

1 SOUTHEAST ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6 VOLUME I

7
8
9 Ketchikan, Alaska
10 September 24, 2013
11 9:00 a.m.

12
13
14 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- 15
16 Bertrand Adams, Chairman
17 Timothy Ackerman
18 Michael Bangs
19 Michael Douville
20 Donald Hernandez
21 Aaron Isaacs
22 Kenneth Jackson
23 Harvey Kitka
24 Floyd Kookesh
25 Cathy Needham
26 Patricia Phillips
27 Frank Wright
28 John Yeager
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33 Regional Council Coordinator, Robert Larson

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Ketchikan, Alaska - 9/24/2013)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, folks, we need you to take your seats, please, we're going to get started here.

(Pause)

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Do I have an enforcement officer here.

MR. ISAACS: Yeah, right here.

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: All right, gather everybody together, we got to get started.

(Pause)

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, can you all hear me okay throughout the room; is that better. How's that.

(Laughter)

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I was told to, you know, stick close to the microphone but don't get on top of it so I hope this is working.

Before we get started, I'm going to ask Brother Willard if you would offer an opening prayer for us so would everyone please rise.

MR. JACKSON: Father we are grateful to be meeting here September 24th through the 26th, 2013 for the Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.

Father, bless anyone that's traveling through this area.

Bless everyone that's going to speak today, Father.

May we be guided by your words and may we follow in your path as we follow your path to this point as all tribes in this area in Southeast and

1 throughout Alaska, Father.

2

3 Bless each and every Council here that
4 came to talk and discuss the business of subsistence
5 and other issues that are bothering our tribes and the
6 people in these larger communities, Father.

7

8 May you guide our words as we testify
9 and talk among one another in regards to the future of
10 our children and our grandchildren and yet the ones
11 unborn, Father.

12

13 Peace. We speak peace over this
14 meeting. We ask you this in your name.

15

16 Amen.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Amen. Gunalcheesh.

19

20 Before we get started with the other
21 part of our agenda I would just like to make an opening
22 statement of sorts. So I'm going to start off by
23 saying (In Tlingit) (In Tlingit) (In Tlingit). That
24 means, in our language, self respecting people, or
25 honorable people. Okay. So as we conduct the meeting
26 and we'll probably make this, you know, aware
27 throughout as the building gets fuller and fuller that
28 we need to show respect, you know, for one another.
29 That word is (In Tlingit) respect.

30

31 Our people believe that there is life
32 in everything and I think I've shared this with this
33 Council before. There's life in this table; there's
34 life in this object here; there's life in the trees;
35 there's life in the water; there's life in the rocks;
36 there's life all around us.

37

38 And when we begin to show respect for
39 our environment, our habitats, those resources that are
40 contained in there will give themselves to us.

41

42 But it's all a matter of showing
43 respect, okay, and we need to show respect for one
44 another as well.

45

46 So I wanted to share this with you just
47 as a start off, you know, of this meeting that we
48 consider you as self respecting honorable people and
49 that we should demonstrate respect for one another.

50

1 I've told this little short story
2 before, too, when Raven pulled in that large canoe from
3 the ocean, and let out the animals and the birds and
4 the fishes, these are some of the guidelines that he
5 gave to us, he says, number 1, show reverence to the
6 Creator. Okay. Also show respect toward one another,
7 and to the environment and to all of the resources
8 within that environment. And then another thing that
9 he left with us is we shouldn't waste nor take more
10 than what we need. And the last thing that -- well,
11 there's a bunch of others but the last thing I always
12 like to share because I'll make it short, is that we
13 should share with one another, okay.

14
15 And when we practice those principles
16 in our lives and with other people the Creator will
17 provide us with the things that we need to sustain our
18 lives.

19
20 So this is some of the basic things
21 that we believe in and I hope that we can implement
22 them in our lives as we go through the meeting process
23 the next couple days.

24
25 So, Gunalcheesh, and thank you.

26
27 We will go ahead and have the roll call
28 right now, Mr. Secretary.

29
30 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
31 Charles Timothy Ackerman.

32
33 MR. ACKERMAN: Here.

34
35 MR. KITKA: Frank Wright.

36
37 MR. WRIGHT: Here.

38
39 MR. KITKA: Patricia Ann Phillips.

40
41 MS. PHILLIPS: Here.

42
43 MR. KITKA: Michael Douville.

44
45 MR. DOUVILLE: Here.

46
47 MR. KITKA: Harvey Kitka's here.
48 Bertrand Adams.

49
50 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Here.

1 MR. KITKA: Floyd Kookesh.
2
3 MR. KOOKESH: Here.
4
5 MR. KITKA: Donald Hernandez.
6
7 MR. HERNANDEZ: Here.
8
9 MR. KITKA: Kenneth Jackson.
10
11 MR. JACKSON: Here.
12
13 MR. KITKA: Aaron Isaacs.
14
15 MR. ISAACS: Here.
16
17 MR. KITKA: John Yeager.
18
19 MR. YEAGER: Here.
20
21 MR. KITKA: Michael Bangs.
22
23 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Here.
24
25 MR. KITKA: Cathy Needham.
26
27 MS. NEEDHAM: Here.
28
29 MR. KITKA: Mr. Chair, we got a quorum
30 and we have everybody here.
31
32 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We have a full quorum,
33 congratulations so we should have a very exciting
34 meeting this next few days.
35
36 The next thing we're going to do is
37 we're going to welcome you here and the Council, you
38 know, will do some introductions. So we'll start with
39 Mr. John Yeager down there and just go around this way,
40 if you would introduce yourself, please, and tell us
41 where you're from and what you do, you know.
42
43 MR. YEAGER: My name's John Yeager.
44 I'm from Wrangell. And I am a fishing guide and
45 commercial fisherman.
46
47 MS. NEEDHAM: Good morning. My name is
48 Cathy Needham. I am from Juneau. And I am a private
49 consultant.
50

1 MR. WRIGHT: Good morning. My name is
2 Frank Wright. I'm a commercial fisherman, subsistence
3 user, and a pretty cool guy.

4
5 (Laughter)

6
7 MS. PHILLIPS: Good morning. I'm
8 Patricia Phillips. My husband and I have a commercial
9 fishing business that we're transitioning to our sons.
10 And this year I started a new business called Dragonfly
11 Gardens where I'm growing local foods. I'm also a
12 subsistence user from Pelican, Alaska.

13
14 Thank you.

15
16 MR. DOUVILLE: I'm Mike Douville from
17 Craig. I'm a full-time commercial fisherman. I've
18 lived on Prince of Wales Island all my life.

19
20 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Good morning. I'm
21 Michael Bangs. I live in Petersburg. I'm a commercial
22 fisherman and an avid subsistence user.

23
24 MR. KITKA: Good morning. My name's
25 Harvey Kitka and I'm from Sitka, Alaska. I'm a
26 subsistence user. I'm a commercial fisherman. And I'm
27 also a sportsman.

28
29 Thank you.

30
31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Good
32 morning. My name is Bert Adams, Sr. I'm from Yakutat.
33 I am a retired commercial fisherman. Avid subsistence
34 hunter and user and fisher and enjoying my retirement
35 and I'm getting into garden like Patty is and I'm
36 really satisfied with my potatoes this year, great.
37 So, anyhow, welcome and Mr. Kookesh, you're next.

38
39 MR. KOOKESH: Robert wanted to go next.

40
41 MR. LARSON: You can go next.

42
43 (Laughter)

44
45 MR. KOOKESH: Good morning. My name is
46 Floyd Kookesh. I'm from Angoon. I've been a member of
47 the RAC for over 14 years. I'm currently the Chairman
48 of Kootznoowoo going on my second term. And I'm also a
49 charter boat captain from Angoon.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 MR. ISAACS: I'm Aaron Isaacs from
4 Klawock. Retired business owner, contractor, carpenter
5 by trade.

6

7 MR. HERNANDEZ: Don Hernandez. I'm a
8 30 year resident of Point Baker on Prince of Wales,
9 it's a roadless community and I'm a commercial
10 fisherman as well.

11

12 MR. JACKSON: Good morning and welcome.
13 My name is Ken Jackson. I'm from Kake. I work as a
14 security guard, fisherman. I've lived there all my
15 life. My Tlingit name is (In Tlingit). And I'm very,
16 very proud to be here, I'm the newest member on the RAC
17 Board.

18

19 Thank you.

20

21 MR. ACKERMAN: Yeah, Tim Ackerman from
22 Dashu, Haines is what the missionaries called it, we
23 called it Dashu. Semi-retired and all of the above
24 seafood harvester.

25

26 Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Great, thank you
29 everyone. As you see, many people on this Council are
30 retired, but I'll tell you when I retired I became one
31 of the most busiest people that I've ever had in all my
32 life because people want you to do this and do that,
33 you know, because of the involvement that I've had in
34 many things so if you think you're going to retire from
35 your occupation, you know, sometime in the future, just
36 forget about it, it doesn't work.

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We'll go with the
41 Staff now, we'll start with Robert and then we'll go
42 with the other Federal Staff agencies out there in the
43 audience. Please introduce yourself and tell us what
44 you do.

45

46 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Bert. My name
47 is Robert Larson, I'm the Council's coordinator. I
48 live in Petersburg and work for the Forest Service. I
49 think that we'll start maybe with Steve Kessler, he
50 could go next and we'll work our way around the room.

1 MR. KESSLER: Good morning, Mr.
2 Chairman and Council members and everyone else who's
3 here. I'm Steve Kessler.

4
5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Kessler you
6 probably need to get up closer to the mic, I can't hear
7 you very well.

8
9 MR. KESSLER: Good morning, Mr.
10 Chairman, members of the Council. Steve Kessler with
11 the US Forest Service. I live in Anchorage. I serve
12 on the InterAgency Staff Committee and assist the
13 Federal Subsistence Board.

14
15 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Who's
16 next.

17
18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Us back here, all
19 of us back here it's really difficult to hear your
20 voices. I don't know if it's the sound system or
21 you're not talking directly into the mics.

22
23 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We are doing our best,
24 ma'am. We are doing our best. Okay, anyone else.
25 Steve, maybe what could happen is if you just
26 introduced everyone, have them stand or something, you
27 know.

28
29 MR. PELTOLA: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
30 Other Council members. My name is Gene Peltola, Jr.
31 I'm the new Assistant Regional Director for the Office
32 of Subsistence Management. I just wanted to introduce
33 myself and tell you a little bit about myself.

34
35 I'm a Tlingit Indian and Yup'ik Eskimo.
36 Born and raised in Bethel, Alaska. About a 30 year
37 Fish and Wildlife Service employee. I've attended
38 Humboldt State University, University of Alaska-
39 Fairbanks, and more recently Harvard JFK School. I've
40 been a subsistence user a majority of my life.
41 Recently gave up my Federally-qualified user status,
42 since I moved to Anchorage.

43
44 And I'm the grandson of the late Mabel
45 Wilson Pike from Douglas and Ben See, who was born in
46 Excursion Inlet. I have a family of three of children.

47
48 I look forward to working with each and
49 every one of you in the future.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Well, Gene, welcome.
4 We appreciate having you on the Board. Look forward to
5 working with you closely.

6

7 Anyone else.

8

9 MS. PENDLETON: Good morning to the
10 Board. It's good to see you all, Mr. Chairman. My
11 name is Beth Pendleton. I'm the Regional Forester for
12 the US Forest Service. I also serve in that capacity
13 on the Federal Subsistence Board. And I just want to
14 welcome folks here and especially appreciative to the
15 Board and the newer Board members as well, but for the
16 good work you do and the importance of that.

17

18 And just last Thursday I had the honor
19 to participate in a hearing before the Senate Energy
20 and Natural Resources Committee and Mr. Peltola and
21 myself, amongst a number of other witnesses had the
22 opportunity to address that Committee at the invitation
23 of Mr. Wyden and Senator Murkowski and a reflection
24 from that, I think that important event, is just how
25 important subsistence is to a way of life from an
26 economic, from a spiritual, from a cultural, but really
27 a traditional way of life of people here in Alaska.
28 And at that hearing an observation of how little people
29 understand about the importance of subsistence to
30 people in this state. So I think an important
31 reflection and the work that you do to help people have
32 a better understanding and the importance. I just
33 greatly appreciate it. It gave me a much greater
34 appreciation for the work of the Regional Advisory
35 Councils.

36

37 So, thank you, for your service. And
38 it's good to be here this week and to participate in
39 this meeting.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Ms.
44 Pendleton. Next. Anyone else.

45

46 MR. DEFREEST: Mr. Chairman. Ladies
47 and gentlemen of the RAC Council. I really appreciate
48 your coming to Ketchikan. I'm Jeff DeFreest. I'm the
49 District Ranger for Ketchikan and Misty Fjords National
50 Monument and the District here and we have basically

1 the District on the south end of the Tongass, which is
2 quite a subsistence user area. So I appreciate your
3 being here and I look forward to participating or
4 listening in on some of the sessions in the next couple
5 of days. And if there's anything I can do to make your
6 visit to Ketchikan more beneficial, please let me know.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, very much.

11

12 MR. ISAACS: Mr. Chairman.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, sir, Mr. Isaacs.

15

16 MR. ISAACS: Yeah, you mentioned the
17 number of retired people on this Council.....

18

19 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Uh-huh.

20

21 MR. ISAACS:but along with
22 retirement comes loss of hearing, so.....

23

24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I'm guilty of that,
25 too.

26

27 MR. ISAACS: I do have a difficulty
28 hearing a lot of times. When I was in the Army I was a
29 machine gunner.....

30

31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Uh-huh.

32

33 MR. ISAACS:and got too close to
34 my weapon so if people would speak up it would really
35 help us.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, my wife accuses
40 me of being deaf in one ear and I can't hear out of the
41 other one.

42

43 (Laughter)

44

45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So, yes, I know.
46 Okay, any other Federal people. Here comes Cal, and he
47 was supposed to come on the airplane with us yesterday
48 morning and I heard a story about, you know, how he was
49 seen.....

50

1 MR. ISAACS: He has a surplus of moose
2 meat also.

3
4 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:coming in from
5 hunting and he was going to go home take a shower and
6 shave and get right out to the airport after he put his
7 moose away. I knew you were going to share that with
8 me, but I knew it before you had that chance, so he
9 didn't make it in with us yesterday so anyhow you're
10 here.

11
12 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
13 Cal Casipit. I'm the subsistence Staff biologist for
14 the Forest Service in Juneau. And, yeah, I did see
15 Cathy on my way out of the airport with -- on my way to
16 the house to get cleaned up. But, yeah, I just decided
17 one more night at home was better, especially getting
18 home yesterday, but, anyway I'm here and glad to be
19 here and you're right I did get a moose.

20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Congratulations.

22
23 MR. CASIPIT: Yeah, thanks.

24
25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Cal.

26
27 MS. PETRIVELLI: Good morning. I'm Pat
28 Petrivelli. I'm the Bureau of Indian Affairs
29 subsistence anthropologist and I work out of Anchorage.

30
31 Thank you.

32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh.

34
35 MR. KILLINGER: Good morning. I'm Greg
36 Killinger. We've been reducing Staff a little bit in
37 the Forest Service as our budget goes down. I'm with
38 the Forest Service, I'm now the Tongass fish, wildlife,
39 water shed, ecology subsistence and soil Staff officer.
40 I took over for Ted Schenck, you probably knew. And
41 it's good to see a lot of old friends here.

42
43 Thanks.

44
45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Next
46 please.

47
48 MS. OEHLERS: Good morning, Mr.
49 Chairman. Members of the Council. My name is Susan
50 Oehlers. I'm with the Forest Service in Yakutat. I've

1 been there for the better part of 11 years, some
2 occasional forays up into the Interior to go to school
3 in Fairbanks. Like I said, I'm the wildlife biologist
4 and as you heard we all wear many hats so I also work
5 in fisheries, subsistence, education, you name it, and
6 so I'm happy to be here.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Susan. I
9 remember when I first met Susan she was going to the
10 University then and somehow got working in Yakutat and
11 she's still with us. I appreciate her very much. If I
12 want to know anything about moose, deer, you know,
13 ducks, fish or anything all I need to do is call her
14 and she has most all of the answers.

15

16 Okay, Terry, welcome.

17

18 MR. SUMINSKI: Good morning, Mr.
19 Chairman. Council members. My name is Terry Suminski.
20 I work for the Forest Service as the subsistence
21 program leader for the Tongass National Forest and I
22 live in Sitka.

23

24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Any more
25 Federal people.

26

27 DR. JENKINS: There seems to be no end
28 of Federal folks here, Mr. Chair. My name is David
29 Jenkins. I am an anthropologist and the policy
30 coordinator for the Office of Subsistence Management.
31 The last time I addressed this Council was during the
32 joint Federal Subsistence Board Council meeting a few
33 years ago which was focused on the Kootznoowoo Petition
34 and I look forward to talking to you at length about
35 the rural determination review and customary and
36 traditional use determinations.

37

38 Mr. Chair.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Looking forward to
41 that, David. I apologize to David right now because we
42 got on the ferry coming over from the airplane
43 yesterday, sat next to each other and I didn't
44 recognize him. So I apologize for that. He had to
45 introduce himself. But he was wearing a hat that was
46 covering his face all up.

47

48 (Laughter)

49

50 MR. REEVES: Good morning, Mr. Chairman

1 and Council. Jeff Reeves. I'm with the US Forest
2 Service, one of the subsistence biologists, I'm out of
3 Craig. I'll be up here a couple times during the
4 course of this meeting so looking forward to it.

5
6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, you've been here
7 a couple times.

8
9 Thanks.

10
11 New kid on the block.

12
13 MR. KOLLER: Yeah, new kid on the block.
14 Good morning, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, Council. My
15 name is Justin Koller. I'm a subsistence biologist for
16 the Forest Service in Sitka, Alaska. I've been filling
17 in for the subsistence biologist for Sitka and Hoonah
18 for some time now and I'm happy to be here.

19
20 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh. Ben.
21 Welcome Ben.

22
23 MR. VAN ALLEN: Yes, good morning,
24 Chairman and members of the Council. I'm Ben Van Alen.
25 I'm a fisheries biologist with the Forest Service in
26 Juneau and mostly work on the fish stock assessment
27 projects.

28
29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. If I want
30 to know anything about sockeye I just call up Ben.

31
32 Okay, anyone else.

33
34 Those Federal people are hiding all
35 over the place, aren't they.

36
37 MR. CHESTER: Good morning, Mr.
38 Chairman. Council. My name is Dennis Chester. I'm a
39 wildlife biologist with the Forest Service in Juneau.
40 I was just thinking about it, I've been doing this off
41 and on now since this became a Federal Program in 1990
42 in Cordova, Wrangell and now Juneau. So it's good to
43 be back and we'll see you some more.

44
45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You've been around for
46 a while, too, haven't you. Are you able to hear me
47 okay back there. Okay.

48
49 Jack.

50

1 MR. LORRIGAN: Good morning, Mr.
2 Chairman. My name is Jack Lorrigan. I'm the Native
3 Liaison for the Office of Subsistence Management and
4 I'm also the LT lead for this meeting and if there's
5 any problems I'll be happy to pass those on.
6
7 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: He has all of the
8 answers to the question, the hard questions that I have
9 to ask, too, right.
10
11 MR. LORRIGAN: Sure.
12
13 (Laughter)
14
15 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Next, more Federal
16 people.
17
18 I want to recognize, Tina, our
19 recorder. She faithfully, you know, assists behind the
20 scenes over there, doesn't want to be recognized, but I
21 want to recognize her at this point.
22
23 REPORTER: Thank you, Bert.
24
25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: How about State
26 people.
27
28 MS. SILL: Good morning, Chairman.
29 Members of the Council. My name is Lauren Sill. I
30 work with Department of Fish and Game, Division of
31 Subsistence. I'm a subsistence resource specialist.
32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Any more
34 State people.
35
36 (No comments)
37
38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Members of the public,
39 those of you that are here.
40
41 Go ahead, announcement, before.
42
43 MR. LARSON: Yeah, thank you, Bert. I
44 think the people in this room can hear. There's some
45 background noise that's coming through the PA system.
46 That background noise is coming from somebody's phone
47 that happens to be on the teleconference line. So if
48 those people that are listening in on the
49 teleconference line, if they could mute their phone so
50 we don't listen to what they're doing on their end,

1 that would be very helpful for people in the meeting
2 room. So for those people listening on the
3 teleconference, please mute their phone.

4

5 Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Robert.
8 Okay, members from the public. I see some of you out
9 there. We know who you are, come on up and introduce
10 yourself.

11

12 MS. DUNDAS: Good morning. My name is
13 Irene Dundas. I thank you for coming here this
14 morning. I am the president of Ketchikan Indian
15 Community. My Tlingit name is (In Tlingit). I am (In
16 Tlingit) from the house that anchor the village in
17 Kake. This is my uncle Kenny Jackson, so I would
18 recognize him. I thank you for coming here.

19

20 Ketchikan Indian Community has 5,778
21 tribal members and that includes all of the Ketchikan
22 area excluding the village of Saxman. My heart is with
23 you at the subsistence board, my prayers are also with
24 you for the tough decisions that you have to make. My
25 prayers are also with the community of Saxman so thank
26 you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Irene. I
29 think we're going to have you come up and make a
30 welcoming statement a little bit later on, too, so
31 standby. Okay.

32

33 Come on up, Ron, and then Willard.

34

35 MR. LEIGHTON: Good morning. My name
36 is Ron Leighton. I'm here representing the Organized
37 Village of Kasaan, that would be on the rural
38 determination. I'm also here to support a couple of my
39 proposals that I put in on a private level. But I know
40 that this rural determination is going to be quite an
41 issue, one that's going to have to be sorted through
42 and I know you guys will do a good job on it but it's
43 going to be a monumental task. And I hope that a
44 positive decision will be rendered out of this.

45

46 Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Ron.

49

50 Willard. And then we'll take James.

1 (Telephone conference interference)

2

3 REPORTER: Sorry.

4

5 MR. JACKSON: Well, good morning, Mr.
6 Chair and Advisory Council. My name is Willard
7 Jackson. I am here representing Tongass Tribe.
8 Welcome to the Tongass Tribe area.

9

10 A lot of you right now -- Aaron Isaacs
11 and I were with the First and 82nd Airborne (ph), I
12 know his family, and a lot of you I've met in the past
13 as Grand Camp president and as a tribal council member
14 for KIC. I'm here to represent our tribe and to
15 support Saxman and KIC. Welcome to Tewkedei and
16 Tongass Territory.

17

18 Thank you very much.

19

20 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh. Mr.
21 Llanos, would you please.

22

23 MR. LLANOS: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
24 illustrious Councilmen and your minions. I'm here
25 representing Alaska Native Brotherhood and Alaska
26 Native Sisterhood Grand Camp. Some of you may know
27 about this organization and I'm here to -- I'll be
28 saying some more, as well as supporting the Saxman
29 determination that we are in fact, rural, should be
30 considered rural.

31

32 So welcome to our Native lands here and
33 appreciate any motions to return the land to our people
34 and I thank you.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh, Mr.
37 Llanos. Anyone else, I see Richard Jackson over there,
38 would you like to come up and introduce yourself, sir.

39

40 MR. JACKSON: Good morning. I haven't
41 been briefed on much of the recommendations that you
42 have but I do agree with the one you have on January
43 22nd, I think that -- if I look at the four points in
44 my formulation of an idea, I see the second one I
45 prefer as change the say such determinations are made
46 by making area wide customary and traditional use
47 determinations for all species not specific by species
48 or by particular fish stocks or wildlife populations.

49

50 My background with the subsistence

1 arena, I call it, anyhow, was with Bob Boyer (ph) who
2 really was a staunch advocate for ANILCA. But the
3 State has been involved with, you know, the Federal
4 Subsistence Board as their template being used in
5 Alaska so they determine many of the situations we're
6 in now but I think that the second point in those
7 recommendations is one I prefer. I know you've spent a
8 lot of time on this and I just wanted to make that
9 point.

10

11 And welcome you back to Ketchikan.
12 Many of my friends are here, Mr. Jackson from Kake
13 who's a Vietnam Veteran like me, and my brother.

14

15 So that's my point and thank you for
16 the opportunity to speak.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Mr.
19 Jackson. And hopefully you'll be able to, you know,
20 share more information on your point there during, you
21 know, public testimony and so forth so you can take
22 advantage of that opportunity as well.

23

24 Go ahead.

25

26 MR. JACKSON: Yeah. Just responding to
27 that, I heard you're going to Saxman tonight, is that
28 correct?

29

30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I think they're coming
31 here, I'm not sure.

32

33 MR. JACKSON: They're coming here,
34 okay. When we first got into this issue over rural
35 status of Saxman, which my final statement on that
36 issue is, we were here before the city.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, maybe you
39 can.....

40

41 MR. JACKSON: We were here before the
42 city, and that's all I have to say about that.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. We'll look
45 forward to hearing you tonight, though, thanks.

46

47 Next.

48

49 Mr. Lars.

50

1 (In Tlingit)
2
3 MR. WALLACE: Mr. Chair. (In Tlingit)
4 I wish you knew a little more Tlingit.
5
6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: (In Tlingit) I asked
7 you what your Tlingit name was.
8
9 MR. WALLACE: I don't have a Tlingit
10 name, I have a Haida name, it's (In Haida)
11
12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: (In Tlingit)
13
14 MR. WALLACE: (In Haida) So basically
15 my Haida name is (In Haida) and I come from Saxman. My
16 family is originally from Hydaburg, as I think I've
17 told you folks, previously. But I would like to
18 welcome the Council for returning on such a short
19 notice. Last time you were here was six months ago, in
20 March. At that time I had no hair. I think maybe Mr.
21 Kookesh was growing his back also.
22
23 But I wanted to thank you and the
24 individuals that were responsible for coming back to
25 Ketchikan here for this RAC meeting and the hearing
26 tonight. What it did was it brought the hearing closer
27 to Saxman. Throughout the years I've traveled to
28 numerous meetings in Anchorage and other places about
29 our rural determination and so I want to thank the
30 InterAgency Committee that decided that it would be the
31 best to come close to Saxman and that's here at the Ted
32 Ferry facility here. So thank you for that opportunity
33 to come and we're hoping to fill this room up tonight
34 with, in my perfect world I would see 400 people from
35 Saxman coming tonight.
36
37 That would be the ideal thing is to be
38 hanging from the rafters here. To explain just how
39 important it is for our rural status. Not only for
40 Saxman but for other communities like Saxman.
41
42 I'll just cut it short for now but,
43 again, thank you for coming and we look forward to
44 three days of testimony and comments from individuals
45 in the area on the rural determination, and the other
46 proposals that you have before you. I took a chance to
47 download the booklet that you have in front of you and
48 I will be making some public comments on some of the
49 proposals also.
50

1 Thank you.

2

3 Gunalcheesh. Haw'aa.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh. Anyone
6 else down there.

7

8 MS. MCDONALD: Good morning. My name
9 is Victoria McDonald and I currently live in Ketchikan.
10 I've been a 39 year resident of Southeast Alaska.
11 Lived in Kake. I was adopted. My Tlingit name is (In
12 Tlingit) which comes from the area of Cathedral Falls.

13

14 And I came before you last spring and
15 talked about, there were four of us that testified
16 about these TransBoundary lines that are going on in
17 Canada. And you all sent a fabulous letter that went
18 up to the Federal level and that was very much
19 appreciated, so thank you for prompt action.

20

21 And I am here, once again, I won't do
22 it right now, to testify about that same issue, because
23 things are moving along. We were at a meeting in
24 Juneau a few weeks ago. And I appreciate you coming to
25 talk about rural subsistence which is of great concern
26 to all of us. And it's really too bad, you know, I
27 thought you'd all meet in Saxman and I know that it's
28 far out, but it is a rural, you know, a Native
29 community, so, anyway I appreciate that you're here and
30 you're closer to us and we can talk about these issues.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Mr. Monty,
35 please.

36

37 MR. MONTEITH: (In Tlingit)

38

39 I'd like to welcome the Council and
40 thank you, Chair, for allowing me to introduce myself.
41 My name is Daniel Monteith. My daytime job these days
42 is educating our youth at the University of Alaska-
43 Southeast on the Juneau campus as an anthropologist.
44 While I have a Ph.d. in anthropology, I know that and a
45 dollar will get me a cup of coffee and actually 1.50.
46 I've been a commercial fisherman or involved with the
47 commercial fishery in Alaska for 30 years and
48 subsistence is one of those things that I've worked
49 with with Saxman since 1989 so I look forward to
50 sharing with the Councils some recommendations. I've

1 been working with some fellow colleagues at University
2 of Alaska-Southeast to hopefully make some corrections
3 in the criteria and the aggregate way of looking at
4 things that the Board has.

5
6 Gunalcheesh.

7
8 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh. Anyone
9 else out there.

10
11 I understand there's a person from the
12 Forest Service in the audience that hasn't introduced
13 him or herself yet. Okay, Carole, why are you hiding
14 behind Mr. Kessler. You need to introduce yourself,
15 Carol.

