own
45 proposal, but some of the other Councils are, you know,
46 lagging behind trying to get a better understanding.
47 That's why it's taking some time.
48
49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Bob.
50

1 MR. LARSON: Yeah. Mister.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I see he has an
4 observation.

5

6 MR. LARSON: Yeah, Mr. Chair. I would
7 like to reiterate the comment from Mr. Ardizzone that,
8 you know, I was at the Seward Peninsula Council meeting
9 here last week. And it is -- it's an educational
10 challenge to have the other Councils and the other
11 Council members really grasp what the Southeast Council
12 is concerned with. So it's a process that probably
13 shouldn't be hurried along because we need to get all
14 those people at the same place regarding comfort with
15 addressing this in the same way as the Southeast
16 Council. So it's just not the sort of thing that
17 appears to be well-suited for a fast track. So it's a
18 deliberate process clearly.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Robert.
23 And I agree that we shouldn't, you know, move the
24 process too fast.

25

26 Go ahead.

27

28 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

29

30 I understand because this proposal has
31 statewide implications so of course we want to make
32 sure that other Councils are making as informed
33 decisions. But I also, over the past year and a half
34 since we've been working on this work group, we've been
35 told we can't make any steps forward until an analysis
36 is done. And so I think the reason why we pushed our
37 proposal through to this next stage is to sort of start
38 seeing what are the effects of some of the things that
39 we are recommending going to be at a Statewide level.
40 And it may very well be that at the end of the analysis
41 we say wait a minute we messed this whole thing up, and
42 maybe that's not what we want.

43

44 And so, you know, I still -- I mean I
45 understand that we want to keep the other Councils
46 going and moving. But I also think that we as a
47 Council would want to continue to make progress rather
48 than waiting two to three years for everybody to catch
49 up. And that was the main reason why we put this
50 forward as a proposed recommendation, so that we can

1 get some of that feedback from the analysis.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Cathy.

4

5 As Mr. Brooks pointed out, you know, in
6 his comments that of the 10 Councils, nine felt that
7 things were okay with them and then we went and we
8 submitted this letter and then we asked comments from
9 all of the other Councils. I think we did a lot of eye
10 opening. You know, because some of them weren't
11 willing to change right away but we got them to
12 thinking. And I think, again, you know, we can keep
13 moving the process but let's not try to force, you
14 know, everyone to try to make a decision on this right
15 away. Give them time to think and ponder upon it and
16 discuss it among themselves.

17

18 I liked our proposal. I think, you
19 know, it fits regions with their own issues, you know.
20 And so when I was at the previous Wrangell-St. Elias
21 meeting, they were pretty well satisfied, you know,
22 with the way the way the rural determination was being
23 administered because -- and they really like the eight
24 factors and that's one of the problems that we had, you
25 know, with it -- was the eight factors. And so --
26 yeah. Let's just be patient and make sure that people
27 get a chance to make their own decisions.

28

29 Okay. Any more comments by Council.

30

31 (No comments)

32

33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Questions to ask of
34 Mr. Brooks or the gentleman at the table over there.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, folks.

39

40 Thank you, Jeff, for being here with
41 us.

42

43 MR. BROOKS: It was my pleasure, Mr.
44 Chair. Thank you and have a good meeting.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: And you have a good
47 day. Thank you.

48

49 MR. BROOKS: Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Why don't we take a
2 little bit of a break. Okay. Be back here at quarter
3 to, to continue on with our meeting. We are at recess.

4
5 (Off record)

6
7 (On record)

8
9 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. We're back in
10 session, folks. So we're going to invite Terry
11 Suminski to come up and talk about the State Board of
12 Game proposals.

13
14 I thought we were done.

15
16 MR. LARSON: Do you have more to --
17 oh, yeah. Cal's got some more Board of Fish proposals.

18
19 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My
20 name is Cal Casipit. I'm the Subsistence Staff
21 Biologist for the Forest Service in Juneau, Alaska.
22 And earlier I gave you a rundown of the Board of Fish
23 Proposals that deal with the ETJ Petition. I didn't
24 cover additional proposals to the Board of Fish that
25 this Council might be interested in in terms of
26 subsistence use in general. So there was two things
27 there.

28
29 So with the Council's indulgence, I can
30 go through and talk about the other proposals other
31 than ETJ proposals that are before the Board of Fish,
32 with the Council's permission. So.....

33
34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Proceed.

