

1 SOUTHEAST ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
3
4 PUBLIC MEETING
5
6 VOLUME IV
7
8 Saxman, Alaska
9 March 2, 2006
10 9:30 o'clock a.m.
11
12
13 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:
14
15 Dolly Garza, Madame Chair
16 Michael Bangs
17 Bertrand Adams
18 Nicholas Davis
19 Michael Douville
20 Donald Hernandez
21 Harvey Kitka
22 Patricia Phillips
23 Richard Stokes
24
25
26 Regional Council Coordinator, Robert Schroeder
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43 Recorded and transcribed by:
44
45 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
46 3522 West 27th Avenue
47 Anchorage, AK 99517
48 907-243-0668
49 jpk@gci.net

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

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Saxman, Alaska - 3/2/2006)

(On record)

MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, I'm calling the meeting back to order.

We had a long stretch in the meeting last night to allow Ketchikan and Saxman residents to testify in regard to the rural/urban divide, so to speak, it did get long and I did people that were here that if they were too tired to wait, if they had other commitments, that they could come and testify today, and I do have one card that is a follow over from last night so I'm going to start with that.

Mr. Tim Eide, Sr.

So this is for testimony regarding Ketchikan or Saxman's rural or urban status, and please state your name for the record.

MR. EIDE: Good morning. My name is Tim Eide, Sr., and I'm from Ketchikan. I'm representing ANB Camp 15, but I'm also -- you know, live in Ketchikan. This is the first time I ever testified for subsistence, I've always wanted to testify, you know, voice my opinion, it's about time I take a stand here and say what I feel. And, you know, you've probably heard a lot of the testimonies last night and a lot of them were the same, you know.

With me, I rely on all the seafood, you know, is the basic of my diet. I do a lot of cooking for elders and stuff and a lot of the -- I rely on all the halibut. You heard it last night and, you know, the same story goes with me but, you know, I would like to see Ketchikan be rural because, you know, long before -- long after I pass on, my children, my grandchildren I want to let them do that fishery, be able to fish subsistence. You know it's not about me anymore, it's about my grandchildren. And I know that if I can say something that will pave the way for them that's good, you know, so that they can have like this green card that I have, subsistence, what good is it if it's -- it's just a piece of plastic if you can't make it rural, I don't know.

1 I just, my opinion is I'd like to see
2 my children to be able to, my grandchildren to be able
3 to subsistence fish and I teach them, you know, they're
4 only little yet but still, you know, we got to keep
5 this going.

6
7 I remember one time, my uncle, when he
8 was alive, Judson Brown, he spoke on subsistence and he
9 told me one time, he said they ought to shut down all
10 the fisheries and let them replenish the stocks and
11 they never did it and so now the stocks are dwindling
12 and, you know, I don't know -- I don't know why I had
13 to say that but I just had to share that. But, you
14 know, this is the first time I ever got to say
15 something about how I feel about the fishery, about
16 subsistence, you know. As long as I can remember, you
17 know, my mom would take us down to the beach pick
18 seaweed, dig clams, you know, and this is the way of
19 life that I was raised and we got to keep it alive for
20 our grandchildren. I can't say enough about my
21 grandchildren, you know, I've got two granddaughters
22 that are one and, you know, I think that's what it's
23 all about is so that this subsistence can keep going,
24 you know, anyway that's what I had to share.

25
26 Thank you. Gunalcheesh.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. I have a
29 couple of questions that we sort of asked people to
30 address, if they could.

31
32 Are you a subsistence user?

33
34 MR. EIDE: Yes, I am.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Do you consider
37 Ketchikan to be a rural community?

38
39 MR. EIDE: Yes, I do.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Saxman.

42
43 MR. EIDE: Yes.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Do you support the
46 request that there be a Federal Subsistence Board hold
47 a public hearing in Ketchikan or Saxman prior to their
48 decision?

49
50 MR. EIDE: Yes, I do.

1 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. Do you
2 believe that the population of 7,000 as the cutoff
3 point is reasonable in determining if a community is
4 rural or urban?

5
6 MR. EIDE: I think it -- no.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. And the old
9 estimate of how much the average person in Ketchikan
10 consumes in terms of wild foods is 31 pounds per
11 person, do you think that number reflects what
12 Ketchikan people use per year?

13
14 MR. EIDE: I think it's more. I mean 31
15 pounds, that's hardly anything, you know. It should be
16 -- you know, getting back to our ancestors, they never
17 -- they only took what they needed. I mean I learned
18 from my elders, you know, take what you can and leave
19 the rest for other people, you know, not to over do it,
20 but so when I say the 31 pounds, that's not even --
21 that's nothing, it's nothing. I mean it should be
22 more, you know, that way for the elders that can't go
23 out and get it, you know, get it for them, you know.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, thank you
26 very much.

27
28 MR. EIDE: Thank you.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: And thank you for
31 being patient last night and coming forward this
32 morning.

33
34 MR. EIDE: Gunalcheesh, thank you.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Dr. Schroeder.

37
38 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. The
39 Council's worked really, really hard in this meeting so
40 far. I think we've moved ahead very efficiently on the
41 proposals before us and had the long session on the
42 public testimony on the rural issue.

43
44 I will point out that there are quite a
45 few issues and quite a few Council decisions that need
46 to be made. We have a pretty full agenda in front of
47 us. Both the items that are shown in the book on Pages
48 2 and 3, so we have important reports that are coming
49 your way from different agencies. My own side list, I
50 made a side list with Chairman Littlefield when we

1 opened the meeting on items that we would need to
2 address.

3
4 And just to give you a notion of what
5 those things are so you have an idea of the work before
6 you I'd like to go through that list.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Go ahead.

9
10 DR. SCHROEDER: One item, we need to
11 deal with our petition to the Secretaries concerning
12 hunting licenses.

13
14 Second, we have a number of fisheries
15 proposals that may wish to be submitted, and that will
16 be one of our items a little bit later this morning.

17
18 Dr. Garza requested recommendations
19 from the Council for representation on Pacific Salmon
20 Treaty.

21
22 Member Bangs would like to bring up
23 issues concerning the Kuiu timber sale.

24
25 A little bit later this morning we'll
26 have discussion of Unuk River eulachon.

27
28 We heard lengthy testimony, there may
29 be a need for an updated letter to Board concerning the
30 Council's position on rural.

31
32 I need input from Council members to
33 prepare the annual report to the Secretaries. We have
34 some items but those need to be finalized.

35
36 And a very important item is the
37 discussion of subsistence use amounts, which is on your
38 agenda on the top of Page 3 but that may take a
39 substantial amount of time.

40
41 And last but not least, we do need a
42 meeting place for our winter meeting next year.

43
44 So lest you think that all the work's
45 done, there's quite a bit to accomplish in this
46 meeting.

47
48 Thank you.

49
50 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. We have two

1 more in the public and Franklin, I think, wanted to
2 testify on fisheries and he has an appointment at 11:00
3 so I'm going to move over to him and I think Ron sat
4 here patiently last night and had to leave and so he
5 needs to testify and we're going to go ahead with him
6 as well.

7
8 We will be addressing fisheries in
9 terms of research projects and potential regulation
10 changes to the Board of Fish or to our own process
11 later, but Mr. James has a doctor's appointment and so
12 he's going to be testifying and then heading out to
13 that.

14
15 And then Mr. James before you start we
16 have something personal that we need to address.

17
18 Okay, I think everybody here has heard,
19 but if you have not, John Littlefield's mother did walk
20 into the forest this morning so it's good to know he
21 was able to leave and be with his mother and his family
22 and that they were together, and it's unfortunate that
23 we lost his mother because she was a very important
24 person in Sitka but I would like Bert Adams, if he
25 could say something.

26
27 Mr. Adams.

28
29 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Madame Chairman.
30 I think we're all glad, you know, that John was able to
31 be with his mother at this time. We could see, you
32 know, that he was very much bothered by her illness and
33 the possibility that she would be walking into the
34 forest real soon and so I'm sure that his presence with
35 her has not only been a comfort to him but also for his
36 family.

37
38 And if it'd be appropriate, Madame
39 Chairman, I'd just like to offer a prayer on their
40 behalf.

41
42 Our Father in Heaven, Creator of all
43 things, we bow our heads at this time
44 to give thee thanks for the gift of
45 life, for the many opportunities as we
46 as thy children have to be of service
47 to our fellow man and for the
48 opportunities that we have to witness
49 the great and wonderful things that are
50 happening in this world today.

1 We would ask thee to please comfort our
2 brother, John Littlefield and his
3 family, and that thou would give him
4 the peace and comfort that they need at
5 this time at the passing of his mother.
6

7 We're grateful that such people are
8 able to dwell here upon this earth to
9 live such a long life, a long
10 productive life, and to make their
11 contribution to our well-being and to
12 the well-being of our future
13 generations.
14

15 We pray now for a special blessing to
16 be upon him knowing full well that she
17 is in a place where she has been
18 reunited with those who have gone
19 before her, her family, her friends,
20 and that there is rejoicing on the
21 other side as well for that passing.
22

23 We pray for thy blessings to continue
24 to abide with them and that thy spirit
25 will comfort them in this time of
26 sorrow and mourning but also in
27 rejoicing in the fact that their mother
28 is with her loved ones on the other
29 side of the veil.
30

31 And for these blessings we do humbly
32 ask and pray for them that they shall
33 come to pass.
34

35 In the name of thy son Jesus Christ.
36

37 Amen.
38

39 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Thank you, Bert.
40

41 Mr. James.
42

43 MR. JAMES: Thank you, Madame Chair,
44 Council members for giving me a chance to make this
45 proposal ahead of time because I do have an appointment
46 at 11:00.
47

48 First I'd like to send my condolences
49 from Cape Fox Corporation and from the (In Native) to
50 John Littlefield and his family.

1 You know, I'm going to try and keep
2 this real short. As you guys know the boundary lines
3 for Ketchikan is really bad. They send us so far out,
4 we have to fish a mile off of Gravina, a mile off of
5 McCarty and it goes a mile off of Guard Island to
6 Karina Point (ph) and it's all closed, and it's roughly
7 a mile off of Bold Island, a mile off of going down the
8 shore going all the way down to Alba straight across,
9 this inside closed so we only got a little spit
10 towards, you know, outside of Lucky Cove. And if you
11 don't have a GPS it's kind of hard to find, in fact
12 I've got some gear laying out there I think it went
13 over the edge. And it's bad in the winter time for us
14 to fish and you ship us outside of Gravina, you're
15 shipping us into 100 some fathoms of water. I've been
16 a commercial fishermen for over 50 years, a skipper on
17 halibut fishing for over 40, from the Aleutian Islands
18 all the way down. And you try to haul gear up by hand,
19 especially me now been disabled, and try to haul
20 something like that 100 fathoms, you try to haul it up
21 even 40 fathoms and it takes its toll on you.

22
23 So what I'm requesting and I thought I
24 gave you guys, I thought I made 15 copies and I didn't
25 and I'm just going to read it. I got this from the
26 Federal after testifying in Anchorage, you know, they
27 shipped me -- asked me would I like to see any changes,
28 just one simple one and I think it's liveable.

29
30 In subsistence halibut fishing near and
31 around Ketchikan, I am requesting that two laws be
32 changed on halibut subsistence fishing regulations,
33 halibut boundaries. During the months from April 1st
34 to September 30th, keep the same regulation as written.
35 From the 1st of October to March 31st open all waters
36 using halibut gear for halibut subsistence.

37
38 My reasons why, in the winter we have
39 such short days and the weather is so bad we cannot
40 travel very far as it is dangerous for our small boats.

41
42 During the halibut subsistence fishery
43 from October 1st -- or the 1st of October to the
44 September 30th, take the 30 hook limit off. If there
45 are two people on the boat the limit should be 60
46 hooks, if there are three people on the boat the limit
47 should be 90 hooks. Here are my reasons why. There
48 are not many halibut that stay in the shallows, they
49 always move to the deep waters in the winter months.
50 The daylight hours are so short you can never make two

1 sets in one day, it's impossible and you're wasting
2 your time. The gas prices are estimated to be around
3 \$5 per gallon next year. I've worked with a scientist
4 on energy and he predicted that it would hit up about
5 2.80 before Christmas, no drop, and then she's going to
6 take a deep climb that is probably going to hit 5.50 a
7 gallon by this time next year, maybe even 6 if the
8 trend keeps going and the trend is not going to change.

9
10 The boundaries that are now set are too
11 far from town and most of the places we have to fish
12 are over 100 or more fathoms deep. You know, to me you
13 try to get somebody my age that's been a skipper before
14 some of you guys were born, I started fishing in 1949
15 and I think it's kind of taken its toll especially when
16 we have to go out there and haul in deep waters just to
17 try to get something to eat.

18
19 The way the boundaries are now set they
20 are designed for us not to catch any halibut around
21 Ketchikan in the winter months, which is true. One day
22 there we tried moving our gear three times and I think
23 we caught six small halibut, it's almost cheaper to go
24 to the supermarket and buy it when it costs us \$120 in
25 gas.

26
27 During the winter months using 90 hooks
28 with three people on board the book you'll be lucky to
29 catch five halibut a day. I am requesting to the
30 Federal Subsistence Board to take this proposal under
31 consideration and back me on this proposal. I'm sure
32 in the long run you will save many lives.

33
34 You know, about two weeks ago we were
35 out there a couple times, the stern would go all the
36 way under water and, you know, you're kind of a little
37 bit off shore. I remember when I was young, too times
38 I sunk and I had to swim three and a half miles to
39 shore, and I was just telling them that young fellow,
40 Fred Holtner (ph) and them, they were the ones that
41 rescued us, his teenager and I can't even swim the
42 length of this room. Well, I just got married and I
43 had a lot of life left in me that I didn't want to give
44 up and I made it to the beach and it is wintertime by
45 Skutumchuck (ph). Now, you're getting out in this kind
46 of water, them days the water didn't bother me. Now
47 days even with a wet suit on, I tell you I'm sure I'm
48 going to croak, I can't take that water, so eventually
49 when you grow old you lose a lot of your stuff.

50

1 So I am requesting to the Board that
2 they take this under consideration and push it and I
3 will be sending another one to the Fisheries, they did
4 send me, after talking in Anchorage, and with laws I'd
5 like to see changed, and this is one that I think is
6 very important. I don't think it's going to hurt the
7 fishery anyway. We did this for years all up and down
8 here.

9
10 The reason why I put it at those
11 months, the seining season will be done, trolling will
12 be done, the tour seasons will be done, they won't be
13 in the way of any traffic and I'd like that to be taken
14 under consideration.

15
16 Thank you, Madame Chair, for giving me
17 this time.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Thank you, Mr.
20 James. The Regional Advisory Council addresses
21 subsistence only on Federal lands and in Federal
22 waters, which does not include the ocean. However, we
23 have made comments on the National Marine Fisheries
24 Service Subsistence Halibut Program and I think we
25 could take action by supporting these and submitting
26 them to the National Marine Fisheries Services but it
27 would not go through Federal Subsistence Board. I
28 think these are good ideas and we'll address them
29 later.

30
31 So the two points are to allow
32 subsistence fishing from October 1 through March 31st
33 and to allow an increase in the number of hooks and
34 permits basically on board during that time.

35
36 MR. JAMES: Yes.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, thank you.
39 The next person also sat here very patiently last night
40 and it was pretty full so Mr. Ron Porter, and you're
41 here to speak on rural determination.

42
43 MR. PORTER: Madame Chairman. Members
44 of the Council. Thank you for allowing me to come
45 back, I kind of ran out of gas last night and had to go
46 home.

47
48 I would like to speak briefly to you
49 about the rural determination of Ketchikan and Saxman.
50 I would request that you support -- I know you have,

1 anything you can do to help us. We need some help
2 here.

3
4 I'm assuming it's a situation like this
5 all over the state where you've got smaller communities
6 and bigger communities and this highway thing and I
7 don't understand all what this road thing means. But
8 just to give you for an instance here, I'm a moose
9 hunter, and I have hunted for years on the Unuk River.
10 A couple of years ago this Board felt that there was a
11 -- somebody hadn't been allowed their subsistence for
12 moose meat on the Unuk River so you give the rural
13 designated people a 10 day hunt before the urban people
14 were allowed to hunt. What you ended up having here
15 with the exception of a couple of individuals from
16 Metlakatla, the same group of guys that had hunted up
17 there for years together, now, some of them were rural
18 and some of them were urban. I happen to be in one of
19 the groups that was urban, didn't get to hunt, so now
20 I'm denied the moose meat. But that's just the way this
21 thing is shaking out.

22
23 I don't understand how you can have
24 these two communities being this close together and as
25 being as intertwined as they are not having the same
26 status.

27
28 Some of my friends, some of their
29 family lives here in Saxman, some of that same family
30 lives in Ketchikan. Part of that family that lives in
31 Saxman are rural, the rest of that family that lives in
32 Ketchikan is just urban. Kinik Island is the same
33 thing, the watersfall district is the same.

34
35 I would, speaking personally for
36 myself, I understand what the subsistence lifestyle is.
37 Anybody that lived in Ketchikan from a large family in
38 the 50s and 60s, I assure you we all knew what
39 subsistence living was about. We had wild meats, we
40 had berries, we had fish, depending who your family was
41 you had fried better hotcakes, and that's just kind of
42 what it was.

43
44 We went for years and that was our
45 lifestyle.

46
47 As time progressed we all changed, all
48 of us changed, but I like, and it's very important to
49 me to be able to maintain the lifestyle that I have
50 been born with and grew up with and feel that I

1 deserve, and part of that is -- to have that I need the
2 rural status to continue with what I'm doing.

3

4 Thank you, Ma'am. Anybody got any
5 questions, I'd certainly be more than glad to answer
6 them. But I just wanted to get on the record. There's
7 going to be some other people coming out if they can
8 get off work, can they come tomorrow as well?

9

10 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Yeah, we'll
11 accommodate however we can.

12

13 MR. PORTER: Okay, thank you.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: I do have a couple
16 of questions just for clarification.

17

18 MR. PORTER: Yes, okay.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So you are a
21 subsistence user?

22

23 MR. PORTER: Yes.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: And do you think
26 that the 31 pounds per person per year reflects what
27 Ketchikan people harvest or do you have an idea what
28 you harvest?

29

30 MR. PORTER: Well, 31 pounds is one
31 fish, that's got nothing to do with deer and goats and
32 sheep and berries and seaweed and all these other
33 things that we either go pick ourself or trade somebody
34 for or in some part of the system, furnish the
35 transportation to get somebody there but we end up with
36 it.

37

38 I think that that number is probably
39 several hundred pounds. I can't put a, you know, I can
40 talk about myself, you know, we're big fish eaters at
41 my house, we eat lots of fish, lots of fish. Canned.
42 Smoked. Dried. Whatever. If we have the opportunity
43 we eat wild meats. We like blueberries. I got a friend
44 of mine that you heard from last night, probably makes
45 the best blueberry jam in the whole world and so if I
46 could figure out a way to horse trade him out of some
47 of it I do it.

48

49 I think this 31 pounds per person, I
50 don't' know where that number would come from but I

1 think that number is far from being correct.

2

3 And also this 7,000 people
4 determination as, you know, our force of people in
5 Ketchikan really changes in the summertime. I'm sure
6 some of you who have been here in the summer and took a
7 walk downtown and seen what's going on, when you get
8 done this evening take a walk downtown, you'll see
9 exactly what I'm talking about. This number of people
10 that are here year-round is way down and those are the
11 people that are your subsistence users. You know, we
12 have decided to stay here, pay our taxes and raise our
13 families and attend church and attend the functions and
14 various things, and we're the ones that use the
15 resources. The person that comes here and he has his
16 shop downtown or he's strictly into the tourist trade
17 thing, he's here from about the middle of May to about
18 September and the plywood goes up on the store and he
19 and his family is gone.