16
17 (Laughter)

18
19 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You're important to
20 us.

21
22 MS. GOULART: Thank you for the
23 opportunity and I'm pleased to be here. I'm Carol
24 Goulart, the District Ranger for Sitka Ranger District.

25
26 Thank you.

27
28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Anyone
29 else out there, please.

30
31 (Laughter)

32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Jackson, I hope
34 you're not going to share a testimony with us. We're
35 just doing introductions at this point, okay.

36
37 MR. JACKSON: Okay. Here we are. I
38 was in support of the proposal by Ron Leighton. I
39 forgot to mention that. I did review it in the paper.
40 I, myself, and my family don't shoot does, I just want
41 to respond to that and say the proposal, I agree with
42 that, both of them.

43
44 Thank you.

45
46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Okay. Is
47 there anyone on line that we need to be aware of?

48
49 REPORTER: No. I disconnected the
50 line, we're having technical difficulties.

1 (Laughter)
2
3 MR. LARSON: We've had it disconnected.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh, we've had it
6 disconnected because of the little irritation in the
7 background. Are we working on that Tina?
8
9 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)
10
11 MR. LARSON: We'll fix it.
12
13 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, thank you, Tina.
14
15 All right, so we'll move on here.
16
17 We need to take a few minutes and
18 review and adopt the agenda so.....
19
20 MR. LARSON: I have something.
21
22 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. And before I go
23 any further, too, I want to thank the Tongass people
24 for inviting us into their land. And, you know, we've
25 been here several times before and we've always had
26 warm welcomes from you and so we really appreciate
27 that.
28
29 Gunalcheesh.
30
31 (Pause)
32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: What do we got, Bob.
34
35 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair. If I could,
36 there's a couple of announcements that might be of
37 interest. One is that we have internet access in this
38 room. The network is Ted Ferry Civic Center, you'll
39 see that when you go to the search. The log in name is
40 renter; and the password is Fall 2013, Capital F. So
41 if you want to get on line that service is available in
42 this room.
43
44 We've had some issues with the
45 telephone line. Evidently we had a power surge last
46 night that somehow compromised the line going into this
47 room. We have a repairman that's on the way. We
48 expect that sometime this morning that will be
49 repaired. What that does is that compromises our
50 teleconference capability so we've shut that off so we

1 can hear the meeting but we expect that that will be
2 fixed momentarily. Maybe that part will be fixed
3 within the hour and then we'll be up on line. But I'll
4 let you know once we have the teleconference back in
5 line. The Ketchikan Public Utilities has to run a new
6 line or connect something, I don't know, whatever they
7 have to do to get that hum out of the line. They're
8 working on it and they're going to do it and we'll know
9 as soon as that's available.

10

11 There are sign up sheets for attendance
12 at the back of the room, they're green. I would
13 appreciate it if everybody signed in. If we could do
14 that everyday that would suit our needs. If you want
15 to testify there are blue cards at the back of the
16 room. You could put down your name and affiliation,
17 what the topic is and that will help us move the
18 meeting forward in a very efficient way.

19

20 There are extra books in the back of
21 the room if you would like to see what the Council has
22 for meeting materials. Any distributions that are made
23 to the Council during the meeting will be -- there will
24 be copies provided at the table at the back of the room
25 where Jeff Reeves is sitting.

26

27 Bathrooms are just across the hallway
28 behind us. There's adequate rooms for moving, escaping
29 this room if the need arises.

30

31 So I think that's the opening
32 announcements.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, thank you,
35 Robert. You know, as you fill these out, you know,
36 Robert says that there'll be a place where you -- a
37 topic you're going to talk about. If you want to
38 testify on the rural determination, we aren't going to
39 take those testimonies until this evening, okay. So go
40 ahead and fill it out but we're going to put those --
41 that particular item aside for tonight's comments.

42

43 I'd like to invite Irene Dundas up to
44 do some welcoming remarks on behalf of the Ketchikan
45 Tribe, if you could do that for us Ms. Dundas. And,
46 again, thank you for inviting us to your land.

47

48 MS. DUNDAS: Yes, thank you. And,
49 once, again, thank you for coming to Ketchikan. I will
50 mention my father's people. I am from Saxman. I grew

1 up in between Kake and Saxman. I would go in the
2 summers to go stay by my grandmother in Kake and lived
3 here and I couldn't -- there was no housing available
4 in Saxman or else I'd be living in Saxman today.

5
6 But, anyways, thank you, for coming
7 here and we welcome you and look forward to the
8 testimony tonight.

9
10 So, thank you.

11
12 Gunalcheesh.

13
14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh.

15
16 Okay, let's go on to Item No. 4 now,
17 review and adopt the agenda and then we'll review the
18 minutes and then we'll take a little bit of a break
19 after that, okay.

20
21 So review and adopt the agenda and we
22 want to adopt it as a guide so that we can move things
23 around if we have to.

24
25 Patty.

26
27 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you. Mr. Chair. I
28 move to adopt the agenda of the Southeast Alaska
29 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council for September
30 24th through 26th as a guide.

31
32 MR. KOOKESH: Second.

33
34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. It's been
35 moved and seconded. Questions. Comments.

36
37 (No comments)

38
39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: All in favor of the
40 motion please say yea.

41
42 IN UNISON: Yea.

43
44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: All in favor, nay.

45
46 (No opposing votes)

47
48 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Review and
49 approve the previous meeting minutes is next.

50

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.
2
3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Patty, go ahead.
4
5 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
6 move to approve the Southeast Alaska Subsistence
7 Regional Advisory Council meeting minutes of March 12
8 through 14th, 2013.
9
10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.
11
12 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Second.
13
14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Is there a second?
15
16 VICE CHAIR BANGS: I'll second.
17
18 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: It's been seconded by
19 Mr. Bangs. Okay, we can go through it to make comments
20 or changes or whatever, and then we'll go ahead and
21 adopt it. If you have any comments or questions, feel
22 free to do that right now.
23
24 (Pause)
25
26 MR. KITKA: Question.
27
28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: The question has been
29 called for. You have read the minutes and it's been
30 moved and seconded, you went through review now, it's
31 moved to adopt, all in favor of adopting the minutes of
32 the previous meeting please signify by saying yea.
33
34 IN UNISON: Yea.
35
36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Opposed, nay.
37
38 (No opposing votes)
39
40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Motion carried.
41
42 (Off record)
43
44 (On record)
45
46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Folks, we want to get
47 back into session here.
48
49 (Pause)
50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So do we have our
2 phone situation taken care of, Tina?
3
4 REPORTER: Yes.
5
6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: It is. Do we have
7 anybody on line right now?
8
9 REPORTER: No. Well, we are.
10
11 (Laughter)
12
13 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, well, we'll go
14 back into session here and the next thing on the agenda
15 is, of course, to have the Council give their reports.
16 I just want to -- before he does, echo something that
17 Mr. Kookesh has always reminded us about. Even though
18 we come from a certain area or community, we are
19 talking on behalf of the region-wide, even though it's
20 pretty important that we know what's going on and
21 understand what's happening, you know, in our villages
22 and town. So we'll go ahead and give everyone an
23 opportunity right now to share their thoughts, and
24 we'll start over there with Tim, please, and work on
25 down this way.
26
27 MR. ACKERMAN: Gunalcheesh, Mr.
28 Chairman.
29
30 Yeah, Haines and surrounding area it
31 was a pretty dry summer up there. We kind of went
32 through a drought, so to speak, for a couple months
33 there but we had some saving rains that came and
34 bloomed everything out for the berry crop this year, it
35 was pretty good, so we know all the bears are feasting
36 pretty good this year.
37
38 We had some discontent with the local
39 subsistence folks, between the local subsistence
40 crabbers and the commercial crabbers. In our little
41 valleys up there we had 1,100 -- it was about 1,600
42 commercial crab pots line the shores for many, many
43 miles, which caused a dispute amongst the towns people
44 and we had a meeting with all the folks and I had to
45 kind of remind the commercial folks and the subsistence
46 folks that this resource is for all people. We do not
47 own the individual right to say that these crabs are
48 all mine. I had to remind them that it is a shared
49 resource. So between the Fish and Game and us, we kind
50 of brought that to the table and it's supposed to be

1 discussed here probably in a two year -- the State Fish
2 and Game Board up there will bring it up again and
3 everybody will be able to have their say.

4
5 We had eulachon run on the Chilkoot
6 side, it was back to back with the herring and the
7 eulachon run on the Chilkat side. The Chilkat side, we
8 were unable to harvest eulachon in our traditional area
9 because of the airport dike has taken 20 years to
10 change the river channel to the point that the eulachon
11 no longer come over in our traditional four mile area,
12 they are all across on the other side, on the west side
13 of the river. So all the pressure from eulachon
14 fishing is now concentrated on the Chilkoot side and it
15 was a pretty fair run of eulachon up in our area there
16 so we, as well, had a eulachon run in the middle of
17 winter, probably February in the Chilkat side, and we
18 had the needle fish came in, the sandlances, and the
19 candle fish all came in. It was a pretty good year.

20
21 The sockeye on the Chilkoot side this
22 year was probably a little bit short. I would say we
23 had about 45,000 sockeye come through the weir on the
24 Chilkoot side. The interception probably was a little
25 bit more on the gillnet fishery and, et cetera, down
26 the line, but hopefully they'll have a good return off
27 of what came through this year.

28
29 The fish overall this year were pretty
30 good coming back into the area.

31
32 The folks up in Porcupine, which is 27
33 miles north of us spotted a mountain lion out in the
34 woods there, a confirmed sighting of a mountain lion in
35 the area there.

36
37 In our moose hunting season here we've
38 had about eight or nine bulls taken so far. The rut
39 was a little bit late because the temperatures, of
40 course, are changing just a little bit. Very
41 interesting to see the climate change. This spring we
42 went from about 45 degrees to 80 degrees in about a
43 week and a half. The rains didn't come but the heat
44 was so intense the glaciers discharged big volumes of
45 water from the heat melting down the glaciers which did
46 bring all the rivers up to at or near close to flood
47 stage in some of the areas there but, yeah, it'll be
48 interesting to see. This fall here we've had some
49 pretty good rains coming down but it's pretty normal
50 for the area there.

1 But, yeah, next year it'll be
2 interesting to see the returns, they're talking about
3 some older fish coming back in the area.

4
5 But overall we've had a very good year.
6 The ecosystem has really held its own here with the
7 little bit of weather change that we've had.

8
9 Thanks, Mr. Chairman.

10
11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Jackson.

12
13 MR. JACKSON: Gunalcheesh, Mr.
14 Chairman. I'm Ken Jackson from Kake.

15
16 We've had a pretty good year in Kake,
17 at least, weather-wise. The price of fuel and
18 electricity has stayed the same, it's gone up, it's
19 hard for people to establish -- even if they establish
20 to keep companies or businesses going. Tourism has
21 improved. We've seen a fluctuation of people moving in
22 and out of Kake. A lot of it is to follow jobs. But
23 everybody still comes home or sends for subsistence.
24 We do not leave our subsistence when we leave the
25 village. And these are things that I know have a big
26 affect on the people like Saxman, that move into
27 Ketchikan, to do jobs and, you know, my report isn't on
28 that, but it is similar because it affects all the
29 little communities where there are no jobs available.

30
31 The fish and fishing was epic this year
32 for salmon and everybody made really well. And, you
33 know, a lot of it had to do with the weather. The
34 salmon couldn't get up the streams so they were trying
35 to spawn in saltwater. And I've never seen so many
36 fish that were taken and the canneries were put on
37 limit. Kake started up its cold storage with the help
38 of Sealaska and it did pretty well. But because of
39 high costs of electricity and the price of doing
40 business and transportation, I don't know how well they
41 will do by the end of the year.

42
43 Work in Kake is the road construction.
44 There was seven miles being done between Kake and Seal
45 Point. They did employ approximately 25 people from
46 Kake and it was mostly Bacon-Davis wages and they also
47 had the cold storage employ probably 15 to 20 people.

48
49 The thing that affected a lot of stuff
50 around Kake was -- and I was kind of surprised at this,

1 we logged for 25, 30 years, I was a logger for 25
2 years, but to notice the reforestation part that
3 Sealaska did and to plant and to prune and to thin, if
4 you look under those trees there's a lot of vegetation.
5 The moose, the deer have more forage, porcupines, but
6 those places that were never thinned or planted or
7 pruned, like Forest Service has a lot of that land,
8 even though they logged it, they're so tight nothing
9 grows underneath there. You have to wait for maybe 100
10 years before they, you know, start coming through. But
11 with the pruning it causes more sunlight to get
12 underneath the trees and to grow the plants and stuff
13 that people need, and the berries. But the funny thing
14 about this year, even though we had a good crop last
15 year and everybody made good money, there was no
16 berries in Kake. I mean last year there was people
17 making \$10,000 in a month or two picking berries but
18 this year they weren't there. A lot of it is because
19 it froze, it warmed up, it froze, they came out, they
20 blossomed and then it froze again.

21

22 But there's abundance of bears and bear
23 hunters and the moose seem to be thriving off the
24 reforested areas and the roads that were left where the
25 alders are.

26

27 But the people of Kake, themselves,
28 are, you know, they've been hit hard this last two or
29 three years with deaths from cancer. And we've had a
30 lot, and not only Kake, but, you know, I think Hoonah
31 and Angoon, the smaller villages, you know, Kasaan,
32 we've seen -- and nobody wants to talk about this --
33 we've seem to be getting more than our share of people
34 dying of cancer. I don't blame this on anybody but I
35 would really like to have a study done of these tour
36 ships that have been coming here for the last 40 years
37 and dumping their wastewater in the Inside Passage. As
38 long as they are three miles from any island they can
39 dump their wastewater. I've seen wastewater five miles
40 long in front of Kake and sometimes two or three or
41 four ships going up to Juneau and coming out, but
42 nobody wants to talk about it. The places we used to
43 have seaweed are now -- there's a brown kelp that
44 covers it, it's no longer there. And the sea otters
45 have come in and taken over everything, which, Mr.
46 Floyd Kookesh is right, we aren't the only community
47 that's having problems and we don't just speak for one
48 community. The communities all along the coast from
49 British Columbia up to the western part of Alaska are
50 being inundated by these sea otters that clean up all

1 the crab, sea urchins, sea cucumbers, octopus, king
2 crab. And I had a friend and he watched one dive
3 outside KingsMill on a depth finder, he saw it go down
4 nearly 100 fathoms and pick up a king crab and come
5 back up and eat it in front of him while he was
6 trolling. But those things, they eat a third of their
7 weight, I think, everyday. But they're moving further
8 and further north. These were planted around 1968 at
9 Coronation Island by the Department of Fish and Game
10 because they were worried about sea otters disappearing
11 and now they have taken over everything. We have no
12 crab at Kake, I mean barely -- there used to be 25 to
13 50 boats that fished between Rocky Pass and outside of
14 Kake; this year there wasn't even one boat because
15 there's no crab for them to fish.

16

17 I think, you know, with the fuel prices
18 to Kake and long trips, people of Kake have been having
19 a hard time getting sockeye for subsistence, we have to
20 run to Baranof Island and it's not only dangerous but
21 it's expensive to get 10 fish a day, and we'd like to
22 see them raise the annual limit to possibly 25. I mean
23 we understand that Fish and Game has a lot to do with,
24 you know, the escapement, but we also live off of it.
25 And with the President and the nation cutting food
26 stamps, a lot of our people, this year, are going to
27 really be hurting. Not that everybody's on food stamps
28 but the entire Alaska region seems to use food stamps
29 to supplement what they can't get off the land. I
30 would like to see, you know, a study done as to how
31 these things are going to bother, you know, the people
32 that don't have enough money to survive, not only for
33 food but for fuel and electricity.

34

35 I think that the subsistence committee
36 has a lot of recommendations to make and I really,
37 really thank the city of Saxman and Ketchikan for
38 inviting us down here again. I really look forward to
39 listening to your testimony.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Mr.
44 Jackson.

45

46 Mr. Hernandez, you're next.

47

48 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mr.
49 Chairman. Yes, it was a very abundant year for fish
50 this year and we're all very grateful for that.

1 And normally at this time I'd be saying
2 that we're looking forward to the upcoming hunting
3 season but I've kind of realized that maybe that's the
4 wrong choice of words to use and I'm referring to the
5 term, hunting. Hunting can be taken to mean, you know,
6 seeking out something that's hard to find or scarce and
7 that's really not what we're looking forward to here
8 this fall, what we're looking forward to is an abundant
9 harvest and in order for it to be a harvest as opposed
10 to a hunt, you need to have good healthy populations.
11 And unfortunately in the central area of Southeast
12 right now we're not really blessed with healthy deer
13 populations. The Council's going to be addressing that
14 question in the Unit 3 Lindenberg Peninsula, in
15 particular, and it's an issue that we've dealt with
16 before in the recent past, Northeast Chichagof was in
17 the same situation recently and now Lindenberg
18 Peninsula, they kind of share something in common.
19 They're both highly developed, heavily roaded areas
20 close to communities that have a high amount of use on
21 those areas and we're going to have to come up with a
22 good solution to this problem.

23
24 One of the things we're going to be
25 considering is this balance between economic
26 development and ecosystem protection. On one hand we
27 have, you know, economic development and ecosystem
28 factors and the two are closely related, kind of hard
29 to separate in a lot of ways but it's a balancing act
30 that we have to work around and deal with as individual
31 communities as to finding that balance and it's
32 something that we're all working towards. And in that
33 balancing process you have to be very careful because
34 in anything in balance there's a tipping point and we
35 have to really be very careful that we don't reach
36 tipping points in our -- how we go about using our
37 resources. So that's something that I'm going to be
38 keeping in mind in the course of this meeting and
39 hopefully also going to try and use the term harvest as
40 opposed to hunting in these deliberations.

41
42 So, Mr. Chairman, if I use the term
43 hunting you're welcome to fine me if you so desire.

44
45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh, Don.

46
47 Aaron, (In Tlingit)

48
49 MR. ISAACS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
50 I'm still getting used to sitting on this committee

1 listening to comments in regards to subsistence in our
2 area.

3

4 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You've only had a
5 couple sittings so far haven't you?

6

7 MR. ISAACS: This is my second one,
8 correct.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yep, you'll learn.
11 Just kidding, go ahead.

12

13 MR. ISAACS: And I think Mike Douville
14 will probably have more comments and probably listens
15 to more concerns. But this far what I've learned this
16 past year, though, our sockeye run was very -- I
17 thought was weak, but more than anything else it was
18 late. And I do appreciate the Fish and Game, though,
19 for working with us for extensions when we feel that we
20 need more time we do get the extensions.

21

22 And our deer population appears to be
23 strong, and this report I'm getting from my wife
24 because she drives from Klawock to Craig every morning
25 and she sees deer up and down the road when she's
26 driving through there. So -- but I do also when I'm
27 driving -- I don't hunt that much anymore like a lot of
28 the guys my age, there's no more fun climbing those
29 mountains.

30

31 And there's still a concern on the sea
32 otter because it continues, they're still devastating
33 the areas that they feed and everyone has a concern but
34 no one has a solution thus far.

35

36 One of the things again that relates to
37 the deer population is the closed roads situation on
38 Prince of Wales. We do have a lot of roads that were
39 closed from us, some of us have ways of getting around
40 them though, but nonetheless there are a lot of roads
41 being closed. And when those roads are closed you're
42 closing off a large area for hunting for us.

43

44 Thanks.

45

46 Appreciate Ken's comment, too, about
47 cancer and I'm hoping that perhaps a strong
48 recommendation might come out of this group to put a --
49 to ask someone to do a study for us. I grew up with
50 five sisters and two brothers, and there's never been

1 cancer in the Isaacs family, there never has been. And
2 about a month and a half ago I lost a sister to cancer
3 and now another sister has cancer and I just found out
4 last week a third sister has cancer. So there's
5 something happening among our Native people causing
6 cancer. It scares me because I remember seeing the
7 different people in Craig and Klawock that died from
8 cancer, very few were Native people, but there's
9 something happening and I'm hoping, though, that
10 someone would take an initiative to conduct some kind
11 of a study for us. I realize that this is not a
12 subsistence issue but it's an issue that I think needs
13 some attention.

14

15 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16

17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh, Aaron.

18

19 Mr. Kookesh, please.

20

21 MR. KOOKESH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
22 Earlier Ken and I were talking and we were talking
23 about our children being rural and urban and how can we
24 bring them together under one term. And as we were
25 talking, it started occurring to me all the years that
26 Clarence had been coming to Angoon, and Clarence being
27 his cousin, Clarence was the one that was bringing us
28 together. And when we're dealing with these issues
29 what we're presenting to you are our issues but what we
30 need to be looking for, when we're done talking, is an
31 end product. Because we can't have our children living
32 in Juneau and our children living in Angoon being
33 criminalized. We should be living side by side.
34 Natives should be practicing their way of life along
35 side non-Natives who are practicing a way of life. We
36 look at it two different ways. We were talking this
37 morning, and what one's culture is based on, and I used
38 the word this morning, greed, and another culture is
39 doing it based on need. If we can sit together in a
40 forum like this, why can't we do the same when it comes
41 to this common use resource of the state of Alaska,
42 which is ours, all of ours, instead of acting like
43 you're rural and you're urban. We have it, you know,
44 back-asswards or something like that. We have it
45 wrong. We need to throw something out. Something
46 needs to get fixed. We just can't be polarizing
47 ourselves with these kinds of issues. This forum is a
48 means to resolving it but it's not going to fix it.
49 But we need to stop what we're doing so that we can
50 drop our subsistence set next to a commercial set. You

1 shouldn't have to go 40 miles from a community like
2 Juneau to practice your traditional way of life. There
3 shouldn't be a cop looking over you when you're picking
4 a gumboot. You shouldn't have to count your gumboots.
5 The need and greed needs to go away. Somebody needs to
6 -- we need to -- we need to correct it.

7

8 And that's what I was saying in the
9 beginning, the end product of all of this discussion is
10 we have to -- aside from telling you our issues, some
11 people may call them gripes, is we need a solution, and
12 we're the ones that have to have that solution.

13

14 The rural/urban communities, that has
15 to go away.

16

17 But listening to Mike -- excuse me, Ken
18 talk, is like listening to Angoon, maybe he's a little
19 further along with the sea otter issue than we are, but
20 we have a lot in common. We have strong -- strong --
21 we have high fuel prices, transportation costs, high
22 electrical costs and now we're seeing, thankfully, the
23 ending of another Federal program that's made us
24 probably a little lazy, but the dependence upon the
25 subsistence resource is going to be stronger. So what
26 do you do, do you criminalize it more, throw more law
27 enforcement at it just to protect it because it's the
28 commercial resource that the non-Native wants or do we
29 do it and learn how to work together so that we can all
30 be beneficiaries.

31

32 So with that said, we did have the same
33 issue on sockeye, because I was asked about Sitkho Bay,
34 which no one went to and Basket Bay, which no one went
35 to, and the issue is Kanalku. Well, how did Angoon
36 fair with Kanalku? Fortunately, on behalf of Angoon,
37 they were the ones that did the voluntary closure in
38 2000 and started this process to protect the resource.
39 No one can claim that they're the ones that came after
40 and fixed -- and made it strong -- it's the community
41 that did that first and so Angoon's dependence on
42 Kanalku was important this year. The fact that they
43 allowed 15 -- 15 per household shows the weakness of
44 that run return for that area. So that needs to be
45 corrected. I don't know if bombing the falls, or
46 blasting the falls is the proper way to do that, we'll
47 see.

48

49 And hopefully on the ETJ petition, I
50 know we've had no progress, Angoon, I'm Chairman of

1 Kootznoowoo, as I mentioned earlier, we've not seen any
2 progress from the State or anyone. We haven't seen any
3 Phase II, we haven't seen any kind of dialogue occur
4 from anyone, except -- with the exception of the Forest
5 Service through the Staff.

6

7 On the issue of deer, Angoon has always
8 been very good with the resource because we have, what
9 do you call that, no roads, so our community's been
10 very blessed in that regard.

11

12 On the issue of herring eggs we've all
13 learned to live with less. And aside, like I said,
14 from the food -- from the Federal Program called Food
15 Stamps going away, we're still not going to ask for
16 anybody to bring us a boat of herring eggs, we like to
17 go and get the resource ourselves so that we can stay
18 independent as a Native people.

19

20 We have very -- I wouldn't call them
21 strong runs of coho's this year, nothing like we've
22 ever seen. King runs have always been weak, except for
23 the hatchery returns.

24

25 The clam, cockles and gumboots issue,
26 we're very blessed to have that, but we're seeing more
27 and more sea otters. We have sea otters in front of
28 Angoon now. We know that the young -- the harvesters
29 are very aware of it. It's not something that's going
30 to be allowed to just happen. Like I said you can
31 throw all the law enforcement you have at it but they
32 still have to go home and eat at 4:30 or whatever time
33 they go and we're going to harvest and take them. I
34 don't know how Angoon's going to deal with it but it's
35 an issue we're going to have to work on.

36

37 We've been very blessed that nobody's
38 been able to capture and manage the halibut fishery and
39 that's been very strong for our community, and so has
40 black cod.

41

42 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh, Mr.
45 Kookesh. I share your and Ken's concern about, you
46 know, the rural and urban children that are having a
47 problem trying to figure out where they fit into the
48 scheme of things, you know. And i do hope that, you
49 know, we might offer some suggestions in how to solve
50 that but it is a concern. And, you know, afterall we

1 are seated around this table here to insure that our
2 children, you know, and grandchildren, you know, have
3 the subsistence priorities before them at all times so
4 I appreciate your comment on that, Mr. Kookesh.

5
6 We're going to start going down this
7 way.

8
9 I remember when Big Bill was here and I
10 was kind of the last one to, you know, give a comment,
11 and I made a comment that, oh, boy, saving the last --
12 the best for last, uh, and Bill said, nope, I am the
13 last because he was, you know, going to be the last
14 speaker. But I think I got burned that time if you all
15 remember.

16
17 (Laughter)

18
19 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: But, anyhow, not
20 necessarily the best for last but I think, you know, I
21 can include my comments in with the Chairman's report.
22 So we'll start with John and work on down this way.
23 Okay.

24
25 John.

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

28
29 The subsistence sockeye fishery on the
30 Stikine was adequate and from the users that I spoke to
31 they seemed to have been able to harvest their need of
32 sockeye from the Stikine River this year.

33
34 Continuing on the sea otter, we're
35 still hearing and I'm still hearing concerns from our
36 community about their worry and being able to see the
37 sea otters getting closer and closer to Wrangell and
38 outlying areas that they haven't been seen before.

39
40 Also mining concerns on the Stikine as
41 well continue to be in the forefront with the community
42 and the feedback that I'm getting from our people that
43 are living there.

44
45 And other than that everyone has
46 enjoyed the long summer, the good weather.

47
48 Hunting has not been that good. It's
49 been very warm. A lot of leaves left on the trees. I
50 think only about five bulls have been brought down off

1 of the Stikine so far and one taken off of the island.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, John.

6

7 Cathy.

8

9 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10

11 I just wanted to speak on a couple of
12 different topics.

13

14 The first is I've been working with
15 Hydaburg Cooperative Association for four years now on
16 their sockeye project and they had an extremely low
17 escapement of sockeye in Hetta Lake this year. The
18 community harvested for the first time in other systems
19 more out of those systems than they did Hetta which has
20 always been their primary system. Currently to-date
21 the escapement of sockeye is only 2,400. We were
22 expecting a low return this year because the fish that
23 come back into Hetta are five year fish, which would
24 have put this year's class at 2008, which only had
25 about 4,800 sockeye in 2008 so we expected a low return
26 but not quite as low as they got.

27

28 We think that water temperatures and
29 low water levels had a huge influence on allowing fish
30 to get back into the system because there was a huge
31 number of pinks that stayed off shore as well, and some
32 of those fish were moving into cooler rivers, like the
33 Hydaburg River that they estimate probably had more
34 than 100,000 pink salmon go up, which is different for
35 that particular system.

36

37 The reason why I wanted to sort of talk
38 about that particular issue on behalf of Hydaburg is
39 because I think it lends towards the need for the
40 continuation of the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
41 Programs that I know we're going to talk a little bit
42 about later in our agenda, and the fact of how
43 devastating it is that we don't have the funds to go
44 around to monitor more than just -- you know, with our
45 budget cuts we can only monitor a few systems across
46 the region. But we're seeing what looks like, you
47 know, bigger shifting patterns as people have to go
48 farther and farther away from their communities to
49 harvest sockeye. I mean so we have other systems out
50 there that are being harvested and we really have no

1 idea what those systems should be supporting because
2 we're not monitoring escapement in those systems
3 either.