35
36 MR. CASIPIT: Okay. Thank you. There
37 is one proposal under the community harvest area,
38 Proposal 148.

39
40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Cal, do we have those
41 proposals before us somewhere?

42
43 MR. CASIPIT: Oh, yeah. It should look
44 like this.

45
46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh, okay. Got it.

47
48 MR. CASIPIT: And for the committee
49 work, I also have copies of the proposals themselves
50 that we can work with committee on.

1 Proposal 148 allows for a designation
2 of community subsistence harvesters for Hoonah
3 residents. It was proposed by the Hoonah Indian
4 Association. And I thought perhaps that the Council
5 would be interested in supporting that and also
6 evaluate that on whether it would be useful for other
7 communities in Southeast as well.

8
9 There are four proposals that deal with
10 closed waters or restricting gear within subsistence
11 areas. 149 would request the modification of the
12 weekly subsistence salmon fishing schedule for the
13 Klawock Inlet, Klawock River, and Klawock Lake. And
14 that was proposed by the Craig AC.

15
16 Proposal 150 would close certain
17 portions of the Klawock River drainage to subsistence
18 salmon fishing with seines and gillnets in July and
19 August. That was the proposal submitted by this body,
20 Southeast Regional Advisory Council. It's a companion
21 proposal to FP15-15 that you'll be talking about here
22 in a few hours or maybe a few minutes.

23
24 151 requests the closure of the Klawock
25 River to subsistence salmon upstream of the Klawock
26 River Bridge. It was submitted by the Craig AC. It's
27 similar to SERAC's Proposal 15-15 and addresses the
28 same issues in Proposal FP15-15.

29
30 Proposal 152 requests the repeal of the
31 outboard motor restrictions -- horsepower motor
32 restrictions for the Klawock River. And that's Craig
33 AC.

34
35 And then 159 and 160 are similar,
36 proposed by this body, the Southeast Regional Advisory
37 Council. 159 establishes nonresident annual limits for
38 coho, sockeye, chum, and pink salmon in salt waters of
39 Southeast Alaska. 160 requests to establish
40 nonresident annual limits for coho, sockeye, chum, and
41 pink salmon in fresh waters of Southeast Alaska.
42 Again, those are both submitted by this body.

43
44 Under herring, there are three
45 proposals that the Council may be interested in.
46 Proposals 119, 120, and 121. 119 was submitted by the
47 Southeast Herring Conservation Alliance and they're
48 requesting the removal of the area locally known as the
49 Core Area from the closed waters of District 13 in
50 Sitka Sound.

1 120 is similar to that. Again,
2 Southeast Herring Conservation Association.

3
4 And then 121 was submitted by the Sitka
5 Tribe of Alaska. And they request the expansion of the
6 commercial herring fishery closure, closed waters of
7 District 13 and Sitka Sound.

8
9 So again those are a real rough rundown
10 of proposals that the Council may be interested in
11 commenting on, in addition to the ETJ ones I covered a
12 few minutes ago.

13
14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Questions or comments
15 from the Council on any of these proposals.

16
17 Yes, Mr. Bangs.

18
19 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
20 These can be found online in the entirety of the
21 details and stuff; is that right?

22
23 MR. CASIPIT: Correct. The copies of
24 the proposals can be found online. I also brought
25 copies of these proposals that I can make copies of and
26 share with the committee when we get to working on
27 that. I have hard copies.

28
29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Any more
30 questions.

31
32 (No comments)

33
34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: All right. Mr.
35 Suminski.

36
37 Oh. I didn't see you over there. I
38 saw you. But I didn't see you use your hand. Go
39 ahead, Michael.

40
41 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
42 119 and 120 look identical to me. But there's a couple
43 that came from -- or the Craig AC. And number 151,
44 that was to close it for sockeyes, I believe, the
45 sockeye subsistence fishery. And after that was done,
46 well, then I think that it would be business as usual,
47 that it would not be closed above the bridge, if I
48 remember right.

49
50 MR. CASIPIT: Through the Chairman.

1 Mr. Douville, you're right. What I tried to do is just
2 provide a really brief description of what the proposal
3 is. To get into the details of each proposal requires
4 me to hand out a bunch of papers. So once the
5 subcommittee gets working, we will have the actual
6 proposals to work with. But this is just kind of a
7 summary to kind of help you get your mind around what
8 we're going to try to do at the subcommittee.