20

21 Thank you very much, appreciate the
22 time.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Thank you for
25 coming back, Mr. Porter and thank you for your
26 participation at the Council. We've seen you before
27 and we're glad to have the public here.

28

29 Okay, we're cleaning up little things
30 so Mr. Johnson, as we get ready to go to the Unit 2
31 Subcommittee report recommendations, Mr. Johnson has
32 something to do.

33

34 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Madame Chair.
35 Council. This past year this Council's been involved
36 in a lot of different things relative to subsistence
37 and one of the most important things in my mind has
38 been the Unit 2 Deer Subcommittee process that's taken
39 a lot of time, energy, money, but it's also been a lot
40 of fun and there's been a lot of opportunity for people
41 to get to know one another.

42

43 The Forest Supervisor had hoped to be
44 here this morning and had hoped to be able to present
45 awards of recognition to the subcommittee members but
46 he was unable to be able to attend. Last week the
47 subcommittee met in Craig and each one of the
48 subcommittee that were there received a small token of
49 appreciation from the Forest for their participation
50 and so at this time I'd like to read this particular

1 one, it's for Michael Bangs, and last night I gave A.J.
2 Slagle his certificate and we also have a cedar box
3 made by Lasercraft in Thorne Bay.

4
5 On the box it says:

6
7 Together we can do what we cannot do
8 alone.

9
10 Wooch-een.

11
12 Which I think, again, is pretty evident
13 from what's occurred out of this subcommittee process
14 and back to the council.

15
16 The certificate reads:

17
18 This certificate is presented to
19 Michael Bangs in appreciation of your
20 contribution as a member of the Unit 2
21 Deer Planning Subcommittee of the
22 Southeast Regional Subsistence Advisory
23 Council. The time and effort you
24 contributed during subcommittee
25 meetings in 2004/2006 were essential to
26 the success of this collaborative
27 effort.

28
29 I appreciate your willingness to work
30 with other citizens and agencies in
31 addressing contentious issues on Prince
32 of Wales and surrounding islands in the
33 spirit of Wooch-een, working together.

34
35 Gunalcheesh. Thank you.

36
37 Forrest Cole, Forest Supervisor
38 Tongass National Forest
39 February 22nd, 2006.

40
41 Mr. Bangs, would you come forward and
42 get your award.

43
44 (Applause)

45
46 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Madame Chair.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: See, if you commit
49 a whole year of your life and you go to five meetings
50 and miss a major fisheries and lose at least 10,000

1 bucks for it you get a knife and a plaque.

2

3

(Laughter)

4

5 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: It was a serious
6 commitment on the people who committed to it and one of
7 the comments that we did make in the wrap up of it was
8 it was too long and so if there are other subcommittees
9 created and you end up on one, don't let them make you
10 have five meetings because it's too long.

11

12 Mr. Hernandez.

13

14 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Madame
15 Chair. Yesterday afternoon I gave the Council the
16 report of our final meeting of the subcommittee, and I
17 guess where we left off I concluded the report and at
18 that time I asked for a couple of actions from the
19 Council.

20

21 We are requesting a -- well.....

22

23 First I guess I should say we ask that
24 the Council vote to decide if they want
25 to make this final report a report from
26 the Council to the Board to be added to
27 our initial finding report from July.

28

29 And we also ask that the Council draft
30 a letter going to the Forest Supervisor
31 dealing with rehabilitation of young
32 growth forests.

33

34 And the third request was a request for
35 regulatory proposal action to be
36 directed to the enforcement division to
37 craft a proposal dealing with spot-
38 lighting of deer.

39

40 So maybe at this time, we didn't have a
41 chance to answer questions yesterday afternoon so if
42 anybody has any questions regarding the subcommittee
43 actions and this report, I guess this would be the time
44 for that.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, so just a
47 couple clarifying. The recommendations that are being
48 brought forward are on the short handout that Mr.
49 Hernandez distributed yesterday.

50

1 Unit 2 Deer Planning Subcommittee dated
2 February 22nd to 23rd. There were some changes in that
3 packet of recommendations that were clarified from our
4 previous report that was submitted that was finalized
5 in June of 2005. It was brought forward to the
6 Regional Advisory Council at our Wrangell meeting at
7 which time it was accepted as a report but not adopted
8 or endorsed. And so we need to figure out if we're
9 going to support the recommendations and in a nutshell
10 they are the ones that were brought forward in the
11 shorter packet from yesterday.

12
13 MR. SCHROEDER: Yes, Madame Chair. At
14 the subcommittee meeting, the subcommittee went over
15 all the action items, which there were additional
16 action items in addition to the ones that Member
17 Hernandez has outlined in his report on the final
18 meeting of the subcommittee.

19
20 The request of the subcommittee was
21 that these changes in action items be incorporated in
22 an updated final report which then the Council would
23 act on to make that report a Council report.

24
25 The two items that Don identified for
26 action, so before you took action to make this a final
27 report, there are two items that would appropriately be
28 acted on before you take that next step and the one has
29 to do with the letter concerning second growth, and so
30 it might be good to talk about that separately and then
31 to talk about the spot-lighting proposal, and then
32 finally to act on the whole package.

33
34 Should the Council approve these
35 changes and accept the final report as its report, that
36 report would then be appropriately forwarded to the
37 Federal Subsistence Board as a Council document. It
38 would no longer be the subcommittee report but it would
39 be the report of the Southeast Regional Advisory
40 Council.

41
42 Madame Chair.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Thank you. And I
45 think two other points that we need to discuss. On the
46 original set of recommendations, Action 7 is what's
47 sort of been thrown at our face over the last two days,
48 that over the next three to five years that there be no
49 substantial changes to the current status of
50 regulation. And that has been used to say that we

1 should take no action on the proposals that have been
2 brought before us and we need to, I think, take that up
3 and make it clear whether or not we, as a Council think
4 we should be responding to the proposals or we should
5 agree to that Action 7 and take no action, otherwise it
6 will go forward that that action, Action 7 should, in
7 fact, be dictating our action as a Council. So I want
8 to add that.

9

10 But we'll start with Mr. Hernandez.

11

12 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Madame
13 Chair. So if we want to discuss the requested letter
14 dealing with the young growth forest, just to review
15 the Thorne Bay and Craig Ranger Districts have put
16 together a plan which they would like to see
17 implemented that would start the process of thinning
18 second growth with more emphasis towards wildlife
19 benefit and also part of the emphasis on that project
20 is to make sure that these thinning projects would
21 benefit also the people, the hunters that are using the
22 area. So it's kind of a two-pronged approach there;
23 benefits to wildlife and also benefits to the users of
24 the wildlife.

25

26 The next step is to acquire funding to
27 make sure that this happens. So it was requested of
28 the Council that we write a letter to Forest Supervisor
29 that would ask that additional funding be made
30 available for wildlife habitat improvement in these
31 thinning projects.

32

33 So that's what we're requesting.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, go ahead
36 Don.

37

38 MR. HERNANDEZ: So I guess at this time
39 it would be appropriate for me to make the motion that
40 the Council draft a letter in regards to rehabilitation
41 of young growth forest and acquiring the necessary
42 funding. I guess the way this would work, if you would
43 take this action then a group could work with the Staff
44 and develop the wording for that letter that would be
45 sent.

46

47 MR. STOKES: I'll second your motion.

48

49 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you.

50

1 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. Just as
2 background on this, the Council set off a very
3 effective letter concerning second growth on
4 management, which is basically management of clear-cut
5 areas for wildlife. I think it was after our last
6 winter meeting. And that helped stimulate action on
7 the part of Forest Service to address this problem.

8
9 This letter requested by the
10 subcommittee is basically a follow up on our earlier
11 letter and could include the information that's
12 provided under Action Item 9, which is updated
13 information from what we had available at that time,
14 and also to provide explicit support for Hecata Island
15 project which will commence and really could use
16 support from the Council.

17
18 Thank you.

19
20 MS. PHILLIPS: Question.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Question has been
23 called. All in favor of the motion of writing the
24 letter of support for forest management practices for
25 young second growth signify by saying aye.

26
27 IN UNISON: Aye.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Opposed.

30
31 (No opposing votes)

32
33 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Motion passes.

34 Mr. Bangs.

35
36 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Madame Chairman.
37 Just for the thoughts of the Council on this, I talked
38 with our District Ranger in Petersburg there and we
39 were discussing the Hecata Island project and she said
40 they were moving forward with it and there was a
41 lawsuit against the project by the Sierra Club. And
42 I'm wondering if it would be appropriate for the
43 Council to look into that more and maybe send a letter
44 of concern to the Sierra Club as, you know, our purpose
45 behind supporting things like this to increase habitat
46 for wildlife.

47
48 Maybe they don't understand or follow
49 the intentions of the Forest Service on this, but I was
50 pretty shocked that here we are trying to improve

1 habitat and we're being held up.

2

3

Thank you.

4

5

MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Dr. Schroeder.

6

7

MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. I have
8 no information on the opposition to this action by the
9 Sierra Club and it would be something that we should
10 bring before the Council as it -- if there is such an
11 action and if the Council were able to review the
12 substance of that, then we'd be able to respond.

13

14 It may be difficult to respond at this
15 time without further information.

16

17

If I could bring up another matter.

18

19

MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Go ahead.

20

21

DR. SCHROEDER: Council practice in
22 these cases is when there is a good record for what the
23 Council wants Staff works with volunteer Council
24 members, generally the Chair and one other Council
25 member to review any letter that goes out so if we
26 could specify who would take that task on then we'll
27 get it done.

28

29

MR. BANGS: Madame Chair.

30

31

MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Bangs.

32

33

MR. BANGS: I would volunteer to
34 research this problem a little bit more and try to
35 bring some information before the Council.

36

37

MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So if the intent
38 is to improve the forest for deer habitat then we'll
39 include that as part of the last motion so that it
40 could be included that we would write two letters
41 regarding habitat and Hecata, I think that would do it.

42

43

DR. SCHROEDER: Let me respond.

44

45

MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Dr. Schroeder.

46

47

MR. SCHROEDER: Maybe I was confusing
48 the matter here. In terms of the letter under Action
49 Item 9, I'd like Council members identified to review
50 that letter, perhaps, it just occurred to me, Mike,

1 that we could CC that letter to Sierra Club, if that
2 was appropriate, if you found information or send a
3 copy of our letter of support, if you thought that was
4 appropriate, but we do need Council members identified
5 at this point.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Are you
8 volunteering or do you want to talk?

9
10 MR. BANGS: I'll volunteer.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, so the two
13 Council members are Mr. Hernandez and Mr. Bangs.

14
15 Next item. Mr. Hernandez.

16
17 MR. HERNANDEZ: The next item, Madame
18 Chair, would be addressing the subcommittee's Action
19 No. 16, which deals with Federal and State regulations,
20 changing the spot-lighting regulations for Unit 2.

21
22 This was brought to the attention of
23 the subcommittee again at our Craig meeting, spot-
24 lighting is still a concern of local residents in Unit
25 2. At our Wildlife meeting last year in Wrangell, the
26 Council talked about this problem and was not able to
27 come to any consensus on what type of regulation would
28 suit the Council's pleasure there to be passed on as a
29 proposal.

30
31 So the subcommittee, recognizing that
32 it still is a concern that hasn't been dealt with and
33 talking to the Enforcement Division who was at our
34 Craig meeting, we asked them if they thought that they
35 might be able to come up with wording for such a
36 proposal. If the Council would like to proceed any
37 further, we would need action from the Council
38 requesting that enforcement deal with this issue. If
39 the Council would not like to see this go any further
40 then you should direct us in that way also.

41
42 So that's the action that we're asking
43 from the Council in this matter.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Just as a little
46 bit of background. I know that in the past we have
47 looked at the issue of spot-lighting and at one time
48 there was a proposal before the Board of Game and we
49 thought that if that proposal passed through the Board
50 of Game that it would address our concerns on Prince of

1 Wales. But it's our understanding that what came out
2 of the Board of Game is pretty watered down compared to
3 what went into the Board of Game and it didn't actually
4 do what we had hoped it would do.

5
6 We did spend some time with enforcement
7 at two meetings, at least, trying to figure out what
8 kind of language can we create that would fix the
9 problem. Realizing that the types of enforcement that
10 may be used outside may work better because of their
11 geography, because of their day light patterns, because
12 of other things that don't really apply to Alaska, so
13 what we did ask whether or not enforcement could
14 develop a draft proposal that we would look at and they
15 have agreed to do that. It's not available at this
16 meeting but it would be submitted in the next cycle.

17
18 Mr. Douville.

19
20 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
21 There's a thing that is mentioned once or twice here
22 and that's, you know, and it's been stated a couple
23 different ways like initially I heard it as no radical
24 change for the next three to five years. And we acted
25 on a couple of proposals which are changed, I don't
26 consider them radical at all. I don't want to go away
27 from here leaving the impression that it's not healthy
28 to submit a proposal by anybody. Those continue to be
29 important and I don't like the word, radical change. I
30 think there's always some room for fine-tuning, and I
31 encourage that sort of thing. Although, you know, I
32 sat on this subcommittee and I may have missed a
33 meeting where this was discussed, it was hard to get
34 everybody there every time and it's just a part of my
35 thought process and I didn't want that wording to in
36 any way discourage the action we've taken on proposals
37 in this meeting.

38
39 You understand what I'm saying?

40
41 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: (Nods
42 affirmatively)

43
44 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Right. And that
47 was the concern I brought up with recommendation seven
48 and I'd like to come back to that. But for the spot-
49 lighting do we need action or are we going to be happy
50 that enforcement will bring something forward.

1 Mr. Hernandez.
2
3 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Madame
4 Chair. Perhaps I ought to put it in the form of a
5 motion so it's on the table and we'll make a decision.
6
7 So I would move that the Council direct
8 Enforcement Division.....
9
10 DR. SCHROEDER: Request.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Request.
13
14 MR. HERNANDEZ: That the Council
15 request the Enforcement Division to craft a proposal
16 dealing with spot-lighting of deer in Unit 2.
17
18 MR. STOKES: Second.
19
20 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: I'm going to ask
21 for the question.
22
23 MS. PHILLIPS: Question.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Question has been
26 called. All in favor of the motion signify by saying
27 aye.
28
29 IN UNISON: Aye.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Opposed.
32
33 (No opposing votes)
34
35 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Motion passes. I
36 think the final action was to accept this report and
37 before we do that I think there's at least one other
38 thing we want to bring up.
39
40 MR. HERNANDEZ: Seven.
41
42 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Yeah, 7 and 12,
43 just clarifying.
44
45 So we have a couple things that we've
46 put out and I think as part of the clarification that
47 we do need to accept the final report so that any
48 previous draft report should not be used when they
49 reference the efforts of the Unit 2 Subcommittee. And
50 so the draft report for June 2005 is what it is, it's a

1 draft report, it was received by the Council but it was
2 not accepted or endorsed.

3
4 We did make some clarifications to the
5 recommendations that we brought forward. Those changes
6 or reemphasizes of those recommendations are on the
7 handout that was distributed yesterday starting with
8 Action 3.

9
10 So we need to have those changes and
11 the action items inserted into the draft plan so the
12 draft plan reflects accurately what the subcommittee
13 changed at our last meeting in Craig and that the final
14 report that does go forward reflects the latest efforts
15 that were done.

16
17 With that in mind I do want to bring up
18 the Action Item 7, it was in the report that went out
19 to us in Wrangell. It was given to us at our Craig
20 meeting when we were doing a review of the action items
21 and then it came back to slap us as we were looking at
22 the proposals that were submitted for us.

23
24 So I know you don't have it in front of
25 you and I'm going to read.....

26
27 DR. SCHROEDER: I could put it on the
28 screen.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. As Dr.
31 Schroeder's putting it on the screen I'm going to read
32 it.

33
34 Action 7. Management of Current
35 Conditions.

36
37 While a more complete information base
38 is being developed over the next three
39 to five years manage Unit 2 deer as
40 follows:

41
42 Retain four deer harvest limit for both
43 subsistence and non-subsistence
44 hunters.

45
46 Retain provision for harvest of no more
47 than one antlerless deer.

48
49 Retain the July 24 to
50 31 early hunt for

1 Federally-qualified
2 subsistence hunters.

3
4 The D is what we did clarify in the
5 package that you received because we
6 had a problem with the southeast
7 portion and the south portion of Prince
8 of Wales in terms of what could be made
9 available to Ketchikan or non-rural
10 residents so that would have to be
11 changed.

12
13 But I think that we need to clarify, as
14 Mr. Douville just pointed out, and I think it has been
15 brought up at the Council level, while we had hoped the
16 subcommittee would have a magic bullet, we don't have,
17 in fact, have a magic bullet, I think we made great
18 strides and probably the biggest focus has been to put
19 the focus on habitat improvements on the island. I
20 think the subcommittee felt very positive that we had
21 the District Ranger Killinger there as well as the
22 Thorne Bay Ranger, who changed, but nonetheless were
23 represented there.

24
25 But I think that we, as a Council,
26 recognized when we created that subcommittee that,
27 although, we're growing tired of Unit 2 proposals
28 coming before us, that this is a public process and
29 that people have the right to submit proposals every
30 time the wildlife proposal cycle comes up and that we,
31 as a Council, should be reviewing those proposals and
32 making recommendations based on the information
33 available to us and in good faith to the people who
34 submitted the proposals. And so I don't like the idea
35 of this Action 7 being used as a sledgehammer that we
36 should take no action and do nothing when, in fact,
37 people put great effort into submitting the proposals
38 they have submitted and we realize that the
39 subcommittee is a volunteer committee that we've
40 committed the time and energy that we could. I think
41 only Chairman Hernandez was the only one who made all
42 of the six meetings in effect and everybody else missed
43 meetings because six times in one year was just a
44 significant commitment, and so we do have little holes,
45 we do have little errors. Even though six meetings was
46 a long time, it also was not enough time to address
47 everything. And so there were things that were
48 omitted. The issue of the outside islands, I think if
49 we would have brought it up would have been a worthy
50 discussion item but somehow we just spaced it and

1 didn't get to it.

2

3

4 In terms of some of the other issues,
5 we had some of the important Prince of Wales people
6 gone, we had Elana James who was on the committee who
7 left to go to school and we applauded her for going to
8 school but that did leave a hole. So we had various
9 things that changed the character of the committee.

9

10

11 But, you know, I think that what we did
12 create, I think was important but again I have the
13 issue of the Action 7 being used as a sledgehammer to
14 do nothing and we, as a Council, need to recognize that
15 if it's to do nothing we might as well not have the
16 wildlife information -- the wildlife proposal cycle
17 part of the meeting because most of the proposals are
18 Unit 2 and submitted by people who do care and have put
19 great considerations into the proposals they've
20 written.

20

21

So I'm not sure how to address that.

22

23

Ms. Phillips.

24

25

MS. PHILLIPS: Madame Chair. The
26 executive summary of the report, Page 2, may also need
27 to be included. I would suggest a cover letter to the
28 report outlining the concerns that you and Councilman
29 Douville be attached supporting the comments that you
30 have made.

31

32

MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Dr. Schroeder.

33

34

MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chairman. Just
35 kind of backing up a bit and not talking specifically
36 about this item, but the structure of a subcommittee is
37 that a subcommittee of the Council reports to the
38 Council and only to the Council. The Council is free,
39 under the conditions of the Federal Advisory Committee
40 Act to accept subcommittee reports in total, to reject
41 a subcommittee's report, to change or modify portions
42 of the subcommittee report. So under the terms of the
43 Federal Advisory Committee Act the Southeast Regional
44 Advisory Council is absolutely within its authority to
45 make modifications, recent modifications to whatever is
46 reported to you by a subcommittee. And this procedure
47 was clarified to me just a few weeks before this
48 meeting in a discussion with our Federal Advisory
49 Committee Act specialists, Ann Wilkinson, who
50 emphasized those points to me.

1 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So I'm going to
2 call a five minute recess.