4

5 I wanted to point out that with regard
6 to sea otter, you know, since I've been on the Council
7 for four years every single meeting we have a lot of
8 comments and testimony about sea otter and in my humble
9 opinion it doesn't seem like we're making much progress
10 on the issue, not that we have the jurisdiction to do
11 that, but not too much goes on outside. But I do want
12 to recognize that the Organized Village of Kasaan is
13 putting on a sea otter symposium this fall and maybe
14 Mr. Ron Leighton, at some point, can answer questions
15 about what that's going to be about and I think it
16 would be interesting if we could ask them for some kind
17 of synopsis that comes out of that symposium to be
18 presented at our next meeting since we try to stay on
19 top of that issue because it affects the communities in
20 the region.

21

22 I've been also trying to stay on top of
23 the TransBoundary mining issues. We're hoping --
24 there's a number of organizations that have started to
25 put in funding request proposals to have water quality
26 testing being done on the Stikine and on the Unuk and
27 so we're hoping that those will get funded and some of
28 that baseline data can be collected sooner, rather than
29 later as that particular issue transpires in the region
30 on numerous systems.

31

32 And then, finally, I just wanted to
33 make quick mention that I had the distinct honor to
34 participate in what was called the Chief's Review for
35 the Tongass National Forest, the US Forest Service. I
36 was invited to sit on the panel for -- so there was, I
37 think, five panels across three days and each panel had
38 five people and talking about a number of issues going
39 on with the Forest Service. And the panel that I sat
40 on was the social relevancy panel and was pretty much
41 the only one asked to talk about subsistence but we
42 were given -- I gave a quick eight minutes -- eight
43 minutes might seem like a long time but when you're
44 trying to talk about a very broad and complex and
45 diverse topic, eight minutes went by like that.

46

(Laughter)

47

48
49 MS. NEEDHAM: And the people that we
50 were addressing were the chief of the Forest Service's

1 Staff and the deputy directors out of the Forest
2 Service to bring up those issues. And I think -- so we
3 gave our quick eight minute presentation and then there
4 was four hours to discuss any of the topics that they
5 wanted to know more about and I would say we had a good
6 hour and 15 minute discussion on subsistence during
7 that time period. So I think it was an exciting
8 opportunity for me to be able to talk about that in
9 that type of a venue. And so I was honored to be able
10 to participate in that.

11

12 And, that's it, thank you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Cathy.

15

16 Mr. Wright, (In Tlingit)

17

18 MR. WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

19

20 First, I'd like to thank Saxman for
21 inviting us down here. When we got the phone call
22 about coming here I said there's no other place to go,
23 Gunalcheesh.

24

25 Anyway, I agree with Mr. Kookesh about,
26 you know, having the larger communities being able to
27 get the subsistence food. You know when I first
28 started going out, my wife, we lived in Anchorage, you
29 know, and then we moved to Hoonah and my daughter, you
30 know, she came back from college one time and she was,
31 you know, eating -- we were having seal meat and my
32 sister had asked my daughter, do you eat that, and my
33 daughter just looked at her kind of funny, her -- my --
34 my sister grew up -- I mean her kids grew up in the
35 city, she said my kids don't eat that, you know, so
36 that was a big difference, you know, when we moved to
37 Hoonah it made a difference. If we lived in Anchorage
38 I'm sure my daughter would not be eating seal meat or
39 when we have an (In Tlingit) or something like that or
40 slopping her (In Tlingit) in seal grease and her
41 gumboots and everything, she would not be eating that.
42 So it does make a difference on where you live. And
43 every time my daughter comes home we make sure we have
44 a Native plate on the dinner or something, or deer meat
45 or even deer bone. You know a lot of people go out
46 hunting and they -- a lot of -- some guys don't know
47 what deer bone is about, they cut off -- they cut the
48 hind quarters off and leave the rest there. When I
49 skin a deer I make sure I leave some meat on the deer
50 bone so we can have boiled deer bone and potatoes and

1 that's pretty good with onions and pretty good stuff.

2

3 MS. PHILLIPS: You're making me hungry.

4

5 (Laughter)

6

7 MS. NEEDHAM: I know.

8

9 (Laughter)

10

11 MR. WRIGHT: So anyways I agree with
12 you on that, you know, our outside -- our Native people
13 that live outside the villages need to be able to
14 subsist.

15

16 This year the deer have been pretty
17 abundant on the north end but I think there's too many
18 vehicles going out there, you know, going out there.
19 You know there's been a lot of small deer being shot
20 and, you know, some people always looking for a trophy
21 and if it's too small they leave it. So that somehow
22 needs to be taken control of.

23

24 This year there's been a lot of herring
25 in Hoonah, I mean, you know, a lot. I mean the
26 tourists have been having a blast because the whales
27 have been coming up feeding right, 10 feet away from
28 the float and the tourists have been standing on the
29 float and just having a blast. They don't even have to
30 pay for a whale tour with the whales coming up right
31 next to the float, you know, they've been having a good
32 time. So there's been a lot of herring and pretty good
33 sized ones and it's been a long time since I've seen
34 that. Because when I first started black coddling, we
35 used to get our herring -- we used to throw a net and
36 get our herring for bait and now we don't -- we're not
37 able to do that but that's been.....

38

39 And the blueberries they've been pretty
40 abundant. We have some company that has come to Hoonah
41 that is buying blueberries at, you know, and there's
42 been some people that go out and make a pretty good
43 living. Even my sisters went out the other --
44 yesterday and they made -- one sister made 240 bucks
45 yesterday, you know, paying \$3.25 a pound for
46 blueberries so it's a pretty good shot in the arm.

47

48 And the young people are having a --
49 they had a good season with the tourist ships because
50 they could start working with the tourism industry when

1 they're 16 years old and I like that because it's --
2 you know the fish cannery doesn't work that often and
3 they don't really make that -- do that great in a fish
4 camp -- fish company, and it gives good work ethic to
5 the younger people, you know, that's very good.

6
7 And we also have some young men that
8 are doing tree thinning and they have -- doing tree
9 thinning and doing pretty good and doing better than
10 Sealaska's import people that are not even from this
11 community, not even from the USofA and they're ahead of
12 schedule on some of the tree thinning that they're
13 doing and we're pretty happy with them, you know, the
14 Hoonah Indian Association is contracting with Sealaska
15 and Forest Service to do this. And we're thinking of
16 putting on another crew pretty soon.

17
18 And we just had a log ship in so
19 there's more employment, the log ship in just a couple
20 -- about a week now so that's more employment.

21
22 The sea otters. You know we're
23 starting to get more sea otters up the bay, up in Port
24 Frederick and that's -- you know we had -- when
25 Sealaska was buying sea otters we had some people that
26 were doing some -- not tree thinning but otter thinning
27 so there was -- they did pretty good trying to keep it
28 down a little bit, you know. One of the things is, is
29 that, we, in Hoonah, cannot go into Glacier Bay, we
30 cannot go into Glacier Bay and shoot a sea otter. We
31 can't go into Glacier Bay and shoot a seal. That's
32 Hoonah territory but we can't do it because it's
33 against the law. But you got sea otters in Glacier Bay
34 that are just raping the place, I mean you can see big
35 rafts -- I mean big pods up there, what do you call
36 them, pods or rafts or whatever, but they're, you know,
37 they're just all over the place up in Glacier Bay and
38 they worry about -- you know the Federal government
39 worries about Hoonah people going up there and getting
40 a seal or something like that and we, you know, we, in
41 Hoonah don't do that, we always take what we need.

42
43 That's about all.

44
45 But thanks again, Saxman, for inviting
46 us.

47
48 Gunalcheesh.

49
50 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Frank.

1 Patty, your turn.

2

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4

5 Gas in Pelican is 5.26 a gallon and
6 diesel is about 5.10 a gallon. So if we have to go out
7 to the outer coast to get our subsistence sockeye
8 you're probably only going to make one trip to do it,
9 and if you get there behind someone else who's already
10 done their harvesting then you're going to have a
11 diminished catch and you'll have almost missed your
12 opportunity.

13

14 But this year was like a recordbreaking
15 year in terms of cohos and sockeyes, you know, all the
16 way up and down the region so a lot of the -- our local
17 fleet, our troll fleet and our -- the fleet that comes
18 into Pelican, you know, they -- it's just really good
19 to see them looking happy for a change and, you know,
20 they had incredible weather for the ocean and just
21 really good catch rates.

22

23 I have a list of things, Mr. Chairman,
24 and I'm going to be bouncing around a little bit.

25

26 But I've lived in Pelican for 41 years.
27 I was actually born in Mt. Edgecumbe and lived in the
28 BIA Indian Housing for the first seven years of my life
29 and we moved to Sitka side and then we moved to
30 Pelican. So I've seen the landscape all these -- over
31 many 55 years, you know, throughout, between Sitka and
32 Pelican and there's a large cedar -- yellow cedar die-
33 off. You can look at the side of a mountain and just
34 see all the cedars that are starting to die-off and
35 it's kind of disconcerting to me and much of that is in
36 wilderness area and so there's not going to be much you
37 can do about it other than watch it happen.

38

39 The deer population, and I'm concerned
40 about our deer population to tell you the truth. We
41 have a heavy increase in bear populations. You see a
42 sow, she'll have two, maybe three cubs and they are --
43 with our mild winters I don't know, you know, they
44 built that because of the heavy snowfall and the deers
45 being weak and the bear able to get the deer very
46 quickly, and so now that we had a mild winter last
47 winter, how are those deer going to increase. I think
48 we're seeing a slight increase but it could be greater
49 if there wasn't such a huge bear population feeding on
50 that. Well, maybe with all the pink salmon in our

1 streams the bear won't be so hungry for deer but we'll
2 see.

3

4 We had a lot of berries.

5

6 And then going to -- I recently heard
7 that they're considering listing the pinto abalone
8 because there's hardly any abalone. Well, guess what
9 there's a lot of sea otters and they love abalones.
10 And it's become where -- where sea otters have become
11 invasive and, you know, those were transplanted. The
12 otters here were transplanted from Western Aleutians.
13 And were those a different genetic stock than the sea
14 otters that were here originally, you know, many
15 thousands of years ago.

16

17 And in terms of rural status, this RAC
18 supported the halibut subsistence program that was
19 established from NOAA and NMFS and that allowed for
20 tribal affiliation and rural residents being able to
21 subsistence harvest for halibut and why can't we have a
22 similar sort of designation for ANILCA subsistence,
23 this tribal affiliation and rural residency.

24

25 One thing that I've been blessed with
26 is having people in the Sitka area who send me herring
27 eggs and at every potluck that I've attended this year
28 I've made herring egg salad and it's made with mostly
29 local foods and, you know, maybe the mayonnaise isn't
30 local but, you know, everything else in it is and, you
31 know, it's a cultural and traditional activity and I'm
32 just thankful that -- and so you have non-Natives who
33 are like -- they're learning to love herring egg salad.

34

35 But we, in Pelican, will buy wood,
36 lumber from the Hoonah sawmill. We have people, local
37 people buying boardwalk planks or, you know, building
38 wood for their homes or the city of Pelican is buying
39 planks from the Hoonah sawmill for boardwalk planks so,
40 you know, we do have a multiple use of our Forests but
41 we're here to represent subsistence. I remember when
42 Mr. Glazier was here and I was telling him how I was a
43 board member of Southeast Conference and he asked, but
44 who do you represent, and I represent subsistence users
45 from a rural area of Southeast Alaska but I also
46 believe in a multiple use of the Forest. There is a
47 10,000 board foot -- what is that called, where you can
48 go in and -- personal use, you know, of trees from the
49 Forest and we have people in our community who utilize
50 that for the benefit of -- okay, it's expensive to live

1 in Pelican but we love it there and those of -- we got
2 down to 63 people this last winter but we love it there
3 and we're going to be the last to turn out the lights
4 and hopefully that'll never happen.

5
6 But -- so it's like Floyd was saying,
7 we're here to try to find solutions and sometimes we,
8 you know, kind of feel like we're spinning our wheels
9 but it's with the intention of let's try to make some
10 forward progress.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Patty.

15
16
17 Mr. Douville.

18
19 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Chairman
20 Adams.

21
22 In, Craig, like most places, we all
23 enjoyed good fish harvest.

24
25 (Teleconference interruptions)

26
27 MR. DOUVILLE: A couple of our members
28 already mentioned the otter problems which.....

29
30 (Teleconference interruptions)

31
32 (Laughter)

33
34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We have somebody who's
35 trying to be on line or something's happening there so
36 it's interfering.

37
38 MR. DOUVILLE: And we have concerns
39 about herring spawn, it's getting smaller and smaller
40 and we'll see down the road what happens. But it has
41 moved from its traditional area and it's in a real --
42 it has strong competition from herring pounding.

43
44 But one place that did not do a good
45 harvest was sockeye in Klawock. Probably a little over
46 a thousand went through the weir in a system that in
47 the past has had 35,000 to 40,000 was normal. And the
48 general opinion is that the streams were logged --
49 mostly Klawock Lake is surrounded by private land and
50 restrictions on stream buffers did not apply so the

1 streams were logged to where there was no cover and it
2 made a good young growth, which encouraged beavers to
3 move in there so where you had free-flowing streams for
4 the sockeye to spawn in are now criss-crossed heavily
5 with beaver dams. And we believe that ecosystem has
6 changed to the point where you're not going to have a
7 sockeye recovery unless you have some intervention. So
8 I know Klawock is listed in here as one of those places
9 where maybe you could monitor but in reality I'd be
10 looking for something more than that which would be
11 more aimed towards enhancement, removing some of those
12 dam systems and keeping them out so we have free-
13 flowing water again, would be a help. And perhaps some
14 restriction down the mouth of the river on subsistence
15 users so we preserve the resource. I would like to see
16 the line that determines where Federal and State water
17 begins and ends put in. So we, perhaps, may be able to
18 do something about preserving what resource we have
19 there.

20

21 Other than that, looking forward to
22 going to get some -- we won't say hunting, but some
23 meat, we have plenty of fish.

24

25 So thank you very much.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Michael.
28 The other Michael.

29

30 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
31 Chairman.

32

33 Well, as evident throughout the region
34 we had an exceptional summer. And in our immediate
35 area we had -- it was reflected in a lot of berries,
36 mushrooms, it's been a real a -- the gardens were all
37 full, it was just real exceptional weather.

38

39 And in our area we also noticed a real
40 increase in our catch per unit efforts in the halibut
41 fishery and in the subsistence halibut take. It seemed
42 like everybody had no problem getting the halibut that
43 they needed, which was very nice.

44

45 On the concern side it's real evident
46 that marine mammals of all sorts are becoming an issue,
47 including whales. We've never seen so many whales in
48 Frederick Sound, Stevens Passage and it's kind of a
49 concern because they're basically eating the lower end
50 of the food chain and that affects our salmon and the

1 rest of the fish species as well.

2

3 The comments that Mr. Ackerman
4 mentioned about the crab pots, I think that's a symptom
5 of what's happening with our increase in sea otter
6 populations and the result is a compressed commercial
7 fleet so the areas that do have crab left are just
8 multiplied by more and more boats. And the boats that
9 left Kake, you know, that's what happens they find
10 what's left. And so that's a big concern throughout
11 the whole region, I think, and it's just one of the
12 symptoms of over populated with sea otters.

13

14 We're having a big problem with sea
15 lions, you know, we've got a couple of troubled
16 individuals that are becoming aggressive in our harbor.
17 We're afraid of our children walking the docks. We've
18 had the sea lion jump up and chase people. And we
19 contacted National Marine Fishery Service and they've
20 sent people down to look at the animals and we counted
21 up to 20 sea lions on our airplane float at one time,
22 just hauled out. And so it's becoming a scary
23 situation and we've gotten very little response other
24 than, well, you know, if something happens maybe we can
25 do something. Waiting -- basically they need someone
26 to get hurt. And I know they're having a problem in
27 Wrangell as well. I talked to a couple from Wrangell
28 and they have a couple of rogue animals that they
29 become accustom to people and they are not afraid. I
30 do a lot of dive work in the harbor and swimming with a
31 1,200 pound animal is not a very friendly feeling,
32 especially when they come up, you know, close to me as
33 Harvey and swim around in circles, it's scary. And so
34 I don't know, it's not in our purview but sea lions are
35 becoming heavily populated throughout the region, I
36 think. And I don't know what we can do about that but
37 it's getting to be an issue.

38

39 Talking about deer populations in our
40 region. Our immediate area, like to echo what Mr.
41 Hernandez says that we have a serious problem and we
42 just are undergoing a timber sale on the Lindenberg
43 Peninsula and they're removing up to 11 percent of the
44 winter habitat. And although that doesn't sound like
45 much it creates an environment for easier wolf
46 predation when you have this clear-cuts and then you
47 have the vegetation come back, the deer congregate
48 there, well, it's an obvious place for the wolves to
49 set up camp as well. So the 11 percent doesn't sound
50 like much but overall it really makes an impact and the

1 wolf population is growing. The only place there's
2 deer around our region is in our town because they're
3 safe, they're in our gardens and eating people's tulips
4 in the spring and they're voracious.

5
6 We're hoping that the communities of
7 Kake and Petersburg can work together to get an
8 intertie so that electricity will become cheap for them
9 as well. And it's a long process but we're working on
10 that, too.

11
12 I've been getting some comments about
13 the Stikine sockeye fishery that we have for
14 subsistence and there's been some concerns about the
15 way the subsistence fishery is conducted and they're
16 leaving their nets in the water overnight and then they
17 come back and there's just heads left, the seals clean
18 them out. And there's no accountability for that.
19 And, that, once again we've talked about this before,
20 but that's an issue and I don't know how we can address
21 that. But that is one of the things that I've heard
22 about.

23
24 The community of Petersburg is moving
25 towards acting on these TransBoundary river systems.
26 The mines that are being proposed. And I took the map
27 of mines to the Borough Assembly and Ms. McDonald gave
28 me this map of all the proposed mines and it's pretty
29 eye opening to see what potential damage can be done to
30 these river systems. And just like we talked before,
31 the Unuk River had trouble with eulachon, well, maybe
32 that is a symptom. And we just need to be on top of
33 that situation and do what we can to promote stopping
34 some of these mines.

35
36 Anyway, thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Mike.

39
40 Mr. Kookesh.

41
42 Go ahead.

43
44 (Laughter)

45
46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: (In Tlingit)

47
48 (Laughter)

49
50 MR. KITKA: I don't mean to disrespect

1 Mr. Kookesh but my name is Kitka.

2

3 (Laughter)

4

5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh, boy, I apologize
6 to Mr. Kookesh, too.

7

8 (Laughter)

9

10 MR. KITKA: Harvey Kitka. And I kind
11 of represent the Sitka area, and probably the
12 surrounding areas.

13

14 Right now one of the big concerns in
15 Sitka might be the rural determination, which is coming
16 around again. The city is starting to ramp up for the
17 talks on this and we got different portions that are
18 talking about that and we got -- but that will come
19 about either tonight or maybe when you get to Sitka.

20

21 Our other major concern is the herring
22 issue. Over the past couple of years our needs have
23 not been met and most of the needs in Southeast Alaska
24 that usually we supply a lot of herring eggs to have
25 not been met. The banner year, which was supposed to
26 be two years ago, they didn't quite get half their
27 quota on the commercial side, then last year they
28 dropped the quota down considerably and they still
29 didn't get half the quota. And from what I had
30 understood from my Canadian friends and some of the
31 people from Washington, is that the herring is
32 disappearing up and down the Coast, and that might be
33 why we're seeing more and more whales within our area,
34 they're going to go where the food is. And as
35 predation increases then we're -- we're vastly
36 approaching a point where the herring population might
37 not be able to recover, realizing, of course, some of
38 the bays on the inside have got herring and I'm not too
39 sure why the difference is -- has happened on the
40 inside. But that part is good news.

41

42 Another area of concern is our sockeye.
43 Redoubt Lake got a good size return this year,
44 somewhere around the 40,000 sockeyes in Redoubt. But
45 the Klag Bay fishery the escapement was pretty low,
46 mostly because it had -- we had such a dry summer. The
47 stream that the sockeyes spawn in in Klag Bay is really
48 small and when we had that dry weather it just -- it
49 became just a trickle so the fish stayed out in the bay
50 and got harvested pretty hard. Not only are we

1 concerned about that but part of monitoring program for
2 some of these systems -- we realize that the Federal
3 government is going through some cost problems of their
4 own on this but we definitely need some sort of --
5 somebody to keep track of our subsistence fisheries and
6 the monitoring is a big part of that.

7
8 Another concern is the sea otter within
9 the outer coast of Alaska is almost starting to get to
10 the inside waters now. If they're -- if the
11 regulations don't change on how we can harvest them and
12 how we can put them up and resale so that it can be a
13 viable business to some people so that it could help
14 supplement their incomes it makes it really hard for
15 most everybody because the rules and regulations are
16 just a little too strict on that.

17
18 We had some goat closures this year. I
19 had some concerns about that. But I know when they
20 first started the goat hunt on Baranof Island it wasn't
21 near the number of goats of what's on there now and the
22 population increased regardless of the hunting. We
23 don't have the wolf predation on the goats on Baranof
24 Island. So maybe that's the difference, I'm not sure.

25
26 We also have some concerns over our
27 traditional foods, Forest products and things that are
28 starting to get commercialized. This is just a concern
29 that's been kind of an ongoing thing.

30
31 And basically I think that should about
32 cover what I have to say.

33
34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Harvey.
35 Got it right this time, uh.

36
37 (Laughter)

38
39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Aw, shucks. Okay. My
40 report is going to be kind of divided into two parts.
41 I'll give, you know, the report that is normally the
42 Council reports about their regions and what's
43 happening there, and then I'll go through a list of
44 things that the Council has been involved in this past
45 year. We've got a lot of things on our plate and some
46 of them are not resolved and we need to make sure that
47 those are followed through properly.

48
49 But first I think it was Isaac, you
50 know, was wondering about why people were having cancer

1 and so forth. We solved, I think, you know, our cancer
2 problem in Yakutat, we had the WWII, you know, base
3 there and up to 15, up to 20,000 troops there at one
4 time, they left a lot of stuff out there. And our
5 tribe has gotten funding from the -- through NALP, you
6 know, with the Army Corps and they're cleaning up a lot
7 of that mess there and so, you know, we don't see as
8 much cancer issues as we have in the past. And, of
9 course, you know, if you get the disease early there's
10 a pretty good chance that you can, you know, get cured
11 of it. But, anyhow, that's what we are doing because
12 our -- the elders in the community were really
13 concerned about all of that contaminated material that
14 the Army had left here during the war. So we're
15 working on that still.

16

17 We had -- you know, we had a meeting
18 here last spring and when I left Yakutat there was some
19 evidence of eulachons showing up and I guess I made a
20 comment about that, you know, during my report. When I
21 got back there was oodles and oodles of eulachons, I
22 mean it came in in real big droves and it lasted for a
23 long time, I ate so much eulachons I got tired of it,
24 you know.

25

26 (Laughter)

27

28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: But that's the way it
29 goes.

30

31 (Laughter)

32

33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: But I'm really happy
34 about it because over the years, you know, I have and
35 we have been really concerned about the eulachon
36 returns all over the region.

37

38 I have to say that, you know, as far as
39 salmon is concerned we have all of our subsistence
40 needs met. The king salmon, you know, came in pretty
41 strong in the bay where we fish in Monty Bay for the
42 bypass -- Dry Bay kings and we'll keep the other kings
43 too but we really relish the Dry Bays. And in the
44 Situk River they had a certain portion of the river
45 closed off because they wanted to make sure, you know,
46 that the sockeye -- that the king salmon were getting
47 up into the areas where they spawn. And it was kind of
48 late in the season but they got their quota and then
49 they opened it up for subsistence too. Other than that
50 -- you know, prior to that we weren't able to keep on

1 -- keep our king salmon caught in the Situk River, you
2 could keep it out in the bay but Situk River was
3 forbidden. And then, you know, they met their quota
4 and opened it up and that was okay -- I mean that was
5 the first time in about maybe two or three years, you
6 know, when we got a good run of king salmon.

7
8 The sockeyes also came in pretty well
9 and the prices were good. So I think, you know, the
10 community as a whole, you know, did a real good -- did
11 real well, you know, with the sockeye.

12
13 And then the silvers, you know, I heard
14 one of the fishermen say that last Sunday that that
15 river is so full of silvers that, you know, they
16 couldn't contain them and then bad weather came in and
17 so it was hard to get them after that. But it'd be
18 interested in seeing how they did this week, this is
19 their last week for silver fishing unless, you know,
20 they're still showing up pretty well and they're in
21 good condition and then they'll extend it into October
22 for a week.

23
24 We also got our halibut, you know,
25 needs met. And so my freezer is full with fish right
26 now.

27
28 We had a decent berry season. And so
29 we're -- my wife is really happy about that because she
30 loves berries. Her name is (In Tlingit) which means
31 berry bush, okay, and adequately so.

32
33 So now the moose season is coming up
34 and it used to be, you know, that -- well, my son -- my
35 sons are the ones who go out and get the game, the
36 moose and the deer and all that. Before when the moose
37 season in Yakutat was open we had that subsistence hunt
38 the week before the regular season opens, I was always
39 here, you know, attending these meetings so I couldn't
40 go out with them and so I got used to not going out
41 with them and they said, you know, dad, we'll take care
42 of it. So we're looking forward to, you know, our
43 supply of moose. Susan Oehlers is going to give a
44 report a little bit later on but I'll forewarn you that
45 they're going to keep the status quo as far as the
46 number of take, you know, on the western side of the
47 Dangerous River down to 25 because the bull/cow ratio
48 is pretty low.

49
50 Okay.

1 So that is kind of my report. I'd just
2 like to go over with you briefly about some of the
3 things that the Council has on the table.

4
5 Oh, yeah, we have the same problems
6 with sea otters, beavers, sea lions, you know.

7
8 Last year I reported that we had
9 evidence of -- well, I knew they were there but
10 California sea lions, you know, were coming into our
11 area, not so much this year now and I was really happy
12 about that.

13
14 But anyhow some of the things that we,
15 as a Council, are involved in is of course is C&T and
16 rural determination, the ETJ. These are issues that
17 have not been resolved yet but need to be resolved and
18 hopefully, you know, we'll be able to make some
19 progress on those issues during this meeting.

20
21 When Jennifer Yuhas comes in hopefully
22 we'll be able to get a report from her about, you know,
23 how the State is dealing with the Angoon issue.

24
25 Some of the things that are in the
26 annual report I'd like to bring your attention to, if
27 you'd just read them. We sent a letter in -- our
28 annual report into the Federal Subsistence Board, their
29 response is on Page 21 of the book, and just some of
30 the things that I've already gone over with you
31 already.

32
33 The rural determination issue, I really
34 appreciated the work that Cathy and her group has come
35 up with and, you know, as you all know the Council
36 agreed to let us run away together at Central Council
37 -- or I mean at the Southcentral meeting, next week, in
38 fact, to share with them, you know, our view of what
39 rural determination is all about. And what I need to
40 impress upon us, we do need to come up with some
41 resolution or I think what Mr. Larson referred to as a
42 position paper on that so that we will have an idea how
43 to go up there and approach them. So we'll probably
44 put your committee back together again so you can come
45 up with that before we leave this meeting.

46
47 Collaboration with the State and so
48 forth is an issue in our annual report and it's too bad
49 that the State, you know, is not coming in compliance
50 with ANILCA because I think a lot of the problems that

1 we are having with the State is because of that. So I
2 don't foresee that coming. I don't think any of us see
3 that forthcoming in the near future. But, you know,
4 the issues are on our lap and we have to deal with it.

5

6 Let me see, anything else.

7

8 We have, you know, only three or four
9 proposals to work on this year, is it three, and then
10 one State one so hopefully, you know, our meeting will
11 move along pretty well.

12

13 We're going to hear reports a little
14 bit later on on the customary and traditional use
15 determination. The Kootznoowoo issue. And then there
16 were some special actions that the Board had
17 authorized, you know, we'll hear from Jeff Reeves about
18 that. And, you know, some of these things, you know, I
19 think, you know, has kept, I know Mr. Larson and myself
20 pretty busy and so hopefully, you know, we'll be able
21 to solve a lot of these problems that are before us in
22 a timely manner but I see a lot of issues that are
23 going to be very difficult as well.

24

25 So, anyhow, that's the extent of my
26 report, and it's about almost a quarter to 12:00 now,
27 I'm just wondering, Mr. Larson, if there's anyone on
28 line who'd like to testify at this time, because that's
29 the next thing that we're going to go into.

30

31 Oh, the annual report -- I went over
32 the annual report a little bit, you know, and referred
33 you to it so I guess we can say that is completed
34 already and the reply.

35

36 So is there anybody -- oh, yes.

37

38 Cathy.

39

40 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
41 just wanted to request to leave for lunch a little bit
42 early today to attend my aunt's funeral services.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh, sure. Yes. Yes,
45 your request is granted so you're excused. Hopefully
46 we'll be out in 15 minutes too but, you know, have a
47 nice lunch.