9

10 MS. PHILLIPS: Chairman Adams.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Patty, go ahead.

13

14 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman
15 Adams. Did you form the subcommittee?

16

17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We are going to after
18 this.

19

20 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Any more questions.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh.

27

28 Mr. Suminski, go ahead.

29

30 MR. SUMINSKI: Good afternoon, Mr.
31 Chairman. Council. Similar to what Cal presented, we
32 have a similar exercise we did for the Board of Game
33 proposals. My name is Terry Suminski, with the Forest
34 Service. And I gave you a handout earlier, it's
35 entitled Alaska Board of Game 2014-2015, Proposals of
36 Potential Interest to the Southeast Regional Advisory
37 Council. It's a two-pager. I'll give you a minute to
38 locate that.

39

40 (Pause)

41

42 MR. SUMINSKI: It looks like people
43 have that. Okay. And again all we did is we went
44 through, try to save you a little time going through
45 all the proposals that were submitted for the Board of
46 Game meeting and identify ones that you may or may not
47 want to provide comments. You know, of course you're
48 not limited to this list.

49

50 But identified 10 proposals.

1 Proposals 1 through 3 all talked about
2 opening a Fall brown bear season in Unit 3.

3
4 Proposal 6 would redefine broken antler
5 for Units 1 and 3 moose hunts.

6
7 Proposal 7 would modify the definition
8 of a legal moose antler for Units 1B and 3. And it's
9 mainly talking about the tines that grow out of the
10 very base of the antler. There's been some issues with
11 that over the years.

12
13 Proposal 8 would establish a resident
14 drawing hunt for goats in Unit 4, in the Sitka area.

15
16 Proposal 14 would reduce the fall level
17 of wolves -- or reduce the harvest level of wolves in
18 Unit 2 from 30 percent to 20 percent of the fall
19 population. And wounded wolves would count against the
20 hunter's bag limit for the regulatory year.

21
22 Proposal 15 would allow trappers to
23 take beaver in Unit 2 with a firearm.

24
25 Proposal 17 would increase the resident
26 bag limit for deer on Lincoln Shelter and Sullivan
27 Islands to six deer, of which the last two must be
28 male.

29
30 Proposal 22 would shift the resident
31 moose season two weeks earlier in Unit 5B to the Mamby
32 Shore area. The season would change from December 1
33 through December 15th to a season of August 15th
34 through December 1.

35
36 Proposal 27 would allow elderly and
37 disabled hunters to start hunting deer earlier in the
38 season in Units 1 through 5. And Proposal 37 for
39 Southeast Alaska would add five days to the start or
40 end of all hunting seasons and allocate 75 percent of
41 all the drawing permits to residents.

42
43 And I failed to mention the Board of
44 Game will be meeting for Southeast Region proposals on
45 January 9th through the 13th in Juneau. And, you know,
46 we'll have to have those comments in by December 26th.
47 And, you know, our Staff of course will be available to
48 help you work on fleshing out any comments that you may
49 have for any of these proposals.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: All right. Mr.
4 Hernandez, please.

5

6 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
7 Chairman. I'd just like to thank the Staff for, you
8 know, going through all those proposals and taking some
9 of the burden off of us of, you know, having to review
10 all of them and making this summation for us to focus
11 our interest on, I think it really helps speed things
12 up. So I appreciate that.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Anyone else.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Donald.

19

20 Okay. It sounds good. Thank you,
21 fellas.

22

23 Okay. So Board of Fisheries and Board
24 of Game proposals. So we've done that and that and
25 that.

26

27 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, Patty, go ahead.

30

31 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you. So on like
32 Proposal 1 to 3, where it says open fall brown bear
33 seasons for residents in Unit 3. In current
34 regulations there is no fall bear season in Unit 3. So
35 if that passes, then what happens with ours, we have to
36 submit our own Federal proposals, or what?

37

38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I think so.

39

40 Can you answer that for us?

41

42 MR. LARSON: Yeah. So the way that
43 we've done that in the past is that, you know, the
44 Federal Subsistence Program does not have to mimic the
45 State Program, either -- you know, for whatever they
46 do. They have regulations that address their
47 constituency. We have regulations that address our
48 constituency. When it's possible, it's awfully less
49 confusing to have regulations that are the same.
50 Sometimes there's attributes of a sportshunt or a

1 commercial or sportfishery that's not shared exactly
2 with the Federal Program and they'll end up with
3 different regulations. So the Federal Program is not
4 forced to do anything. So -- yes. Thank you.