3
4 (Off record)

5
6 (On record)

7
8 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, I'm calling
9 the meeting back to order. We are on the Unit 2 Deer
10 Planning Subcommittee. There are recommendations from
11 the subcommittee that would alter the draft report that
12 was presented to the Regional Advisory Council at our
13 fall meeting in Wrangell. The draft document will be
14 altered if that's the wishes of the Council and may be
15 accepted.

16
17 At current and I want to divert a
18 little bit here, I serve on the Federal Marine
19 Protected Areas National Advisory Committee which is a
20 FACA created committee and we do have subcommittees,
21 and thinking about this it's surprising, when we have a
22 subcommittee to look at definitions of marine protected
23 areas or whatever our subcommittees are for, when we
24 create documents those documents are never made
25 available to the public. To access them you have to go
26 to a npa.gov web site and you have to know the access
27 code to get into them to look at any alterations that
28 have been made to them and nobody in the public has
29 access to them until they have actually been accepted
30 by the Council, the Marine Protected Areas Council.

31
32 So I think we have operated in flaw and
33 that the U-2 Subcommittee recommendations have been
34 made available to the public before they have been
35 accepted by the Council. Once they are accepted in
36 part or in whole or as modified by the Council then
37 they become Council recommendations and not Unit 2
38 Subcommittee recommendations, and that's very important
39 as we go forward.

40
41 And that's the way FACA's operate.
42 I've had several legal reviews through the NPA process
43 of what we can and cannot do as a subcommittee so while
44 we've tried to be open in this process I think we have
45 erred slightly.

46
47 However, we do need to go forward here
48 and figure out what we're going to do with this
49 document and make sure that something does go forward
50 as a Southeast Regional Advisory Council product that

1 would go to the Federal Subsistence Board, they are the
2 ones that created this subcommittee in hopes that we
3 could come to some recommendations that would help
4 address the issues in Unit 2.

5
6 So do we have a recommendation at this
7 time.

8
9 Mr. Hernandez.

10
11 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Madame
12 Chair. Yes, I think we do. We have essentially
13 rewritten Action Item No. 7 to better reflect the
14 wishes of the Council. It does reflect some changes
15 from what the subcommittee recommendation. If Dr.
16 Schroeder can put those up on the screen for the
17 Council's review and then.....

18
19 DR. SCHROEDER: It's just a rough
20 draft.

21
22 MR. HERNANDEZ: It still needs a little
23 refining maybe on the wording, it's what we came up
24 with here during the break but I think it reflects what
25 the Council's wishes are on this subject.

26
27 (Pause)

28
29 MR. HERNANDEZ: So it's on the screen
30 and hopefully everybody can see it and maybe I'll ask
31 Dr. Schroeder if he could kind of run through it with
32 you and then I think what I would request at this time
33 is for this to be under review of the Council and we'll
34 ask for final action on this item later in the meeting.

35
36 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. Council
37 member Hernandez. The idea here was to address the
38 Council responsibility to deal with proposals that come
39 before it through the regulatory cycle. So the
40 Council, under its charter is required to do this and
41 this is why the Regional Advisory Council exists and to
42 mesh that responsibility along with the excellent input
43 from the Unit 2 Subcommittee. So the question is how
44 does the Council deal with proposals that come before
45 it.

46
47 Staff worked with three of the Council
48 members who were on the subcommittee and have initial
49 draft language up there. The Council members would
50 like to work on this and then come back before the

1 Council as a whole tomorrow morning with something
2 that's a little bit more polished than this.

3
4 But this includes the idea that the
5 Council supports maintaining the basic features of Unit
6 2 deer management as recommended by the subcommittee
7 but will need to fine-tune regulations over the next
8 few years while more data is being gathered on Unit 2
9 deer in order to meet subsistence needs and to limit
10 the impacts on -- adverse impacts on non-Federally-
11 qualified subsistence users.

12
13 So this would be an item that would
14 come back to you tomorrow morning when the Council
15 members have had time to craft more accurate language.

16
17 Thank you.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Douville.

20
21 MR. DOUVILLE: Madame Chair. I just
22 have one question where it reads management system, the
23 wording I was curious or would like an explanation on,
24 as long as these regulations meet subsistence needs;
25 what does that mean and does that have to be in there?

26
27 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. Mike. I
28 think we just did a quick, get some ideas down on the
29 paper stage and if we can work with you on that as a
30 concerned Unit 2 Council member we'll have something
31 tomorrow morning that probably will read more
32 accurately.

33
34 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, that would be
35 acceptable.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So the plan
38 is to bring this back forward tomorrow morning for some
39 type of action from the Council that the majority of
40 the report would likely be accepted but there will be
41 changes to Action Item 7.

42
43 Ms. Phillips.

44
45 MS. PHILLIPS: Madame Chair, thank you.
46 I'd like to recognize the commitment and collaborative
47 effort by the Unit 2 Subcommittee but I'd also like to
48 state that the intention for the subcommittee, my
49 understanding and my support of it, was to assist us,
50 the SERAC, in our decision-making, not to stifle our

1 recommendations on proposals for deer harvest by
2 subsistence users on Prince of Wales Unit 2 deer.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So we will
7 bring this back up tomorrow morning and we'll clarify
8 the language for exactly your concerns and for your
9 concerns and for the concerns as a Council that we have
10 an obligation.

11

12 So next on our agenda is FIS and what
13 we will do is sneak the Unuk River right in front of
14 it. So Lynn Kolund and Todd Tisler. So we're on Page
15 2 of the agenda, we were just finishing update on Unit
16 2 Deer Subcommittee, which will be finalized probably
17 tomorrow morning. No. 11 is the Fishery Research
18 Monitoring Program. And so in front of that, because
19 we're doing fish, we're going to have Unuk River
20 update, so we're sneaking you in.

21

22 MR. KOLUND: Good morning, Madame Chair
23 and Council. Appreciate the opportunity to come and
24 talk about this fishery up on the Unuk River. We have
25 had and we just had some more copies made of a handout
26 that hopefully you had a chance to pick up. The first
27 page was the news release, the second page was the
28 actual special action where as the local Federal
29 manager delegated the authority for in-season emergency
30 actions, I closed the eulachon fishery up on the Unuk
31 River and behind that was a summary from 2001 to 2005,
32 our monitoring efforts by the Forest Service up on the
33 Unuk in regard to this fishery.

34

35 I think I just had a couple of comments
36 and then would take your questions and I'm not sure
37 exactly how to, you know, at what level of interest you
38 might have or what questions you might have and I know
39 that you had a long night last night.

40

41 So I guess basically I feel my charge
42 as the in-season manager, number 1, is conservation.
43 And since we've had two years in a row where we
44 basically have not had a return it was my decision to
45 close this fishery this year and continue to monitor it
46 as we have the last five years. In fact, our crew is
47 on the way up there today and they'll begin the
48 monitoring. Last week, on Friday, I flew the area with
49 Louie Wagner, one of our long-term subsistence
50 fishermen looking to see if maybe because of changes in

1 climate the eulachon might have been coming back
2 earlier than had historically been the case. The
3 Wagners have been fishing up there for at least 40
4 years and are a great source of local and traditional
5 knowledge there.

6
7 These fish spend most of their time in
8 saltwater and the only time they come into the river
9 system is to spawn. The life cycle from my
10 understanding, we're continuing to learn more and more
11 as we monitor this, the life cycle is about a three
12 year life cycle. There was a strong return or a normal
13 return in 2003 so we're looking forward to return this
14 year which would mean that there's one age class
15 remaining which puts this population at risk and in a
16 difficult situation from a conservation point of view.
17 The long-term goal would be to continue monitoring and
18 with more information be able to reopen this fishery
19 and return this important subsistence resource back to
20 the subsistence users.

21
22 I believe with that comment then I
23 would just open this up to -- beside me is Todd Tisler,
24 the Fish and Wildlife Staff officer who has been doing
25 the work and helping to establish the monitoring up on
26 the Unuk River over the last -- this would be the sixth
27 season.

28
29 So with that I'll ask the Council if
30 there are specific questions about this and we'll do
31 our best to answer those.

32

33

34 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Douville.

35

36 MR. DOUVILLE: I just have a couple
37 questions. I had some conversation with Mr. Wagner and
38 initially he felt that, in talking to you, that there
39 may be some hope if there was a return that it would be
40 open and this paper comes out and doesn't leave any --
41 there's no provision in there for that; am I correct?

42

43 MR. KOLUND: That's correct.

44

45 MR. DOUVILLE: So even if there was a
46 healthy return there would be no chance of any fishery
47 on that this year?

48

49 MR. KOLUND: This has been discussion
50 with the Wagners and actually with Dr. Garza in some of

1 our discussions. Some of the difficulty is the length
2 of the and the unpredictability of when that return may
3 come back.

4
5 Secondly it's a 12 hour run for them so
6 even if we called and said, okay, we've reached -- we
7 don't know what an escapement level is that's an
8 adequate escapement, we don't have enough information
9 to say, okay, there's been enough return at this point
10 to open this up. If that were to be the case, though,
11 by the time they could even get there the likelihood
12 would be that they may not be successful in netting
13 these fish.

14
15 So for those kinds of reasons we -- I
16 guess one other point was we did spend time up there
17 last year and met with them and I think they made three
18 trips and the price of fuel is a factor there, that if
19 they're waiting and ready then or if they make a trip
20 up and it's not productive it's an expense.

21
22 MR. DOUVILLE: Yeah, I just want you to
23 understand I'm not challenging your decision, I just,
24 you know, kind of wanted to know what your thinking is.
25 Because I'm not real familiar with this fishery, I like
26 to eat eulachons and certainly Mr. Wagner is a long
27 ways up on me, but I wasn't challenging your decision
28 or anything. I'm sure that any decision that comes
29 from your office is well thought out.

30
31 Thank you.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Stokes.

34
35 MR. STOKES: How would you be able to
36 determine if there are any eulachon there, do you have
37 means to see whether they're going up under the ice?

38
39 MR. TISLER: Madame Chair. Council
40 members. Like Lynn was saying my name is Todd Tisler.
41 I've been monitoring the eulachon since 2001 and the
42 Unuk's such a wild place, in certain years we do have
43 ice up there and it's very difficult to monitor the
44 escapement of the eulachon. But I think out of the
45 five years we've been up there, we've had one year in
46 2002 where basically we were -- the users were unable
47 to actually access the river because of ice and we were
48 watching the eulachon underneath the ice so that is an
49 issue.

50

1 Fortunately for us this time of the
2 year the Unuk River is very clear, the clarity is
3 perfect, we can see up to 20 feet on the mainstem, so
4 we're fairly confident. And the folks that we have up
5 there monitoring these fish have been up there for
6 going on four years now and with the help of the
7 Wagners and other users, we're able to pinpoint where
8 the fish are going. I mean we have a pretty good idea
9 where they're going to go once they enter the system.
10 And like Lynn was saying in 2004 and 2005, I think last
11 year we saw a total of 60 fish and those were single
12 fish. And one of the things we look for is when the
13 tide -- when we have low tides up there we can see
14 spawn. Eulachon spawn is very adhesive, what happens
15 is they lay the spawn and the water flow is taken
16 downstream and it adheres to small pebbles and at least
17 in 2003 certain areas were totally caked with spawn so
18 that's one of the indicators that maybe they came in
19 during the evening and we missed them but we'll always
20 see that presence of spawn on the rocks and/or marine
21 mammals or dead ones along the bank.

22

23 MR. STOKES: Thank you.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Adams.

26

27 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Madame Chairman.

28 I'm just curious as to are there any reason why the
29 eulachons in that area have been declining, is there
30 some biological reason or -- I'm concerned about it
31 because we've been kind of having those same problems
32 up in the Yakutat area, but maybe you could help me
33 understand that a little bit.

34

35 MR. TISLER: Madame Chair. Council
36 members. You know that is a good question. Because
37 they spend so much of their life cycle in saltwater
38 they're the most unpredictable fish I've ever seen.
39 Every time I try to predict or estimate what's going to
40 happen up there, the opposite occurs. Whether it's
41 weather, whether it's the fish. I've been trying to
42 read as much as I can on these fish. The Canadians
43 have done a lot more research on these fish than we
44 have and I think we're getting there.

45

46 Like in 2001 I had very little or no
47 knowledge of eulachon. The only thing I knew about
48 eulachon to be quite honest with you, they were smelt,
49 and that's all I knew. So I think looking back at it,
50 I think we know a lot more about them but we don't know

1 the variables behind whether or not they show up or
2 not. It could be a number of things. It could be
3 predation. It could be just the ocean, just the
4 changes in the ocean climate. They're benthic
5 dwellers, which means they hang out towards the bottom.
6 Even the Canadians, what they've used in the past is
7 the amount of bycatch by the shrimp trawlers as an
8 indicator of the health of the eulachon and talking to
9 Dr. Hey (ph) who is one of the primary researchers that
10 I believe Dr. Garza knows, I received an email from him
11 and he told me that the last couple years there's been
12 very little bycatch of eulachon versus in the late
13 1990s and early 2000, 2001, 2002. So to him that was
14 alarmingly low. So that's, maybe one of the tools we
15 can use but like I said I'm still scratching my head on
16 what's going on up there.

17
18 I know the Wagners were -- both the
19 Wagner boys were expecting large runs in 2004 and 2005
20 based on 2003, and even in 2001 we had a -- that was
21 our first year up there and the fishermen did really
22 well. And when we were up there there were a lot of
23 fish in the river so we were expecting a pretty good
24 run based on a three year life cycle in 2004 but
25 nothing never showed up.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Adams.

28
29 MR. ADAMS: I'm just wondering, you
30 know, the global warming that we're all so concerned
31 about has any affect on it, you mentioned something
32 about water temperature and all that. Do you think
33 that might have some effect on the life cycle of the
34 eulachons.

35
36 MR. TISLER: It possibly could. You
37 know, they move with the currents also and to me what
38 I'd like to know is where these things go after they
39 leave the Unuk. And I've read literature indicating
40 that they stay, you know, in the immediate areas and
41 I've read literature where they go out to the open
42 ocean. So we're trying to find that answer and it's a
43 big body of water out there. So like I said,
44 hopefully, you know, I hope the fish show up this year,
45 if they do, fantastic. We know that it's not a hug --
46 a larger issue than it actually looks like right now so
47 we'll just keep our fingers crossed.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Ms. Phillips.

50

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
2 Thank you for this brochure -- information on the
3 eulachon. It says general temperature range, that
4 they're very sensitive to temperature change. Have you
5 been monitoring the temperature of this stream
6 throughout the year?

7
8 MR. TISLER: Madame Chair. Council
9 members. Yes, we have. We set thermographics.
10 Basically these are data loggers that we put -- we have
11 one in Burroughs Bay and we have, I think, three -- we
12 lost two. Like I said the Unuk River is a very dynamic
13 system and sometimes Mother Nature, we just can't
14 control that. We have been monitoring the temperature
15 and talking to Rob Spangler, who works up in Anchorage,
16 but he's working on his Ph.d regarding eulachon
17 research and we gave him some of the temperatures that
18 we've been getting the last two or three years and
19 there's nothing been alarming. Everything's been very
20 consistent from 2001. So to me it's -- I don't think
21 temperature's been playing a role there, but that's not
22 to say it's not playing a role out in the ocean.

23
24 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
25 You mentioned you're not aware of predation on it. I'm
26 not familiar with this area but when do the eulachon
27 come out of the river into the Inlet or to the Bay
28 area?

29
30 MR. TISLER: The normal incub -- excuse
31 me, Madame Chair and Council members. The normal
32 incubation for eulachon is anywhere from 30 to 40 days
33 and when they emerge from the gravel they emerge as
34 larvae and basically they let the waterflows take them
35 down stream and, indeed, that could be an issue.

36
37 Basically, the literature I've read on
38 these fish is they'll hang out in the intertidal areas,
39 for how long we don't exactly know but I'm guessing
40 probably for a couple months until they're strong
41 enough to actually enter the deeper water, so, yes,
42 that's a very good point. It could be a predation
43 thing occurring on the Unuk River. And then once they
44 reach the benthic levels of the ocean they are a prey
45 species for a number of fish down there.

46
47 MS. PHILLIPS: I don't know if this
48 would be an issue or not, but I have a niece and her
49 husband that work at Hidden Falls Hatchery and they say
50 that the humpback whales that are migrating back from

1 Hawaii they seem to know when the smolt are going to be
2 released, because they're right there when they're
3 released. And I don't know if you have humpback whales
4 in this area but they would -- you know that's the size
5 they would eat.

6
7 MR. TISLER: Madame Chair. Council
8 members. Yeah, you know, it's kind of funny because
9 when we -- we know when the eulachon are coming by the
10 activity in Burroughs Bay. You'll have an upwards of a
11 thousand porpoises working it. In 2003, I think we saw
12 an upwards of 25 to 35 sea lions and seals in addition
13 to probably a couple thousand sea gulls working it, so
14 we know when they're coming, that's our warning, get
15 ready, here they come, and I think that's a lot of what
16 the fishermen use also. And, you know, the last two
17 years we saw very little sea gull or marine mammal
18 activity in Burroughs Bay and that was very alarming,
19 not only to us, but also to the fishermen.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Bangs.

22
23 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
24 Do you know if these fish mix with herring stocks in
25 open marine waters?

26
27 MR. TISLER: Madame Chair. Council
28 members. Not that I know of. I know, and maybe Mike
29 Douville can help me out with this with the herring,
30 I'm not as familiar with herring but I know that like
31 the eulachon, they're in deeper water. They hang out
32 towards the bottom. In fact, literature states that
33 they'll be in upwards of 1,200 feet of water.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Ron, can you help
36 us on that?

37
38 MR. PORTER: They go deeper
39 (indiscernible - away from the microphone)

40
41 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Hernandez.

42
43 MR. HERNANDEZ: How about talking about
44 predation, any possibilities of heavy predation
45 associated with young salmon releases with the
46 hatcheries located in the area, could that be a factor?

47
48 MR. TISLER: Madame Chair. Council
49 members. I think the nearest hatchery to the Unuk
50 River is probably Herring Cove, I'm guessing. Are you

1 talking releases or hatcheries?

2

3 MR. HERNANDEZ: Neets Bay.

4

5 MR. TISLER: Oh, Neets Bay, actually --
6 okay, Neets Bay, you know, we're talking 40 some miles,
7 it could play a role but it's quite a ways away from
8 where the Unuk is. So I'm guessing by the time those
9 fish reach the Neets Bay area, I'm guessing they're
10 rather deep and that's not to say that they're not
11 being intercepted by some of these salmon. But that's
12 something I never thought about.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, my turn. So
15 Mr. Kolund did refer to a meeting that we had, and
16 Merle Hawkins, who is Chair of the Subsistence
17 Committee for Ketchikan Indian Community and myself,
18 Dave Johnson, Willy Jackson was invited, but wasn't
19 able to attend, did meet and discuss the conditions.
20 The three action options were to go as usual, to
21 potentially have an emergency order or to simply close
22 it. We did not make a recommendation at the time but
23 we understood that the Forest Service is in a tough
24 position because if it were opened and we had a hard
25 harvest on a low stock then if it's a three year cycle
26 fish then it could be dismal for the future of Unuk
27 River. And then I know that he did meet with the
28 Wagners.

29

30 Mr. Louie Wagner did testify last night
31 and he misunderstood part of what you said and he
32 thought that there was still a potential for an
33 emergency order so was surprised to hear that it was
34 simply closed so you may need to talk to him again. So
35 I do want to pass that on.

36

37 I do want to let the Council know that
38 there will be one request for funding through the FIS
39 system by Rod Spangler, who Mr. Tisler referred to, for
40 some genetics work on eulachon to get an idea if there
41 is potentially mingling or what's going on and I'm
42 hoping that the Council will be supporting that. It is
43 a one year. It does not involve tribal participation
44 as in the past, however, that is simply because he has
45 begged and begged everybody to provide the samples that
46 he needs that normally we would probably have used the
47 tribes to collect so he's gotten that kind of
48 information as part of his graduate work, and as a poor
49 graduate the student that has to beg, but it is a small
50 amount.