48

49 Anyone on line do we know of, Mr.

50 Larson.

1 REPORTER: Bob, you have to ask -- yes,
2 go ahead and ask.
3
4 MR. LARSON: Is there anyone on line
5 that would like to.....
6
7 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh, the
8 teleconference. Yes, the teleconference.
9
10 MR. LARSON:address the Council
11 at this time.
12
13
14 (No comments)
15
16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I guess not.
17
18 MR. LARSON: I guess not.
19
20 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. How about the
21 public.
22
23 This is on non-agenda items, if you
24 have anything that, you know, -- do we have anything --
25 anyone here.
26
27 MR. LARSON: So non-agenda items?
28
29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Non-agenda items.
30 That's anything that you have that is not on the agenda
31 that you'd like to testify before us, James Llanos, (In
32 Tlingit)
33
34 (In Tlingit)
35
36 (Laughter)
37
38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: (In Tlingit)
39
40 Patty, go ahead.
41
42 MS. PHILLIPS: My apologies for
43 interrupting public comment, but you said that we
44 already addressed the response to the annual report and
45 the Council was not given a chance to make comments or
46 questions regarding.....
47
48 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.
49
50 MS. PHILLIPS:your report on the

1 response to the annual report so I would just like that
2 to be readdressed later on in the meeting.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Well, we could do
7 that, probably when we come back from lunch.

8

9 Thank you, Patty.

10

11 Go ahead, Mr. Llanos.

12

13 MR. LLANOS: My name is James Llanos.
14 And I am currently the grand treasurer with the Alaska
15 Native Brotherhood Grand Camp, and let me take care of
16 that business first.

17

18 Robert Loescher, some of you may know,
19 has represented Alaska Native Brotherhood Grand Camp on
20 subsistence issues in the past. Currently Mr. Loescher
21 is no longer given credentials to represent Alaska
22 Native Brotherhood or Alaska Native Sisterhood Grand
23 Camp. And also Mr. Loescher was the chair of the
24 Alaska Subsistence Legal Defense Fund and the Alaska
25 Traditional Food Security Council and he has been
26 replaced with Sasha Sobeloff as Chair and is no longer
27 allowed to represent those organizations as well. He
28 may want to represent himself as an individual or if he
29 has credentials from some other organization that would
30 be fine, but the Alaska Native Brotherhood has pressed
31 the reset button there. And because we're now 102
32 years old we're trying to establish new direction. So
33 that's the ANB stuff.

34

35 For my stuff, I wanted to say that this
36 has to do with rural and urban and roads.

37

38 A road does not guarantee a subsistence
39 use for an individual. Whether it's 500 feet of road
40 or 25 miles of road. A road, in itself does not
41 guarantee an individual may travel to the supposed
42 income location so I'm really strong about that. As
43 well as a city, in itself, does not guarantee an
44 individual's subsistence lifestyle or personal use
45 lifestyle.

46

47 I just recently came from Anchorage
48 where I met this young man who came from a village
49 trying to escape the terrible situation in that
50 village, economic, so he brought his wife and they've

1 had a child, I was there just after they had their
2 child. He doesn't have the skills to survive in a
3 city. It takes certain training and skills to be an
4 individual in Anchorage. Yet he came from a village.
5 And he was very, very hungry, along with his wife and
6 their new baby.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Llanos.

9

10 MR. LLANOS: Yes.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: If I could interrupt
13 you. Could you save this part of your testimony --
14 this is, as far as we can see, you know, involves rural
15 determination, and if you want to make such a
16 testimony, you know, we want you to reserve that for
17 this evening when we have that.....

18

19 MR. LLANOS: For this evening?

20

21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:the evening
22 devoted to that.

23

24 MR. LLANOS: Okay.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

27

28 MR. LLANOS: The third thing then.
29 ANCSA and ANILCA are laws that were administered and
30 placed with individuals. And when you guys make your
31 rulemaking and your determinations keep that in mind
32 that you need to be looking at it at an individual
33 level. Not a community level, necessarily. Community
34 is important but the laws were written for individuals,
35 for a person, an individual person. If it's good for
36 the person then it'll end up being good for the
37 communities. So try to focus on what would be good for
38 a person trying to do a subsistence lifestyle. The
39 community based things and the tribes, they're all fine
40 because they represent people who can't make it here or
41 make it to your meetings or contact you. But when you
42 do these I really encourage you to maintain your point
43 of view as an individual action, one that will affect a
44 person.

45

46 So I've seen some stuff in the past
47 that seems to be answering questions for a community;
48 what are we going to do about Klawock; what are we
49 going to do about -- well, the different communities,
50 you know, Sitka. But if you focus on the individual

1 the rest will come together with community.

2

3 So -- and the last thing, Canadian
4 mining. It's affecting down stream resources that our
5 peoples use, you know, coming out of Wrangell,
6 Petersburg, Ketchikan. There's mining up in Canada and
7 they're leaching a lot of chemicals and other things
8 that are down into the water supply that affect the
9 eulachon run, that affect the king salmon, that affect
10 the dog salmons and I don't know if you guys are
11 looking into that or thought about it. I don't know
12 what you can do about Canada but somebody ought to be
13 looking at that because that's affecting the resource
14 base that people rely on.

15

16 That's all I had.

17

18 I'll save the other part for tonight's
19 party.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: All right, thank you,
22 Mr. Llanos, appreciate it.

23

24 Okay.

25

26 Victoria McDonald, are you here?

27

28 MR. ACKERMAN: Can I ask a question.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Did you have a
31 question for Mr. Llanos -- go ahead I'll give you time
32 for it. He has a question for you James, go ahead.

33

34 MR. ACKERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
35 I'll make it fast.

36

37 Very interesting that you bring up
38 ANCSA and ANILCA. One of the original signors of ANCSA
39 said to me, if I knew now what has happened I would
40 have never signed ANCSA. It is a very interesting
41 article that -- to say the people that belong to these
42 corporations are supposed to gain economic social well
43 being and monetary distribution and basically their
44 rights have been taken away from them and what you see
45 now is our dependence on subsistence to sustain
46 ourselves in an economic poverty -- below poverty
47 level.

48

49 Very interesting there. Thanks for
50 mentioning that.

1 MR. LLANOS: Yeah. You're here because
2 of the failure of ANCSA. You all know that, right.
3 ANCSA had provisions for protections and it failed.
4 The Secretary of Interior failed. So what happened is
5 they brought forth ANILCA as a new law. So if it
6 worked in the first place I don't think any of you
7 would be here, you know, if they just honored that.

8

9 So keep up the good work, though, and
10 keep thinking about these things.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We're doing our best
13 James.

14

15 Victoria, please, come forward.

16

17 Again, we're not taking any testimonies
18 on rural determination right now, okay.

19

20 MS. MCDONALD: Yeah. I just mentioned
21 that in my introduction.

22

23 So the only unfortunate thing I have to
24 say is that I have that fabulous map that I sent to
25 Mike Bangs and I have more, I can get them at lunch.
26 Because once people see the map of the proposed mines
27 up in British Columbia; a picture's worth a thousand
28 words, but the maps are worth 10,000.

29

30 So this is a little update on Seabridge
31 and I'm specifically talking about (indiscernible) will
32 drain into the headwaters of the Illick (ph). Five
33 Seabridge officials came to Juneau August 28th to meet
34 with Federal and State officials, however, the tribes
35 were asked to go in but they weren't invited. Instead
36 Seabridge met with us the next day. So Ron Leighton
37 was there. Richard Peterson of OVK. Rob Sanderson.
38 Ray Paddock (ph). Jennifer of Tlingit/Haida. Chris
39 Zimmer and I attended for Rivers without Borders and
40 then a representative of SeAK.

41

42 Since 2008 Seabridge has been compiling
43 studies engineering plans and now they have presented
44 us with a 42 volume, 15 feet long, 3,100 page document
45 that we have until October 21st to submit comments on.
46 That's a lot of reading. There is an executive summary
47 that's 108 pages that I actually read through. But the
48 office in Canada said this isn't sufficient for such a
49 massive project so we'd like you to expand it so
50 they're maybe going to come out with a 700 page

1 document. But we were able to see an hour and a half
2 PowerPoint presentation and ask questions. And, of
3 course, we are just the users, we are not engineers, we
4 questioned water quality issues that will result and
5 these experts were very smooth, very well educated,
6 very confident that their one of a kind technology that
7 will be used to treat huge amounts of stored water,
8 ground water -- too close?

9

10 REPORTER: Yes.

11

12 MS. MCDONALD: Okay. And millions of
13 gallons of water expected from three huge pits but all
14 will produce acid mine drainage. They also described
15 the seismic threat up in that country, responding to
16 one specific question, as moderate, but they did not
17 address how seismic address could affect drainage
18 tunnels, power supply or the power plant necessary to
19 protect downstream water quality. There has never been
20 a mine of this size developed in an area with this much
21 precipitation above critical salmon habitat. This plan
22 calls for complex new technology and engineering. All
23 the different systems necessary are analyzed
24 separately. There is no mention of cascading events.

25

26 And so we went back to the Fukushima
27 disaster. There was one event, it was an earthquake,
28 that was followed by a tidal wave, then there was a
29 power outage, severed access for emergency workers a
30 multiple system failure. And as we probably all know,
31 we still have radio active waste leaking into the
32 Pacific which could last for a long time.

33

34 Again, cascading effects.

35

36 The entire conclusion that this mine
37 can be developed while protecting salmon is based on a
38 first of its kind technology designed to protect
39 natural systems that are not completely understood.
40 Everything in this EA, which is environment assessment,
41 they don't have to do an EIS, is based on models,
42 assumptions, predictions, probabilities, man made
43 habitats and interpretations. The uncertainties
44 regarding mitigation are particularly troubling. We
45 need to know how major problems will be handled and if
46 bonding has been established to pay for mistakes
47 because sometimes they slide out of this bonding.

48

49 This mine, if started, there is some
50 exploration going on but it hasn't really gotten off

1 the ground because they are (indiscernible) investors,
2 will bring mass -- rapid massive development in that
3 ecologically and culturally enriched area in British
4 Columbia and Alaska. Traditional and customary usage
5 by Native tribes is given little attention in this EA
6 and, of course, is one of the main contentions Alaskans
7 have with mines.

8
9 Additionally the Unuk is contained with
10 mis -- within Misty Fjords National Monument and the
11 Forest Service is responsible for maintaining the
12 integrity of the monument and its uses. Most of this
13 technology has never been tried, especially not for the
14 250 years the company must plan for. I was talking
15 with someone and they said, well, how about a thousand
16 years. The Unuk River should not be the lab rat for
17 this particular mining company. The risk for failure
18 is very high and the optimistic predictions may not
19 prove to be true.

20
21 Canada allows only a 45 day review
22 comment period, which is very short and we are asking
23 for an extended review period but we're not thinking
24 we're going to get it. Comment period starts September
25 6th and will end October 21st. And I have compiled a
26 list of British Columbia agencies to contact through a
27 website and it'll go directly to the BC officials, also
28 Jenna Pearl at the State department and EPA, plus, of
29 course, Murkowski and Begich. We also have a very
30 interesting advocate in Canada by a man by the name of
31 Nathan Cohen (ph), we've sent him a letter with
32 different signatories on it saying, you know, by
33 fishermen, Native tribes, your letter from the Council
34 was -- committee -- was also included as those of us
35 who are opposed to some project like this. And, of
36 course, all these combined into effect the different
37 TransBoundary lines.

38
39 We've also hired a wonderful man I met
40 in Butte who is a mining engineer who's studied the
41 failure rate of mines, which is astronomical. And a
42 couple of things, I'm not going to read this whole
43 report for you, 100 percent of mines predicted
44 compliance with water quality standards before
45 operations began, however, they found that 76 percent
46 of mines studied in detail exceeded water quality
47 standards due to mining activity. Mitigation measures
48 predicted to prevent water quality (indiscernible)
49 failed at 64 percent of the mines studied in detail.
50 And what they found is mines work very well in deserts,

1 well, we don't live in the desert.

2

3 So anyway, I -- you know, one of the
4 reasons I came here is to get -- there's been so much
5 help getting this -- this whole issue brought up before
6 the State Department, before Murkowski, Nathan Cohen is
7 going to -- has already met with Murkowski and I would
8 just like to keep it going because this is a terrifying
9 project and once it gets started there won't be any
10 stopping it so the time to stop it is right now.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you very much
15 Ms. McDonald. Is there questions of the Council.

16

17 Mr. Hernandez.

18

19 Before he asks a question, do you have
20 a copy of that available for your report?

21

22 MS. MCDONALD: Of -- oh, I have lots of
23 copies, yes.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Why don't you
26 make sure that Mr. Larson gets a copy of it for our
27 records.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 MS. MCDONALD: I have one -- I have a
32 question. I would like to go home at lunch time and
33 get that fabulous map, which I raced off in the morning
34 and forgot, big map, if I could just even bring three
35 and people could look through it and then you'll
36 understand what we're talking about because it affects
37 all of Southeast Alaska.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I guess maybe if you
40 could put it on the table where people could take a
41 look at it.

42

43 MS. MCDONALD: Yeah, I'll do that,
44 thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Hernandez, a
47 question.

48

49 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Mr.
50 Chairman. My question is more for you or the Staff as

1 opposed to Ms. McDonald, but in our letter that we sent
2 to the Board asking it to be forwarded to the
3 Secretaries, did we get any response on that?

4

5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Larson, did we get
6 a response on that, I can't remember.

7

8 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair. I'm going to
9 defer to Steve Kessler who is more intimately involved
10 in that whole process.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. And we're not
15 going to defer it to anyone else but Steve, okay.

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: The buck stops right
20 there.

21

22 (Laughter)

23

24 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
25 Steve Kessler with the US Forest Service.

26

27 So it's just an amazing process.

28

29 So you wrote the letter to the Federal
30 Subsistence Board. The Federal Subsistence Board
31 forwarded your letter on to the Secretaries of
32 Agriculture and the Interior. And then the letters
33 have been written for the Secretary of Agriculture then
34 to forward on to the Department of State, to the
35 Secretary of State. Those letters all have been
36 written, it gets caught up in this bureaucracy in the
37 Department of Agriculture, I believe that letter is
38 going to be signed finally to Secretary of State John
39 Kerry this week. I've seen two letters already that
40 have been signed but not the key one to the Secretary
41 of State.

42

43 So it's still moving.

44

45 When I was back in Washington, D.C.,
46 last week for the Senate Hearing I met with Deputy
47 Under Secretary Butch Blazer and we talked about it
48 some more, and about how important this issue is to the
49 people of Southeast Alaska and to the subsistence users
50 of Southeast Alaska. He's very much aware of it. He

1 is trying to keep things moving. That letter, I'm
2 assuming will go to the Secretary of State. As soon as
3 that happens, of course, the Council will get a copy of
4 that. And the question then is what's next, and how
5 can this Council be most influential and what will
6 happen as a result.

7

8 I don't have any of those answers but I
9 just wanted to give you a status of the letter.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, thank you.
12 Okay, let's take a lunch break. Let's be back here at
13 1:30.

14

15 (Council nods affirmatively)

16

17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. By the way is
18 there anyone on line.

19

20 MR. LARSON: Yeah, if there's any
21 persons on line I'd like to have them identify
22 themselves right now for the record.

23

24 MR. FOX: Yeah, hi, Robert, this is
25 Trevor Fox with OSM.

26

27 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Trevor.
28 Anybody else.

29

30

31 (No comments)

32

33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, see you at 1:30.

34

35 (Off record)

36

37 (On record)

38

39 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Could we call the
40 meeting back to order, please.

41

42 (Pause)

43

44 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Okay. Chairman
45 Adams asked me if I would cover a few topics here while
46 he gets a little break.

47

48 First of all, I'd like to go back and
49 address Patty's question about commenting on our annual
50 report. Did you have something on that, Patty.

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
2 Well, one of the questions was already answered by Mr.
3 Kessler about our letter to the Secretaries of Interior
4 and Agriculture. So I guess they're going to write a
5 letter to the Secretary of State, and I guess we're
6 going to get a copy of it, so I really appreciate that.

7
8 And the other one, excuse me, Mr.
9 Chair, I've got to get to that part of my packet.

10
11 VICE CHAIR BANGS: In the meantime I'd
12 like to welcome Ms. Yuhas.

13
14 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
15 The other one was issue number 3, review of our annual
16 report reply is review the education and outreach to
17 the public. And I don't know if this would be the
18 appropriate place to answer it -- I mean, bring this
19 concern up, but the website, the Federal Subsistence
20 Board website, you know, went through a big changeover.
21 And while other people were, what do you say, familiar
22 with the old website, and we have all these critical
23 issues that we're dealing with statewide in terms of
24 rural determination and customary and traditional use
25 determinations. I've got several comments, I mean,
26 that the web site just wasn't working properly at
27 times. And then suddenly you have a new website that
28 you have to learn to use. And I know that you have to,
29 you know, make the switch over sometimes, but if we
30 could do that with sensitivity I guess towards the
31 public who's trying to figure out the process as it is.
32 That's my concern.

33
34 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

35
36 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Patty.

37
38 Now, does anybody else have any
39 questions about our annual report or any comments.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Hearing none, I'd
44 like to see if there's any more public testimony on
45 issues unrelated to the rural determination.

46
47 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Chairman.

48
49 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Mr. Adams.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Maybe we can see if
2 there's anyone on line who would like to share
3 testimony with us that's not related to rural
4 determination.
5
6 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Is there anyone on
7 line who wants to speak to issues unrelated to the
8 rural determination.
9
10 (No comments)
11
12 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Hearing none, Mr.
13 Larson, is there -- well, I'll give you a chance to
14 look through. Is there any public testimony.
15
16 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair. Before we do
17 that, I think it would be worthwhile to ask who is on
18 line. We would like to have a record of those people
19 that have called in at this point.
20
21 So if we could have those people that
22 are listening on the teleconference, if you could
23 identify yourself.
24
25 MR. FOX: Yeah, hello. This is Trevor
26 Fox. I'm a wildlife biologist with OSM in Anchorage.
27
28 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Trevor.
29
30 MS. KENNER: This is Pippa Kenner. I'm
31 an anthropologist with OSM in Anchorage.
32
33 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Pippa.
34
35 MR. NAOROZ: Peter Naoroz. I'm the
36 general manager of Kootznoowoo.
37
38 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Peter.
39
40 Mr. Chair. It appears that there are
41 three people on line. And I do notice that the State
42 representatives are in audience. Before we get started
43 with our public testimony, this might be a good
44 opportunity for them to introduce themselves.
45
46 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Yes. Thank you, Mr.
47 Larson.
48
49 Ms. Yuhas.
50

1 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
2 and my favorite RAC, which is already on record. I'm
3 Jennifer Yuhas. I am the State's Federal subsistence
4 liaison team leader. And I have not seen Doug Larson,
5 but he may have come in the room behind me. And we
6 also have Lauren Sill from our Subsistence Division.
7 Did I miss anybody.

8
9 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you. And
10 welcome. I know Mr. Larson was here earlier and made
11 his appearance a little while ago.

12
13 Mr. Adams.

14
15 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Chairman. I think
16 we need to recognize Tony Christianson who's over there
17 standing with his back against the wall. Or the door.
18 Welcome.

19
20 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
21 Adams. Welcome, Tony.

22
23 Mr. Larson.

24
25 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair. We have Holly
26 Churchill who would like to talk about customary and
27 traditional use determinations; and we have two blue
28 cards specific to the wildlife proposals. Those are
29 both -- both blue cards are from Ron Leighton.

30
31 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you.

32
33 MS. CHURCHILL: (In Native language)
34 Churchill, (In Native language). Glukna (ph) is my
35 Haida name, and Holly Churchill is my given name
36 proudly from my father who is a cheesehead from
37 Wisconsin.

38
39 (Laughter)

40
41 MS. CHURCHILL: And my mother is Haida
42 from the Charlottes, having come here to Alaska in the
43 early 40s.

44
45 Both being pretty much pioneer as well
46 as Native Alaska that I am, my concerns are on multi-
47 purpose use locations for harvesting both edible and
48 medicine in the coastal area as well as, you know, on
49 the lands. And, for instance, speaking with the hat on
50 as a berry picker, the berries come seasonally

1 throughout the season, and we have to contend with
2 snowmobile and fourwheeler tracks through at one time
3 the habitat of our deer and our bear trails. And today
4 we're finding it very difficult for the terrain is
5 being destroyed by these hunting equipment or
6 recreational equipment, and really would like to look
7 into the roadless issue primarily in this area.

8
9 Since we're considered rural -- or not
10 rural, it's very difficult to be able to go out and
11 find areas that isn't owned by Mental Health Trust,
12 State, Federal, corporate, Native-owned, or privately
13 owned. And when we do use the forest, you know, the
14 protocol for us, for Haidas, is to, you know, be aware
15 of the laws, and we're just finding it just -- the
16 terrain is just being very much torn up by these people
17 that are using the areas without roads, and it's of
18 great concern.

19
20 Also, on the spirituality of it is
21 being very much ignored by the hunters on sea mammals,
22 and I'd like to have you find solutions and address
23 those problems.

24
25 Thank you.

26
27 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Holly.

28
29 Any questions for Holly.

30
31 (No comments)

32
33 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Who is next on the
34 list, Mr. Larson.

35
36 MR. LARSON: Well, Mr. Chair, Ron
37 Leighton would like to speak directly to his wildlife
38 proposals. And I don't see Ron in the room at this
39 time.

40
41 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Mr. Adams.

42
43 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Chairman. Don't
44 you think it would be appropriate for Mr. Leighton to
45 do his testimony during the time we are addressing
46 those proposals. I think that would be the appropriate
47 time.

48
49 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Very good. That
50 sounds good. If he has the opportunity to wait, I

1 think that's probably what his plan was.

2

3 MR. LARSON: In that regard, there is
4 no other public testimony.

5

6 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Okay. Thank you,
7 Mr. Larson.

8

9 I guess we're going to move on to old
10 business. And Mr. David Jenkins to speak to us on
11 customary and traditional use determination.

12

13 MR. JENKINS: Mr. Chair. Council
14 members. David Jenkins with the Office of Subsistence
15 Management.

16

17 As you know, this Council has been
18 concerned with customary and traditional use
19 determinations for some period of time, and asked that
20 the Office of Subsistence Management develop a briefing
21 for the other Councils, and you've asked them to think
22 again about customary and traditional use. So what I
23 would like to do is provide you that briefing. You can
24 see it, it starts on Page 26 of your Council books, and
25 I'd like to go through this fairly carefully so that
26 you have a sense of what the other Councils are being
27 told about customary and traditional use. And I hope
28 this briefing is responsive to your particular concerns
29 about this issue. So I'd like to go through this with
30 some care.

31

32 So the Federal Subsistence Board and
33 this Council wish for the recommendations of the other
34 nine Regional Advisory Councils on the current
35 customary and traditional use determination process.
36 And if you recall, the Board last asked the Councils a
37 similar question a couple of years ago in 2011,
38 directed by the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture
39 on this topic. So all Councils in 2011, with the
40 exception of this Council, indicated that the existing
41 customary and traditional use determination process was
42 working. They were happy with it.

43

44 But at the request of you all, at the
45 request of this Council, this additional review is
46 being conducted. So we are looking for input from the
47 other nine Councils, and from this Council as well on
48 this issue. So I'm going to briefly describe the
49 history of customary and traditional use determinations
50 and illustrate the differences between those

1 determinations and an Section ANILCA .804 analysis, and
2 then ask for Council discussion and recommendations.

3

4 And our focus is not on how customary
5 and traditional use determinations, but why they are
6 made. And this Council, the Southeast Council, would
7 like the other Councils to recommend to eliminate, or
8 amend, or to make no changes to the current customary
9 and traditional use determination process.

10

11 And as you know, ANILCA does not
12 require customary and traditional use determinations.
13 Customary and traditional use regulations were adopted
14 from the State when the Federal Subsistence Management
15 Program was established in 1990. There was a 1992
16 record of decision in which the Federal Subsistence
17 Board considered four different customary and
18 traditional regulations and decided to adopt the State
19 determination process.

20

21 The State's eight criteria for
22 determining customary and traditional use were
23 afterwards slightly modified for use in Federal
24 regulations. And since that time, since 1992, the
25 Federal Subsistence Board has made some 300 customary
26 and traditional use determinations across the State.

27

28 The Board initially adopted the State's
29 customary and traditional use criteria, renamed them
30 factors, because the Board anticipated that the State
31 would resume management of subsistence on Federal
32 public lands. And the Board intended to, in the
33 Board's language, minimize disruption to traditional
34 State regulation and management of fish and wildlife.
35 The State has not resumed subsistence management
36 practice on -- or management on Federal public lands,
37 and it appears clear that the Federal Subsistence
38 Management Program will be permanent.

39

40 The Board does not make customary and
41 traditional use determinations to restrict amounts of
42 harvest. The Board makes customary and traditional
43 determinations relative to particular fish stocks and
44 wildlife populations in order to recognize a community
45 or area whose residents generally exhibit these eight
46 factors.

47

48 The Southeast Council is concerned that
49 the effect is to exclude those Federally-qualified
50 rural residents who do not generally exhibit these

1 eight factors from participating in subsistence
2 harvests in particular areas. As I understand it, this
3 is the central concern of this Council is that this C&T
4 use determination process ends up excluding people who
5 don't generally exhibit these factors.

6
7 Now, if you -- as you know, in 2009 the
8 Secretary of the Interior announced a review of the
9 Federal Subsistence Management Program, and part of
10 that review focused on this issue, on customary and
11 traditional use determinations. And later the
12 Secretary of Interior, with the concurrence of the
13 Secretary of Agriculture, asked the Federal Subsistence
14 Board to review with RAC input the customary and
15 traditional determination process, and present any
16 recommendations for regulatory change.

17
18 As I mentioned earlier, all 10 Councils
19 were asked for their perspectives during the 2011
20 winter regulatory cycle. And nine Councils did not
21 suggest changes to the process.

22
23 The exception was this Council, which
24 suggested, one, in its annual report a modified
25 regulation. You can see it there on Page 27. And this
26 Council's recommendation was -- the language was that
27 the Board shall determine which fish and wildlife have
28 been customarily and traditionally used for
29 subsistence. These determinations shall identify the
30 specific community's or area's use of all species of
31 fish and wildlife that have been traditionally used in
32 their past and preset geographic areas.

33
34 So in other words, once a customary and
35 traditional use determination is made for an area,
36 residents in that area would have customary and
37 traditional for all species, and there would be no need
38 for customary and traditional determinations for
39 specific fish stocks and wildlife populations or on a
40 species-by-species basis.

41
42 Afterwards, this Council formed a work
43 group to analyze the C&T use determination process.
44 And the work group, after conducting an extensive
45 review of all Regional Advisory Council transcripts
46 determined that the Councils were not adequately
47 briefed on the Secretary's request for Council
48 recommendations on this process.

49
50 The Southeast Council drafted a letter

1 and a briefing document which were provided to the
2 other Regional Advisory Councils during the winter
3 meeting in -- their last winter meeting cycle, and
4 these are included in this meeting booklet as well.

5
6 Now, pursuant to the work group's
7 findings, this Council emphasized the following, and
8 I'll read this out even though it's in your language.
9 The current customary and traditional use determination
10 process is being used to allocate resources between
11 rural residents often in times of abundance. This is
12 an inappropriate method of deciding which residents can
13 harvest fish or wildlife in an area, and may result in
14 unnecessarily restricting subsistence users. The
15 Southeast Council has a history of generally
16 recommending a broad geographic scale when reviewing
17 proposals for customary and traditional use
18 determinations. Subsistence user primarily harvest
19 resources near their community of residence and there's
20 normally no management reason to restrict use by rural
21 residents from distant communities. If there's a
22 shortage of resources, Section .804 of ANILCA provides
23 directions and the correct method of allocating
24 resources.

25
26 The Southeast Council does not support
27 retaining the current customary and traditional use
28 determination process. And, instead, the Council
29 suggests that when necessary the Board restrict harvest
30 by applying ANILCA .804 criteria. Those criteria are
31 spelled out toward the bottom of Page 27, and there are
32 three of them. The criteria are customary and direct
33 dependence upon the populations as the mainstay of
34 livelihood; local residency; and the availability of
35 alternative resources.

36
37 So the Federal Subsistence Board, and
38 also this Council, would like your recommendations on
39 the current customary and traditional use determination
40 process. Specifically the Southeast Council would like
41 you to consider whether to eliminate customary and
42 traditional use determinations and instead use ANILCA
43 Section .804 criteria when necessary; change the way
44 such determinations are made by making areawide C&T use
45 determinations for all species and not species-by-
46 species or by particular fish stocks and wildlife
47 populations; to make some other change; or to make no
48 change. So Council input from all 10 Councils,
49 including this one, will provide the basis for a
50 briefing to the Federal Subsistence Board in response

1 to the Secretary's directive to review the customary
2 and traditional use determination process, and then
3 present recommendations for regulatory changes if
4 needed. And the Board could then recommend that the
5 Secretaries eliminate or amend or make no change to the
6 current customary and traditional use determination
7 process.

8

9 So, Mr. Chair, this is the briefing
10 that we have provided and will provide to the other
11 nine Regional Advisory Councils, and I hope it's
12 responsive to your particular concerns on this issue.