5

6 MS. PHILLIPS: But if we were to.

7

8 MR. LARSON: If in fact the Council
9 felt that there were actions by either the Board of
10 Fisheries or the Board of Game, in this case it would
11 appropriate to the Board of Game, that had some effect
12 on subsistence to the point where a regulatory change
13 would be appropriate for the Federal Program, then they
14 would have an opportunity to -- they, meaning you, the
15 Councils, and the public, would have an opportunity to
16 submit a wildlife proposal during our winter meeting,
17 which would be next February or March, depending on,
18 you know, what you decide. And at that point you could
19 develop a regulatory proposal for changes to wildlife.

20

21 Then that would be a year from that,
22 you would have an opportunity to develop a proposal for
23 changes to fisheries. So we do it every other year
24 option. But it certainly isn't a -- you're not forced
25 to do anything based on what the Board of Fisheries or
26 the Board of Game does.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Robert.

29

30 Any more questions.

31

32

33 (No comments)

34

35 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I know. I didn't
36 ignore you. Go ahead, Jennifer.

37

38 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Ms.
39 Phillips, everything Robert said is exactly accurate.
40 I just want to point that in the absence of a Federal
41 regulation, all of the Federal users will still have an
42 open season. So whether or not you're forced to do
43 something, the one complication I would add to that is
44 that if a Federal season is created just because a
45 State season is created, then if they tweak that date
46 at all, then you end up having to keep coming back.
47 And a lot of people see that being where things get
48 more cumbersome. When the Federal Program adds
49 something, it's generally been with the intent to have
50 something longer or additional to what is offered on

1 the State side to give the rural user a preference.
2 And so the rural user is not in any way excluded if the
3 State makes a season. They get to use it, too.

4
5 When you guys make one, it's only for
6 the Federally-qualified users. When the State makes
7 one, it's for both.

8
9 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So thank you. Thank
10 you for those reports. Thank you, Jennifer, for
11 clarifying.

12
13 And right now we are going to form two
14 committees. Okay. One on fisheries and another one on
15 wildlife. And what I'd like to do is, you know, throw
16 out some names here and see how you feel about it.

17
18 I'd like maybe Mr. Bangs to chair the
19 fisheries committee, if that's okay?

20
21 MR. BANGS: Okay.

22
23 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: And you'll be assisted
24 by Art and Cathy. Art Bloom, Cathy, Bob Schroeder,
25 Harvey Kitka, and Frank Wright. So are you all willing
26 to accept responsibility to be on that committee?

27
28 (Council members nod affirmatively)

29
30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Good. So
31 that's it.

32
33 Then the wildlife committee -- Mr.
34 Bangs, if you don't mind chairing that. I mean Mr.
35 Douville, if you don't mind chairing that, I'd
36 appreciate it.

37
38 MR. KITKA: Cathy's shaking her head.

39
40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Cathy is shaking her
41 head, for what?

42
43 MS. NEEDHAM: I had a question.

44
45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead.

46
47 MS. NEEDHAM: So I'm under the
48 understanding when we talked about last time that we
49 might be sending representatives to these meetings.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Right.

2

3 MS. NEEDHAM: And the wildlife meeting
4 is actually in Juneau. So would you send somebody from
5 the wildlife committee to that or would you take the
6 people from Juneau and have them be representative of
7 that, and if that's the case, should they serve on the
8 wildlife committee or the fisheries committee?

9

10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh. That's a good
11 question. I don't know.

12

13 (Laughter)

14

15 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You live in Juneau,
16 right?

17

18 MS. NEEDHAM: Correct. And I think you
19 put both Mr. Schroeder and myself on the fisheries
20 committee.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Sure.

23

24 MS. NEEDHAM: And both of us live in
25 Juneau. And so if one of us would attend for the
26 wildlife, perhaps one of us should be on the wildlife
27 committee instead.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: That's a good point.
30 Thank you.

31

32 Robert, go ahead.

33

34 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, I think one of
35 the reasonings behind putting Mr. Douville on the Board
36 of Game Committee was that he was the representative
37 from the Council to the Board of Game at their last
38 Board of Game meeting. I do not believe that there's
39 going to be resistance from OSM to fund a person that
40 doesn't live in Juneau to attend the meeting. The
41 primary topic of conversation at the Board of Game
42 meeting will likely be Unit 2 wolves. I believe that
43 Mike Douville has a unique perspective regarding that
44 particular topic.