1 In addition we did talk that hopefully
2 we will try and get a project going together with the
3 KIC people and potentially with someone like BIA to do
4 a sort of local knowledge information, what do we know
5 about eulachons, we have someone here who's managing
6 them who has thrown his life into it for the last six
7 years but we also have other people that have 40, 50
8 years of experience and we need to try and pull that
9 information forward, figure out what we know, and
10 figure out what we can do so we will be expecting a TEK
11 proposal on Unuk.

12
13 Just one final thing, Todd, I know that
14 like the first time the eulachons didn't show, two
15 years ago, basically everybody in Ketchikan showed up -
16 - you left too early, and they came in after, they came
17 in under the ice, they were there but you didn't see
18 them. So give us a rundown, quickly when you start
19 going up and how long you go up and basically what are
20 the efforts of monitoring.

21
22 MR. TISLER: Madame Chair. Council
23 members. We usually start flying the Unuk River in
24 mid-February or so just to see what's going on. And in
25 the last three years we've been trying to get up there
26 March 1st. The weather sometimes it's just almost
27 impossible to get up there. I think in 2003 we tried
28 getting up there like four consecutive days but even
29 though it was nice in Ketchikan it was a different
30 world up on the Unuk. The wind was blowing down the
31 valley and we had five, six foot seas.

32
33 In 2004 and '05, we spent, I think,
34 roughly a month up there, in fact, last year we spent
35 five and a half weeks up there and the one luxury we
36 have is we've developed a partnership with all the
37 folks up there. There's a number of cabin owners up
38 there that spend a lot of time up there this time of
39 the year because it's kind of a neat place to be, the
40 water's clear, it's very quiet, so what we've done is
41 we've relied on people that know the river as well as
42 we do to call us. I know last year there was a cabin
43 owner up there that was up there probably from the 12th
44 of February on that would give us weekly updates or
45 call us if he saw any activity. I know that held true
46 in 2002 and 2004.

47
48 So this year we're planning on spending
49 on at least the month of March if not the first part of
50 April up there, if need be, to make sure that we don't

1 miss them.

2

3

4 Our monitoring efforts include -- we
5 have the Unuk River divided into five -- six different
6 survey areas which include different areas within the
7 watershed and also the Klahini River, which is
8 immediately adjacent to the Unuk River watershed.
9 Basically what we're doing is presence and absence,
10 we're spending -- we're trying to cover as much ground
11 as we possibly can. When the tides are in -- when we
12 have some real extreme tides like we're having right
13 now it's extremely hard to see the fish just because of
14 the turbidity and the brackish water but we know when
15 they're there. And the Eulachon River, which is one of
16 our surveyors that flows into the lower part of the
17 Unuk River is a clear water stream, 12 months out of
18 the year and that's one of the areas we looked for
19 first, if the eulachon are in the Unuk River watershed
20 they're going to be there. And we can cover the
21 Eulachon River 100 percent as far as we want to go up.

21

22

23

24 So basically what we're trying to do is
25 just we're trying to figure out some sort of run timing
26 here and once the fish do come in try to get a make up
27 of the fish. We pull otolith out of the fish, age
28 them, and that's where we came up with the three year
29 olds and that's very consistent with past literature
30 from Canada and other systems. And we also look at
31 funcinity. In 2002 we pulled spawn out of the females
32 and even though it's a very tedious job we estimated
33 around 24,000 eggs per female within the Unuk River
34 watershed. Everything's been very consistent with past
35 research so there's really nothing different about
36 these fish, it's just a matter of where they're going
37 and why they're not coming back.

37

38

MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Douville.

39

40

41 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
42 The one thing I was going to mention is genetic testing
43 to see if all these are individual species. In my mind
44 they may go out and intermingle with a bigger group and
45 wind up going to different river systems. Because I
46 think a lot of our thought is we compare everything to
47 salmon that goes into the river and they generally go
48 back to where they came from, this may not be true with
49 eulachon but you're on the right track there.

49

50

And the other thing I was going to say,

1 I did mention that I thought I caught king salmon that
2 had eulachon in them and that was in -- just right
3 around our last meeting, last winter, and I could look
4 at fish tickets to give you an accurate date. But what
5 I was going to say is I'll talk to the other fishermen,
6 I know them all, and if they see anything that looks
7 like that to save samples for you.

8

9 MR. TISLER: Madame Chair. Council
10 members. That is an interesting issue, Mike, because
11 they spend so little time in fresh water, they come
12 into the system and spawn and then they die. What they
13 do is they lose their teeth and they die after
14 spawning. Whether it's in the river or it's shortly
15 after when they leave the system in Burroughs Bay.
16 These fish have very little imprint on the system.
17 Their incubation period is only 40 days roughly and
18 then they leave the system immediately following that.
19 And there is some belief that these fish may go
20 somewhere else. So we've been monitoring the Chickaman
21 River also which is about 25 miles south of the
22 Burroughs Bay area and we have yet to see any activity
23 there whatsoever. When we fly the Unuk we fly the
24 Chickaman also.

25

26 So that's a possibility these fish may
27 be going somewhere else but we have yet to find that
28 out.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Stokes.

31

32 MR. STOKES: Thank you, Madame Chair.
33 Do you know of any studies going on in the Stikine.

34

35 MR. TISLER: Madame Chair. Council
36 members. No, I do not. I know that Bob Larson, I
37 think, is planning on being up on the Stikene River
38 this next spring. I have not talked to Bob in a few
39 days but I know his initial plans were to spend some
40 time up there to monitor what's going on. So that's
41 about all I know.

42

43 MR. STOKES: Thank you. Mr. Spangler
44 called me about three weeks ago because I've been
45 requesting a study on the Stikine for several years and
46 I sent him some samples and I just took it for granted
47 that he was going to do something this year because
48 they closed the Bradfield Canal to eulachon. So I was
49 just wondering about the Stikine.

50

1 The reason why I asked if how you knew
2 because our river is absolutely dark and if they do go
3 up under the ice, I don't know.

4
5 MR. TISLER: Madame Chair. Council
6 members. Yeah, you know, I think Rob's been in touch
7 with Bob and I think -- and Rob told me you gave him
8 samples and he really appreciates that. Those samples
9 are going to be very important to the overall genetic
10 make up. What Rob wants to do is he wants to get
11 samples, in fact he's been in touch with the Canadians
12 and he's probably going to get samples from at least 10
13 systems down in Canada to try and compare the genetics
14 and see how close related these fish actually are so I
15 know one thing Rob wants are some samples from the
16 Stikine River and I think Bob Larson is going to try to
17 accommodate him with that.

18
19 But because the Stikine River is very
20 turbid and there may be ice, we're really fortunate on
21 the Unuk River having clear water so Bob may have some
22 challenges ahead of him.

23
24 MR. STOKES: Madame Chair.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Stokes.

27
28 MR. TISLER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
29 I know on the Bradfield River there the eulachon were
30 much larger than the ones on the Stikine. But since
31 the logging by Sykes Logging and LOG Logging, they
32 practically killed off the run. I haven't been down
33 there for quite awhile because it's quite a run to run
34 down there now, so hopefully something will come of
35 this.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Thank you for
38 coming forward with your report and I do want to thank
39 you both for the amount of effort you put in on the
40 eulachon. I know it's not one of your major job
41 requirements and that you do get money from here and
42 there in order to do this work, and so we much
43 appreciate it because it is an important subsistence
44 food.

45
46 Hohaw.

47
48 MR. TISLER: Thank you, Madame Chair.

49
50 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, we're

1 getting ready for our noon break. We do not have a
2 fundraiser here -- the Haida Dance Group backed out,
3 I'm sorry. Saxman ANB would have loved to have jumped
4 in but they didn't have enough warning to get something
5 done so we're on our own. But if we can go to noon,
6 Bob's trying to keep every moment packed so he was
7 suggesting we look at the very last page and figure out
8 when we want our fall -- our winter meeting, so it
9 would be this time next year, the very last page, 210,
10 it looks like the window of opportunity is starting
11 February 20th going to March 23rd. So we need a
12 potential location and a week. And do we know if any
13 other Councils have overlapped already.
14

15 MR. SCHROEDER: Could I ask Dr. Chen or
16 Steve Kessler if they know the other Council meetings,
17 or perhaps Larry Buklis. I know a couple of meetings
18 are already scheduled but I don't have that information
19 right with me. I'll look on my computer, it may be
20 there.
21

22 (Pause)
23

24 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Adams.
25

26 MR. ADAMS: The Wrangell-St. Elias SRC
27 is going to meet the week of February 19th, and I think
28 it's pinpointed down to the 22nd and 23rd.
29

30 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So potentially the
31 week of February 26th on is open and we also need to
32 reconfirm the fall meeting for 2006, that was set as a
33 draft meeting. I notice on the week we set aside that
34 there are four meetings, I don't know if we have any
35 issues with that date or if it's okay. So let's do
36 that first, Bob, are we okay with the week of October
37 2nd in Sitka, and does that hold with the Council.
38

39 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. If I
40 remember right, we usually like to hold our meeting
41 either in the last week of September or the first week
42 of October. It's really difficult for Staff to have a
43 meeting that crosses from September into October so
44 that's why we avoid meeting on the 29th to say October
45 3rd of something. Usually commercial fishing is --
46 that's a window for our commercial fishing members.
47 Also moose hunting is wound down around then. If we go
48 a little bit later we tend to run into Alaska Native
49 Brotherhood and into AFN. I don't have those dates
50 with me here. And then we blocked out the whole week,

1 usually the Council let's Staff check arrangements,
2 travel arrangements and when possible we have some
3 people travel by ferry because that makes travel just a
4 little bit more reliable at this time of year.

5
6 I'll also point out that under
7 discussion with the Federal Subsistence Board are the
8 issues of having hearings or hearing from people in
9 rural communities. Sitka is not on the list of
10 communities that is being looked at very closely by the
11 Federal Subsistence Board, although Sitka residents
12 have requested a hearing and it's possible that the
13 Federal Subsistence Board Final Rule could be
14 challenged and I'd anticipate that Sitka residents may
15 wish some time to talk about their rural status.

16
17 So can we keep October 2 to October 6th
18 as a window, are there any objections to that or any
19 inconveniences.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Bangs.

22
23 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
24 The last week of September works for me, the first week
25 of October doesn't.

26
27 Thank you.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Do we have any
30 issues with the last week of September.

31
32 Mr. Adams.

33
34 MR. ADAMS: I'm going to have to check
35 with Barbara Cellarius. Is there a way that we can get
36 a hold of her. I'm not sure, I think we might be
37 scheduling our meeting, that fall meeting at that same
38 time.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, so we may
41 have to come back to this. And I also would weigh in
42 on that last week of September if I could.

43
44 Mr. Adams.

45
46 MR. ADAMS: As you know we always like
47 to schedule our meetings before this one so that, you
48 know, we have time to give a report, you know, about
49 our SRC activities. This time I think it was a little
50 too close together because I didn't have time to really

1 put together a real good report. But I'd like to keep
2 that in mind as well.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 MR. SCHROEDER: Bert, I did find an
7 email message from Barbara Cellarius and you are
8 scheduled for September 27 and 28 for the SRC meeting.

9

10 Does anyone have -- I don't know if
11 that following week, October 9th through 13th or 10th
12 through 13th works, does anyone know when ANB is
13 scheduled this year, that's usually coming around right
14 around there. Merle, do you have that date?

15

16 MS. HAWKINS: Grand Camp is October 3rd
17 through the 7th.

18

19 MR. SCHROEDER: I don't know if I
20 wanted to hear that Merle.

21

22 (Laughter)

23

24 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Bangs, that
25 second week, October 10.

26

27 MR. BANGS: October is just a real busy
28 month. I could make the meeting first starting on the
29 third day, but the first couple days of each week is
30 pretty busy.

31

32 DR. SCHROEDER: And our other
33 parameter, Merle, do you have the AFN meeting in your
34 book.

35

36 MS. HAWKINS: October 23rd to the 27th.

37

38 (Pause)

39

40 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mike, did you
41 request something and I forgot you, I can't remember,
42 I'm sorry.

43

44 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
45 I'm just going to make a comment. There is no good
46 time for me, it's -- like Mr. Bangs, you know, all the
47 fisheries open on August 1st and they have periodic
48 weekly openings like for him, so I know it's difficult
49 for him but probably the second week like the 9th would
50 be probably better, but I'll listen to anything. And

1 in my opinion I just try to make them if I can, you
2 know, work around it because there is no good time,
3 we're busy, we're fishermen, and it's just tough to
4 deal with these things. Like right now, look how nice
5 it is I could be catching king salmon.

6
7 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Davis.

8
9 MR. DAVIS: Yeah, I'm pretty much in
10 the same boat, too, but, you know, you go when you can
11 go and the later the better for me.

12
13 (Pause)

14
15 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: I'm going to move
16 to recess for lunch.

17
18 DR. SCHROEDER: Okay.

19
20 (Laughter)

21
22 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, we do not
23 have a fundraiser lunch so please be back here by 1:30,
24 that should give us enough time to go zipping in, grab
25 something and come back.

26
27 (Off record)

28
29 (On record)

30
31 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Let's get our
32 coffee and get our seats here so we can get rolling.

33
34 As we do get seated I want to let you
35 know that I did get a card for John Littlefield and his
36 family so I'm going to pass it around, if you would
37 please sign it, and if you would like to, add a
38 donation, but that isn't required, and if you didn't
39 hear he did lose his mother this morning.

40
41 (Pause)

42
43 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, call the
44 meeting back to order. Item 10 update on Unit 2 Deer
45 Subcommittee, we were working on language and we'll get
46 back to that either by the end of the day or in the
47 morning.

48
49 Are we ready now?

50

1 DR. SCHROEDER: (Nods affirmatively)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, power up.
4 On 11 -- well, let's do 11 and come back to it so you
5 guys can power up. On 11 Fisheries Research Resource
6 Monitoring Program. We kind of stuck the eulachons
7 ahead of that but now we're ready for that.
8
9 Mr. Casipit.
10
11 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Madame Chair.
12 Cal Casipit, subsistence fish biologist for the Forest
13 Service in Juneau. I believe you should have had a
14 hand out with the status of the monitoring program
15 project. I don't think it's in your book but it should
16 have been in one of your mailings, let me just
17 doublecheck here. It's a free standing handout, is
18 there a spare copy of that so I can show them what it
19 looks like.
20
21 (Pause)
22
23 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: We're trying to
24 get back on the agenda so we're on Item 11, Fisheries
25 Research Monitoring Program, Status of Monitoring
26 Program Projects. So we have not received that handout
27 yet, it is just now coming around.
28
29 MR. CASIPIT: I'm sorry.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: That's okay. We
32 got too many fishery things on the table at a wildlife
33 meeting.
34
35 (Pause)
36
37 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Casipit.
38
39 MR. CASIPIT: Okay, thank you, Madame
40 Chair. I apologize for some reason I thought that this
41 had already been distributed.
42
43 This was prepared by Doug McBride, our
44 FIS biologist in Anchorage. We discussed this briefly
45 a little bit before I came to the meeting and I was
46 going to help basically walk the Council through some
47 of this and be around to basically answer any questions
48 you may have. As you know Doug and I work pretty
49 closely together on the FIS program, Fisheries
50 Information Services Program in Southeast.

1 On the first page of your handout
2 there's a statement on the background and there's a
3 summary of the money that we've invested statewide in
4 the monitoring program for the past few years so if
5 you're willing to talk about that. Basically if you
6 want to break it down on what we've been investing in
7 Southeast Alaska and Southcentral Alaska, together, the
8 Forest Service lands of Alaska, we've been investing
9 about \$2 million a year in that program. You know, I'm
10 not really sure where it's going to go in the future,
11 you know, we all have budget issues. In the
12 subsistence program, like any other program in the
13 Forest Service it seems that national level issues
14 always seem to reduce our funding but we're doing the
15 best we can.

16
17 I just want to talk a little bit about
18 the monitoring program in Southeast Alaska. Up until
19 now we've pretty much focused on sockeye salmon
20 escapement projects as the Council has directed us to.
21 We have heard that sockeye are the major issue for
22 investing in monitoring in Southeast, and we've been
23 doing that.

24
25 Some of the systems that we've looked
26 at start on the beginning of page -- detailed summaries
27 of the existing sockeye projects start on Page 4 and it
28 starts in Angoon and we have it broken out by Angoon
29 area projects, Sitka projects, Kake projects and Prince
30 of Wales Island projects for sockeye. And it shows
31 some of the information of escapement estimates that we
32 have developed based on those projects. I'm not sure
33 if you want me to go into detail in any of these but I
34 did want to mention that we are conc -- and this is
35 kind of flowing into the agenda Item 13 that I'll be
36 talking about, I guess, after annual report, but we, in
37 the Forest Service, we're very concerned about Kanalku
38 near Angoon. We feel that it's critically underescaped
39 right now, and that, you know, we would like to see
40 something -- something needs to be done there and right
41 now in my estimation that's probably the highest
42 priority for future work because of the critically low
43 escapements.

44
45 In general, the Sitka area projects are
46 going pretty good. For Salmon Lake near Sitka, that
47 project will probably wind down at the end of this
48 year, this is the final year for funding at that
49 project. Same thing with Klag, this will be the final
50 year for Klag unless it's refunded for the next three

1 years in the next '07 FIS cycle. That will be coming
2 to you at your next meeting, the '07 projects.

3
4 For Prince of Wales -- well, sorry let
5 me back up, the Kake area projects, again, Falls and
6 Kutlaku Lake assessments are continuing. There is
7 funding for Kutlaku Lake, Bay of Pillars for this year,
8 2007, those contracts have been completed -- or 2006,
9 those projects have been completed. Falls is also
10 continuing and it's been proposed for continuing
11 funding in the '07 cycle as well.

12
13 Hetta Lake on Prince of Wales Island,
14 same story, the final year of the existing funding will
15 be this year, and, again, it's been proposed for
16 funding for the next three years beginning in '07.
17 Klawock is in its final year, again, this year and it
18 has been proposed for continuation of funding in '07.

19
20 We also have an existing assessment for
21 steelhead on Prince of Wales Island. It's in its
22 second year of funding cycle. It has a third year
23 funded for '07 so expect that one to be resubmitted for
24 funding beginning in the '08 cycle.

25
26 We've had several harvest monitoring
27 TEK projects done in the past five years in Southeast.
28 There's a general description of all that work
29 beginning on Page 6 and 7, this is another high
30 priority issue for the Council and you can see the
31 status of all those projects and how those are working
32 out.

33
34 I did want to mention, as you know, the
35 customary trade and seafood products that was proposed
36 by Tlingit-Haida Central Council for -- and it was
37 approved by this body for an '06 start, as you know
38 this was discussed with the Council and the Board this
39 year, in January, and your meeting last fall, because
40 of funding shortfalls and the Forest Service's
41 subsistence program, that particular project will be
42 initiated in '07 with '07 money.

43
44 Again, I just wanted to mention that
45 most of our funding commitments expire after the '06
46 cycle, that's this year. In '07 many of these projects
47 that I discussed are being proposed for an additional
48 three years of funding and, you know, that will all
49 work out through this summer and you'll have a
50 recommendation from the Technical Review Committee for

1 '07 starts at your next fall meeting.

2

3

4 Also I wanted to mention that the
5 Southeast Region strategic planing process. We have
6 the first workshop scheduled for April 25th to 27th in
7 '06. Work participants include regional management
8 Staff, both from the Forest Service and Fish and Game,
9 Council members, as you know. The intent of this
10 workshop is to identify key information needs over the
11 next five years to help us better manage our Federal
12 subsistence fisheries in Southeast and to help us
13 determine priorities, goals, objectives and other
14 information needs identification of knowledge gaps and
15 like I said prioritize those information needs.