13

14 Mr. Chair.

15

16 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
17 Jenkins.

18

19 Any questions. Mr. Ackerman.

20

21 MR. ACKERMAN: She was first.

22

23 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Oh. Ms. Needham.

24 Sorry.

25

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

27

28 My understanding as we move forward
29 through this, that's there going to be a Staff analysis
30 coming next? I mean, right now we're still in the
31 process of having other Regional Advisory Councils
32 briefed on where the Southeast Council's
33 recommendations were coming from so that they could
34 reengage in this process. When it comes to the Staff
35 analysis, will we be able to give input onto the type
36 of information we think should be considered, and then
37 redistributed back out to the other Councils?

38

39 MR. JENKINS: Yes, I think that's this
40 Council's prerogative, to give that sort of
41 information. So absolutely. And OSM will be open to
42 whatever recommendations you may have. And we will
43 develop a briefing based on the Councils' responses to
44 your request that goes out this year.

45

46 I should note that I've given this
47 briefing to the North Slope Regional Advisory Council,
48 and they elected to take no action, because they would
49 like to see an analysis of the differences between a
50 Section .804 analysis and a customary and traditional

1 use determination process. So they're looking for more
2 information. So at a minimum your request has opened
3 up the dialogue again, at least for the two Councils
4 that I'm aware of at this point.

5

6 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Ms. Needham.

7

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

9

10 So as a follow up to that, I think it's
11 great. I didn't realize the North Slope had asked for
12 additional analysis, and I'm hoping that maybe when
13 analysis for other regions are given, that they can
14 share back with us, too, because I know this issue --
15 we're asking for this potential statewide change from
16 other Councils that didn't initially support having a
17 potential change, and so us gathering an understanding
18 of implications that it makes to other regions I think
19 is an important part of this process. And so as we
20 move through the analysis stage of things, I think it
21 would be good to try to share amongst regions as well,
22 especially regions that are neighboring, even though
23 we're down here and we don't necessarily have that.

24

25 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Cathy.

26

27 Mr. Ackerman.

28

29 MR. ACKERMAN: Yeah, this customary and
30 traditionally harvesting resources close to where your
31 residence is, I'd like to give an example. In Haines
32 we apparently have some folks that do not live
33 full-time year-round in the area, and they have -- and
34 are holders of the halibut cards, we call them SHARK
35 cards. And the Federal enforcement officers came
36 through and found two or three individuals that were
37 not residents of the State that gave false information
38 on halibut cards here. Pretty interesting that these
39 folks that live in the State for six months and then
40 live and work in another State for six months are able
41 to come and fall under this customary and traditionally
42 historically use of the resources in our area there. I
43 know quite a few folks that just come up and work the
44 tourist season for five months out of the year, and
45 they're holders of halibut cards here. So there is
46 some flaws I guess you could say in the way this is
47 happening here. So it will be pretty interesting to
48 see and make some changes in this wording here.

49

50 Thanks.

1 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Tim.
2
3 Anyone else have any questions for Mr.
4 Jenkins.
5
6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Chair.
7
8 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Mr. Adams.
9
10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I don't have a
11 comment, but I do have some information to share with
12 you.
13
14 Kodiak has had a working group, you
15 know, developing some talking points on this particular
16 issue. And they sent me an email which I only got this
17 morning, or was it yesterday. So I forwarded it to Mr.
18 Larson and he's going to make it available to all of
19 you.
20
21 And they do have what I think is a real
22 good starting point, and I don't know whether you want
23 to hear it now or later. Would you like to hear it
24 now?
25
26 (Council indicates affirmative.
27
28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Their talking
29 points are thus. These are suggested talking points
30 for Federal Subsistence Board rural determination
31 criteria, public comment period on 9/24 7:00 p.m. at
32 the Federal Subsistence Board.....
33
34 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Excuse me, Mr.
35 Adams. I'm sorry. Is this rural determination or
36 customary and traditional use?
37
38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Let's see. It's rural
39 determination.
40
41 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Okay. Do we want to
42 go there now. We're on customary and traditional.
43
44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Well, that's what I
45 asked you if someone wanted to listen to it now, but we
46 can wait for later. I would wait until after you
47 receive it through email from Robert. Okay.
48
49 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
50 Adams.

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you.

2

3 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Any other discussion
4 about customary and traditional. Cathy.

5

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

7

8 I just want to kind of put in the
9 record some questions that the work group have come up
10 with yesterday when we talked about this, knowing that
11 this briefing was coming up, so that when the analysis
12 for our region comes along, that some of these
13 questions could be answered hopefully back on this next
14 round. And you'll have to forgive me if we're just
15 bombarding through the process, because we're kind of
16 ahead, but I just want to make sure that we get it put
17 in, and then if we don't do it this next time, we can
18 put it back in the record again.

19

20 I think one of the questions, I think
21 we asked this previously, but I'm unsure, so that's why
22 I want to ask it again. And that is, if the other
23 Councils do not and they want to stick to the original,
24 they think the current process is working for them, is
25 it going to be possible for the Southeast Alaska region
26 to have their own set of regional process that works
27 better for us, recognizing that that's what our stance
28 has been since we've reviewed this. So that was the
29 first question.

30

31 And I don't know if you can answer any
32 of these now or not. But that's just can we have our
33 own regional regulations regarding switching things
34 over to an .804 ANILCA analysis.

35

36 MR. JENKINS: Would you like me to
37 answer these one at a time or wait until you've asked
38 your questions.

39

40 MS. NEEDHAM: If you an answer, I'd
41 like to hear it now.

42

43 MR. JENKINS: Well, the Council can
44 certainly put in a request to the Federal Subsistence
45 Board to change regulations for this region if the
46 other Councils don't agree with this sort of change.
47 There's nothing to stop you from doing that, and I
48 would encourage you to do that in that event. And then
49 at that point there would be an analysis of that
50 request and the Board could make its own determination.

1 MS. NEEDHAM: If we request to have our
2 own regulations.

3
4 MR. JENKINS: Put in a proposal, make
5 that request.

6
7 MS. NEEDHAM: Gotcha. Okay. Oh, so
8 not just for our region, the briefing mentions that
9 there's 300 customary and traditional use
10 determinations that the Board has previously made. And
11 I'm wondering at some point if we could get a summary
12 of those by region on how those -- it doesn't have to
13 be in depth. It would just be good to know in front of
14 us that those C&T determinations already exist. And so
15 I'm assuming that that's going to be in an analysis,
16 but that goes back to my previous comments of being
17 able to see what other regions have previously done.

18
19 In our previous communications we had
20 asked that the Federal Subsistence Board forward our
21 recommendation on to the Secretary. And I just want to
22 follow up to find out whether or not that had happened.
23 This all came back about when the Secretarial review
24 asked for the C&T process to be reviewed with RAC
25 input. And at that time we were told that 9 out of 10
26 said the process was not -- or that the process was
27 currently working and that we had other
28 recommendations. And it was unclear whether or not our
29 recommendation, especially the recommendation -- or our
30 main point in the beginning was to not have the C&T
31 determination process as it currently stands, but to
32 eliminate it, and then rely on a Section .804 analysis.
33 And so a question that we'd like to hear back about is
34 whether or not those communications have actually
35 gotten through at the Secretary level since we put in
36 an official request to have the Federal Subsistence
37 Board forward that.

38
39 MR. JENKINS: Yes. When the Federal
40 Subsistence Board responded to the Secretary after a
41 year after the Secretarial review, that was one of the
42 items that the Federal Subsistence Board responded to
43 the Secretary about. And the Federal Subsistence Board
44 indicated that, as you said, nine Councils thought the
45 process was working, that the Southeast didn't, and
46 indicated to the Secretary your particular choice. So
47 in that letter to the Secretaries of Interior and
48 Agriculture, yes, your concerns were relayed.

49
50 MS. NEEDHAM: Okay. Thank you. And

1 then I think my last question, unless Patty can remind
2 me if I'm forgetting anything else, we were curious if
3 -- so the 300 C&T determinations that have previously
4 been made, if this process changes, if we get rid of
5 the actual process, is there the ability to keep the
6 current C&T use determinations in place, like
7 grandfather what's already previously been put in
8 place, and then move forward from this -- you know,
9 move forward from the point of not using that process
10 any longer and developing new regulations and/or
11 relying on Section .804 analysis.

12

13 MR. JENKINS: And, thank you very much.
14 That is the question I cannot answer. That would have
15 to come out of the analysis at that point, but that's a
16 key question. What happens with those 300 C&T
17 determinations. Are they grandfathered. How do they
18 factor into an .804. So all of that would have to be
19 determined.

20

21 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Ms.
22 Needham. Mr. Jenkins. Cathy.

23

24 MS. NEEDHAM: This is just another
25 comment I think just before we move on. I think this
26 is our time to weigh in what we'd like to see in an
27 analysis. So if other members of the Council have
28 questions about what we've previously made in terms of
29 our own recommendation and things, I think this is a
30 good time to bring that forth now, because it helps
31 those of us that are sitting on the work group
32 understand our broader Council's thoughts and
33 considerations on the subject matter.

34

35 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Cathy.

36

37 Any other comments, questions. Mr.
38 Kookesh.

39

40 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah. I'm kind of
41 curious about your last comment about grandfathering in
42 the 300 customary and traditional. Why go through all
43 this process and grandfather them in? And I'm also
44 curious why not -- it was my thought that we were doing
45 away with it and just going straight to .804. It
46 sounds like my question is you want to grandfather them
47 in. And there's nothing that says we should do it
48 either or could do it.

49

50 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Cathy.

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

2

3 Mr. Kookesh, it was a question, because
4 I think my feeling in reading what we've heard from
5 other Councils is that they've worked and fought really
6 hard to get the C&T determinations that they have, and
7 I just get the general impression that they may not
8 want to change that process, because they don't want to
9 let go of the C&T determinations that they already
10 have. And so it was just a question about -- I'm not
11 saying that that's what we would recommend or that's
12 even what I would recommend. It was just out there as
13 a question, would that help other Councils move in the
14 potential direction of eliminating the process if they
15 still could keep ahold of the determinations that had
16 already been put on the record that they fought for.

17

18 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Cathy.

19

20 Does that answer your question, Mr.
21 Kookesh.

22

23 MR. KOOKESH: I'm just -- you know,
24 because when I was looking at it, all the other
25 Councils are happy with it the way they stand, and
26 we're the only ones that want to change it, so
27 hopefully we'll be allowed to do that.

28

29 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Cathy.

30

31 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Kookesh,
32 too. That sparked one other thing in my memory that I
33 did forget to ask, and that if there's examples out
34 there where C&T determinations have worked against a
35 specific area, if we could actually have those examples
36 shared, because not every Council -- you know, they may
37 have gone through the C&T determination process and
38 they're happy with the outcome, but there may be times
39 where there are other communities that were not happy
40 with the outcome. And I think if some of the other
41 Councils throughout the State saw that, an example
42 where the process hasn't worked, they'll realize why
43 this Council has brought some concerns, or why we think
44 it warrants a more in-depth review and look. So if we
45 could as part of the analysis have a couple of, quote/
46 unquote, case studies where this current C&T process
47 has not worked, regardless of the region, and then
48 share that with the other regions, I think that would
49 be appropriate.

50

1 MR. JENKINS: Thank you. And I'll take
2 that question back with me.

3
4 But I'd like to respond just briefly to
5 Mr. Kookesh's comment. As I understand it, this
6 Council's work group after extensive review of the RAC
7 transcripts felt that the RACs were not adequate
8 briefed on this process, so whether 9 of them out of 10
9 are happy with it or not is the open question that this
10 work group and this Council was asking. So we're going
11 back to those RACs and say, with this fuller briefing,
12 so you still agree with what you said at an earlier
13 point. So they may or may not come back with different
14 answers. We'll find out.

15
16 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
17 Jenkins.

18
19 Any other questions. Ms. Phillips.

20
21 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
22 Not so much questions as comments and questions.

23
24 But in your briefing, Mr. Jenkins, on
25 Page 26, the paragraph near the bottom that says, note,
26 the Board does not use C&T use determinations to
27 restrict amounts of harvest. The final sentence, the
28 last sentence in that paragraph says, the Southeast
29 Council is concerned that the effect is to exclude
30 those Federally-qualified rural residents who do not
31 generally exhibit these factors from participating in
32 subsistence harvest in these particular areas.

33
34 Well, ANILCA doesn't say whether we --
35 whether these rural residents should exhibit factors.
36 It says rural residents, and that to me is the key
37 point of that sentence is rural residents is what
38 ANILCA specifically talks about.

39
40 When this process was started, it says
41 in the third paragraph down, the Federal Subsistence
42 Management Program was established in 1990, and the
43 1992 record of decision considered the four options and
44 made the recommendations. But it was the Federal
45 Subsistence Board at that time was as unfamiliar with
46 ANILCA as the rest of us were, and we were trying to,
47 you know, sort of flounder our way through it, and so
48 they did end up adopting the C&T process. But you've
49 got to remember the State was breathing down our necks
50 on, you know, you've got to do it the way we're doing.

1 But, you know, my community of Pelican,
2 Alaska was considered non-subsistence, even though we
3 were a rural community and a rural area, we were non-
4 subsistence. So I have to question what, you know, the
5 State's motive was back then in the 1990s or prior to
6 1990.

7
8 And then, you know, we were even trying
9 to figure out how do we -- as one of the initial
10 members of the RAC process back then, we were trying to
11 figure out how to even submit a fish proposal. And,
12 you know, Staff working with us intimately on how to
13 figure that out.

14
15 So here we are, you know, we're
16 becoming well familiar with ANILCA, but we still have a
17 lot of learning to do, all of us, on, you know, what
18 that process is. So, you know, of course, we're
19 questioning it and asking for a review, and hopefully
20 come up with further recommendations.

21
22 But we as a Council have requested that
23 the Board provide adequate Staff resources to assist
24 other Councils and ourselves in this process, and I
25 appreciate that. The further knowledge that's being,
26 you know, given to us so we could collaborate towards,
27 you know, trying to find some solutions.

28
29 And I've got another comment. Sorry.
30 Mr. Chair, just a minute. I lost my train of thought.

31
32 So the Board asked us to provide
33 recommendations in proposal format for additional
34 review, and we feel like this process is going really
35 slow. So at what point in time can we begin to develop
36 our own proposal? I mean, you say to wait until all
37 the other RACs, you know, have a chance to evaluate it,
38 and then, you know, see what they have to say. And if
39 it turns out the way it is now, then you can submit it.
40 But is that really what we want to do? Do we really
41 want to wait? It probably would be appropriate.

42
43 And then I have one final comment, and
44 that is the Southcentral Council said to give deference
45 to the RACs, and there should be no unnecessary
46 questioning of the Council's deference once a customary
47 and traditional use determination has been made. And,
48 you know, what we have is them coming back on us and
49 questioning our body's decisions. And we're asking for
50 deference, and we want the Board to give strength to

1 that deference.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Patty.

6

7 Mr. Jenkins.

8

9 MR. JENKINS: Yes. Thank you. Let me
10 make a couple of just very quick comments.

11

12 Ms. Phillips brought up the history of
13 the customary and traditional use determination. Let
14 me remind you or tell you, if you don't know this, that
15 it originated when the Board of Fisheries asked the
16 State Subsistence Division to define customary and
17 traditional use in 1980. And the then head of the very
18 brand new State Subsistence Division, a man named Dr.
19 Tom Lonner, sat down over lunch and came up with 10
20 categories or 10 criteria of customary and traditional
21 use which the Board of Fisheries then adopted, and the
22 next year reduced it to 8 factors or criteria, and it
23 entered into State regulations. So that's where that
24 originated was in a question from the Board of
25 Fisheries, because subsistence was defined in State
26 statute as the customary and traditional use of
27 resources, and the Board of Fisheries wanted to know
28 what that phrase meant. So these factors came out of
29 the mind of Tom Lonner in 1980 as modified by the Board
30 of Fisheries, subsequently adopted by the Federal
31 program in 1992.

32

33 A second point, waiting for RAC
34 response. You don't need to wait for RAC response.
35 You can generate a proposal if that's what this Council
36 wishes to do.

37

38 And the third is giving deference, and
39 as you may recall, the Secretaries suggested that
40 Regional Advisory Council deference, that is deference
41 that the Board gives to the Councils, be extended
42 beyond takings to include customary and traditional use
43 determinations. And that's something the Federal
44 Subsistence Board has been endeavoring to do.

45

46 Thank you.

47

48 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
49 Jenkins.

50

1 Any other questions or comments.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 VICE CHAIR BANGS: I'd like to give a
6 comment. I think that what Patty brought up is not
7 inappropriate, to make our own recommendations based on
8 our beliefs and our area. And maybe it would be
9 something we should do in the near future is go ahead
10 and make our recommendation.

11

12 Mr. Kookesh.

13

14 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah. I also like
15 Patty's idea about let's just go ahead and generate a
16 proposal and start moving forward. Quit waiting. Lead
17 or get out of the way, one or the other.

18

19 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Ms. Needham.

20

21 MS. NEEDHAM: I guess my question back
22 to the Council would be if our original recommendation
23 was to not use the current C&T process and to task the
24 Office of Subsistence Management Staff to develop draft
25 regulations that met the Section .804 of ANILCA
26 criteria. And so I would like some kind of affirmation
27 before we move forward with generating that type of
28 request if the Council still feels that that's our No.
29 1 recommendation and how we want to move forward,
30 mainly because our work group came up with a number of
31 options. And that was something that we always says
32 was our first -- that's what we think it should be, but
33 if we can't get the rest of the State to move in the
34 same direction, then maybe we have actual modification
35 of the current regulations, which you can find on Page
36 27 at the top. That was the secondary recommendation
37 that we made if nixing the C&T determination process
38 altogether and starting over with .804 was not
39 appropriate.

40

41 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Ms.

42 Needham.

43

44 What's the wish of the Council. Mr.

45 Adams.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I think we need to
48 generate a proposal, and that maybe we can task the
49 working group that worked on this before to develop one
50 and have it ready for us for the next meeting. And I

1 make that motion.

2

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Second.

4

5 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Well, it's been
6 moved and seconded to have the work group form a
7 proposal to bring back to the Council to discuss. Do
8 we want to do that tomorrow? Do they have to do it
9 tonight?

10

11 (Laughter)

12

13 VICE CHAIR BANGS: No. Okay. I think
14 we'll have to let the work group get together and
15 figure out what they can do.

16

17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, we don't want to
18 stress them out right now.

19

20 (Laughter)

21

22 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Okay. Any more
23 discussion on the customary and traditional use. Mr.
24 Kookesh.

25

26 MR. KOOKESH: Wasn't that a motion and
27 seconded?

28

29 VICE CHAIR BANGS: That was a motion
30 and it was a seconded. And now I'd entertain a call
31 for question if there's no more discussion.

32

33 MR. KOOKESH: So the question was the
34 next meeting and that date is six months? Or is it
35 tomorrow?

36

37 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Does it have to be
38 the next meeting? Well, we have until Thursday to make
39 a decision or to go over a proposal at this meeting.

40

41 Mr. Adams.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah. I was just
44 going to, you know, just say that it doesn't have to be
45 for the next meeting. You know, I don't want to stress
46 out the working group. They worked real hard on it,
47 but they have the information, you know. And I think
48 that they can generate a proposal hopefully by the end
49 of this meeting.

50

1 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Ms. Needham.

2

3 MS. NEEDHAM: I think if it's the wish
4 of the Council for us to move forward with generating a
5 proposal on removing the current C&T process and going
6 towards the .804 analysis, I think maybe by the end of
7 this meeting we could do it, depending on how long
8 tonight's deliberations go and how long it takes us to
9 move through rural determination tomorrow. But if
10 that's not the wish of the Council, if they want to
11 explore actual regulation changes and stuff, we'll
12 definitely need more time and Staff assistance.

13

14 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Mr. Adams.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, I like, you
17 know, what Cathy is suggesting there. So, you know, I
18 don't know if we want to amend the motion to include
19 her wording onto it or if I want to withdraw my motion
20 with the consent of the second and start a new one.

21

22 VICE CHAIR BANGS: It was your motion.

23

24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Pardon?

25

26 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Would you like to
27 withdraw pending the withdrawal of the second.

28

29 MS. PHILLIPS: I'm not withdrawing.

30

31 (Laughter)

32

33 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Mr. Larson.

34

35 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair. I think that
36 we can work with the motion that we have, and based on
37 our discussion. And the motion that I have in front of
38 me is that the working group will convene and possibly
39 have a work product for action by the Council by the
40 end of this meeting. But if not, and it becomes too
41 big of a task, then they will prepare something for
42 next meeting. And I think that fulfills the intent of
43 this motion, and it leaves it non-specific enough for
44 further action by the Council at this meeting.

45

46 Thank you.

47

48 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you.

49

50 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I concur.

1 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
2 Larson, Mr. Adams.
3
4 MR. ISAACS: Mr. Chairman.
5
6 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Mr. Isaacs.
7
8 MR. ISAACS: How much of that is the
9 motion.
10
11 (Laughter)
12
13 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair. That is the
14 motion. The motion is to convene the working group and
15 have them prepare a report which may or may not include
16 a proposal prior to the end of this meeting.
17
18 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Does everybody
19 understand. Mr. Hernandez.
20
21 MR. HERNANDEZ: I would call for the
22 question.
23
24 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Okay. The
25 question's been called for. All those in favor of this
26 motion to have the work group prepare a document in the
27 near future respond by yeah.
28
29 IN UNISON: Aye.
30
31 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Opposed same sign.
32
33 (No opposing votes)
34
35 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Okay. Motion
36 carries.
37
38 Thank you, Mr. Jenkins.
39
40 Okay. I'm going to turn the meeting
41 back over to Mr. Adams.
42
43 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Bangs.
44
45 We're going to take a little time now
46 and turn it over to Mr. Jack Lorrigan. We have some
47 presentations to make at this time. So we want to just
48 take care of that right now.
49
50 Jack, go ahead.

1 MR. LORRIGAN: We'd like Ms. Phillips
2 to stand and be recognized. Come on up.

3
4 MS. PENDLETON: So it's an honor to
5 recognize, Mr. Chair and Council members, one of your
6 own who has served for 20 years. I didn't think it was
7 possible, Patty, but as a member of the Southeast RAC.
8 And in recognition of her contribution to the Federal
9 Subsistence Management Program as a member of the
10 Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
11 for the years 1993 to 2013, we want to present to you a
12 certificate of appreciation, but also a wonderful piece
13 of artwork which Tony Christianson, my fellow Federal
14 Subsistence Board member, is going to display. And
15 it's a lovely picture, artwork developed by a young
16 member of the community of Petersburg, and has adorned
17 the fisheries regulation book for this year.

18
19 It also recognizes a number of members
20 who served either as a chairperson or as a member of
21 this Regional Advisory Committee, including our very
22 own Bert Adams, the current Chair, Dave Roadkill
23 Johnson, John Littlefield, Bill Thomas, Dolly Garza,
24 and Dick Stokes. And it also has the logos of the
25 members of the Federal Subsistence Board on there as
26 well as the theme. And it says let Title VIII be your
27 guide.

28
29 So, Patty, congratulations to you for
30 your service and for bringing all that you are to the
31 Southeast Regional Advisory Committee, and for making
32 this a better program. So we honor you, Patty. Thank
33 you.

34
35 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you.

36
37 (Applause)

38
39 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Beth. Thank
40 you, Tony.

41
42 I really appreciate the recognition.
43 I'd hoped to come with prepared statements, but life
44 has been pretty hectic lately. But it's been a real
45 honor and privilege to serve for 20 years on this
46 Regional Advisory Council, and I'm so proud of the work
47 that we do. You know, we started with a base layer of
48 information, and then we've just been building on it
49 over these years, and I keep bringing that up over
50 these years about, you know, we've got to build on the

1 information we've got. And I'm really proud of the
2 efforts of the RAC and Staff, too, to get to where we
3 are today.

4

5 But, you know, many of these RAC
6 members and Staff members have been mentors to me over
7 these many years, and I wouldn't be the person I am
8 today without their mentorship. And I just really want
9 to thank you all for making me who I am.

10

11 Thank you for the recognition.

12

13 (Applause)

14

15 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Again,
16 congratulations to Patty.

17

18 My name's Anthony Christianson, and I'd
19 like to just echo her words, too. And looking at this
20 Council and my involvement, that's kind of how I feel
21 about the people around the table here have been my
22 mentors and I appreciate that information and knowledge
23 that has been extended from a lot of you over the
24 years.

25

26 And I had a story about the guy on the
27 photo there, Bill, being the Chair of the program
28 before, and they came to Hydaburg. And I was really
29 questioning subsistence and, you know, was adamant, and
30 had all kinds of young blood, and why could somebody
31 come in here and tell us what to do with our food. And
32 he says, we drink their beer, we eat their pizza, we've
33 got to live by their rules.

34

35 (Laughter)

36

37 MR. CHRISTIANSON: And I can tell you,
38 I haven't forgot that to this day. And I've been ever
39 since trying to figure out what the heck the rulebook
40 is, and we're still learning what that rulebook is, and
41 so we can take back what is ours one step at a time.
42 So I appreciate your guys' years of service.

43

44 And to follow that up, there's also
45 some people on the table that have been here for 10
46 years, and the program would like to also recognize
47 those people who have dedicated their service for a
48 decade to the program and to the subsistence way of
49 life.

50

1 The first person we'd like to recognize
2 is Harvey Kitka. So thank you, Harvey.

3
4 (Applause)

5
6 MR. CHRISTIANSON: The next person we'd
7 like to thank for their 10 years is Floyd Kookesh.

8
9 (Applause)

10
11 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Another person, and
12 this isn't to take anything away from (Indiscernible -
13 away from microphones) is Don Hernandez.

14
15 (Applause)

16
17 MR. CHRISTIANSON: The last one on this
18 Council is Michael Bangs.

19
20 (Applause)

21
22 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Again, thank you
23 guys for your years of service and look forward to
24 continuing a working relationship with you guys.

25
26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Well, thank you, Ms.
27 Pendleton, and Tony, and Jack Lorrigan for setting this
28 up for us.

29
30 You know, Patty says that she uses us
31 and other people on the Staff and so forth as her
32 mentor, but ever since I've been on this Council, she
33 has been my mentor. And, you know, I really appreciate
34 her very much as I'm sure everyone else does.

35
36 And congratulations to those of you who
37 have been serving for 10 years. We hope you're here
38 for another 10 more years. Okay. Gunalcheesh.

39
40 I think I'll go ahead and turn the time
41 back over to Vice Chairman Bangs so he can continue on
42 with the agenda.

43
44 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
45 Chair.

46
47 Next on the agenda is Mr. Kessler to
48 give us a report on the status of the Kootznoowoo
49 petition.

50

1 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2 Members of the Council.

3
4 Jennifer Yuhas from the State of Alaska
5 is here with me, and we'll be providing this update
6 together.

7
8 First though I think that what I want
9 to do is make sure that everyone has a copy of the
10 letter from Regional Forester Beth Pendleton to the
11 Council dated August 21st. I don't know if that's in
12 your packets. I know that Robert sent it out to each
13 of the members. It's not in the books.

14
15 So they don't have copies of it, is
16 that right, Robert?

17
18 MR. LARSON: I don't think that it's in
19 the Board materials that we have at the back of the
20 room, no.

21
22 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman, at your
23 winter meeting 2013 you agreed to write a letter to the
24 Regional Forester with some specific questions about
25 the status of each of your recommendations on the
26 extraterritorial jurisdiction petition. And so what
27 this letter does is it responds to that letter that you
28 sent, addressing each of the different issues in your
29 recommendation. So you should have received this, I'm
30 quite sure you did, near the end of August. And what
31 we will do is go through these actions and just provide
32 you any updates that have occurred since the date of
33 this letter.

34
35 So what I'll do start with the third
36 paragraph, and that recommendation was to amend the
37 Northern Southeast Alaska Seine Fishery Management Plan
38 and the Hidden Falls Management Plan to accommodate
39 State and Federal subsistence fisheries.

40
41 And, Jennifer, if you would like to
42 give an update on the actions that have occurred.
43 Thank you.

44
45 MS. YUHAS: Thank you. Mr. Chairman.
46 Jennifer Yuhas for the State of Alaska, State liaison
47 team leader.

48
49 And the task force will be meeting in
50 late November and early December, and so ideas are

1 hopefully going to be further developed, along with the
2 community, in October to bring something concise to
3 those meeting to discuss as far as changes. Since we
4 went out in April, it's been fishing season, and people
5 have not met in one large format, although
6 conversations have been ongoing with Department
7 leadership and those who would be affected.

8

9 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman. Would you
10 like us just to go through each of these or would you
11 like to see if there are any questions about any of
12 these as we go?

13

14 VICE CHAIR BANGS: I think it would be
15 appropriate that we could ask questions on each topic.
16 Would the Council like to do that.

17

18 (Council indicates affirmative)

19

20 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Okay. Is there any
21 questions on this particular point.