45

46 Thank you.

47

48 MS. NEEDHAM: A follow-up. I didn't
49 mean any disrespect. I didn't realize that you were
50 saying that the Chairs of these committees would

1 actually be the appointed representatives. So I
2 totally get the rationale behind that.

3

4 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Thank you,
5 Cathy.

6

7 So if you don't mind, you know, we'll
8 go ahead and complete the assignment of these working
9 groups. It's a working group, it's not a committee.

10

11 Okay.

12

13 So we've got Mike, you know, to chair
14 it. And I thought he did a fantastic job, you know,
15 and Bob has already made reference to that --
16 representing the Council at the last Board meeting, and
17 I think it most, you know, logical to have him continue
18 to work in that committee.

19

20 So, and then to assist him, we have Don
21 Hernandez, Aaron Isaacs, Ken Jackson, Patty Phillips,
22 and John Yeager.

23

24 Okay.

25

26 You all okay with that.

27

28 (Council members nod affirmatively)

29

30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Great. Okay. So
31 that's the way it's going to be then.

32

33 I know you would like to have some time
34 to maybe gather together and start talking about these
35 things and figure out how you're going to interact with
36 the State and Feds and so forth. So I think, you know,
37 we're far enough ahead on the agenda where we can
38 probably, you know, recess for now and give the
39 committees an opportunity to gather together, you know,
40 before day ends, and get this process going.

41

42 So if it's okay with you all, you know,
43 we could do that.

44

45 MR. LARSON: Maybe they could report
46 back Thursday morning.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah. And yeah, if
49 you can, you know, just start getting together and
50 maybe give a report Thursday morning on what you've

1 done so far. Would that be all right?

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I think we're doing
6 fine on the agenda.

7

8 Mr. Kitka.

9

10 MR. KITKA: Are you going to give us
11 some detailed papers on the proposals so we can discuss
12 them a little more thoroughly?

13

14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah.

15

16 Robert.

17

18 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair, we have Staff
19 support here, I think, that is ready, willing, and able
20 to provide support to these working groups. And the
21 State has indicated that they would be resources that
22 are available to them as well.

23

24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

25

26 Mr. Bangs.

27

28 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
29 Where would be a good place for the two groups to meet?

30

31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I don't see any reason
32 why you can't this room here.

33

34 MR. BANGS: Do it here?

35

36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah.

37

38 MR. BANGS: Okay.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: If you want a little
41 bit more privacy, I think there's places out there you
42 can meet.

43

44 MR. KITKA: How about Hawaii?

45

46 (Laughter)

47

48 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Hawaii?

49

50 (Laughter)

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Maui.
2
3 (Laughter)
4
5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. So we'll go
6 ahead and adjourn until 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning.
7 And if you guys want to, you know, get together and
8 start talking about the process of how you're going to
9 do your workshops and include as many people as you
10 possibly can in that meeting.
11
12 So 9:00 a.m. in the morning we are
13 going to start. And I think Lee Wallace is going to be
14 online tomorrow. He wants to talk about rural
15 determination, and so he said that he would be here at
16 9:00 a.m. in the morning for that process. So we'll
17 put him on first thing and then we'll go through the
18 rest of the agenda for that day.
19
20 MR. LARSON: Teleconference.
21
22 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Hmm?
23
24 MR. LARSON: He'll be on the telephone.
25
26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh, yeah. He's going
27 to be on a teleconference. Okay.
28
29 He was here earlier. And if you
30 remember hearing, you know, that interruption when we
31 were in process here, that was him trying to get
32 online. However, he decided that he couldn't stay
33 there very much longer.
34
35 So thank you for Glenn for setting up
36 for tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m.
37
38 Okay.
39
40 Yes.
41
42 MR. ISAACS: Can we just leave our
43 material here?
44
45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Got a question --
46 okay, yep, you can. I think the place will be locked
47 at day's end.
48
49 MR. LARSON: Yes.
50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I'm sure. Okay. The
2 place will be locked at day's end, so you can leave
3 your stuff here.

4
5 Okay. We are at recess. 9:00 a.m.
6 tomorrow.

7
8 (Off record)

9
10 (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34

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 2 through 111 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the SOUTHEAST FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME I taken electronically on the 21st day of October in Wrangell, Alaska;

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 13th day of November 2014.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 09/16/18