15

16

17 Table 1 is a summary of the projects
18 that we've completed over the past. The funding
19 dedicated to those projects over the years. As you can
20 see we've been investing quite large sums of money over
21 the past few years in the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
22 Program, in fact, for the most part over a million
23 dollars a year.

23

24

25 Those last two columns '07 and '08, if
26 you look down at the totals down at the bottom those
27 are for '07 and '08, those are commitments that we have
28 for funding in the future, that's basically off the
29 table for the money that we're going to be getting in
30 the future. Whatever money we get in the future the
31 first priority is to fund those existing projects,
32 those projects that have been approved for funding for
33 the three year cycle. So those columns, those totals
34 for '07 and '08 are our commitments for future years.

34

35

36 Table 2 shows the funding commitments
37 by year for each of the projects. The solid bars show
38 projects that have been funded and money committed to
39 those projects. The cross-hatched bars show the
40 funding commitments for projects proposed in the future
41 beginning in the '07 cycle so basically all those
42 hatched bars show the locations in which we've received
43 projects for funding beginning in '07.

43

44

45 One of the things we thought was
46 important to point out is Table 3 and Table 3 shows --
47 and this kind of explains the reason probably why we're
48 not going to be able to carry as many projects as we
49 have in the past is -- the major consideration there is
50 the

50 Southeast Sustainable Salmon Fund. This is money that

1 comes to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game through
2 the Pacific Salmon Treaty Process. And as you can see
3 in the past few years significant amounts of cost
4 sharing has come from that fund. Beginning in '07 that
5 money dries up and we don't have that money anymore to
6 cost share with and so that's the reason why we won't -
7 - and you'll probably hear this, you know, at the next
8 meeting when we present the TRC recommendations, that's
9 one of the major reasons why you're not going to see as
10 many projects forwarded for funding basically because
11 of the loss of the Sustainable Salmon Fund money.

12

13 With that I'll be happy to answer any
14 questions and take any comments you have.

15

16 Thank you.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Douville.

19

20 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Madame Chair.

21 We've done a pretty good job monitoring sockeyes and
22 getting some real good numbers for several systems.
23 What I would like to see now is to take those numbers
24 and put them to use. It's obvious that many of them
25 are -- don't have the fish in them that they should
26 have, historic levels, we know that, and what I'd like
27 to do now is look at enhancement, effects by other
28 fisheries like in Chatham Straits but primarily try to
29 enhance these systems through the various methods. And
30 maybe we could draft a motion to that effect.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Can you explain
33 use of the funds or potential use.

34

35 MR. CASIPIT: Well, our subsistence
36 management funding we're trying to dedicate to do stock
37 assessments and harvest monitoring and traditional
38 ecological studies. In the past two or three months
39 I've been having conversations with the program manager
40 for our regular fisheries program that does the
41 enhancement and that sort of thing. I've talked to our
42 program leader over many -- over a period of months
43 basically, trying to encourage prioritization of
44 sockeye projects that are especially important to
45 subsistence communities, and I think we're making some
46 headway there.

47

48 For instance, our fisheries program is
49 very much interested in the situation at Kanalku and
50 beginning next year wants to partner with the

1 subsistence program to look at issues at Kanalku.
2 We're talking, you know, perhaps installing radio tags
3 on the returning fish so we can see how well or not
4 they're using the falls and how easy or not it is for
5 them to get over the falls at Kanalku. I believe
6 there's also some opportunities in the lake itself to
7 do some fertilization to maybe jump start the -- you
8 know, help recover the stock. Again, based on how the
9 fish are using the falls or not using the falls or the
10 degree of a barrier it is we may have to do some
11 barrier modification there to increase survival of fish
12 getting over the falls. In my opinion it's -- there's
13 many different things going on there and I think it's
14 going to take a concerted effort on several fronts.
15 Mr. Douville you mentioned the interceptions, the
16 commercial interceptions of sockeye that could be
17 negatively impacting conservation of Kanalku sockeye.

18
19 Skipping a little -- I don't want to
20 skip too far ahead on to my next topic but I think
21 there is a need to look at the issue of commercial
22 interceptions in Upper Chatham Straits on Kanalku and
23 maybe in Basket Bay, Kook Lake and issues there. We've
24 just started work at Kook Lake and what we're finding
25 is not so good either. Not quite to the same level as
26 Kanalku but it's equally concerning to us.

27
28 As I said before Kanalku is really
29 concerning me, personally, right now because of the
30 critically low escapements that have been going in
31 there. And I know the community has -- as far as I'm
32 concerned the community has done their part. For the
33 past three years they have voluntarily not fished
34 there. The community of Angoon recognizes that there
35 is a problem there, they have voluntarily stopped
36 fishing there. This took no regulatory action by any
37 of the managing agencies and they have just voluntarily
38 quit fishing there. As far as I am concerned they have
39 done their part and maybe it's time to look at other
40 issues and ask some other users of those resources --
41 that resource to maybe do their part.

42
43 That was the intent of Mr. Kookesh's
44 Proposal 169 that went before the Board of Fish. And
45 maybe if you don't mind, maybe we -- I don't know, I'm
46 getting ahead of myself here, but maybe I'll talk about
47 that now.

48
49 If you'll look at the other handout
50 that I handed out it's got a handwritten coversheet.

1 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Cal, let me just
2 jump in here, okay.

3
4 MR. CASIPIT: What's that?

5
6 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Let me jump in
7 here for a sec.

8
9 MR. CASIPIT: Okay, sure.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So I know we're
12 going to get to the other ones but let's just look at
13 the FIS projects. So I think what Mr. Douville was
14 saying and I think I agree with him, is considering
15 that we do have reduced fundings, I'm personally not in
16 favor of continually funding escapement work and it's
17 time to figure out which of these we have enough data
18 from so that we can start doing something with or if we
19 can use some of the TransBoundary money and start doing
20 some of the remediation, if that's not possible through
21 the FIS, if it is possible through the Pacific Salmon
22 funds.

23
24 But the question I have is what time
25 level are we working on? Usually Doug tells us when
26 will the next FIS proposal process be available. And
27 then can this Council -- should we be looking at our
28 goals, which were for sockeye and say, okay, it's time
29 to change those goals and we're asking the tribes and
30 whoever submits proposals for the FIS money to redirect
31 their efforts so that we don't have seven proposals
32 that are all the same next year and then we're not
33 going to support them.

34
35 So let's talk about that process first.

36
37 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Madame Chair.
38 I guess the answer comes in two parts.

39
40 The first part is the strategic
41 planning that will happen at the end of April. I think
42 that's where the issue of what we're going to do in the
43 future and how much is enough and those types of
44 questions get answered. And as you know there are
45 Council representatives that will be helping us with
46 that. By the way there is tribal representation on
47 that strategic planning work group as well along with
48 the Council Chairs -- or as well as the Council
49 members.

50

1 The second question to that is.....
2
3 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So who are the
4 Southeast Council members, have they been identified or
5 can we remember or did we identify them -- are you one
6 of them Patricia?
7
8 MS. PHILLIPS: (Nods affirmatively)
9
10 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Harvey's one of
11 them.
12
13 MR. KITKA: (Nods affirmatively)
14
15 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: You and Harvey.
16
17 MR. CASIPIT: That's my understanding,
18 Mr. Kitka and Ms. Phillips have graciously volunteered
19 to help us with that effort. And the April 27th
20 meeting isn't the only meeting that they're going to
21 have to deal with. This is -- there'll be a couple two
22 or three meetings that you'll be asked to go to.
23
24 I can go into more detail about the
25 strategic planning process but I don't know if we need
26 to do that now.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So even
29 though there is a strategic planning, the Council
30 could, at this time, change its goals?
31
32 MR. CASIPIT: Correct. It will be
33 through that strategic planning process that we'll
34 discuss what this larger -- what it wants to happen in
35 the future and what needs to happen in the future.
36
37 The second part of that is that the
38 Council still has the ability to modify the -- you're
39 still going to get the '07 program to look at, and if
40 there's something wrong that we -- if there's something
41 wrong that's not right or there's something that you
42 don't agree with, you would like to see something else,
43 you know, that's the level for -- that's what's going
44 to happen there for the '07 program. Like I said the
45 Technical Review Committee of which I'm part of will
46 have a recommendation for this Council for the '07
47 start.
48
49 So I understand -- again, I understand
50 the issue of not enough funding for the amount of work

1 that needs to be done. You know, and I'd be happy to
2 take input from the Council to take back to the TRC if
3 there's, you know, issues that you want to discuss.
4 For instance if you look at that Table 2 you can see
5 the sockeye projects that have been proposed for '07
6 funding. If you don't think -- for instance if you
7 don't think Klag Bay should be continued, I'd be happy
8 to take that, or any of these other ones. I'm sorry, I
9 didn't want to single out any particular project, but
10 you can see what has been submitted for funding for the
11 sockeye projects and at this point if the Council feels
12 that we shouldn't go further on some of this stuff, I'd
13 be happy to take that back to the TRC and include that
14 in my input at the TRC meetings.

15
16 You asked another question about the
17 TransBoundary River -- you know, Pacific Salmon Treaty
18 money. Unfortunately this agency does not control the
19 disposition of the money, the Alaska Department of Fish
20 and Game does. Obviously they're the ones that would
21 need to answer the question if those funds are
22 available for these types of projects.

23
24 I guess that's all I have.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So then
27 looking at Table 2 where we have the Fishery Research
28 Monitoring Program dollars, it shows that they've
29 started like in Pavalof in 2002, 2003, 2004 and then it
30 ended. The solid bars are projects that are either
31 finished, they finished their timeline or they are
32 committed, say, for two more years as with Neva, and
33 then the checked ones are proposed, so that's the
34 Kanalku, Sitko, Klag, Falls, were these proposals that
35 were submitted in the last cycle and they are being
36 considered for this cycle or have they already been
37 tentatively approved but not yet awarded?

38
39 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Madame Chair.
40 Members of the Council. Yes, the hatch bars that you
41 see there are basically proposals that we've received
42 for funding beginning in '07, so the cycle started
43 November, you know, these were proposed in November and
44 we go through that regular Fisheries Resource
45 Monitoring Program screening that happens beginning
46 next month and by July we have investigation plans, and
47 what's presented to you at the fall meeting is the best
48 shot that TRC -- or the best, yeah, I guess the -- at
49 that point it's the recommendation of the TRC for
50 funding beginning in '07.

1 So for instance Kanalku, that project
2 was proposed for continuing funding proposed by Alaska
3 Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the
4 Angoon Community Association. The Sitko project,
5 again, was submitted by our own Mr. Ben VanAlen for
6 future funding. Klag Bay was submitted by Sitka Tribe
7 of Alaska. Falls Lake was submitted by Alaska
8 Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the
9 Organized Village of Kake. Klawock was proposed by,
10 again, Alaska Department of Fish and Game in
11 association with Klawock Cooperative Association.
12 Hetta Lake was proposed by Alaska Department of Fish
13 and Game in cooperation with the Hydaburg Community
14 Association. Karta River was proposed by the Organized
15 Village of Kasaan. And Hatchery Creek was proposed by
16 Mr. Glenn Chen in cooperation with the Organized
17 Village of Kasaan and the Forest Service. So those are,
18 you know, basically what we received for sockeye
19 projects for funding beginning in '07.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So I guess
22 where I'm confused is if you compare those hatch marks
23 there to Table 1 where we have the budget, I didn't see
24 them in the budget and so I had thought that 2007/2008,
25 that was all that was being considered, so it was just
26 a bit confusing.

27
28 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Madame Chair.
29 Members of the Council. Yeah, the money that you see
30 for '07 and '08 are money for projects that we've
31 already committed to in the past, so that includes the
32 commitments we made for '06. So for instance if you
33 look at Kook Lake it will show that we've committed
34 funds for '06 and '07 for that project. Klawock we've
35 committed -- oh, I'm sorry, Neva Creek we've committed
36 29,000 and 32,000 over the next two years, in '07,
37 beginning in '07, so, yeah, that shows you the money
38 that we've committed to those projects.

39
40 And we also have -- you can also see
41 the commitments we've made to, for instance, the
42 customary trade in seafood projects, that would be 06-
43 651, HMTEK. As you know that was approved for funding
44 in '06 but because of budget shortfalls we had to
45 postpone the initiation of that project to '07, but
46 we've committed those funds for '07 so that project
47 will continue. It won't require an additional -- won't
48 require an additional commitment from the Council,
49 we've already -- we're already going to fund that, it's
50 just that we had to delay it one year.

1 I do have to correct, Neva, it shows it
2 being delayed to one year but we aren't delaying it.
3 We are going to initiate in '06, so I do need to talk
4 to Mr. McBride about moving those numbers over.

5
6 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So the
7 confusion I had there was it showed the TEK project on
8 Table 1 but it didn't show any bars for it in Table 2,
9 and so I thought Table 2 represented sort of what is
10 being funded.

11
12 MR. CASIPIT: No. Unfortunately Table
13 2 only shows our stock, status and trends projects. We
14 -- I -- we didn't get a table made up for the TEK
15 projects in time.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So do we need any
18 action on this?

19
20 MR. CASIPIT: No, Madame Chair. This -
21 - Members of the Council, this was presented to you for
22 your information. Just to kind of give you an update
23 of where we're at. As far as actions on projects that
24 would be initiated in '07, you make those decisions at
25 your fall meeting, which projects go forward and which
26 ones don't for funding.

27
28 Now, the issue of this -- this other
29 issue that Mr. Douville has brought up about
30 enhancement, that's totally with -- you may want to
31 direct the Forest Service to take on some enhancement
32 projects for sockeyes that you see need to be done
33 based on the information.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Davis.

36
37 MR. DAVIS: Madame Chair. Do you have
38 the dates for the monitoring at Gut Bay and Falls Lake?

39
40 MR. CASIPIT: Gut Bay and Falls lake,
41 we do have funding commitments for both those -- let's
42 see, Falls we have something going on for '06 and
43 Kutlaku we have something going on for '06, but we
44 don't have anything going at Gut Bay. That was
45 basically funding commitments there ended in '03 and we
46 haven't gone back.

47
48 The situation at Gut Bay is it's really
49 difficult to get a stock assessment project in there
50 that works. In fact, some of the Council members

1 probably remember from that '01 to '03 cycle where we
2 just couldn't get any hands on any fish and it was
3 initially proposed as a mark and recapture and we just
4 couldn't even get the recapture to make the project
5 work. So it's a very difficult place to work. I have
6 been talking to Mr. Ben VanAlen about Gut Bay and he's
7 still looking at it but he thinks basically the only
8 way we're going to get something going there is with a
9 weir, and that's going to take quite a bit more money
10 and quite a bit more effort to figure that one out.
11 And that's probably something that will come in the
12 future but right now it's not proposed for '07 just
13 because we haven't done our homework there yet.

14
15 Any local knowledge or traditional
16 knowledge that you have about that particular -- about
17 Gut Bay would be very welcome at this point. If you've
18 got any clues for us about how best to do that.

19
20 MR. DAVIS: Yeah, the reason I'm asking
21 is because they said after the subsistence fishery was
22 closed, about a week later there was a bit smash of
23 sockeye coming in there. And did they ever check in
24 Gut Bay for sockeye in there because I know a couple
25 people that caught some up in there, too.

26
27 MR. CASIPIT: You know, I'm not
28 familiar with any kind of the reconnaissance that might
29 have gone on in any of other locations in that area. I
30 wish Ben was here, but perhaps maybe if you and I can
31 get together later and maybe we can get Ben on the
32 phone, and later this week or next week maybe set up a
33 teleconference so we can talk about some of those
34 things. We really want to hear what you have to say
35 about that area because it's -- like I said it's
36 difficult for us to work there.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So I'm
39 still trying to get things clear in my mind. So the
40 checked bars on Table 2, those are being proposed by
41 somebody for continued funding, but the tribe or agency
42 hasn't yet submitted a proposal.

43
44 MR. CASIPIT: We have a preproposal
45 that's a two page preproposal that just basically
46 outlines what they're proposing. We don't get the full
47 investigation plans until July.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Were preproposals
50 submitted for the checked areas?

1 MR. CASIPIT: Correct, yes. The
2 checked areas have preproposals.

3
4 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: I'm sorry, Mr.
5 Kitka.

6
7 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Madame Chair.
8 I, like Mike Douville, I'd like to see some enhancement
9 go into place. Also I'd like to see where Alaska Fish
10 and Game and all their studies as well as their landing
11 permits and all their landing tickets as well as their
12 fisheries openings, I'd like to see it all combined
13 like what Angoon did for the PowerPoint that they put
14 on. Because for some of these lakes, some of these
15 lakes have reached a point where they can't sustain any
16 type of fishery and they're ready to die. I know
17 Salmon Lake has reached that point in Sitka. And
18 enhancement might be the only thing and closures might
19 be the only thing that will bring them back.

20
21 And at a certain point you got to stop
22 studying and start doing something about what's
23 happening.

24
25 Thank you.

26
27 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Douville.

28
29 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
30 I just have some questions like Hetta Lake stock
31 assessment, we've done that, you know, for a few years
32 and there's a preproposal to do some more. But in my
33 mind I'm not sure why you would be doing more of it. I
34 would think that -- I'm not a biologist but if you
35 counted these fish for a four year cycle you pretty
36 much have a handle on what it is, but to keep counting
37 them for 10 years, really might be fine, but wouldn't
38 in four years you'd have sort of an idea of what's
39 happening there and make a decision for enhancement or
40 whatever you might be wanting to do without counting
41 those fish again for -- I mean I don't understand the
42 rationale.

43
44 Thanks.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. And I think
47 that maybe, in part, it's our fault because we've just
48 been looking at it and saying, good job, good job, good
49 job and maybe it's our job to redirect through what our
50 goals are. And so I have sort of very draft language,

1 but I would like to propose something like considering
2 the changes -- the existing monitoring and the changes
3 in funding.

4
5 The Southeast Regional Advisory Council
6 would like to change its goals for the
7 Southeast fishery information system
8 projects to one, salmon enhancement and
9 remediation so it would not just be
10 sockeye it would be salmon enhancement
11 and remediation. That would be one.

12
13 I think eulachon needs to be one for a
14 couple years. We have a serious issue
15 with Unuk that you saw.

16
17 And further with regards to these
18 preproposals on Table 2 it looks like
19 the preproposals were submitted so
20 tribes and agencies have put effort
21 into saying, okay, we want these ones
22 to continue but if we supported them
23 all there may not be any money left to
24 do anything in the future.

25
26 So my recommendation would be that we
27 would recommend that we support these guys in the
28 checked area only for 2007 so that they would have time
29 in the next cycle to write proposals that might fit our
30 new goals, either that or argue hard for why they need
31 to continue a monitoring project.

32
33 So it would do two things. One, it
34 would change our goals, but, two, it would give these
35 guys a one year grace to either fight for what they've
36 got or to say, yeah, we really would like to focus on
37 enhancement and this is what we'd like to do with a
38 proposal.

39
40 Mr. Douville.

41
42 MR. DOUVILLE: I sort of agree with you
43 but, you know, I just used Hetta as an example, there's
44 a lot of others that I think we have some real good
45 counts on, you know, and maybe it's probably lack of my
46 observation that I haven't said something before now,
47 you know, that these things get going and pretty soon
48 you realize, well, wait a minute, you know, we do have
49 a lot of good numbers and now -- you know, we were
50 doing this because there was a problem and now we

1 probably have enough numbers to address some of the
2 problems.