22

23 (No comments)

24

25 VICE CHAIR BANGS: I have a question.
26 Was there any changes made this spring or summer.

27

28 MS. YUHAS: No, Mr. Chairman.

29

30 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you.

31

32 Any other questions.

33

34 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

35

36 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Ms. Phillips.

37

38 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you.

39

40 What date did you say the group would
41 be meeting, Jennifer? Thank you.

42

43 MS. YUHAS: If turning 44 hasn't
44 affected my memory, they're having their regional
45 meeting November 22nd, and then December 6th and 7th
46 for the task force. If there's anyone who wishes to
47 correct me on that, feel free.

48

49 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Mr. Kitka.

50

1 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
2
3 Has any letters or communications with
4 Kootznoowoo or Angoon been going on? Do they know
5 what's going on or are they kept up to date?
6
7 MS. YUHAS: Mr. Chairman. Since Mr.
8 Kitka's looking at me, I suppose that's directed to the
9 State. If it's also directed to the Forest Service, I
10 would expect Mr. Kessler to answer.
11
12 Letters have not occurred, but
13 discussions have been ongoing orally.
14
15 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Mr. Kessler.
16
17 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Kitka. I don't know
18 of any specific letters, but there is a tentative
19 meeting date of October 17th to organize a work group
20 probably in Angoon where representatives of the Angoon
21 community, Kootznoowoo, Forest Service, and Department
22 of Fish and Game will be getting together to work on
23 perhaps a suite of proposals for consideration by the
24 Alaska Board of Fisheries during it's next regulatory
25 cycle. That's actually on the top of Page 2 of the
26 letter that I just handed out.
27
28 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
29 Kessler.
30
31 Ms. Yuhas.
32
33 MS. YUHAS: With regards to the
34 meetings, the State has been cautious throughout this
35 process to avoid putting too many formal labels on
36 things, and so we want to be cautious with the term
37 work group. That is not something that we've called
38 it. We've not -- there have been no assignments with
39 formal positions and people to be nominated. We simply
40 consider that an outreach meeting.
41
42 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you.
43
44 Mr. Kookesh.
45
46 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah. Mine was just a
47 follow up to Harvey's question. Oral discussions with?
48
49 MS. YUHAS: And through the Chair. I
50 suppose that's in relation to Kootznoowoo, Inc. and

1 Peter Naoroz has been the primary conduit for those
2 since we last all met together in April.

3

4 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Okay. Any other
5 questions. And before you ask a question, what I'd
6 like to do is what we're doing is allow the State to
7 answer and then allow the Federal Staff to answer the
8 question.

9

10 Mr. Hernandez.

11

12 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mr.

13 Chairman.

14

15 A question for Jennifer. Correct me if
16 I misstate anything in the course of the question, but
17 so there was a seine fishery management plan developed
18 for this season, 2013. I believe you said there were
19 no changes to that plan that involved the Kootznoowoo
20 petition; is that correct?

21

22 MS. YUHAS: Through the Chair. That is
23 correct. The season occurred prior to meetings.

24

25 MR. HERNANDEZ: Right. Okay. So these
26 management plans as I understand are kind of subject to
27 in-season management. And given the magnitude of the
28 fishery this year and, you know, going pretty much over
29 the predicted seine catches, were there any in-season
30 management changes to the plan that may have affected
31 the Angoon sockeye harvest.

32

33 MS. YUHAS: Mr. Hernandez, through the
34 Chair. The formal Chair has a saying, and for me, that
35 one's a hard question. If one of my fisheries
36 biologists has called in, please weigh in.

37

38 (No comments)

39

40 MR. HERNANDEZ: So you're not sure if
41 there were in-season changes to that plan then.

42

43 MS. YUHAS: Which may have affected
44 directly the people that you spoke about, correct.

45

46 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you.

47

48 Mr. Adams.

49

50 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 I was looking at the letter here, and
2 if you look down at one, two, three, four, the fourth
3 paragraph, the short one, the second one from the top.
4 It says in there that, you know, that this Council
5 recommended that the seining be closed by emergency
6 order and then eventually by regulation. The Board of
7 Fisheries will accept proposals that change commercial
8 fishing regulations in the spring of 2014 for
9 implementation in 2015. It also says in there that we
10 can submit a proposal, you know, to that effect.

11
12 But I just wonder, I've heard some
13 comments that, you know, nothing has been done as far
14 as Kootznooowoo is concerned, but this seems to be like,
15 you know, an answer to me. So if you don't mind
16 responding to that, then I have another question.

17
18 Mr. Chairman. From both State and
19 Federal.

20
21 MS. YUHAS: Yeah, I apologize to the
22 Chair through the Vice Chair. I need you to clarify
23 what the question is there.

24
25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I didn't hear that,
26 please.

27
28 MS. YUHAS: The State would be happy to
29 answer the question. I just need clarification as to
30 what the question is.

31
32 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh, yeah. So how far
33 have we gone as far as closing by emergency order or
34 eventually by regulation, and then, you know, -- go
35 ahead and answer that one.

36
37 MS. YUHAS: Thank you. Through the
38 Chair. There has not been an emergency order closure.

39
40 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Can hardly hear
41 her. You've got to speak into the mic.

42
43 MS. YUHAS: Is this better?

44
45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes.

46
47 MS. YUHAS: Thank you. Through the
48 Chair. There has not been an emergency order closure.
49 The proposals for standard regulations standard
50 regulation are not due until April. So last year's

1 April meetings would have given a year's leeway. There
2 was a fishing season and discussions are resuming for
3 that. We're hoping that this October trip will
4 generate as I said two or three concrete concepts to be
5 developed into a proposal. If people want to fully
6 outline a proposal and have everyone pick apart the
7 grammar rather than focus on the concept, that's
8 there's prerogative, but it's the Department's feeling
9 that developing a few concepts to bring to everyone so
10 that hopefully they could be in agreement as to what to
11 propose by April as the process.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Follow up.

14

15 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Mr. Adams.

16

17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Thank you for
18 that.

19

20 On the last paragraph it also says
21 something to the effect that the Federal Subsistence
22 Program and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game
23 should assist the community of Angoon by developing
24 regulatory proposals and so forth. Okay. And I'm
25 wondering if that process has started or is going to
26 start or will it ever happen.

27

28 MS. YUHAS: Through the Chair. We
29 consider the start of that process the April meetings
30 that got some things on the table, that heard some new
31 issues that hadn't been brought up before with everyone
32 collectively, and that that process is resuming in the
33 fall following the fishing season. And that the
34 assistance, we've been very clear, would be to get from
35 the community what the community wants, not to dictate
36 a proposal from the Department, but to assist in the
37 process, navigating the process so that the proposals
38 that the community decides they want collectively in
39 agreement are able to navigate the process more
40 readily.

41

42 One of the suggestions that came up, it
43 had pros and cons to it, positive and negative
44 reactions to be honest was the idea from the Department
45 that it may be beneficial to reinvigorate the Angoon
46 Advisory Committee. As you know through the Federal
47 process, the RACs are given difference. We don't have
48 a Secretarial direction or a Governor's direction for
49 deference to the ACs, but we have statutes that reflect
50 that our ACs were formed to function very much the way

1 that the RACs were formed after that, and that these
2 are the local people who are given more time at those
3 Board of Fish and Board of Game meetings, because
4 they're organized, they're speaking as a collective,
5 and they represent the local community, that
6 reinvigorating the AC out there may give more weight to
7 the discussions at the Board of Fish meeting.

8

9 It's not the only answer. It's part of
10 many points, many facets, but it was one suggestion
11 that came about, and so the Department as far as
12 assisting, like I said, not coming in to dictate what
13 the details should be. Need to get the details out of
14 the group and then assist them in the process.

15

16 The recommendation from the folks that
17 came in from the outside and that everyone's been
18 discussing is that this needs to be a community-based
19 resolution. When the community's in agreement what
20 resolution they want, we'll be better equipped to
21 assist that process.

22

23 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Ms.
24 Yuhas.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: One more, Mr.
27 Chairman.

28

29 The reinvigorating of that working
30 group, you know, it says that in the letter, but I'm
31 wondering, is there a timeline for that to begin and
32 get into the process of organizing that group? I
33 think, you know, the sooner the better myself anyhow.
34 So I'm wondering, you know, is there a timeline.

35

36 MS. YUHAS: Through the Chair. I
37 appreciate -- the State appreciates the comments the
38 sooner the better. As far as the timeline, that's up
39 to the community. We need to let them decide whether
40 they want one or not. Obviously forming one too late
41 to weigh in on proposals by the April deadline or by
42 the time the Board of Fish meets to discuss them would
43 be too late. Sooner is better if they intend to use
44 that tool.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So you're waiting for
47 the community to instigate that working group, and
48 again sooner the better. Maybe -- has there been any
49 indication that that might be taking place at this
50 point? Maybe Angoon doesn't know that they need to

1 initiate it, and so, you know, hearing this from you
2 now would probably help them, you know, get motivated.

3

4 MS. YUHAS: I think that the
5 representative from Angoon would probably be best
6 equipped to answer whether they appreciate that idea or
7 do not, or intend to move forward, but we did discuss
8 in April. We discussed it as a tool, not something
9 that would be enforced on anyone, but something that
10 was thrown out as a possibility. And the Department
11 awaits the decision from Angoon.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Mr.
14 Chairman, I'm done.

15

16 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Okay. I'd like to
17 get back on track now. I think we were headed down the
18 bullet points would be addressed by Mr. Kessler, and
19 then we could go through the letter. Thank you.

20

21 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
22 So I believe that we've addressed the question about
23 the management plans. I believe we have addressed the
24 questions about whether -- about State emergency
25 orders, if these areas have been closed by emergency
26 orders, that the Council would like them closed by
27 regulations. And that we know that any proposal needs
28 to be in by April of next year. And I would anticipate
29 that this could be a big agenda item on your winter
30 meeting, because that winter meeting will take place
31 prior to the due date for any proposals to the Board of
32 Fisheries.

33

34 So, you know, what I would hope is that
35 all the Angoon parties can work this out, work with the
36 State, and that, sort of the catch-all, is if these
37 items that are in here that are of concern to the
38 Council have not been put forward in a proposal, you
39 still have that opportunity to do so at your winter
40 meeting.

41

42 The next item that's on here has had
43 some discussion already. So this is down at the bottom
44 of the first page. It's the amounts necessary for
45 subsistence. And I think that the update here is that
46 the Department has been conducting new subsistence
47 household/community use surveys to better understand
48 subsistence needs and develop improved ANS
49 determinations that could be considered by the State
50 Board of Fisheries.

1 And from there I'll leave it to the
2 State to describe exactly what they're doing and where
3 they are in that process.

4
5 Thank you.

6
7 MS. YUHAS: Mr. Chairman. I'd like to
8 turn my chair over to our expert on this, Lauren Sills.
9 She works for the Division of Subsistence, and we've
10 been able to get out into the community. Our director
11 has expressed her appreciation for the community's
12 welcoming of our Staff and for the information we've
13 been able to gather thus far.

14
15 And I'll let Lauren discuss her
16 expertise.

17
18 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you. Welcome.

19
20 MS. SILL: Thanks. I was just going to
21 give a brief update on what we've done so far in terms
22 of data collection. This past winter in February,
23 March we conducted comprehensive household surveys in a
24 number of communities in Southeast, including Angoon
25 and Hoonah. Still waiting on the data to be -- the
26 numbers to be crunched I guess, but we should be
27 getting the data back in the next month or so.

28
29 And then coming in January or February,
30 we're hoping to follow that up with a salmon-only
31 survey in both Angoon and Hoonah again to better
32 understand harvest and use patterns of salmon. It will
33 be a short quantitative survey, but we'll also be
34 following up with in-depth interviews to try to get a
35 better understanding of community concerns, changes in
36 the salmon populations, changes in the salmon fishery.
37 And that data will be -- it's a priority for our
38 division to get it done, and so we'll make sure we have
39 it in time for the Board of Fisheries meeting.

40
41 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you.

42
43 Any questions. Mr. Ackerman.

44
45 MR. ACKERMAN: Yeah, just a comment to
46 make. In your household surveys in various small
47 communities around that rely on salmon, you could only
48 imagine the difference in the harvest level if all of
49 these people were flush with corporate money, and they
50 would be able to afford to go out and harvest more. As

1 he stated, that the economic situation in a lot of
2 these communities is pretty depressed, so you can only
3 imagine if they had the money to go harvest all of
4 this. The same applies for sea otter, too.

5
6 Thanks.

7
8 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
9 Ackerman.

10
11 Mr. Kookesh.

12
13 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah, my question was
14 directed more towards Steve Kessler. And we probably
15 all missed it as a body was phase II funding. Am I
16 understanding that there was going to be a phase I
17 funding and then a phase II funding was also supposed
18 to occur? And I didn't see it in this material. So I
19 was just wondering if Steve had an answer for us on the
20 funding for phase II.

21
22 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Kookesh, if I
23 understand the question is whether there was funding
24 for phase II or what -- please repeat the question,

25
26 MR. KOOKESH: I mean, you've been
27 involved in this process as long as I have.

28
29 MR. KESSLER: Yeah.

30
31 MR. KOOKESH: Phase II is part of the
32 discussion that was done with the big group that came
33 from out-of-state. So what is the status of the phase
34 II funding under the ETJ process.

35
36 MR. KESSLER: Well, what we're
37 describing here are actions that are to some degree
38 part of the phase II process. And it was the U.S.
39 Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution that
40 did the phase I, and they came up with two
41 recommendations. One of those recommendations had to
42 do with, I don't remember the exact words, but
43 essentially a work group that would be put together by
44 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. You know,
45 whether they support that or not would be something
46 that the State would need to discuss.

47
48 The other recommendation was to put
49 together a group to contact and cooperate with
50 Kootznoowoo, Inc., incorporated regarding the

1 application of ANILCA and that's on the second page,
2 sort of the third paragraph down. And I can discuss
3 that a little bit.

4

5 In any case there is some money that
6 the Forest Service has reserved from, and had reserved
7 in our fiscal year 2013 budget to provide assistance in
8 Phase II. We had discussed that with Kelly Hepler
9 whether there was any need to help facilitate Phase II
10 and that we had some money available and we were not
11 taken up on that option. We do have some additional
12 funds that could facilitate actions in fiscal year '14,
13 which starts October 1st, at least we anticipate that
14 we'll have some money, we don't really know what
15 Congress will do with our funding. And we are holding
16 some money for some facilitation for Phase II there
17 also. At this point the need for that money is
18 unclear, and I think it's -- I think any other comments
19 about the actions of Phase II related by the State
20 should come from Jennifer.

21

22 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Any other questions,
23 Ms. Yuhas you'd like to.....

24

25 MS. YUHAS: Been thrown a loop at the
26 meeting by my colleague, I don't have an answer.

27

28 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you. Mr.
29 Kessler.

30

31 MR. KESSLER: I'll keep going.

32

33 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Yes.

34

35 MR. KESSLER: Okay. So the next item
36 is up on the top of the second page, just a statement.
37 This actually did not respond specifically to any of
38 your items. But just recognition, as I discussed
39 earlier, that there is a work group that's being
40 organized to meet in Angoon and that's tentatively set
41 for October 17th and if you have any specific questions
42 about that, I would direct you to Cal Casipit who is
43 working with Ben Van Alen and others to organize that.

44

45 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Any questions.

46

47

48 (No comments)

49

50 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Seeing none, Mr.

1 Kessler.

2

3 MR. KESSLER: The next item has to do
4 with escapement goals for Kanalku, Kook, Sitkho,
5 Hasselborg and Eva Lakes and I will direct that to the
6 State also, to Jennifer, any updates since this letter
7 was written.

8

9 MS. YUHAS: Not since the letter was
10 written and still in development. Development. I'll
11 do better to enunciate.

12

13 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Questions.

14

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Mr. Kessler.

19

20 MR. KESSLER: The next item has to do
21 with the application of ANILCA with Kootznoowoo, Inc.,
22 and Chad VanOrmor, the Monument manager for Admiralty
23 National Monument has been working with Kootznoowoo,
24 the Angoon tribe and community of Angoon and I don't --
25 I'm not aware of what actions have occurred in the last
26 few months but we're trying to get a hold of Chad and
27 see if we can provide some updates or perhaps Mr.
28 Kookesh would have an update for you. I don't know
29 that there's been any recent action, but the intent is
30 to follow through with regular meetings and talking
31 about the application of ANILCA in this area.

32

33 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
34 Kessler. Any questions.

35

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Hearing none, Mr.
40 Kessler.

41

42 MR. KESSLER: The next item has to do
43 with providing annual reports to the Council and the
44 Federal Subsistence Board. I think as you are all
45 aware that the Secretaries actually directed that there
46 will be a twice yearly report to the Secretaries
47 documenting progress and that a copy of that will be
48 provided to the Council, and that was made available to
49 you at your last meeting.

50

1 I would like to add that I happened to
2 be at two different meetings with Deputy Under
3 Secretary Butch Blazer, who you all met in Juneau, when
4 these recommendations were being made and every single
5 time that I see him he wants to know what's going on
6 and so he's interested, he wants a report every six
7 months but he wants a report more often than that if
8 needed. So he is engaged to help find solutions.

9

10 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Ms. Yuhas.

11

12 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
13 One item that we didn't cover yet is the genetic stock
14 ID that was important to the Council the last few times
15 that we met and, while we don't have the full report I
16 can at least give you the numbers that we have taken
17 samples, so we have 660 matched samples from the 112-16
18 CP seine; 387 matched samples from the 112-16 high
19 test, 1,200 samples, matched samples from the White
20 Stone CP seine fishery; 3,774 samples from the Lynn
21 Canal gillnet; 115 sockeye samples from Hasselborg and
22 180 from Kutlaku. Did I say that right.

23

24 MR. KESSLER: Kutlaku.

25

26 (Laughter)

27

28 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you. Any
29 questions.

30

31 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

32

33 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Ms. Phillips.

34

35 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you. I appreciate
36 those numbers. It would be helpful if we knew where on
37 the map you were talking about.

38

39 MS. YUHAS: Through the Chair I would
40 find that helpful as well. I'm reading you the stats I
41 got from my biologists. I can put that on the agenda
42 for the next meeting to -- that's something we can
43 easily create back at Fish and Game and bring to the
44 next meeting. And regarding the work that was done at
45 the Falls, we're very appreciative of that. We've been
46 talking about the habitat from the State side for quite
47 a while and the escapement so we're really looking
48 forward to seeing what that habitat reclamation will
49 do.

50

1 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you. In your
2 opinion, or for your knowledge of where those places
3 are, what does that mean to us? I mean can you kind of
4 give us a little ball park of what's happening with the
5 stock identification and how many are being caught from
6 what stream system?

7
8 MS. YUHAS: What stream system. I did
9 not prepare for that before the meeting. I had to
10 admit my deficiency. But my general opinion or
11 understanding of what that means to this fishery is
12 that we committed to be obtaining that information, we
13 did our best we could do last season, which wasn't as
14 much as we wanted to, and that we've got quite a bit
15 more, and that we really have said that we probably
16 won't know anything until the multi-year process is
17 finished, but we are pleased that we've been able to
18 collect so many samples and honor that commitment.

19
20 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you. Mr.
21 Hernandez.

22
23 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you. I was just
24 wondering if you could read those locations one more
25 time?

26
27 MS. YUHAS: I can. And moving
28 backwards before I forget, that's 180 from Kutlaku.
29 115 sockeye samples from Hasselborg. 3,774 matched
30 samples from the 115-GN Lynn Canal gillnet fishery.
31 1,200 exactly matched samples from the 114-112 White
32 Stone CP seine fishery. 387 matched samples from the
33 112-16 High Test. I have to admit I don't know what
34 that means, it's on my list. 660 matched samples from
35 the 112-16 CP seine fishery.

36
37 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

38
39 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Ms. Phillips.

40
41 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
42 What does it mean by matched samples?

43
44 MS. YUHAS: That they have confirmed
45 which genetic stock goes with the sample. If it's --
46 it's a pretty neat process if you ever want to take
47 some time aside from the meeting and talk to our
48 biologist one on one about it.

49
50 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1 Thank you, Ms. Yuhas.

2

3 Does that mean that they were bound
4 towards Kanalku?

5

6 MS. YUHAS: I cannot answer that.

7

8 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you. Any
9 other questions.

10

11 Mr. Wright.

12

13 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
14 Chair. So you're taking samples from areas and those
15 samples are -- don't say where the genetic samples are
16 originally coming from so I'm curious of what was --
17 what did you get out of it, you know, see, you got
18 genetic samples from 114-12 and that kind of thing but
19 you actually don't know if a genetic sample came from a
20 river, are you taking genetic samples from rivers and
21 then trying to match them with different -- with like
22 areas that you're talking about?

23

24 MS. YUHAS: Through the Chair, Mr.
25 Wright, I am not qualified to -- and I -- and I hate to
26 do that to you, my expertise lies in areas other than
27 genetic identification. And one of the things that I
28 understand is that we won't understand much until we've
29 completed a multi-year project and so simply trying to
30 speak to the first two years of collecting samples
31 really doesn't mean a lot in the scientific community,
32 from my understanding. And -- and -- need more than
33 that.

34

35 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you. I think
36 maybe it would be beneficial to the Council at meetings
37 when we're discussing this to maybe have someone
38 teleconference in at least that could answer some of
39 these questions that knows the genetic stock assessment
40 stuff. But I don't know if that's what the Council
41 would like, but I can see that I would like to be able
42 to ask questions and to somebody that understands a
43 little bit more than we do.

44

45 Thank you.

46

47 Any other questions.

48

49 (Laughter)

50

1 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Mr. Yeager.

2

3 MR. YEAGER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We
4 do have someone in the audience that is qualified to
5 answer some of these genetic questions specifically if
6 you don't mind, that would be very helpful, I think to
7 the specific questions that were asked by the Council.

8

9 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Yes.

10

11 MR. REIFENSTUHL: Thank you. My name
12 is Steve Reifenhstuh. I'm the general manager from
13 Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture.

14

15 So I think the first thing I need to
16 say to make some other people in the room comfortable,
17 I'm not speaking for the Department of Fish and Game.
18 I will speak from my knowledge as a biologist, my
19 familiarity with the program, the sampling and the
20 geographic area.

21

22 So a couple of things have come up if I
23 might just riff here for a minute. Kutlaku is on Kuiu
24 Island, it's not far from Kake. And Hasselborg, as I
25 know at least one person knows, is right behind Angoon,
26 Admiralty Island. So those are the only two areas that
27 Jennifer mentioned that were actual stocks. And so
28 those would be wild stock areas and sampled -- likely
29 sampled sockeye from those systems so they are known
30 origin. The other areas that were mentioned were all
31 in fisheries gillnet and seine fisheries primarily in
32 Chatham and Lynn Canal is what were mentioned.

33

34 So they take those stocks -- they take
35 those sockeyes that were sampled in the fishery and
36 they take a genetic sample from that, that has to go to
37 a lab, those have not all been analyzed at this point
38 and so the connection that will eventually be made is
39 that that genetic stock with those two known Kutlaku
40 and Hasselborg, so if there are any Kutlaku or
41 Hasselborg in that fishery sample they'll be able to
42 match those up. That has not been done yet.

43

44 Further work will be additional sockeye
45 systems, Basket Bay, Kanalku, which we didn't hear
46 mentioned, but I assume that will be done, and there
47 will be other sockeye systems.

48

49 So those are some of the questions I
50 saw that you wanted answered. If there's others I'd be

1 happy to try.

2

3 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you. Anyone
4 have any questions.

5

6

7

(No comments)

8

9 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you very much
10 for clarifying that, it helps a lot.

11

12

MR. REIFENSTUHL: You're welcome.

13

14

VICE CHAIR BANGS: Mr. Wright.

15

16

17 MR. WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So
18 if genetic samples were taken from -- salmon from
19 Kanalku and then samples from different areas you'd be
20 able to match those with that special river?

21

22 MR. REIFENSTUHL: yes. So the baseline
23 would be to go into as many sockeye systems in Chatham
24 and Lynn Canal and even up in Chilkat, and so you go to
25 the site where the fish are actually spawning, that's
26 where you would take the sockeye samples on those wild
27 stock systems, so that would give you your baseline,
28 you know it's a fish from Kanalku or a fish from
29 Chilkat River, so that goes into your database as the
30 representative sample for those specific stocks. And
31 then when you sample in fisheries, whether it's a
32 sportfishery, subsistence fishery -- it's going to tend
33 to be commercial fisheries when you sample on those,
34 you're just going to be pulling sockeye out, you have
35 no idea what their origin is, but you're going to pull
36 a sample off of those, a tissue sample, then it's going
37 to be sent to the lab, it will have a distinct genetic
38 code that can then be matched with the baseline
39 samples. So if it happens to be that fish was caught
40 in 114 and it's got a Chilkat Lake genetic or geno,
41 then they're going to be able to say a certain number
42 or percentage of that catch in 114 was from Chilkat, a
43 certain percentage was from Kanalku and so forth.

43

44

45 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you. Any
46 other questions or follow up.

46

47

MR. WRIGHT: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.

48

49

50 So if you took a sample, like you just
took a sample last year, would you have to wait for the

1 cycle, salmon cycle before you do another cycle or
2 would you be able to pull -- to be able to get a
3 genetic sample off of fish that are coming like next
4 year or something like that?

5
6 MR. REIFENSTUHL: That's kind of the
7 cool thing about this science is that for the most part
8 that gene or that sequence is going to be repetitive
9 for the Kanalku or the Hasselborg Lake for many, many
10 hundreds of years and even if there is some shift over
11 a thousand years you'll still be able to look back
12 through it and understand what the change is.

13
14 So the answer is you do it one time,
15 you would probably -- I mean if this goes on for
16 decades you would probably do some other spot checking
17 to see if there's any shift in the genetics of a
18 particular stock, but really it's very discreet, just
19 like your genes would be discreet from mine and you'd
20 be able to identify your whole lineage based on that
21 one sample.

22
23 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you.

24
25 MR. REIFENSTUHL: I'm not a geneticist
26 by the way, okay.

27
28 (Laughter)

29
30 MR. REIFENSTUHL: I don't want to
31 characterize myself as anything other than what I am.
32 I worked in the fishing industry as a biologist for 40
33 years so I've picked up a little bit along the way.

34
35 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Cathy, did you have
36 a question.

37
38 MS. NEEDHAM: (Shakes head negatively)

39
40 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Okay. Thank you,
41 very much. That helped. That was real helpful.

42
43 I have a question for Ms. Yuhas if she
44 could come back up please.

45
46 I'm curious, I didn't hear any baseline
47 studies from Kanalku, is that correct, there was no
48 genetic samples taken from there.

49
50 MS. YUHAS: Whether there were no

1 baseline studies I cannot confirm that in the negative,
2 there may have been something I do not have information
3 for. The genetic stock ID list is what I received and
4 what I gave to the Council.

5
6 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Okay, thank you. I
7 was just wondering, it seems like that would be one of
8 the first streams that we would ID in trying to help
9 this situation out but I don't know, they probably have
10 their own method of madness.

11
12 Okay, any other questions.

13
14
15 (No comments)

16
17 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Okay, thank you.

18
19 Mr. Kessler.

20
21 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Bangs.

22
23 I'm pretty much done.

24
25 The last paragraph points out that --
26 about the completed design work at Kanalku Falls and
27 there was some construction, I guess it's called
28 construction when you blast.....

29
30 (Laughter)

31
32 MR. KESSLER:maybe destruction
33 work that was done this fall.

34
35 (Laughter)

36
37 MR. KESSLER: My understanding is that
38 now we'll wait and see how successful that was to help
39 fish move up over the falls and then if necessary take
40 additional action in the future.

41
42 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
43 Kessler.

44
45 Any questions.

46
47 Mr. Douville.

48
49 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
50 That was one of my questions, was, is there anything

1 beyond the modification of the falls that was going to
2 be done. The last paragraph sort of indicated that you
3 were going to construct something but I was -- if it
4 was, it would be a ladder, but -- the other thing I had
5 to ask was there was some discussion of enhancing these
6 fish from Kanalku and it was talked about in our
7 meeting. I guess I want to know if that was serious
8 talk or just something that could be done, or perhaps
9 should be done. I know the State has the ability to do
10 such things and was that real?

11

12 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Mr. Kessler.

13

14 MR. KESSLER: The question about
15 additional actions at the Falls and trying to get some
16 folks with expertise on that because I certainly don't
17 have that expertise so one moment, please.

18

19 (Pause)

20

21 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman, Ben Van
22 Alen with the Forest Service has the information I
23 think that you'll need about the Falls.

24

25 MR. VAN ALEN: Good afternoon, Chairman
26 and Council.

27

28 The question is, I understand, what
29 work was done this year at Kanalku Falls in terms of
30 efforts to construct a jump pool at the base of the
31 Falls to hopefully improve the ability of the fish to
32 make it up over the Falls, so it's not really a fish
33 pass, it's not really a restoration of anything, it's
34 basically work done to -- under the assumption that
35 we'll be able to improve the passage of sockeye, a
36 higher percent of the fish that make it to the base of
37 the Falls will be able to make it up and over.