3

4 MR. CASIPIT: Madame Chair. Mr.
5 Douville. You are exactly right. I think we're at the
6 point now where we need to look at some of these
7 systems pretty seriously about some actions that should
8 be taken at them. I kind of briefly mentioned, you
9 know, Kanalku, Kook Lake, Basket Bay, Hetta, Klawock
10 for that matter. I mean I'm not quite sure what's
11 going on there but, you know, they've been investing
12 more and more money into a hatchery program for sockeye
13 that doesn't seem to be paying much dividend. So, you
14 know, those are the kind of issues that we need the
15 wisdom of the Council with deciding in what should be
16 done in some of these locations based on the
17 information that's presented.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So the
20 first thing, okay, is looking at the proposed funding
21 blocks there and the fact that preproposals were
22 already submitted, if we say we don't want to support
23 any of them because we want them to look at enhancement
24 and remediation, do they still have time to do that or
25 should we give them a one year grace; that's the first
26 consideration for me.

27

28 MR. CASIPIT: Madame Chair. Actually
29 the Federal Subsistence Board has a policy that these
30 FIS funds are not used for enhancement purposes, that
31 the actual enhancement activities are taken care of by
32 the land management agency, in this case, the Forest
33 Service. I kind of mentioned before that I have been
34 in discussion with our fisheries program manager, the
35 fisheries part of our -- of the Forest Service about
36 doing some of these projects and he's basically willing
37 to do that in partnership with the subsistence program.
38 So as far as getting money for enhancement think we
39 can make that happen but we cant use FIS funds for it
40 because of the Board policy, but we do have funds in
41 another place where we can, as an agency, do those kind
42 of things.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Well, that's where
45 I was trying to bring in sort of the PSC money was that
46 could be the actual enhancement because I thought you
47 couldn't use the money for enhancement. But if you use
48 Pacific Salmon Commission for the enhancement and use
49 FIS for whatever, for small levels of monitoring or
50 something, that you would still get the joint funds to

1 do something that's going to take us forward.

2

3 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Madame Chair.
4 Yeah, and my point was, was that this agency does not
5 control the disposition of those Pacific Salmon funds,
6 we do control the funds, our fisheries management funds
7 and like I said I think there's widespread agreement in
8 the Forest Service that sockeye enhancement projects
9 that are important to subsistence communities are the
10 highest priority for the Forest Service.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: I understand that
13 we don't control those funds but you can -- I mean some
14 of the success of some of these problems are because
15 they are tagging on each other. I mean the Pacific
16 Salmon projects look better because they have FIS money
17 and FIS money looks better because they have the salmon
18 money so you can write a grant that includes
19 enhancement with the PSC money. And so you don't
20 control it but if you write it and you have some FIS
21 matching funds with it that may not be directed for
22 enhancement but still is directed towards the project
23 then it will look better than other projects that don't
24 have matching or companion funds.

25

26 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Madame Chair.
27 You're exactly right. And that's exactly what I was
28 talking about as far as partnering with our own agency
29 to help. We've talked about, for instance, Kanalku,
30 you know, if there's a problem with a barrier or, you
31 know, carrying capacity in a lake the fisheries program
32 of the Forest Service would be more than happy to work
33 with us. Maybe we could take the stock assessment part
34 as far as the weirs or mark and recapture projects, and
35 the fisheries program could handle the radio-tagging to
36 look at fish using the falls and issues of carrying
37 capacity in the lake and fertilization, and that would
38 be a good, as far as I'm concerned, internal
39 partnership within the Forest Service.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Kitka.

42

43 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Madame Chair.
44 There's several things I'd like to question. One is
45 like carrying capacity of a lake, would you go through
46 local knowledge to find out what it used to carry at
47 one time? Because basically just the reason why I
48 wanted to ask that the lake in Sitka where they did
49 some enhancement was Redoubt Lake and the returns have
50 come back and they're pretty close to between 50 and

1 70,000 sockeye coming back and Fish and Game told us
2 that it wouldn't handle more than, I think 70,000 or
3 something like that. But we know for a fact in the
4 past records and from the past fishermen that used to
5 fish the area and somewhere close to half a million
6 were caught out of that lake, getting in there when
7 there used to be a commercial fishery as well as the
8 local people subsisting in that area. But it seems
9 like nobody will believe the local knowledge on some of
10 this stuff and that was just one of the things.

11

12 I really believe some of the habitat of
13 where they spawn needs to be studied to find out what
14 happens and why the numbers are going down even when
15 some places are not being fished.

16

17 Thank you.

18

19 MR. CASIPIT: Madame Chair. Mr. Kitka.

20 You know, I believe that Terry Suminski believes your
21 numbers for Redoubt. He's been very active in that
22 project and making sure that that project gets carried
23 out properly and works out. As far as local knowledge
24 or traditional knowledge about escapements from other
25 lake systems, I think that would be very important to
26 us in planning enhancement activities. It's another
27 piece of information that needs to be cranked into our
28 analysis and, you know, I fully support TEK knowledge
29 or TEK in these types of enhancement projects and I
30 think our subsistence biologists do too.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, we're sort
33 of dragging here and I think we're all sort of on the
34 same page so we got to figure out how we're going to
35 move forward.

36

37 So the first question I have and I'm
38 going to ask Steve Kessler to come forward here because
39 he knows the process as well. Do we, in looking at
40 Table 2, if we want to change direction, I feel like we
41 need to be considerate of the preproposals that were
42 submitted but can we just say that we would like them
43 funded for one year. I don't want to go through and
44 duke out and say we're only going to fund half of them
45 so we have funding available for something else, but I
46 know that when Doug McBride has presented in the past
47 it's sort of, we fund for several years and then
48 there's very little money left for anything else. So
49 how should we go forward.

50

1 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Madame Chair.
2 Members of the Council. I think that's a great idea,
3 myself. And in fact when you mentioned that I'm
4 probably going to talk about that with the TRC just
5 because I have strong concerns about us launching off
6 and do another three years without having the strategic
7 planning process done that, you know, Patty and
8 Harvey's going to be involved with. So that's a good
9 idea, that may just be my input at the TRC meeting for
10 these projects.

11
12 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, so that can
13 be one motion. So the next question is enhancement and
14 habitat seem to be issues here. I understand that
15 enhancement isn't in the FIS protocol or wordology.
16 Can we request that enhancement be included? I mean
17 can we say we've done monitoring enough we need to do
18 something else?

19
20 MR. KESSLER: Madame Chair. Members of
21 the Council. Steve Kessler with the Forest Service.
22 My answer to that is no. When we receive these funds
23 from Congress we receive them for certain purposes.
24 And we receive them as a result of the new Federal role
25 in subsistence management. We didn't receive them for
26 anything else.

27
28 For, instance, the Federal role in
29 subsistence were to go away and the State would modify
30 their constitution then these funds that we have would
31 go away.

32
33 So the way we have to look at this is,
34 is this the type of work that we would do if we weren't
35 in the management role that we're in right now. And,
36 for instance, in enhancement, Mr. Casipit was
37 completely correct, we have been doing enhancement with
38 our regular Forest Service funds. It's a whole
39 different appropriation. Enhancement is part of what
40 we have done for 30 or 40 years. We've built fish
41 ladders, we did fertilization of Redoubt Lake. We've
42 done various things as far as stream enhancement.
43 There's all sorts of things that the Forest Service has
44 always done with regular Forest Service funds.

45
46 These funds that we receive are not
47 appropriate for enhancement. I think Cal's got some
48 points that there's ways that we can probably join the
49 two sets of funds to do some monitoring and do some
50 enhancement at the same time, it's probably logical

1 that we use subsistence funds, if necessary for the
2 monitoring aspects of it, but we also did monitoring
3 aspects with our regular Forest Service funds also.

4
5 The type of thing that we usually did
6 not do with our regular funds were, for instance, the
7 TEK work that's being done and we did not normally put
8 in fish weirs and try and count fish and try and do
9 things for in-season management, those types of things
10 we didn't do prior to receiving this Congressional line
11 item for the subsistence management program.

12
13 So straight enhancement, no, it's not
14 appropriate.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So we are
17 talking about some type of joint operation or
18 collaborative efforts and part of that is with the
19 State and so I think we'll hear from the State.

20
21 MS. SEE: Madame Chair. For the
22 record. my name is Marianne See with the State of
23 Alaska and I just checked with our Commissioner's
24 office about the question that you raised earlier about
25 Pacific Salmon funding and the extent to which there
26 might be availability of funds for enhancement
27 purposes. And I was told that the current allocations
28 are, in fact, already earmarked for other purposes
29 other than enhancement. In the past enhancement has
30 been funded with those funds for the purposes of
31 economic development and that could be considered in
32 the future.

33
34 I was told that the next available
35 funds for which that could be considered would be --
36 the actual availability would be July of '07 so
37 sometime during this next year proposals to that effect
38 would need to be developed. And I didn't get a
39 detailed timeline. But that's basically the picture on
40 availability. There's nothing available right now but
41 it could be considered in the future.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So then if we did
44 suggest that we fund these projects only for one year
45 then that would fit right into potentially using the
46 salmon funds and other potential funds for habitat,
47 remediation, enhancement in future projects.

48
49 Okay. So Mr. Adams.

50

1 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair. I
2 have a question here, I'm just wondering why there
3 isn't anything going on here for Yakutat, because, you
4 know, we had this problem several years ago with the
5 East Alsek River and then we did this TEK project, you
6 know, focusing on the East Alsek and so the community
7 then, you know, submitted several follow up proposals
8 that would follow that TEK project and I have never
9 heard anything, you know, come out of it since then.
10 I'm kind of ticked off at myself for not keeping track
11 of that. But I'm kind of wondering, you know, where
12 did Yakutat go in all of this funding program.

13
14 MR. CASIPIT: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
15 Adams. Madame Chair. You're exactly right, your
16 observations are exactly right. Unfortunately -- you
17 know, basically we haven't had any proposals from
18 Yakutat in the past three years or so. Now, I know the
19 Forest Service, again, through its regular fisheries
20 program has taken on some stock assessments, I think,
21 in the Aukway and I think there was another one, I
22 don't -- the name doesn't come to the tip of my tongue
23 right now. But, you know, there has been work there,
24 it just hasn't been done through this FIS program. And
25 as you know East Alsek is outside the Forest Service
26 boundary and so we can't spend funds over there. But
27 if something for East Alsek was proposed, I mean it
28 would be put in this cycle just like any other proposal
29 and we wouldn't discriminate against it just because
30 it's Park Service land. I mean the FIS program is for
31 all Federal lands where subsistence fishing occurs.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Adams.

34
35 MR. ADAMS: Yes. East Alsek is
36 definitely within the National Park Service. But
37 somewhere along the line, you know, there was about
38 three or four proposals that were supposed to follow
39 our TEK project and somehow or another, you know, they
40 fell through the cracks. I know that, is it Chad
41 Sothith (ph) from Gustavus, you know, I talked with
42 him, I think it was earlier last year, just about a
43 year ago and he said that they were going to -- that he
44 was going to try to do something there but maybe Mr.
45 Jim Capra, you know, would be able to help us out on
46 that.

47
48 But as far as, you know, I can't
49 remember the projects but there was going to be, you
50 know, a weir put in there, you know, to count the

1 numbers of fish and all that. And you're right, Cal, I
2 am aware of some of the things that the Forest Service
3 has been doing at the Aukway and Italia River, and even
4 in the Ahrnklin River, you know, and I really admire
5 the work that has been going on down there because
6 those rivers have been doing pretty well, you know, the
7 past couple years or so. And the tribal government,
8 you know, has been really concerned about the
9 productions of those rivers because if and when the
10 Hubbard Glacier closes off and it spills -- the Fjord,
11 you know, spills off on the other end it's going to
12 balloon that Situk River to about three to five times
13 larger than what it is. It's also going to change it
14 from a freshwater lake into a glacier river, and so
15 we're anticipating if and when that happens it's going
16 to take, you know, anywhere from five to 20 years
17 before it begins to rebound back. And so the tribal
18 government has been looking at watching what is
19 happening down in the other rivers so that we can, you
20 know, focus our attention to those rivers for our
21 subsistence resources. And I'm happy to say that, you
22 know, the results have been pretty good the past couple
23 years that I'm aware of.

24
25 But, again, you know, I think we need
26 to focus, you know, more on this type of funding for
27 those projects. And perhaps Mr. Capra can answer my
28 question about Chad's work that him and I discussed
29 last year.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: And then after
32 that we'll have to start taking some action and wrap
33 this up and keep moving or we'll be here until Friday
34 afternoon or Saturday morning.

35
36 Mr. Capra.

37
38 MR. CAPRA: Madame Chair. Council
39 member Adams. I must have gotten flustered with giving
40 my report a little too early.

41
42 (Laughter)

43
44 MR. CAPRA: Council member Adams is
45 correct. The Park Service, after submitting the stock
46 assessment program through FIS for, I believe, three
47 years in a row and it didn't make the cut, it was just
48 below the line because of the expense each of those
49 three years, decided the problem was urgent enough and
50 Chad Sothith our fisheries biologist looked around for

1 funding pretty extensively and found funding through
2 the Park Service and the US Geologic Survey to do
3 what's not entirely a stock assessment survey but water
4 quality monitoring which needed to be done on the river
5 which might determine the causes of the decline in the
6 room and also some stock assessment work. It wasn't
7 exactly the project we were looking for but it
8 hopefully will meet the goals that we need.

9
10 That project is a two year project. It
11 started this last summer. The two man crew who is
12 working on it expected to have the first year's data,
13 at least, in rough form ready before this meeting, but
14 it was not. They are going to start on their second
15 year and anticipate having all of their data together
16 by March of '07.

17
18 Thank you.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So we think
21 we have potential language here that I think is in
22 resolution form.

23
24 Considering funding limitations and the
25 projects that have been completed in
26 Southeast Alaska during the FIS
27 program, SERAC believes that the goals
28 of the Southeast FIS program need to be
29 reevaluated.

30
31 We request that the priorities include
32 biological and TEK studies on eulachon.

33
34 The Council strongly supports
35 enhancement and rehabilitation projects
36 understanding that FIS funds may not be
37 able to support projects of these
38 types.

39
40 Joint projects using the State of
41 Alaska Sustainable Salmon funds,
42 National Park Service and Forest
43 Service funding sources may be
44 available for enhancement and
45 rehabilitation.

46
47 The geographic distribution of the
48 projects also needs to be reevaluated.
49 Information needs in the Yakutat area
50 and perhaps in other areas of Southeast

1 Alaska need to be addressed in future
2 projects.
3
4 Because the strategic planning is
5 underway at this time with likely
6 results of developing revised
7 priorities for Southeast Alaska we
8 recommend funding projects in the
9 current funding round to be limited to
10 one year only, 2007.
11
12 DR. SCHROEDER: We're already in 2006.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay.
15
16 MR. DOUVILLE: So moved.
17
18 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: There's been a
19 motion to this effect by Mr. Douville.
20
21 MR. ADAMS: I'll second.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Seconded by Mr.
24 Adams.
25
26 (Pause)
27
28 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Kitka.
29
30 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Madame Chair.
31 Habitation projects, was that a study of habitation or
32 was that a -- because at this point I don't think they
33 really studied whether part of the habitat is the
34 problem on the fisheries spawning grounds.
35
36 Thank you.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So you mean that
39 first sentence in the second paragraph for enhancement
40 and rehabilitation.
41
42 MR. KITKA: (Nods affirmatively)
43
44 (Pause)
45
46 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: I think the intent
47 is that, as you and Mr. Douville discussed, is that we
48 need to go beyond monitoring and I think basically this
49 gives you and Ms. Phillips some tools when you go to
50 the strategic meeting to let them know that we do want

1 to expand beyond it and it could probably be clarified
2 there.

3

4 But I think the first step is that we
5 want the funds, this year's cycle funding limited to
6 one year only so funds would be available to future
7 projects.

8

9 Mr. Casipit.

10

11 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Madame Chair.
12 Mr. Kitka. I just wanted to state that, you know, I
13 used to work in the regular fisheries program before I
14 came to subsistence and as far as enhancement and
15 rehabilitation, you know, there's some homework that
16 has to be done before we undertake those things and the
17 things we look at is spawning habitat, lake carrying
18 capacity, all these issues, and as you know, you know,
19 to do a fertilization project there's a bit of homework
20 that we have to do and we look at all these issues and
21 we -- it's almost like a doctor would evaluate a
22 patient. You know, we look at the patient, we look at
23 what's wrong, we do blood work and we do all this --
24 the blood work would be lineology work and we look at
25 all the issues and we develop a prescription for
26 treating the problem. And all that goes into that
27 enhancement rehabilitation program. We just don't go
28 out willy-nilly and build fish passes wherever we think
29 they need to be and do fertilization everywhere, it's a
30 very involved and scientific process on deciding how
31 and where to do these enhancement and rehabilitation
32 projects.

33

34 Thank you.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Kitka.

37

38 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Madame Chair.

39 Thank you, Cal.

40

41 MS. PHILLIPS: Question.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, it was moved
44 by Douville, seconded by Adams, question by Phillips,
45 they're on a roll on this side. Any further
46 discussion.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: All in favor of

1 the motion to support this draft resolution which may
2 be cleaned up a little but will be our first
3 resolution, I think, for the year, signify by saying
4 aye.

5
6 IN UNISON: Aye.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Opposed.

9
10 (No opposing votes)

11
12 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: The motion passes.
13 And we may need some clarification stuff but we'll get
14 it, the intent was there.

15
16 Well, that was a quick report.

17
18 Thank you.

19
20 DR. SCHROEDER: We still don't have a
21 place and meeting dates.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Yes, yes, five
24 minute break.

25
26 (Off record)

27
28 (On record)

29
30 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, so we had
31 just finished the Fishery Resource Monitoring Program.
32 We recommended the funding only for one year and we
33 through resolution changed our goals so that will go
34 forward with Patty and Harvey to the April meeting that
35 we want eulachon looked at, Yakutat and work into
36 enhancement and rehabilitation.

37
38 Mr. Kitka.

39
40 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Madame Chair. I
41 think I was busy writing at that time and missed where
42 it was going to be at.

43
44 MR. CASIPIT: Madame Chair. Mr. Kitka.
45 It will be in Juneau.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So we are
48 going to switch, what's next on the agenda since we
49 have Cal in front of us we'll go straight to 13.

50

1 Mr. Casipit.

2

3 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Madame Chair.
4 Members of the Council. I'll call your attention to
5 the packet of materials that were handed out a little
6 bit ago, it has a handwritten coversheet on them.

7

8 The first thing I was asked to talk
9 about was results of the Board of Fisheries meeting
10 January 21 through February 1 in Ketchikan. Mr. Rod
11 Campbell from OSM, Ben VanAlen, Robert Larson and Terry
12 Suminski as well as myself were there for the meeting.
13 We participated fully in public testimony. In fact, I
14 testified in support of -- testified on several
15 proposals at the request of Chairman Littlefield, he
16 was there as well. Chairman Littlefield testified on
17 several proposals as well. And what I presented to you
18 would be the first page is a summary of the actions
19 that I thought that the Council is interested in. This
20 is by no means all of the proposals that the Board of
21 Fish deliberated on. But I thought those were the ones
22 that were the most -- that the Council was most
23 interested in.

24

25 I can go over each of those ones if you
26 want me to but maybe if you guys just want to review
27 that and if you have any questions we can talk about
28 it.

29

30 I do want to talk about one proposal in
31 particular though, Proposal 169. This proposal was
32 submitted by Mr. Floyd Kookesh to deal with issues in
33 Upper Chatham Straits. His was a two part proposal.
34 One was to allocate 4,000 sockeye salmon from the
35 Hidden Falls Terminal harvest area to be given to the
36 communities of Kake and Angoon and that was viewed as
37 sort of a stop gap measure, the more important part of
38 that was to form this Chatham Area Management Task
39 Force to look at the issue of commercial interceptions
40 of sockeye that are important to subsistence users in
41 the Chatham Straits area.

42

43 As you can see -- you can see the
44 result of the vote by the Board of Fish.

45

46 Like I said Mr. Ben VanAlen was at the
47 meeting. He had prepared the copy of the PowerPoint
48 presentation that you see beginning on the second part
49 of that handout. I've reproduced his PowerPoint
50 presentation that he was prepared to give to the Board

1 and the Board of Fish committee that was dealing with
2 this issue, we asked formally that he be allowed to
3 make this presentation to the Board and to the
4 committee, he was not allowed to. So I just wanted to
5 provide this to the Council so you could see the
6 information that Ben very conscientiously developed for
7 this meeting.

8

9 I could go through this slide by slide
10 but I don't think I want to do that in the interest of
11 time. But basically Staff, based on this information -
12 - Federal Staff -- Forest Service Federal Staff that --
13 you know we've been talking together with Ben for quite
14 some time about this and like I said before we're very
15 concerned about Kanalku, Kook Lake as well, primarily
16 Kanalku that escapements have been extremely low. The
17 community has voluntarily stopped fishing there and yet
18 we're not seeing the escapements increase.

19

20 I guess maybe I should talk about some
21 of the -- well, maybe what I'll do is just stop there
22 on the Kanalku proposal and maybe we can come back to
23 it if there's questions. But I just -- anyway, we're
24 very concerned about Kanalku and we're kind of
25 struggling as to -- you know, we took the first step to
26 try to get the Board of Fish to address the issue, the
27 result is what you see, and so we're, you know, the
28 Council may want to say something or do something about
29 it but it's at the Council's prerogative.

30

31 Skipping to the second topic, fisheries
32 proposals for '07, I've included the last hand -- the
33 last page is a rough draft of a proposal that the
34 Council may want to submit as a Council proposal.
35 Basically what it does is eliminates the specified
36 sockeye harvest limits for Virginia Lake, Mill Creek,
37 Toms Creek and Falls Lake and Gut Bay.

38

39 As you know the Council, two years ago,
40 submitted a Council sponsored proposal and it was
41 approved by the Federal Subsistence Board to basically
42 state in our Federal regulations that the harvest
43 limits for sockeye are the same that are printed on the
44 State subsistence permits. In the case that a stream
45 or lake is not included on State/Federal permit, the
46 Federal limit is 10 sockeye per day, 20 in possession
47 per household. Basically what this proposal would do
48 would remove the existing limits that are in our
49 regulations and default to what's on the State permits
50 for those locations. It's very similar to the proposal

1 that you supported last year that basically did the
2 same thing for Kutlaku Bay of Pillars. This is -- we
3 view this as almost a housekeeping proposal to
4 basically simplify our regulations and make it easier
5 for subsistence users to understand the regulations and
6 the harvest limits and basically have one-stop shopping
7 for their subsistence permits.

8

9 One of the other proposals that the
10 Council may want to consider -- well, probably should
11 consider submitting is a revised C&T proposal for the
12 Icy Straits cross Sound communities and I'm sure Bob
13 would be able to help crafting a proposal for that --
14 Dr. Schroeder would be happy to craft a proposal for
15 that as well.

16

17 But those are the two proposals that I
18 know that -- or think that the Council may be
19 interested in submitting as Council proposals. I'm not
20 aware of any public proposals, proposals from the
21 general public that may be submitted or could be
22 submitted. I have not heard of any of that.

23

24 So with that I'll be happy to answer
25 any questions.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So thank you Mr.
28 Casipit. So has this proposed regulation been reviewed
29 by Angoon or by Floyd or by whom?

30

31 MR. CASIPIT: Is that in regards to
32 Proposal 169, the PowerPoint?

33

34 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: This one you just
35 covered.

36

37 MR. CASIPIT: Oh, this one, I'm sorry.
38 Actually this is submitted to the Council for you guys
39 to review at this meeting, if you do want to do
40 something like this, you know, as Staff we would help
41 you guys craft that and submit it. If you don't want
42 to do it, that's fine, too.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Right. But part
45 of our discussion on whether or not we want to support
46 it is whether or not it's been reviewed by Angoon,
47 whether or not you think there would be any objection
48 from them.

49

50 MR. CASIPIT: I haven't directly talked

1 to Mr. Kookesh about this at all. But if you notice
2 there Salmon Bay that's on north Prince of Wales, the
3 primary users of those are Petersburg and Wrangell.
4 Virginia Lake and Mill Creek is, again, Wrangell. Toms
5 Creek is Wrangell. All these limits were actually put
6 into place by a proposal from Mr. Stokes several years
7 ago with us making the change in Federal regulations to
8 these higher limits. Basically the Alaska Department
9 of Fish and Game followed suit and changed their
10 permits as well to meet these limits. So we regard
11 this as, like I said, sort of housekeeping.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: My apologies. I
14 thought we were looking at some action for the Angoon
15 area, so I got mixed up. So we are looking -- this
16 action is not to the Angoon district but rather to Kake
17 users in the area of Toms Lake?

18

19 MR. DAVIS: Yes.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So let me
22 ask Mr. Davis if he read this and what you think.

23

24 MR. DAVIS: Madame Chair. I actually
25 just got it here so I didn't really read it here, too
26 busy with other things.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Douville.

29

30 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
31 I have some questions about this proposal. Anyway,
32 let's take a step back or two. I don't know what the
33 Federal side could do about -- first of all in these
34 effective streams like Kook -- or the upper Chatham
35 streams, do you have a level of fish that you could
36 determine now that should be going into those streams
37 as compared to what's going in there now, can you
38 document some of that. We kind of know what's happening
39 or we do know that interception is a portion --
40 interception is causing some of these numbers to be
41 lower. Is there anything that can be done to force
42 the issue to -- because the State controls the
43 commercial fisheries to deal with this particular
44 issue. This proposal here was really a nice one, would
45 you do this, I mean is there teeth anywhere that can be
46 used to accomplish because these streams are in serious
47 trouble. And to knee doing proposals to lower or
48 eliminate subsistence fisheries is not the answer, in
49 my opinion, we need to go somewhere other than that.

50

1 Do you kind of understand what I'm kind
2 of asking you?

3

4 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Madame Chair.
5 Mr. Douville. You know I can't disagree with anything
6 you said. I do want to point out that unfortunately we
7 do not have enough information for Kanalku or Kook to
8 develop an escapement goal. That was part of the
9 problem at the Board of Fish because we didn't have an
10 escapement goal, by definition under the State
11 Sustainable Salmon Policy, because you don't have an
12 escapement goal, there's no -- you can't have a
13 conservation concern if you don't have an escapement
14 goal.

15

16 But let me say something as a caveat to
17 that, I personally believe if you have only 300 fish
18 escaping to a lake like Kanalku you do have a
19 conservation concern, I have a conservation concern for
20 Kanalku, you're exactly right. Mr. Kookesh viewed his
21 proposal as a step towards addressing the problem, you
22 know, and getting a task force together to address
23 issues and look at perhaps make time and area closures
24 for seine fisheries in Chatham Straits to protect these
25 two stocks. Like I said the result from the Board of
26 Fish is as you see it.

27

28 You know, quite frankly about the only
29 other -- you know, other than having this cooperative
30 management plan going on that apparently isn't going to
31 happen, perhaps, you know, the only other alternative
32 that this Council has is a petition for extra-
33 territorial jurisdiction.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Douville.

36

37 MR. DOUVILLE: Just a follow up. I
38 briefly glanced at this proposal that Floyd submitted
39 and to me it did not address the proposal, it only more
40 or less looked at a way to get some fish to Kake and
41 Angoon, it really did not address the problem and I had
42 a problem with that part of it because there is a
43 problem and it needs to be addressed. We need to help
44 this system out.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Cal.

47

48 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Mr. Douville.
49 Madame Chair. Maybe I wasn't clear, Mr. Kookesh's
50 proposal was, you know, this 4,000 fish thing to be

1 shared with Kake and Angoon, that was a stop gap
2 measure to address the needs for sockeye in those two
3 communities, at least for the short-term. I think the
4 long-term solution that he was talking -- or not a
5 long-term, or longer than the just a couple years, is
6 that over the next couple two or three years this
7 broad-based management group would look at all these
8 issues and come up with a management plan to present to
9 the Board of Fish at their next cycle to address the
10 issue of commercial interceptions of these stocks that
11 are important to subsistence users.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: One more, Mr.
14 Douville.

15

16 MR. DOUVILLE: One more thing, and
17 that's I would hope that you could establish a baseline
18 and come up with an escapement goal. We're still
19 funding these things, I believe and hopefully that
20 would be our goal so we could do whatever we have to to
21 see that some of these problems -- or the problem is
22 corrected.

23

24 Thank you.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So perhaps part of
27 the goal, the new direction that we just suggested for
28 Southeast FIS funds, enhancement, rehabilitation and
29 developing escapement goals. I mean if that's part of
30 the process, can we develop the escapement goal with
31 other tools and I know in other parts of the US they
32 do, where they have limited data, so that shouldn't be
33 used as it is being used, to avoid a conservation
34 issue.

35

36 But we do need to move along, I mean
37 that action was not taken by the Board of Fish, we just
38 have to figure out what has to be done and that's going
39 to have to include Angoon who isn't here right now.

40

41 Ms. Phillips.

42

43 MS. PHILLIPS: What about listing it as
44 a threatened species.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Davis.

47

48 MR. DAVIS: Yeah, that's why I asked
49 you if you knew the dates of your monitoring program
50 because there was a lot of fish that came in there

1 after it was closed for subsistence and a lot of people
2 were saying that it might be due to the warm water.

3

4 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. We're not
5 going to fix anything here, we got to keep moving. So
6 we have in front of us, we have -- Angoon has some
7 issues that they need some help with, perhaps it can
8 work through FIS funding, perhaps they can come up with
9 better proposals, who knows. But we do have a proposed
10 Federal Subsistence proposal on the last page that Mr.
11 Casipit gave to us, it regards the area around Kake.
12 Mr. Davis didn't have time to look at it, are you
13 prepared to comment on it now or do you want to look at
14 it over break.

15

16 MR. DAVIS: I'll look over it at break.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, so we're
19 going to hold off on that until you two have a time to
20 talk.

21

22 The second one was Gustavus.

23

24 MR. CASIPIT: Yes, Madame Chair. I'm
25 not sure how you want to frame it but the original
26 proposal that you tabled was a proposal to include
27 Gustavus in 14(B) and (C) and I believe the Council at
28 that time wanted to broaden the area and broaden the
29 communities for consideration and so it'd be more
30 communities and a bigger area than just 14(B) and (C).
31 That was my understanding of what the Council wanted to
32 do.

33

34 Again, I would ask for some help from
35 Bob on this to put that together.

36

37 One other thing that I forgot to
38 mention is that the Council may want to propose
39 something for Makhnati Island, you know, with the
40 Proposed Rule and the submerged lands of Makhnati
41 Island, is there something the Council wants to
42 propose.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, we're going
45 to do one thing at a time, you're jumping too far
46 ahead, you're.....

47

48 MR. CASIPIT: Okay, well, I just wanted
49 to.....

50

1 MADAME CHAIR GARZA:getting me
2 confused.
3
4 MR. CASIPIT: I just wanted to.....
5
6 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay.
7
8 MR. CASIPIT: Yeah.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: I'm cutting you
11 off here. There, cut you off.
12
13 (Laughter)
14
15 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, so we have
16 first, what you're talking about right here and then
17 we'll get to the next one. So Dr. Schroeder
18 fortunately has been working while we're trying to
19 figure out what we're doing and I think we got it so
20 let's take a look.
21
22 MR. SCHROEDER: It's easier because
23 when I'm not talking to do things.
24
25 Basically the issue here is that when
26 the Council tabled the Gustavus customary and
27 traditional use proposal, we went on record saying that
28 we wanted a proposal in the next cycle that would look
29 at C&T for this whole area. We don't have to do
30 wordsmithing here, but I did want to put it before the
31 Council to get an idea of what the Council proposal
32 would be.
33
34 This proposal requests a positive C&T
35 determination for fish for the
36 residents of Icy Strait crossline
37 communities, it lists them and rural
38 residents living at remote locations in
39 this area in District 14 and in
40 portions of Districts 12 and 13 where
41 fishing is known to take place.
42
43 Specific C&T determinations are in
44 regulation only for Hoonah and only for
45 a portion of the Hoonah Traditional
46 Area.
47
48 So I think this is what we said -- what
49 the Council said that the Council wanted to do back
50 when we dealt with the Gustavus proposal. We don't

1 need to discuss this, obviously this is determined by
2 data. We have.....

3

4 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Patty does need to
5 hop off and jump on a plane, do you want to weigh in on
6 this language here real quick.

7

8 MS. PHILLIPS: I'll support it.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Would you say that
11 on the record.

12

13 MS. PHILLIPS: Madame Chair. I'll
14 support that proposal when it's cleaned up.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Dr. Schroeder.

17

18 MR. SCHROEDER: Okay, I don't think I
19 need anything else from you other than a motion to
20 accept submitting such a proposal and then I'd work
21 that out and then our procedure is to route our
22 proposals through the Chair who, in fact, submits them
23 on behalf of the Council.

24

25 MR. STOKES: Madame Chair.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Stokes.

28

29 MR. STOKES: I so move.

30

31 MR. DOUVILLE: Second.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: It's been moved
34 and seconded to have Staff and the Chair further
35 develop this proposal to expand C&T for Northern Cross
36 and submit it as part of this cycle.

37

38 All in favor of the motion signify by
39 saying aye.

40

41 IN UNISON: Aye.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Opposed.

44

45 (No opposing votes)

46

47 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: And just
48 remembering that Ms. Phillips did support the language
49 once it's cleaned up.

50

1 All right, so you thought there would
2 be one more thing, Mr. Casipit, Makhnati.

3
4 MR. CASIPIT: Yeah, I just thought that
5 the Council may want to submit a proposal to deal with
6 Makhnati Islands submerged lands. It's up to the
7 Council.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Kitka, is this
10 where you kick in and keep us rolling.

11
12 MR. KITKA: Madame Chair, thank you. I
13 would like to submit a proposal for the Sitka area,
14 Makhnati Island, actually the harbor, Whiting harbor is
15 basically a subsistence area for herring and I'd like
16 to submit a proposal to have a closure in that area.
17 I'd like to have Staff help me with the writing on
18 that.

19
20 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. At a
21 break I discussed the area with Mr. Kitka. We have a
22 map found in your proposal book on Page 37, roughly, I
23 believe.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: 41.

26
27 MR. SCHROEDER: 41. And when we
28 reviewed the correspondence this is one area for which
29 Federal rulemaking is taking place to allow the Federal
30 program to administer this area for subsistence users,
31 so a proposal would be in order for this area at this
32 time. And I believe, Mr. Kitka, your interest was the
33 herring fishery which takes place in which months.

34
35 MR. KITKA: Madame Chair. The herring
36 fishery usually takes place somewhere between the
37 middle of March and middle of April.

38
39 MR. SCHROEDER: And the intention of
40 the proposal would be, can you put something on the
41 record of what the intention of the proposal would be,
42 Harvey.

43
44 MR. KITKA: Madame Chair. I would like
45 to have the area closed to commercial fishing and allow
46 for subsistence use only.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Kitka, when
49 you started this, did you make this as a motion or do
50 you wish to make a motion now.

1 MR. KITKA: Madame Chair, I'd like to
2 make it as a motion. I was hoping Staff would help me
3 clean up the language.

4
5 Thank you.

6
7 MR. STOKES: I'll second the motion.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So with the
10 language being cleared up at break and language on the
11 first draft proposal worked out with Mr. Davis, so on
12 Whiting Harbor there will be draft language to
13 designate that area as subsistence only is the intent.

14
15 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chairman. I
16 think the intent is real clear from both discussions
17 with Mr. Kitka, on the record and also our earlier
18 discussions before Chairman Littlefield had to leave
19 the meeting. I think Staff have a sufficient amount to
20 proceed on should the Council vote to submit this
21 proposal.

22
23 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: We're going to
24 vote on it first.

25
26 Mr. Kessler.

27
28 MR. KESSLER: Madame Chair. I was just
29 going to suggest that if you want to move this forward
30 as a proposal, it might be a good idea to look at the
31 criteria that you usually discuss for proposals, you
32 know, is there substantial evidence, effects on others,
33 et cetera, et cetera, and that way that would be really
34 good to have on the record to justify why this closure
35 is necessary.

36
37 Thank you.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Considering the
40 proposal goes through the Chair, I think he can work
41 with Staff to fill in all those spots. He knows the
42 area well and could probably go ad nauseam on meeting
43 those criteria so we'll make sure that gets done.

44
45 Okay, is there a call for the question
46 on the motion.

47
48 Mr. Bangs.

49
50 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Madame Chair.

1 Is the proposal strictly aimed towards herring or is
2 there dungeness crab or abalone or whatever other
3 species or are we just looking at one species here.

4
5 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. Harvey.
6 My understanding is that the request is to close this
7 area for commercial fishing of herring and that would
8 be during the time period when subsistence use of
9 herring takes place; is that correct?

10
11 MR. KITKA: Madame Chair. That is
12 correct.

13
14 MR. SCHROEDER: If that included the
15 months of March and April, would that meet your
16 intention, Harvey?

17
18 MR. KITKA: Yes, it would.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Is there a
21 question.

22
23 MR. DAVIS: Call for the question.

24
25 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Call for the
26 question. So the motion is to support submitting a
27 Council proposal requesting that the Makhnati Island
28 area, specifically the Whiting Harbor area be closed to
29 commercial herring fishery from mid-March to mid-April,
30 and that subsistence harvest be the primary use of that
31 area. That language will be cleared up and it will be
32 cleaned up with the Staff as well as Chairman
33 Littlefield who I'm sure will do a good job since this
34 is his baby.

35
36 All in favor of the motion signify by
37 saying aye.

38
39 IN UNISON: Aye.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Opposed.

42
43 (No opposing votes)

44
45 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Motion passes.
46 Following what Mr. Bangs was saying, I mean was there
47 interest in expanding to other species of protection or
48 should we run this one through first.

49
50 Dr. Schroeder.

1 MR. SCHROEDER: The other item, just so
2 we don't lose track of it among the many items that we
3 have to go through, when we dealt with the Makhnati
4 Island material earlier in the meeting there was
5 discussion about the other nine areas where there may
6 or may not be significant amounts of Federal land, and
7 it was the interest of the Chair at that time do two
8 things.

9
10 One was to proceed with actions
11 concerning Makhnati Island, namely this proposal, and
12 also support for the Federal Register notice, and we
13 may have another work item on that as well. But that
14 we write to the Federal Subsistence Board and request
15 further examination of the other nine areas. I'm not
16 familiar with these areas, the record showed that there
17 were some amounts of marine waters covered by these
18 withdrawals and they could be important to some
19 subsistence users is what Mr. Littlefield put on the
20 record before he had to leave.

21
22 So that would be a Council action just
23 to request that we do that follow up and so that we
24 have a record requesting that.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Stokes.

27
28 MR. STOKES: Madame Chair. This may
29 not be a the appropriate time to bring this up but I
30 have two concerns. One, is when we were in Hydaburg I
31 requested a study on Virginia Lakes, Toms, Salmon Bay
32 and I this project has been completed and I have never
33 seen the results of these studies so I would like to
34 have -- and the second one is the concern on the
35 subsistence halibut. And if this is not the right time
36 to say it, please let me know.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, the first
39 one on the study I think we can track that study down
40 and Mr. Casipit will make sure he gets it to you and if
41 not, you can call him up and beat him up, all right.

42
43 Okay, the one on halibut we may get to
44 later. I think the two are separate here.

45
46 MR. STOKES: Okay.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So we need to keep
49 moving here. So we had the second request from our
50 Chair was that we do continue pursuing the other nine

1 areas similar to Makhnati and I think if we just give
2 direction that it can keep going forward or do we need
3 a motion.

4
5 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. If you
6 make a motion, I think that would be better at this
7 point.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Kitka.

10
11 MR. KITKA: Madame Chair, thank you. I
12 would make a motion to have the Board look into the
13 further withdrawal of the nine the areas that Sitka
14 Tribe had originally put in for. I believe there was
15 nine areas.