38

39 So in September there was one blast
40 conducted and the folks doing the work considered it
41 quite successful, and in how they conducted that blast,
42 they used a series of holes and timed charges, kept the
43 pressure of the blast low enough so that unlikely that
44 fish in the area were harmed. There was extensive work
45 done to remove fish from the area of the blast as well
46 as monitoring of any fish die-offs, at the time I
47 understand there was a couple. But the blast itself
48 was quite successful. And right now as the water
49 levels come up they're hoping naturally it'll wash out
50 that rock that was fractured at this plunge pool area

1 and the results will be monitored into the future we
2 hope, just like they have been the last couple years
3 where Fish and Game operated a pair of net weirs, or
4 sorry video weirs below the Falls, counted the number
5 of sockeye that made it to the base of the Falls and
6 then they had their picket weir up at the outlet of the
7 lake so they knew how many fish or what proportion of
8 those fish that came back were indeed able to make it
9 up into the lake. This year the numbers were
10 approximately 1,000 -- their count was 1,924 fish made
11 it to the base of the Falls, and I believe it was
12 1,400-something made it into the lake. So that was
13 before this blast -- this rock removal happened.

14
15 So in a year like this year it was a
16 fairly high natural proportion of fish that were able
17 to make it into the lake. All best estimates are that
18 the passage is mostly hampered during periods of high
19 water conditions, this year was a very low water
20 condition year so fish were able to make it, like they
21 were able to make it in 2009 after a little bit of
22 delay.

23
24 So anyway we'll see what it has in the
25 future. That's just one small piece of work that can
26 be done to address meeting subsistence needs for the
27 community of Angoon.

28
29 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Ben. Did
30 you have another question, Mike, about what else is
31 going to be possibly done.....

32
33 MR. DOUVILLE: Enhancement.

34
35 VICE CHAIR BANGS:in the future.

36
37 Okay, thank you.

38
39 Mr. Kessler.

40
41 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Chairman
42 Bangs. That's all I have.

43
44 Ms. Needham.

45
46 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

47
48 I just have a follow up, I guess,
49 question maybe for both Mr. Kessler and Ms. Yuhas.

50

1 First I want to thank you for giving us
2 a report back this meeting. That followed the
3 recommendations that this RAC had put forth, because I
4 know that was something that we spent a lot of time
5 trying to ask for at the last meeting and so I really
6 appreciate that you came back and did that point by
7 point.

8
9 And while I was listening to where we
10 were with things the first thing that popped into my
11 head was, well, where are we in the three year process.
12 Like we had recommended a three year timeline, like
13 these things be done within three years or extra-
14 territorial jurisdiction be extended. And I believe
15 we're maybe just shy of 18 months or right around 18
16 months, we're just close to the halfway point of that
17 three years and so in terms of the things that we
18 recommended, do you think that we're about halfway to
19 meeting those things.

20
21 To me, when I look at the report of
22 what's been done, it seems like there's still a lot of
23 work that's going to take a significant amount of time
24 to do and not as much time left.

25
26 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Ms. Yuhas.

27
28 MS. YUHAS: The State is optimistic.

29
30 One of the things I have learned, being
31 a bureaucrat, and some of you have a lot of experience
32 in these RAC meetings, you know, things move faster
33 when you're on the outside, whether it's Borough
34 government, or State government or Federal government,
35 that when you first hear three years, three years
36 sounds like it's too long, I've learned that benchmarks
37 aren't always as time dependent as they might look from
38 the outside, that sometimes in a three year period can
39 look like nothing's happening and it's the duck under
40 water and then everything happens all at once or it can
41 look like everything's happening and it can look like
42 things slowed down when you just came through a -- my
43 best answer is that we're optimistic. Can I say I
44 think we're exactly at halfway because the timeline is
45 halfway, I -- I don't know.

46
47 I hope that doesn't sound wishy-washy
48 but that's my best answer to your question.

49
50 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Steve.

1 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2

3 I believe the reason that we had the
4 three period was to time it for the Board of Fisheries
5 meeting that was going to be essentially three years
6 after the recommendation of the Council. And so as far
7 as that goes, again, to repeat, in April the proposals
8 are due to the Board of Fisheries, and then they will
9 be acted on the next winter. And so that's the three
10 year period. So what's really critical here is that
11 all the right proposals to cover all the possibilities
12 of what needs to be addressed come before the Board of
13 Fish, that process.

14

15 So I guess, you know, if we were past
16 the Board of Fisheries due date for proposals and there
17 weren't any proposals I'd say the chances of making
18 that are pretty slim, but right now we're still looking
19 fairly well, the question, of course, being, are we
20 going to have a suite of proposals that meet what the
21 objective of the extra-territorial jurisdiction
22 petition are.

23

24 MR. NAOROZ: This is Peter Naoroz. Mr.
25 Chairman, is there a chance I could comment.

26

27 VICE CHAIR BANGS: If there's no more
28 questions right now directed at Mr. Kessler about the
29 subject at hand here, sure, go ahead, Peter.

30

31 Is there any other questions for Mr.
32 Kessler.

33

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead Peter.

38

39 MR. NAOROZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
40 First of all I've asked Wayne Owen for a copy of the
41 letter of August 21st, we don't have that letter from
42 Beth Pendleton.

43

44 I would like to start my comment by
45 saying that Jennifer, well, the State and I haven't
46 talked at all since the last RAC meeting. And so I
47 don't know about oral communications, but if I'm wrong,
48 please, you know, give me some dates and times and
49 subject matters.

50

1 As far as the genetic studies are
2 concerned, my understanding is that Kanalku has not
3 been tested and that was one of the specific things
4 that was asked for and agreed to back in March.

5
6 I appreciate the way the RAC has been
7 gentle about, you know, pointing out kind of the flaws
8 of the process but, you know, as a petitioner who's
9 agreed to work with the State and with the Feds, I have
10 found very little by way of communication or
11 information. I just got the escapements for Kanalku
12 yesterday, copy from the Forest Service I begged them
13 for, and, you know, we had a banner year for everything
14 except for sockeye. And my read of these numbers is
15 not very well informed but, you know, given where we
16 were in March with the joint Federal Subsistence Board
17 meeting and the RAC, you know, I found almost nothing
18 done. I would agree with the comment made by Mr.
19 Adams, that there are things talked about and -- and
20 just as a personal observation, to rely on the
21 community to come up with solutions when we have laid
22 them out, you know, may sound like -- you know, it's
23 just foot dragging to me.

24
25 So I think if we're really expecting
26 the community to step forward there needs to be an
27 effort to publicize, to get the people involved, if
28 that's what the State wants.

29
30 And I know that the Forest Service has
31 done a fair amount of what they had said, but I've
32 found very little from the State side.

33
34 So, Mr. Chairman, that's my comments.

35
36 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you, Mr.
37 Naoroz.

38
39 Ms. Yuhas, do you have any comments.

40
41 MS. YUHAS: My comments in the meeting
42 stand for the State's comments and the public has
43 always been able to make their own comments.

44
45 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Thank you.

46
47 Any more questions on ETJ.

48
49
50 (No comments)

1 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Okay, thank you,
2 Jennifer and Steve.

3
4 Okay, I think we'll take a break here,
5 a 10 minute recess.

6
7 (Off record)

8
9 (On record)

10
11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, we're back in
12 session now.

13
14 Before we go on any further, I want to
15 call Steve up here for your testimony, so, Steve, I
16 understand it's on Chatham fisheries, so go right ahead
17 it's all yours.

18
19 MR. REIFENSTUHL: Thank you, Mr.
20 Chairman and RAC Board, appreciate it. For the record
21 my name is Steve Reifentstuhl, General Manager Northern
22 Southeast Regional Aquaculture in Sitka.

23
24 I wanted to talk about the Kootznoowoo
25 petition and just to try to be a little informative and
26 let you know what I've been doing.

27
28 I was interviewed by the Institute on a
29 face to face interview, so some of my comments probably
30 got into that report. I also reviewed that report and
31 critique it, sent those comments back to the Institute
32 and also sent a letter in response to the final product
33 to the Department of Interior to Butch Blazer.

34
35 In the intervening time since the last
36 time I testified before you, I did make an overture to
37 the community of Angoon that we would be happy to look
38 at their lakes and streams, and Kanalku, in particular,
39 if they would like, I received a letter from the Front
40 Street Incorporated in the spring and they stated
41 interest in having NSRA visit there and I scheduled a
42 trip or said I could be available a variety of dates.
43 I was never taken up on that but the offer still
44 stands, I'm willing to go out there at any time. I
45 have looked at the geography. I've been out there
46 early in my career but I'm also very familiar with the
47 area because I lived in Hood Bay, I've traversed
48 Admiralty Island, I've been on the lakes, not as part
49 of professional activities, but more adventure
50 activities, and so I have a couple specific ideas I

1 think would be very beneficial to the community of
2 Angoon.

3
4 One, they're proposing, or they would
5 like to have a hydro project on Thayer Lake, and we
6 could use that water on second pass, so after it
7 generates electricity then we could use it in a
8 hatchery program and could develop some type of fishery
9 right out there in front of Angoon.

10
11 Also would be happy to look at Kanalku.
12 I understand the work that's been done there, I'm
13 familiar with the work that Ben Van Alen does there.

14
15 I think in concert with the baseline
16 biological information that's being developed there,
17 that we could look at that program to see if there are
18 other things we could do. A question came up earlier
19 about enhancement or what kind of opportunities there
20 are specifically for Kanalku and I believe there are
21 some. I mean after the last time I spoke before you, I
22 did talk to DyPak, which has a module at Snedesham that
23 could house sockeye eggs and then be taken back as fry.

24
25 So there are those two ideas that I
26 mentioned, I'm not going to go into others, but I would
27 love to go out there and work with the community and
28 see if there are other opportunities or work on these
29 particular ones.

30
31 Let's see, and as an example of other
32 things that we're doing that are pertinent to several
33 people here on the Board is I'm working in the
34 community of Kake with a chum salmon program. They
35 have GunnaCreek Hatchery run by the community of Kake,
36 and we are working side by side with them to help and
37 improve their program and to do a demonstration project
38 and work with the Staff out there every year. We did
39 that this past spring, we were out there for two and a
40 half months and we'll be doing that for the foreseeable
41 future, and we're expecting big things out of that.
42 When you talk about -- somebody mentioned the cold
43 storage there, if this program works as we expect it
44 to, that cold storage is going to be 10 miles away from
45 this large chum salmon program. It would be a
46 tremendous boon for them.

47
48 There are people in Petersburg that
49 call me all the time and say, why don't you put a
50 program in our backyard, well, we're hoping to do that

1 in Kake.

2

3

I just visited Yakutat.

4

5

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VICE CHAIR BANGS: I'd like to make a

1 motion to formulate a letter to the request of the
2 State to respond to the questions that were brought up
3 during this discussion about why things haven't been
4 moving along as much and, well, you know, maybe it
5 would probably need some work as far as formulating a
6 letter but I would like -- before we adjourn this
7 meeting, I would like to have some sort of letter that
8 we could bring up.

9
10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Is there a second to
11 the motion.

12
13 MR. WRIGHT: Second.

14
15 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Who did that, you.

16
17 MR. WRIGHT: (Nods affirmatively)

18
19 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. So my next
20 question would be, you know, should we allow Robert to
21 maybe draft a letter and have a look at it toward the
22 end of the meeting and go from there.

23
24 VICE CHAIR BANGS: I would like to have
25 a few of us involved in writing down some ideas to give
26 to Robert.

27
28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, do you want to
29 head that group.

30
31 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Yes, I will do that.

32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: And then you can
34 choose whomever you want to help you.

35
36 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Okay, thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You're welcome.

39
40 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman.

41
42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, Patty.

43
44 MS. PHILLIPS: We have a motion on the
45 floor but, I mean, what is the letter -- what isn't
46 moving along, are you.....

47
48 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Pardon.

49
50 MS. PHILLIPS:talking about the

1 ETJ or about the.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, the ETJ.

4

5 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Yes, ETJ.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: The concern that the
8 State hasn't, you know, been doing very much as far as
9 we can see now and we just want to draft a letter up to
10 find out the reasons why.

11

12 Okay.

13

14 (Council nods affirmatively)

15

16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: It's been moved and
17 seconded, are you ready for the question.

18

19 MR. KITKA: Question.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Question's been
22 called.

23

24 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, sir.

27

28 MR. LARSON: Point of clarification.
29 The drafting committee that you've selected to put some
30 text together involves who, was there.....

31

32 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Well, Mr. Bangs is
33 going to head it and then he can choose whomever he
34 wants to help him, including you.

35

36 (Laughter)

37

38 MR. LARSON: Mr. Bangs, yes, thank you.
39 And the motion right now is to write a letter to
40 request specific plans from the State regarding how
41 they're going to address issues regarding the ETJ
42 petition, the exact language will be developed prior to
43 the end of this meeting by Mr. Bangs, et al.,

44

45 (Laughter)

46

47 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

48

49 VICE CHAIR BANGS: Yes.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: That sounds good.
2
3 Floyd.
4
5 MR. KOOKESH: I believe that the August
6 21st letter will also be part of the material you'll be
7 using. You don't really need Mr. Bangs.
8
9 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Clarify that, Floyd,
10 if you would, I don't understand.
11
12 MR. KOOKESH: Well, most of the talking
13 points are in the August 21st letter.
14
15 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Uh-huh.
16
17 MR. KOOKESH: Because a lot of the
18 comments I see says, no changes, oral discussions,
19 going to be further developed, it's all in here.
20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So you just want to
22 use that as a working paper to draft a letter.
23
24 MR. KOOKESH: The letter.
25
26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Okay. All
27 right.
28
29 All in favor say aye.
30
31 IN UNISON: Aye.
32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Opposed, same sign.
34
35 (No opposing votes)
36
37 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Motion carried.
38
39 So the next thing, review special
40 actions, there it is all ready to go.
41
42 (Laughter)
43
44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Jeff.
45
46 MR. REEVES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman
47 and Council. For the record my name is Jeff Reeves,
48 I'm with the US Forest Service.
49
50 In front of you, handed out earlier

1 should be a little two page document, it's in a table
2 form and it looks similar to this right here, I can
3 even pull it up on the screen here.

4
5 (Pause)

6
7 MR. REEVES: Can everybody see that.

8
9 (Pause)

10
11 MR. REEVES: Okay. Anyways basically
12 this document here, on here you're going to find 12
13 items and all 12 of these items are actions that were
14 taken over the course of this year, they're listed in
15 the order that they all have happened.

16
17 If you notice under the special action
18 number there you'll see some differences in how they're
19 labeled, but if you see one that has FSA that means
20 it's a fisheries special action, if it has a WSA it
21 means wildlife action. The next set of numbers is the
22 year. For the really extensive -- for the longer
23 length titles there, the two letters is a code for what
24 specie it affected and then the next set of numbers is
25 the order that they occurred, and then the last number
26 should be for the region, you know, the region that
27 this Council represents.

28
29 Obviously the first one this year
30 you'll see is no different than the past few years, it
31 was a closure to District 1, in the eulachon fishery.
32 It happened actually preseason and it was implemented
33 on March 1st.

34
35 The next action that occurred was up in
36 the Yakutat area and it actually closed the Situk River
37 to the take of chinook salmon and you can see that
38 closure was effective from May 19th through most of
39 July.

40
41 The next action actually was one that
42 the Board had to deliberate on and it was a special
43 action request submitted to them to shut the
44 subsistence chinook fishery down on the Stikine because
45 of the abundance estimate, it was so low. So that
46 actually took place and closed it. However, but you
47 could see that the next action which was implemented by
48 the Wrangell District Ranger, it actually reopened the
49 fishery so the abundance had jumped up and opportunity
50 was then allowed.

1 The final fisheries action for this
2 year then occurred on Hatchery Creek. It shut down the
3 area around the Falls to all fishing, or all
4 subsistence fishing, and then also limited the
5 remainder of the drainage to -- it implemented gear
6 restrictions and limited the fishery to the prohibition
7 on the retention of sockeye and this one actually
8 occurred -- the run was -- water flows were down and
9 the run just didn't seem to be occurring and this went
10 into play and then right after that then fish started
11 showing up. I don't think the fishery itself was
12 taking a lot of fish but it was just a number of
13 factors. We knew that there was low returns from the
14 parent year and the water flows were so low that the
15 fish were highly vulnerable.

16
17 So then prior to deer season there was
18 a wildlife special action implemented to correspond
19 with the recent action in Unit 3 in the Lindenberg
20 Peninsula area. In order to follow up with what the
21 Board of Game had done this action reduced the harvest
22 limit from two bucks down to one.

23
24 I guess I have to take that back, there
25 was one more special action dealing with fish, it
26 occurred right after this and it reopened the Situk
27 River, it looks like in the middle of July, so my
28 apologies on my statement a while ago.

29
30 Then we get into a series here of three
31 actions that closed down portions of Baranof Island in
32 Unit 4 to goat harvest. These were fairly -- they
33 occurred in a fairly quick sequence here. You can see
34 that right off the bat the Medivigi Lake area was shut
35 down, then Naquasina Area, river area, and then Redoubt
36 and Neker was followed.

37
38 Right before this meeting here, these
39 last two, these just occurred, the action MG10-13
40 there, that one extended the closures for the mountain
41 goat in Unit 4. Apparently it was felt that the
42 previous actions didn't cover the full hunting season
43 so these went into play and then this last one here is
44 the announcement for the moose quota in the Yakutat
45 area.

46
47 What you'll notice is from past
48 meetings most of these are all fairly similar actions
49 to past happenings and I'll conclude that and if you
50 have any questions we will answer.

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Question's anyone.

4

5 MR. HERNANDEZ: I have a question,
6 Jeff, on the Lindenberg closure. You say that this
7 mirrored the State closure, however, in the State
8 closure they also close it all together to non-
9 residents, out of state residents, I guess. I guess
10 I'm a little unclear in the Federal closure there's no
11 mention -- I know we don't do resident, non-resident
12 closures, but we do have qualified subsistence users
13 and non-qualified subsistence users, was that part of
14 the discussion as to whether or not to close it to non-
15 qualified hunters, to mirror the State non-resident
16 closure. I guess I'm a little confused about, you
17 know, all the regulatory process there and so on
18 Federal land did it end up being open to non-residents
19 or did the State closure apply to non-residents on
20 Federal land. I'm a little unclear on this.

21

22 MR. REEVES: Mr. Chair. Mr. Hernandez.
23 I have to apologize, it looks like I might have backed
24 myself into a wrong alley without an escape here with a
25 statement. When I said our closure mirrored, what I
26 was trying, I guess, meaning to say is that the State
27 voted to take action so we took some. We didn't -- as
28 far as I know we didn't close to non-Federally-
29 qualified, but I'm sure Mr. Larson or probably maybe
30 Mr. Suminski could probably elaborate more on that.
31 I'm just kind of the spokesperson to get through the
32 list here. So if I did confuse you or made a wrong
33 statement I'm sorry but we'll get that question
34 answered here.

35

36 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chair. Mr. Hernandez.

37

38 The State did close to non-residents so
39 only State residents can hunt under State rules in this
40 area.

41

42 The Federal Program already excludes
43 all residents that do not have a customary and
44 traditional use determination for deer in Unit 3. So
45 our action only applies to those residents with that
46 customary and traditional use finding but because, of
47 course, the result of having a determination that we
48 use those resources is that all others are excluded.

49

50 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Questions.
2
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Follow up.
7
8
9 (No comments)
10
11
12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, do you have
13 more?
14
15 MR. REEVES: Yes, I do. Okay. After
16 last fall and the fisheries harvest presentation I did
17 I kind of got asked to try to put together one on
18 wildlife.
19
20 And so at this past spring, if you
21 recall on the agenda, was a real similar item, but at
22 that point I didn't know I was going to have to and it
23 was too -- I couldn't get all the information, but I
24 did make the promise that we would have a presentation
25 for this meeting and so if you'd draw your attention up
26 here to the screen we're going to take a look at the
27 wildlife harvest that kind of occurs in our region
28 here.
29
30 So we'll touch into some State harvest
31 here and our harvest, obviously, is going to be
32 basically what kind of harvest goes on in Units 1
33 through 5, and for those that aren't familiar with how
34 the units lay out.
35
36 Unit 1 is a fairly extensive unit that
37 pretty much occupies the majority of the mainland from
38 Ketchikan all the way up past Juneau up through Haines
39 and over towards Glacier Bay.
40
41 Unit 2 should be quite familiar to this
42 Council, it's Prince of Wales Island.
43
44 Unit 3 Petersburg/Wrangell area right
45 here.
46
47 And then Unit 4 is the ABCs.
48
49 And then Unit 5 which is up in the
50 Yakutat area.

1 So we'll start off with probably what's
2 the commonly harvested wildlife specie in the region
3 here. And I'll have to put an extensive thank you out
4 to both Jennifer Yugas and the State Staff in providing
5 these harvest numbers for me because what you're going
6 to see here is like most of the Sitka black-tail
7 information is based off of harvest estimates. There
8 is now the mandatory hunt report or the hunt reports
9 that have been attached to harvest tickets but up
10 until, you know, the last recent couple of years
11 everything had to be done through estimates. So in all
12 these tables that you're going to see you'll notice in
13 each column there's a blue number and then there's a
14 bold number. The blue numbers are the lowest harvest
15 reported for that unit, the bold number is the highest
16 and all these slides are pretty much going to be
17 dealing with a period from 2000 to like 2011 or 2012
18 and so -- and they'll be summarized by which unit the
19 harvest occurs in and a total harvest along the side
20 and an average.

21
22 So you can see here the predominate
23 deer harvest occurs obviously in Units 2 and Unit 4.
24 There is -- Units 1 and 3, you can see are up and down,
25 you know, and there's -- what was interesting is when I
26 did the coloring to these numbers was to see, was there
27 any correlation that all the units would have a high
28 harvest in a big year and would they all have a low
29 harvest in a low year, and when you see these numbers
30 here, at least with deer, it's -- you know it's really
31 not showing a correlation that, you know, just because
32 the harvest -- overall harvest -- like in 2000 was so
33 low but not all the units had low harvest, or the
34 lowest harvest during the period here.

35
36 So now taking these numbers, and here
37 -- and this is put into a graph form and so the two --
38 what you'll see here, obviously, Unit 5 has such little
39 harvest, it's the bottom line, and then you have Units
40 3 and 1 down here, the red line's Unit 4 and this
41 purple line -- or excuse me -- the red is Unit 2 and
42 the purple is Unit 4. Now, you can see that pretty
43 much all the units after the 2006 winter following
44 that, there was a decrease the immediate year after.
45 You know, obviously Unit 4 is showing a sharp decrease.
46 But when I noticed it in putting this slide -- or when
47 this graph was put together is that you do see that it
48 seems to show that possibly the deer population seem to
49 be getting -- or seem to be slowly recovering after
50 this because the -- you can see that -- especially in

1 these two units that the overall harvest for the most
2 part has risen so.....

3
4 The black bear -- this data is all from
5 sealing records so it's fairly down to almost the exact
6 bear. Now, this is one where you do see recent.....

7
8 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I have a question. You
9 gave, you know, some information there on units, and I
10 was just wondering if you have any data from Yakutat
11 deer harvest.

12
13 MR. REEVES: We can jump back a couple.

14
15 Right here, Unit 5, this is the
16 estimates. And I don't -- you know I don't live in the
17 area and so I don't know and recently it looks like the
18 deer abundance apparently must be higher. It seems
19 like it built and then it dropped and then it built
20 again, so, you know, I -- you know, hopefully there's a
21 positive trend that you're going to start getting more
22 of these little critters up there but.....

23
24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, I didn't see
25 that because it was (indiscernible - away from the mic)

26
27 Thanks.

28
29 MR. REEVES: Yep. Yeah, black bear,
30 obviously other than Unit 4, they're taken, here --
31 what I was starting to show here, is this is one where
32 actually you do see that pretty much the lowest harvest
33 all did occur here in the same year.

34
35 For Units 2 and 3 I would assume that
36 that's attributed to the controlled use regulations
37 that had been in play before the non-resident harvest
38 tickets went to a drawing system.

39
40 But brown bear, obviously not as sought
41 after as black bear are, but what's unique here is
42 there is a little bit of them that do show up and are
43 harvested in Unit 3. And it doesn't seem like there's
44 any overall, you know, real up or down in it.

45
46 Moose in this region is by registration
47 permit. So here you see that Units 1, 3 and 5 are the
48 main areas for moose. Last year overall it looked like
49 for some reason was the lowest year on record for
50 harvests, yet, by -- obviously when we look at it by

1 the unit level there was other years where there was
2 less harvest taken. So, you know, perhaps, you know,
3 some of the areas are doing better.

4
5 But Unit 1 sure seemed to produce --
6 seems to produce most of the moose mainland.

7
8 Mountain goat, it's also by
9 registration permit. That is definitely one where you
10 see where all the low years did occur during the same
11 year, yet, for some reason the high numbers are spaced
12 out there but you can obviously -- again, the mainland,
13 Unit 1 is the predominate area of goat harvest.

14
15 You do see the two like in Unit 4, the
16 numbers have dropped. I believe a lot of that, too, is
17 a result of the management changes that have occurred
18 there and closures between both State and Federal in
19 some of the drainage areas that they manage by.

20
21 Wolf, it's all sealing data. And I
22 believe this takes into combination all wolves that are
23 harvested both between hunting regulations and trapping
24 regulations but -- and I would probably make the
25 assumption and be safe doing so that the majority of
26 the harvest is under trapping regulations.

27
28 Elk, it's obviously a fairly newer hunt
29 to the region over the past, you know, 20 or so years.
30 It's registration permit. It has been tweaked a bit
31 where there are seasons -- portions of the season where
32 you don't have to get the drawing permit, but most of
33 the harvest, to my understanding, is during the period
34 under the drawing permits for both the bow and rifle
35 season. But you can see it's a tough hunt. If it
36 wasn't, these numbers would probably be a lot higher.
37 I wish the picture could show more detail but that
38 picture is my neighbor and he's actually up on a
39 mountain top so if you are an elk hunter hunting Etolin
40 is quite different than hunting elk elsewhere is what
41 I've been told.

42
43 Wolverine is a big game specie here.
44 It, too, is -- the data comes from sealing data. The
45 majority of these critter are taken under trapping
46 licenses and obviously you can tell they're definitely
47 a mainland critter. There's a handful that get taken
48 in Unit 3 but by the time I got the data it was so
49 close to the meeting that I didn't get a chance to
50 really try to get an idea of where they're at, you

1 know, are they -- do they swim from island to island,
2 they must if they're in Unit 3 but I don't know.

3

4 So now that we've rubbed our heads over
5 the State data we can kind of dive on in to some
6 Federal data here.

7

8 The Federal permits are -- there's two
9 categories, we have hunt specific permits and we have
10 some cultural related permits. And so here they're
11 listed by what specie. the two letter code with four
12 numbers, that's the permit number and next to it is
13 what they're specific for.

14

15 So we have Unit 1A moose permit, we
16 have three goat permits, the Unit 1A and B is a
17 combination permit and the other two there are two
18 separate Unit 5's, so one's broken down for Unit 5A,
19 the other is for Unit 5B. Also in Unit 5 we have a
20 brown bear permit and then we -- there's the designated
21 hunter permit. What I've listed as culture related to
22 side. In the Sitka area side there is mountain goat
23 permits that are issued to the Sitka Tribe of Alaska
24 that -- it allows a harvest in the spring of up to
25 three goats. And what was explained to me is that the
26 meat from these goats is distributed through a local
27 traditional food program, and then the wool is actually
28 -- or actually the hair is what's being sought and it's
29 used in traditional weaving classes. There's a couple
30 of special deer permits that are issued, you can see
31 they're issued to culture camps. One of them is down
32 in Unit 2 to Hydaburg culture camp, it gets up to six
33 permits that they can harvest deer during the camp.
34 And then the other one is in Unit 4, which is for the
35 Dog Point Fish Camp, and it's typically, if it's used,
36 it's a deer per camp but there's up to seven camps
37 during the course of the season. And then finally
38 there's a culture related brown bear permit in Unit 4.

39

40 So here's some data from the Unit 1A
41 moose, you can see that it's virtually an under
42 utilized, or real low utilization of the hunt, maximum
43 permits issued in any given year was 10, kind of about
44 average is like 60 to 75 percent of the permits will
45 hunt it and then you can see that it's actually a
46 pretty low harvest overall when you compare it to those
47 other moose numbers in the State hunt. This year
48 permits are still coming back and up until now,
49 apparently it's been some good conditions in Unit 1A,
50 which this is probably mostly the Unuk River area but

1 you can see already two bulls have been taken to this
2 point.

3
4 This is for the Unit 1A, 1B goat, less
5 than 10 permits issued in 10 years, as you can see
6 here, less than a 10 year period, no reported harvest
7 from it.

8
9 This is some of the Unit 5A and 5B
10 data. Obviously 5B must be a little tougher to get
11 into because there's less permits issued for it, either
12 that or it's a closure. 5A had the only -- or excuse
13 me, 5A must be tougher to get into there's no harvest.
14 5B has actually had a little bit more success and
15 that's where you see that there's been three goats
16 harvested. But, again, it's just real limited years
17 and really not much activity.

18
19 This is from the Unit 5 brown bear
20 hunt. You can see it's still -- it's averaging
21 probably about five to six permits per year and we're
22 looking at, you know, one to two animals in years where
23 brown bear have been taken.

24
25 So designated hunting apparently is
26 where the Federal effort is at. And you can see that
27 across Southeast here several hundred permits get
28 issued. A little over half that seem to actually
29 engage in the act of hunting and you can see that
30 there's a range of two to 400 deer there, it looks like
31 averaging somewhere in the 200s. The hunt does apply
32 to moose also -- the permit can apply to Federally-
33 qualified users to hunt moose on behalf of another one,
34 although how much that happens is a little bit less,
35 you can see there, with less than 10 permits each year
36 reporting effort for moose.

37
38 There hasn't been any reported goats
39 since Board action in the past cycle allowed for
40 designated hunters to take a goat on behalf of another
41 Federally-qualified user.

42
43 So what I did this year is this is just
44 a graph of -- it's showing -- if you took every single
45 Federally-designated hunter permit that's been issued,
46 this is the percentage by which community that person
47 resides in. So you can see that Wrangell and
48 Petersburg seem to be -- and Sitka seem to utilize the
49 system the most. Craig is this piece right here and
50 then Thorne Bay and I think Haines, a little bit there.

1 But the overall reality is that -- oops, excuse me,
2 Klawock, is that the three larger communities in
3 Southeast are the ones that are actively designated
4 hunting and I suppose that probably makes some sense,
5 that when you have more Federally-qualified users
6 you're going to have more hunters hunting on behalf of
7 other users.

8
9 And so this brings you to the table
10 here where -- to look at the harvest, to see, okay,
11 well, if all these permits are being issued to these
12 communities, well, where's the harvest being reported
13 from and even though Wrangell seems to get more
14 permits, Sitka seems to harvest more deer on behalf of
15 others. So this is all the -- like I said it's the
16 deer harvest so it's -- I was actually expecting
17 Wrangell to be up there but then when you look at it,
18 Wrangell and the Unit 3 area does have lower harvest
19 limits than than the Unit 4 area and Unit 4 has either
20 sex regulation. So there's, you know, a number of
21 reasons why obviously Sitka would probably produce more
22 deer.

23
24 So that completes what I have here. So
25 I'm open for any questions.

26
27 (Pause)

28
29 (Laughter)

30
31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Questions anyone.

32
33 Mr. Hernandez.

34
35 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah, Jeff, where are
36 those moose designated permits taking place mostly?

37
38 MR. REEVES: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
39 Hernandez.

40
41 I didn't put it in there but the
42 designated hunting for the moose was pretty much
43 Wrangell -- for the most part Wrangell with some being
44 issued out of Petersburg.

45
46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Donald.

47
48 MR. HERNANDEZ: And also I should know
49 this but I can't recall, is the designated hunter
50 permit, is that for one animal or for a bag limit?

1 MR. REEVES: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
2 Hernandez. The provisions under the designated hunting
3 provisions it allows up -- you can hunt on behalf of
4 any number of Federally-qualified users, but you cannot
5 possess any more than two possession limits at one
6 time. So -- right.

7
8 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Any more questions.

9
10
11 (No comments)

12
13 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh, Jeff.

14
15 MR. REEVES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16
17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: The next thing is Item
18 No. 8D, summary of Stikine River subsistence fishery.
19 So we have Mr. Larson and Mr. Yeager who are going to
20 give us that report.

21
22 MR. LARSON: Just a second here, Mr.
23 Chair.

24
25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Sure, we'll take a
26 couple minutes at ease.

27
28 (Pause)

29
30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: While they're doing
31 that I just want to thank Mr. Larson for providing us
32 with the weekly reports from the Stikine River. You
33 know I think we all get a copy of that so thank you for
34 that Mr. Larson, it helps to know what's going on down
35 there.

36
37 (Pause)

38
39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead.

40
41 MR. LARSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
42 We've distributed copies of what's titled talking
43 points, Stikine River salmon fishery and in there is a
44 list of some items of interest regarding the Stikine
45 River subsistence fishery. It starts with an
46 introduction reminding us that the organized fishery
47 under Federal rules started in 2004.

48
49 This year it appears that we will
50 harvest about 45 chinook and 250 cohos and 1,360

1 sockeye salmon. That fishery ends by regulation on
2 October 1st. What my charge is, is that during the
3 season, which starts in May, May 15th, then I provide a
4 weekly harvest estimate to the Canadian managers and
5 the State of Alaska managers. That ends in a summary
6 report I try to get to the TransBoundary Technical
7 Committee by the 1st of December, that's when they meet
8 to verify all the harvest numbers.

9
10 Other current events. Since the
11 calendar year starting in 2013 you'll see a summary of
12 items that are pertinent to the subject starting with
13 an opportunity that John Yeager and myself and Pete
14 Probasco from the Office of Subsistence Management
15 first went to, the TransBoundary US Section meeting and
16 that was in December of 2012. We also went to the post
17 season meeting, Bilateral TransBoundary Panel, that was
18 in January. Immediately after that meeting, we went --
19 I went to the Board meeting in Anchorage, the
20 subsistence Board meeting and provided a report to that
21 body primarily referencing actions on FP13-19; that is
22 the Council's proposal that was asking to change the
23 guideline harvest level for sockeyes in the subsistence
24 fishery. The Board under advice from myself and from
25 Mr. Probasco and developed by John Yeager deferred
26 action on that proposal for one year. The rationale
27 was that by deferring action they would indicate their
28 willingness to change Federal regulations, but they did
29 not want to do it if it was not in compliance or within
30 the standard of what would be required for
31 implementation on the part of the Pacific Salmon
32 Commission. So that regulatory language needed to be
33 developed in cooperation and in conjunction with the
34 TransBoundary Panel of the Pacific Salmon Commission.

35
36 So you'll see in here there were some
37 letters that were going back and forth confirming that
38 discussion.

39
40 And most notably, most recently in
41 December -- or September of this year, just last week,
42 there was letters that were received from the Wrangell
43 Cooperative Association, the official Wrangell tribe,
44 to the Board. That letter was not received in a timely
45 fashion by the Board, but what it said was that they
46 did not wish to close the king salmon season this year
47 and, in fact, wished us to pursue some regulatory
48 change that allowed the king salmon -- subsistence king
49 salmon fishery to be part of the base level fishery for
50 the US harvest, and not be a directed fishery. They

1 also sent a similarly worded letter to the Pacific
2 Salmon Commission. I have not received word as yet of
3 any response that they've received it, that letter was
4 only sent on the 16th. It was misfiled and not mailed
5 in a timely fashion, although it was written in April
6 it was not sent until September.

7
8 So that's a summary of our
9 correspondence. If it is amenable to the Council I
10 will plan on -- well, let me back up just one second.
11 I've spoken to Gordy Williams, who is the special
12 commissioner, or the special assistant to the
13 Commissioner regarding the US/Canada process, we have
14 the deferred proposal on the agenda for the Pacific
15 Salmon Commission and it will be discussed by the US
16 Section in December and at the post season meeting in
17 Portland in January. The Board will take up that
18 proposal during their April meeting when they take up
19 the rest of the regulatory proposals regarding
20 wildlife.

21
22 Last year the TransBoundary Panel heard
23 our interest in changing the guideline harvest, they
24 heard our interest in changing the way the chinook
25 salmon fishery is being characterized as a directed
26 fishery, they asked us to close the subsistence king
27 salmon fishery if the in-season estimate was less than
28 what would be required to have a directed fishery.
29 They also expressed an interest in the conduct of the
30 fishery regarding net tending and accounting of the
31 harvest. So at the Pacific Salmon Commission last year
32 there was no action taken, there was no proposed action
33 done by the TransBoundary Panel, and there was no
34 subsequent action by the Pacific Salmon Commission.

35
36 We are in somewhat that same position
37 this year, is that we are going to engage the Panel, in
38 the US Section to solicit their support in changing or
39 eliminating the guideline harvest level for sockeyes
40 and in the future to see what we could do about
41 addressing the chinook salmon fishery, whether it
42 should be in the same category as a directed gillnet
43 fishery or not. I can't tell you that we will have a
44 concurrence or willingness on their part to change the
45 Treaty. Changing the Treaty is a fairly lengthy and
46 detailed process. There is a movement to have amended
47 Treaty language in place for the 2018 season so there
48 are other aspects regarding conduct of the various
49 fisheries in the region in Alaska as it has to do with
50 the US/Canada process.

1 So I know that there is some tweaking
2 that both the US and the Canadians would like to do in
3 this process and our interest is to engage them in
4 having them change the Treaty to accommodate our needs.

5
6 It's not going to be instant but I
7 think that it's very likely we could have movement on
8 changing the guideline harvest level. There is -- I'm
9 not so certain that changing the characterization of
10 the chinook fishery from a directed fishery to
11 something else is as -- has the same amount of
12 assurance but we'll certainly bring that forward.

13
14 There will be an interest on the part,
15 primarily the Canadians, in conduct of the fishery and
16 we will see proposals during the fisheries cycles
17 regarding net tending, whether or not we need a daily
18 or weekly season, just identifications, just some
19 additional degree of accountability is what they're
20 looking for. How that's going to play out I don't know
21 but I know this time next year that there will be
22 either an opportunity for the Council to produce
23 something or there will be proposals initiated by other
24 entities. I've already heard from the Wrangell
25 Advisory Committee that they have proposals in mind.

26
27 But it'll be on your agenda for next
28 year for action.

29
30 And I think that's our report -- my
31 report. And our plans are to attend the US Section
32 meeting in December and the post season meeting in
33 January. I'm not -- depending on the results of the
34 post season in January will determine whether or not
35 there is proposed action that would require us to
36 attend the annual meeting, which is in February.

37
38 John.

39
40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Robert.
41 Are there any -- before we go any further, any
42 questions for Robert of the Council.

43
44 Cathy, and then Mr. Bangs.

45
46 MS. NEEDHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

47
48 Robert, could you give a brief
49 explanation of the difference between a base level and
50 a directed fishery?

1 MR. LARSON: According to provisions of
2 the Pacific Salmon Treaty there is a mechanism in place
3 that allows a directed gillnet fishery, that's where it
4 was put, for accessing king salmon on the Stikine
5 River. So if there is enough fish in the forecast for
6 escapement, enough fish in the forecast for escapement
7 plus a test fishery that occurs in Canada based on --
8 to recover tags that are put in the United States to do
9 stock assessment, to do test fishery for abundance
10 indexing on the US side to conduct the normal
11 sportsfishery at the mouth of the river and at some
12 distances away, and to accommodate what would be a
13 normal by-catch of Stikine River bound king salmon in
14 both the experimental troll hatchery access fisheries
15 plus the directed sockeye fisheries, at that point if
16 all of those needs are satisfied then if the abundance
17 estimate is greater than that then they could allow for
18 a directed fishery. So it's fisheries that are in
19 addition to those fisheries that were in place at the
20 time the Treaty was written.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Follow up.

25

26 MS. NEEDHAM: So then what is a base
27 level fishery?

28

29 MR. LARSON: The base level fisheries
30 is that component that's composed of the test
31 fisheries, the sportsfishery and the incidental harvest
32 in the hatchery access, experimental and sockeye
33 fisheries.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Any more questions for
36 Robert.

37

38

39

(No comments)

40

41 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Mr.
42 Yeager, you got something to add.

43

44 MR. YEAGER: Mr. Chair. Once again
45 Robert did a fine job of addressing all the highlights
46 here and I don't have anything to add but I do want to
47 say that the importance of Robert at these meetings is
48 very high and greatly appreciated, his professionalism
49 at these meetings.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Well,
2 thank you folks, Robert, John.

3
4 (Pause)

5
6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Let's see, what
7 we need to do now is have Mr. Lorrigan come forth, and
8 he's going to talk a little bit about tribal
9 consultation and then we've got fish proposals coming
10 up and I'm just wondering if after Mr. Lorrigan's
11 presentation if you want to adjourn and pick those
12 proposals up first thing in the morning.

13
14 (Council nods affirmatively)

15
16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, that's what
17 we'll do then.

18
19 MR. LORRIGAN: Good afternoon, Mr.
20 Chairman and Council members.

21
22 I've handed out the consultation
23 briefings for you. We held three consultations, one
24 was August 14th, that was primarily directed at the
25 North Slope and Northwest Arctic regions because they
26 conduct their whale hunting through October so they get
27 their Council meetings out of the way. And most of the
28 proposals that they consulted on were in their area.

29
30 We also had a consultation on September
31 11th that encompassed the rest of the eight regions.

32
33 Out of that the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
34 region requested a separate consultation for September
35 16th because the 11th of September put them at the very
36 tail end of their moose hunt for that region so they
37 requested a separate one.

38
39 So we have three consultations that are
40 before you.

41
42 Out of those consultations we didn't
43 have any callers from Southeast tribes call in on any
44 of the proposals before you today, or tomorrow. But we
45 did have some tribe and corporation comments on rural.
46 So my question to the Council is, do you want me to
47 address the rural comments from these consultations or
48 how -- what is your pleasure?

49
50 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Just go ahead and do

1 that.

2

3

MR. LORRIGAN: Okay.

4

5

6

I'll start with the August 14th consultations on rural and more or less just read them into the record for posterity.

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Tribal consultation started on the 14th and we did the tribes in the morning and the corporations in the afternoon. So the tribal comments for the 14th, OSM gave an overview of what the Board is looking for in terms of public comment on rural determination criteria.

So some of the comments were there needs to be a rule that allows tribal folks to return to their villages to gather subsistence foods, economic factors drive them to the cities but they still need to access their traditional foods; there should be a Native priority. OSM Staff stated that had to come from the Congress. The Board is only able to address the criteria for the determinations. They will then send the recommendations on to the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture for their action or no action. AFN could help champion this action.

The Kenaitze area has hardships with the nonrural status as it proves difficult for them to subsist. They have had to apply for Federal and State grants to assist their constituency in getting by. They'll have a stronger position at the September 11th consultation when other tribal members from that tribe are able to attend.

These were basically comments that came up during these consultations so they're kind of word for word more or less.

There was concern about the 2,500 threshold, that unless a community is connected to a road system they should remain rural. There was discussion about Native preference would have to go before Congress, population numbers should be modified.

One caller requested that the ties to population be eliminated and go with other characteristics to define rural. Feels the population numbers are an arbitrary means of determination.

1 Another caller requested a Native
2 preference for subsistence needs but that, again, has
3 to go through Congress.

4
5 Another caller stated that ANILCA only
6 defines or mentions rural, not nonrural, why is this
7 part of the dialogue.

8
9 The Kenaitze Tribe stated they had
10 conducted their own needs assessment which helped them
11 define subsistence use, schooling, employment and
12 medical needs. This can be used to help the Board make
13 a recommendation. Federal Subsistence Board members
14 Sue Masica was interested in this information. The
15 Board could use information that shows how different
16 the Kenaitze are from the rest of the Kenai population.

17
18 That was a summary of the tribal
19 comments on that consultation. We'll move into the
20 corporate.

21
22 You've probably already found it but
23 I'm on the tribal and ANCSA consultations for August
24 14th. The second to the last page.

25
26 Three corporations called in but
27 provided no comments on the proposals. Two tribes were
28 represented on the call. Again, OSM provided an
29 overview of the rural determination criteria comment
30 request.

31
32 We had one village that called in after
33 the tribal consultations and they wanted to -- they had
34 interest in developing a special action for the moose
35 hunting their area near Nuiqsut so we tried to direct
36 them to where they needed to go to get that done.

37
38 There wasn't a lot spoken to from the
39 corporation side on that consultation.

40
41 So moving on to the September 11th
42 consultations.

43
44 Again, most of the proposals that were
45 spoken to are proposals that this Council probably has
46 no interest in. Tribal comments begin on the bottom of
47 the page.

48
49 The Kenaitze Tribe proposed an
50 exemption to the rural determination process to exempt

1 all tribal people, all tribes from the rural
2 determination process. Tribal people have been denied
3 fishing opportunity which threatens the very heart of
4 who they are and their right to their DNA which shows
5 fish consumption of Alaska's tribal people throughout
6 their history. The rural determination process focuses
7 on customary and traditional as a geographic area
8 specific idea. This is flawed logic. Customary and
9 traditional people and their customary and traditional
10 uses should be considered rather than the geographic
11 boundaries.

12

13 Kodiak had a question about the entire
14 timeline of the process. At what point will the
15 Federal Subsistence Board decide what they're going to
16 recommend to the Secretaries.

17

18 What's next.

19

20 OSM will analyze the comments and
21 present a briefing to the Federal Subsistence Board,
22 the Board may choose to make a recommendation by the
23 summer of 2014. At that point there will be another
24 opportunity for public comment. There's a five year
25 window to complete this process concluding in 2017.

26

27 Kodiak also stated that other
28 departments of the government have looked into the
29 definition of rural. A number of provisions have
30 allowed for rural enclaves within the area of the Grand
31 Canyon as an example. That concept should be further
32 explored.

33

34 The Knik Tribe wanted to clarify that
35 we were talking about 50 CFR 1.5 so we need to focus on
36 that. Supports Kenaitze's comments and would like to
37 add a component to take into consideration the US
38 Census map, Alaska Native Village areas which extend
39 beyond the standard 50 mile radius per Executive Order
40 -- and this is per Executive Order 13175. These need
41 to be exempt from the rural determination process.

42

43 Kenaitze commented and supported the
44 previous caller's comment asking for a Native exemption
45 for rural status, and it's imperative.

46

47 Kawerak Corporation commented on rural
48 determination. The Seward Peninsula Regional Advisory
49 Council meeting's in Nome on October 8th and 9th and
50 they were asking for an invite for them to attend.

1 And, secondly, Nome and Teller
2 communities should not be connected in the rural
3 determination process. Just because these communities
4 are connected by road they should not be combined for
5 the purposes of rural determination.

6
7 Then we moved into the corporation
8 comments for the same.

9
10 We had Sealaska from Southeast who
11 attended in person and on the phone.

12
13 A caller from Sealaska urged the
14 Federal Board to immediately act to reinstate Saxman as
15 a rural community and other similar communities. This
16 would have no administrative impact and it would
17 eliminate the need and expense for Saxman to challenge
18 through litigation. Population threshold is not the
19 only way to determine status. The Board needs to take
20 a look at the cultural practices and social system that
21 integrated these communities. Also look at the
22 spiritual and religious ties between these communities.
23 Finally, the Board needs to look at the sharing of
24 subsistence resources with the community. A number of
25 papers have been developed on this at AFN and they can
26 be forwarded. Another Board member from Sealaska added
27 that it is truly felt that the Native ways of life are
28 threatened. The subsistence priority should be
29 extended from rural to Native, it's an important
30 defining characteristic of who we are. The Board needs
31 to look at the cultural characteristics of a community
32 including the use of fish and wildlife resources and
33 how central that is to the culture. Saxman, for
34 example, has been negatively impacted merely by being
35 near Ketchikan. The impact this could have on other
36 communities is very concerning. The current threshold
37 numbers seem arbitrary, maybe 11,000 is a better
38 number. Aggregation of communities, criteria makes it
39 difficult to think we're looking at high school
40 attendance to determine rural status. Many villages
41 cannot support a school. Transportation networks are
42 not a good determinate as well. Social, political and
43 community characteristics are better indicators. Also
44 the role of Federally-recognized tribe would also be a
45 superior indicator.

46
47 That italicized text is OSM response.

48
49 Tribes and corporations are urged to be
50 in touch with their congressional representatives as

1 the Board doesn't have the authority to make decisions
2 on rural plus Native -- versus rural plus Native.

3

4 Sealaska added that this is of growing
5 importance since rural people are moving to urban areas
6 at a growing rate making this all the more important.
7 Sealaska also asked the question about commuting
8 information which is no longer available. Is the Board
9 still going to use it and how. There are too many
10 people commuting in Alaska, by plane, by boat daily or
11 weekly for this to be a good indicator.

12

13 AHTNA Incorporation asked specific
14 clarifying questions about rural determination.

15

16 OSM responded that the data collected
17 in 2000 wasn't completed analyzed and made available
18 until 2007 -- what'd I say 2000 -- the census long form
19 is no longer used so we don't get the information on
20 commuting, for example.

21

22 AHTNA also asked that the communities
23 that are currently rural would stay rural by default.

24

25 OSM responded that the meeting process
26 would be applied everywhere but the process is wide
27 open and there is a need to collect as many good ideas
28 as possible. OSM will work to have the pertinent
29 information on rural determination prominently
30 displayed on the OSM website.

31

32 AHTNA followed up with a question about
33 rural plus Native and the idea that Native people
34 should go to the congressional delegation. What about
35 tribes. Can tribal status and infrastructure data be
36 provided and used to help determine between rural and
37 nonrural. Is that legally allowed when the
38 determinations are for rural and non-Native.

39

40 OSM stated there is nothing that
41 precludes tribes from providing that information. A
42 community needs assessment would provide helpful
43 information. A rural plus Native status would have to
44 be enacted by Congress. However, the Board has
45 authority to determine the criteria for rural, rural is
46 not defined in ANILCA so definitions need to be
47 developed. There is nothing to preclude tribes from
48 helping the Board with that definition.

49

50 And that pretty much wrapped up that

1 call.

2

3 And then the consultation on the 16th
4 was a combined tribe and corporation called as agreed
5 to by the participants. I'll go into rural
6 determination since both groups were on the phone.

7

8 The Alaska -- the Association of
9 Village Council Presidents, AVCP, read into the record
10 a letter they had sent to the Federal Subsistence Board
11 Chairman, Mr. Tim Towarak, which reads as follows:

12

13 The Association of Village Council
14 Presidents submits the following comments on the rural
15 determination.

16

17 On the population thresholds, rural
18 characteristics, aggregation of communities, timelines
19 and information sources. AVCP does not support the
20 population thresholds, rural characteristics,
21 aggregation of communities, timelines and information
22 sources based on prohibitions from hunting, fishing and
23 gathering our food resources. The fact that a
24 community's populations may have reached any threshold
25 doesn't make our people any less Alaska Native. Our
26 physical, economic, spiritual and nutritional and
27 social dependence on our resources is inherent from our
28 ancestors that derives sustenance from the resources
29 our land provides. Our physical bodies, cultures,
30 traditions and spiritual beliefs have evolved through
31 the millennia to where it is today. Without our
32 traditional food we rely on for sustenance, our
33 physical bodies, our culture, our traditions, and our
34 spiritual beliefs began to die. This is regardless of
35 where you live, which includes population thresholds,
36 rural characteristics, aggregation of communities.

37

38 What AVCP does support is the Alaska
39 Native priority with international declarations on the
40 rights of indigenous people.

41

42 And we thank you for allowing us to
43 submit our comments.

44

45 Signed by the Senior President.

46

47 The Village of Napaskiak requested to
48 be exempt from any rural determination. The Village of
49 Napaskiak also supported this stance.

50

1 A representative from the Bethel Native
2 Corporation stated that most local villages that are
3 close to each other don't want to be grouped together
4 in a rural determination scenario. They requested that
5 representatives from the Federal Program speak to the
6 State on behalf of rural communities on the current
7 rural determinations. The representative from the
8 corporation also requested that the new minimum number
9 for population threshold be changed from 7,000 to
10 12,000.

11
12 Some of the callers stated that
13 subsistence mattered no matter where they lived or how
14 much money they earned; it's an essential part of being
15 who they are.

16
17 One caller stated that Napakiak,
18 Oscarville, and Napasikiak had no restaurants and they
19 relied on subsistence foods for sustenance.

20
21 A caller from Andrefesky commented that
22 subsistence resources are affected by the size of the
23 community relying on them plus those harvesters from
24 outside areas. They commented that population
25 thresholds may be useful. The caller supported those
26 tribal rights stance.

27
28 A representative from the corporation
29 was in favor of the 10 year review, they also
30 recommended using the State of Alaska subsistence food
31 survey and using the 150 pounds per person per year as
32 a minimum threshold for the subsistence food amount
33 necessary.

34
35 A St. Mary's representative commented
36 that the smaller communities along the river are
37 probably safe from rural determination -- from a rural
38 determination finding but Bethel could get large enough
39 that it would be an issue.

40
41 Another caller wanted to see more law
42 enforcement in their area from the outside hunters.

43
44 And then finally one caller was
45 unconvinced that a subsistence priority was in practice
46 as they are seeing subsistence uses closed and sports
47 hunters are still active.

48
49 The call ended at noon.
50

1 And that was the sum of the
2 consultations we had this past month.

3
4 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Council members, do
5 you have any questions for Jack.

6
7
8 (No comments)

9
10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Any questions on the
11 first report he gave on ANCSA corporation consultation
12 for North Slope and so forth.

13
14 Tim, go ahead.

15
16 MR. ACKERMAN: Yeah, it's a pretty
17 interesting information gathering here on this.

18
19 One of the folks up where I am from,
20 Haines, had a pretty interesting comment, to me, that
21 he likened it to the \$400,000 subsistence harvest hunt
22 where the.....

23
24 (Teleconference interruption)

25
26 (Laughter)

27
28 MR. ACKERMAN: Yeah, anyhow, this guy
29 asked me to define a subsistence hunt because he just
30 uses his truck and walks around in the forest and the
31 swamps looking for moose and stuff versus the guy that
32 flies the \$100,000 SuperCub and drives the \$50,000 Ford
33 truck with a \$50,000 airboat, and they're calling that
34 subsistence or it would fall under personal use,
35 there's numerous things there. But it all becomes an
36 economic factor and an economic advantage in some of
37 the things they're describing and such. They're
38 targeting one more so than the other.

39
40 But, yeah, very interesting. I thought
41 I'd share that with -- he wanted a real good definition
42 on the State subsistence versus, you know, the non-
43 subsistence users. So very interesting, thanks.

44
45 Thank you.

46
47 MR. LORRIGAN: Thank you.

48
49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Anyone
50 else.

1 Cathy.
2
3 MS. NEEDHAM: Just a quick question.
4 Jack, are there any other tribal consultation or ANCSA
5 consultations that you think will occur between now and
6 the November 1 deadline on rural determination?
7
8 MR. LORRIGAN: No. This is all we had
9 scheduled unless a tribe or somebody requests a
10 consultation and then we'll try to get one together
11 but, I don't think so.
12
13 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: How are we doing,
14 anyone else.
15
16 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.
17
18 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Patty.
19
20 MS. PHILLIPS: Did any of the tribes or
21 corporations ask for assistance in putting together
22 comments for the hearing, rural determination hearings?
23
24 MR. LORRIGAN: No, not on this.
25
26 The only thing they requested was that
27 special action on the proposal.
28
29 Mr. Chairman.
30
31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Anyone else.
32
33
34 (No comments)
35
36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. So we'll go
37 ahead and recess until tomorrow. Do you want to start
38 at the same time, 9:00 o'clock -- how about 10:00.
39
40 (Laughter)
41
42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Do you think we can
43 handle 9:00?
44
45 MR. LARSON: 9:00 o'clock should be
46 okay.
47
48 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, go ahead.
49
50 MR. JACKSON: Mr. Chairman. Are we

1 allowed to leave our packets here since we're having a
2 meeting at 7:00 tonight?

3

4 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I think there's going
5 to be that event taking place here today so I assume
6 that we have to take it out; am I correct, Mr. Larson?

7

8 MR. LARSON: I'm not 100 percent sure
9 how this is going to play out tonight. I would
10 recommend we pick up our own stuff and keep it with us
11 and safe and we can have it available to us tomorrow
12 morning.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: How about you, Tina,
17 are you going to have to clean up your mess over there.

18

19 (Laughter)

20

21 REPORTER: No.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: No.

24

25 REPORTER: I'm going to be here all
26 night, maybe.....

27

28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

29

30 (Laughter)

31

32 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. So with that
33 we'll just come back here at 9:00 o'clock tomorrow,
34 9:00 a.m.

35

36 Okay.

37

38 MR. DOUVILLE: What time tonight?

39

40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes.

41

42 VICE CHAIR BANGS: What time do we come
43 back tonight or are we supposed to be here tonight?

44

45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh, I think it starts
46 at 7:00.

47

48 MS. PHILLIPS: Do we have to be here?

49

50 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh, I don't know, I'm

1 not sure. Let me ask Robert a question here.

2

3 (Pause)

4

5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, I suppose you
6 should be here but, you know, yeah.

7

8 (Off record)

9

10 (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 2 through 145 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the SOUTHEAST FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically on the 24th day of September 2013, at Ketchikan, 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 17th day of October 2013.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 09/16/14