16
17 MR. DOUVILLE: Second.

18
19 MR. ADAMS: Second.

20
21 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, it's been
22 moved and seconded to address the other nine areas,
23 recognizing although it may not be large land areas
24 they may be very important to subsistence harvest.

25
26 Mr. Douville.

27
28 MR. DOUVILLE: I believe it's the
29 Chairman's request that this request not hinder the
30 Makhnati Island process. I wanted to make sure that
31 this, in effect, has nothing to do with that one, that
32 that should proceed on its own but that this one would
33 request additional review of these.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Thanks for that
36 reminder, and I think we're doing that by doing it as
37 two separate proposals.

38
39 Okay.

40
41 All in favor of the motion to continue
42 working on the other nine areas in the Sitka area where
43 there is Federally-owned submerged lands in Southeast
44 that should potentially have subsistence protections.
45 All in favor signify by saying aye.

46
47 IN UNISON: Aye.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Opposed.

50

1 (No opposing votes)

2

3 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Motion passes.

4

5 MR. SCHROEDER: And, Madame Chair, the
6 final -- I don't know that we need an action at this
7 moment on this but there will be a Federal Register
8 notice issued concerning the Makhnati Island
9 withdrawal, I'm not sure if the Council needs to be
10 able to comment on that action, that Federal Register
11 notice during the comment period or not. Since I'm not
12 sure exactly how the Federal Register notice is going
13 to be written for that rule but I believe it's the
14 intent of the Council to be able to comment
15 appropriately if that looks like it's needed. For the
16 Council to comment there would have to be a notice for
17 a teleconference meeting for the exclusive, sole
18 purpose of commenting on that proposed rule.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: We will leave that
21 to the will of the Chair. If there is a benefit of
22 having an audio-conference in order to comment on it to
23 have public record we will do so. So ordered.

24

25 Okay, we need to step back a few on the
26 agenda. We have the U-2 language that we need to wrap
27 up so we don't walk away and forget it. Mr. Hernandez
28 or Dr. Schroeder, one of you is up.

29

30 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Madame
31 Chair. I think in just a minute Bob will have that
32 language up on the screen and we can review it. I
33 looked it over and I think it seems to meet the
34 objectives that we sought so we'll see what the rest of
35 the Council thinks.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So in terms of
38 process, we had a draft Unit 2 deer management final
39 report from the Unit 2 Deer Planning Subcommittee. In
40 terms of the FACA process under which we operate, that
41 subcommittee report goes to the Regional Advisory
42 Council, the FACA committee and only to the FACA
43 committee for consideration at which point we could
44 toss it, we can accept it, we can amend it, if we amend
45 it and accept it then it does become our report and
46 then can go forward to someone like Federal Subsistence
47 Board.

48

49 So we are at the point where we need to
50 tweak it so that it meets the Regional Advisory Council

1 intent. As Patty had said, we had hoped the
2 subcommittee would assist us in figuring out how we
3 would go forward and consider Unit 2 deer management.
4 And so while we have looked at favorably at probably 95
5 percent of the work that was done we need a little bit
6 of tweaking on one of the recommendations which is
7 seven.

8

9 So Mr. Hernandez.

10

11 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Madame
12 Chair. I think this Action 7, which reads management
13 of the current condition, the way it's now written,
14 better expresses both the actions that the Council has
15 taken at this meeting regarding current conditions and
16 also addresses some of the other issues we talked
17 about.

18

19 So now it says:

20

21 The Council has a responsibility to
22 provide recommendations to the Federal
23 Subsistence Board on proposed changes
24 to Federal Subsistence regulations. In
25 making its recommendations concerning
26 Unit 2 deer regulations the Council
27 supports maintaining the following
28 management system for the next three to
29 five years as a more adequate
30 information base is being developed.

31

32 During this time period the Council may
33 make recommendations that refine
34 harvest limits and closure conditions
35 as needed to ensure that subsistence
36 needs are met and that Federally-
37 qualified hunters are not unduly
38 restricted.

39

40 DR. SCHROEDER: Excuse me. It ran away
41 on me.

42

43 MR. HERNANDEZ: Let's see, where were
44 we.

45

46 Okay.

47

48 The Council recognizes that some
49 changes may be needed to fine-tune
50 existing regulations.

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

A. Retain the closure of specified Federal public lands in Unit 2 to hunting by non-Federally-qualified hunters during the August 1st to the 15th portion of the hunting season.

B. Retain provision for harvest of no more than one antlerless deer by Federally-qualified subsistence users October 15th to December 31st.

C. Retain the July 24th to 31st hunt for Federally-qualified subsistence hunters on Federal public lands in Unit 2.

D. Adjust the area closed to non-Federally-qualified hunters during the August 1st to 15th portion of the hunting season as follows:

All portions of Prince of Wales Island proper was closed during the 2005 season, all other islands in archipelago were not closed. So now we would want to open the southeast portion of Prince of Wales Island during the August 1st to 15th portion of the hunting season. This area is defined as Federal public land north of Cape Chacon and south of Cholmondeley Sound that drains eastward into Clarence Strait and includes Wildlife Analysis Area 1209, 1210, 1211, 1213.

Close Suemez Island to non-Federally-qualified hunters during the August 1st to 15th portion of the hunting season.

Close islands on the west side of Prince of Wales Island within Unit 2 south of 55 degrees, 17 north latitude and east of 134 degree west longitude, and west of Cape Chacon excluding Long Island. This area includes Dall, Sukkwan, the Barrier Islands and numerous other islands in the Cordova Bay, Hetta Inlet and Tlevak Strait area.

1 Provide the opportunity for Federally-
2 qualified users to harvest a fifth deer
3 in Unit 2 with the following
4 conditions.
5

6 Federally-qualified hunters in Unit 2
7 may receive a Federal permit allowing
8 the harvest of a fifth deer from Unit
9 2, a Federal permit will be issued
10 allowing the harvest of one buck. A
11 person requesting a permit will need to
12 show his/her used or validated fourth
13 deer tag.
14

15 And that is a complete summation of
16 what is stated in explicit terms for the current
17 condition as opposed to probably what was more general
18 expression in the previous report of just maintaining
19 current conditions. Now, we've kind of spelled out
20 what all the existing conditions are and included are
21 recent actions just taken at this meeting.
22

23 So I hope that does cover all of our
24 concerns on this item.
25

26 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So we have several
27 steps to take. We have this change and we also have
28 several changes to the draft plan that the Unit 2
29 subcommittee also recommended or highlighted. Those
30 actions were made available to us on this handout dated
31 U-2 Deer Planning Subcommittee of Southeast Alaska
32 Regional Advisory Council February 22nd, 23rd, 2006.
33

34 There needs to be some clean up work
35 done. I guess my recommendation is that we approve the
36 report in concept with the recommendations ahead of us
37 on the PowerPoint. The recommendations, most of the
38 recommendations that the U-2 Subcommittee brought
39 forward at the Craig meeting, but we do this, clean up
40 the language through a subcommittee of the Council,
41 which I think would include me, Don and Mike, I think
42 we could do that in several days, I'd include Mike but
43 he probably wouldn't volunteer.
44

45 Are you going to volunteer?
46

47 MR. DOUVILLE: To clean the language
48 up?
49

50 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Yeah.

1 MR. DOUVILLE: Yeah.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So basically it's
4 sort of -- we're trying to approve this report and move
5 it forward, however, we don't have a clean copy.
6 Because we have recommendations that came out of the
7 subcommittee from Craig and then we have altered one of
8 the recommendations to meet the obligations of the
9 Council, which is to review proposals and make
10 recommendations, that is, in fact, our job, and so we
11 can either do, one, approve the report with changes in
12 concept or have the language cleaned up and not approve
13 it until our next meeting.

14

15 So what is the wish of the Council.

16

17 Mr. Hernandez.

18

19 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Madame
20 Chair. I think we should vote to approve the report
21 and then clean up the final language with a
22 subcommittee.

23

24 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Is there a second.

25

26 MR. ADAMS: I'll second it.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: It's been moved
29 and seconded. So the intent would be to approve this
30 Unit 2 Deer Management Plan. We would make the changes
31 brought forward by the subcommittee. We would make the
32 changes brought forward by the Council today. We would
33 go through and make sure that the language is cleaned
34 up at the subcommittee level, which would include the
35 four Council members that served on the subcommittee
36 and hopefully we'll get at least three of us over the
37 next week or whatever time it takes. And that will be
38 approved and submitted and moved forward, and any other
39 previous documentation, drafts, any reports from the U-
40 2 Subcommittee would be null and void, shouldn't be
41 referenced by anybody and the only thing that would go
42 forward is the deer management plan that we are
43 approving at this time.

44

45 MR. ADAMS: Question.

46

47 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Question has been
48 called.

49

50 Mr. Douville.

1 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
2 I'll work with you on this and my main concern was that
3 it diminished what our job is supposed to be, and I
4 won't support anything that does that. We have a duty
5 to do here. I'm not going to endorse any wording that
6 is contrary to that.

7
8 Thank you.
9

10 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. And I will
11 be supporting the motion. And, again, I do serve on
12 other Federal FACA, Federal Advisory Committees and
13 this is exactly how they operate. If you have a
14 subcommittee it is of the Advisory Committee and for
15 the one I serve on, nothing goes out to the public,
16 like I said it's on the web and we all have to have
17 passwords even to get to that information and the
18 subcommittee brings the information to the committee,
19 the 36 member committee, it's much bigger than ours,
20 debates it, beats it up, something new comes out of it
21 and that's what we have, is whatever the committee
22 approves, so this is perfectly in line with what should
23 be done through the FACA process.

24
25 So all in -- Mr. Bangs.
26

27 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
28 I'm in favor of the motion. I was thinking maybe it
29 would be possible, I know Don and I are going to be
30 here tomorrow all afternoon, if we adjourn soon enough,
31 maybe we could just get it done tomorrow afternoon
32 after we adjourn and try to get it done then.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Dr. Schroeder.
35

36 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. That
37 would really be excellent if Mike and Don could take a
38 look at this language. We will be folding these things
39 into the total report and that's something that our
40 consultant, Jan Caulfield, will be doing along with
41 providing update items on other action items.

42
43 So I'd expect her to be able to do that
44 once we give her things, in perhaps a week or 10 days.
45

46 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So I think it will
47 be a little bit of both, put a dent in it tomorrow and
48 it might not be for another week that we get the final
49 from Ms. Caulfield.
50

1 Okay, all in favor of the motion
2 signify by saying -- did someone -- I thought someone
3 called the question, Tina?
4
5 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)
6
7 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: It was called for
8 and then we had questions. Tina.
9
10 REPORTER: Mr. Adams.
11
12 MR. ADAMS: (Nods affirmatively)
13
14 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: When you call for
15 the question you are questioning whether or not there's
16 any further debate, there was a call for the question,
17 there was further debate and now we're ready to take
18 action on the motion.
19
20 All in favor of the motion signify by
21 saying aye.
22
23 IN UNISON: Aye.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Opposed.
26
27 (No opposing votes)
28
29 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, the motion
30 passes. Thank you. I need a break, five minutes. Mr.
31 Davis and Mr. Casipit are going to meet, we need to
32 look at that proposal.
33
34 (Off record)
35
36 (On record)
37
38 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, Mr. Casipit,
39 did you and Mr. Davis get something worked out for the
40 proposed proposal. Everybody's in the room, they're
41 just circling, so if you'll just start then we'll urge
42 them to sit down.
43
44 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Madame Chair.
45 Yeah, Mr. Davis and I had a quick conversation over
46 there and I explained the basic results of what that
47 proposal would do. But basically, and I'll just repeat
48 for the rest of the Council's benefit, that the effect
49 of this proposal would basically, for those locations
50 listed in the proposal, it would basically default to

1 the State limit that's on the State permits for those
2 locations. And we still would have the back up in our
3 Federal regulations, you know, the way it reads is that
4 the Federal limits are the same as the State harvest
5 limits printed on the State permits. If the State
6 permits don't have a harvest limit for the locations
7 that a Federal user would be interested in fishing then
8 we have a back up in there that it's 10 and 20 for
9 those locations -- 10 per day, 20 in possession for
10 those locations where there isn't a harvest limit
11 specified on the State permit.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So we're speaking
14 to the draft proposal that could come from the
15 Southeast Regional Advisory Council that was out of the
16 back of the packet that Mr. Casipit gave us. So was
17 that modified in any way after your conversation with
18 Mr. Davis.

19

20 MR. DAVIS: Madame Chair. Yeah, you
21 went through that right, did you want me to repeat
22 this, am I putting this up as a proposal or what?

23

24 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Yes.

25

26 MR. DAVIS: Madame Chair. We want to
27 change for the Virginia Lake, Toms Creek, Falls Lake
28 and Gut Bay, change the harvest, Federal harvest limits
29 to read the same as the State harvest limits.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So that's
32 the language on the back of the packet that you gave us
33 that says:

34

35 (xvii) only Federally-qualified
36 subsistence users may harvest sockeye
37 salmon in the streams draining into
38 Falls Lake Bay, Gut Bay or Bay of
39 Pillars.

40

41 That would do exactly what both of you
42 were talking about.

43

44 MR. CASIPIT: That part of the
45 regulation remains unchanged, the only part that we
46 would change would be the harvest limits and that's
47 exactly how Mr. Davis has just read.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So do we
50 want to support this proposal and have it cleaned up

1 through the Chair and Mr. Davis and Casipit.

2

3 (Pause)

4

5 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Would you make a
6 motion, Mr. Douville.

7

8 MR. DOUVILLE: Move to support this
9 proposal with pending clean up language, I guess, is
10 that okay.

11

12 MR. STOKES: (Nods affirmatively
13 second)

14

15 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Stokes is the
16 second, Tina, right?

17

18 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)

19

20 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, it's been
21 moved and seconded so we will support this last
22 proposal or the proposal in the packet given to us by
23 Mr. Casipit. It will be cleaned up by Chair in
24 concurrence with Mr. Davis and Mr. Casipit and
25 submitted as a Regional Advisory Council proposal.

26

27 All in favor of the motion, signify by
28 saying aye.

29

30 IN UNISON: Aye.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Opposed.

33

34 (No opposing votes)

35

36 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Motion passes.
37 Okay, we're back to meeting dates, we were slugging it
38 out earlier. The fall meeting window is in the second
39 to the last page in the packet, the week that we had
40 listed there is the same week as Grand Camp. Do we
41 have debate on what we could change it to.

42

43 Mr. Bangs.

44

45 MR. BANGS: Yes, thank you, Madame
46 Chair. I'd like to make amotion we have the meeting --
47 I don't know if it needs to be in the form of a motion
48 but September 25th through the 29th.

49

50 (Pause)

1 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Adams.
2
3 MR. ADAMS: I'll second for the sake of
4 discussion. But I mentioned earlier that our SRC
5 meeting is the 27th and the 28th.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. Is there
8 any possibility of contacting them and changing that
9 date to a week earlier. It's my understanding that
10 there are five regions that are trying to meet that
11 week, North Slope also added their hat in for that week
12 and there are at least two Council members that can't
13 make that week, myself and Mr. Bangs. Go ahead, Mr.
14 Adams.
15
16 MR. ADAMS: Madame Chairman. We
17 discussed this at great lengths during our
18 deliberations about these meetings. And it was pretty
19 firm, you know, that some of the Council members are
20 busy during the week before that and it was not
21 possible. You know, we chose these dates because it
22 was compatible for everyone. The last meeting we had
23 in September we did not have a quorum because people
24 were still out guiding and hunting and so forth and so
25 I don't -- we can try but I don't think we're going to
26 make any headway.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Dr. Schroeder.
29
30 MR. SCHROEDER: And if I could just
31 toss in Barbara Cellarius has been really good about
32 paying attention to when we have our meetings and not
33 scheduling on top of us. We had a problem a couple
34 years ago and it's been great working with Barbara on
35 that scheduling.
36
37 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Bangs.
38
39 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
40 Would any of the other weeks in September work for the
41 majority or all of us, the week before, the week of the
42 18th through the 22nd, is that a problem for anyone?
43
44 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Hernandez,
45 first, and then Mr. Davis.
46
47 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah, that's still
48 pretty good fishing time for us, or for me.
49
50 MR. DAVIS: Madame Chair, same here.

1 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Douville.
2
3 MR. DOUVILLE: Madame Chair. I do not
4 speak in favor of this motion. Later is better for me,
5 I know you're a diver and everything and there is no
6 good time. I'm still fishing then and towards the end
7 of September you're still fishing, I would rather see
8 like the second week in October or if there's another
9 window there that would be better for me but I would
10 try to work around whatever it is the best I can.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Hernandez.
13
14 MR. HERNANDEZ: If that were a motion,
15 I'd second for the second week in October.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: We already have a
18 motion on the table.
19
20 Mr. Adams.
21
22 MR. ADAMS: I call for the question for
23 the first motion.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, the motion
26 is to meet the week of September 25th, all in favor of
27 the motion signify by saying aye.
28
29 MR. BANGS: Aye.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Aye. Opposed.
32
33 IN UNISON: Aye.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: The motion failed.
36 Next motion.
37
38 MR. HERNANDEZ: Madame Chair. I'd make
39 the motion to hold the meeting on the week of October
40 9th.
41
42 MR. ADAMS: Second.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Douville.
45
46 MR. DOUVILLE: Madame Chair. I'm a
47 fisherman and it just seems like later for me is a
48 little bit better as the weather continues to get
49 worse, there is really no good time for any of us but
50 this would be the best time for me.

1 MR. STOKES: Question.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Question has been
4 called, signify by saying aye.
5
6 IN UNISON: Aye.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Opposed. Aye.
9 Don't count on me being there.
10
11 MR. SCHROEDER: And Council members,
12 for our meeting in Saxman we scheduled four full days,
13 can we back on what's been our more usual three full
14 day meetings for that winter meeting?
15
16 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: I think so. I
17 think we had the four full days because we anticipated
18 substantial testimony on the U-2 proposals, ironically
19 we didn't get any but we have managed to fill the four
20 days. If we have three days we'll probably work harder
21 and keep it to three days but I think it was very, very
22 important that we had the public testimony last night
23 and I do want to thank you from the bottom of my heart
24 for taking the time to be here last night because it
25 was very important to Ketchikan people and to Saxman
26 people.
27
28 So the next window meeting is the
29 winter meeting, 2007, and I think we do have an
30 invitation, Mr. Davis.
31
32 MR. DAVIS: Madame Chair. On behalf of
33 the Organized Village of Kake we'd like to have the
34 Subsistence Board to Kake for the winter meeting.
35
36 MR. DOUVILLE: Is that a motion.
37
38 MR. DAVIS: That's a motion.
39
40 MR. HERNANDEZ: Second.
41
42 MR. STOKES: I'll second it.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Hernandez beat
45 you.
46
47 (Laughter)
48
49 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Question.
50

1 MR. DOUVILLE: Question.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: The question's
4 been called for by unanimous consent. We will accept
5 the invitation to Kake. Thank you for the invitation
6 Mr. Davis. We do need to come up with dates. Mr.
7 Bangs, did you have something on that.

8

9 MR. BANGS: Yes, thank you, Madame
10 Chair. I would be able to make the meeting if it was
11 near the middle to the end of the week, rather than the
12 beginning of the week for the fall meeting.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So the fall
15 meeting, the week of October 9th, will mostly likely be
16 either 11, 12, 13 or 12, 13 and 14 and we'll figure it
17 out based on all sorts of inputs. Could be the ferry
18 schedule as well but that's what it looks like.

19

20 Okay, so back to the winter 2007, which
21 will be in Kake, on the very last page in your packet,
22 the window of opportunity is February 19th to March
23 23rd, does anyone want to go for any particular week.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Does anybody have
28 any weeks that they can't do it, not that they don't
29 want to do it but they can't do it.

30

31 MR. DOUVILLE: What did you say, I was
32 asleep over here.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Last page, winter
35 2007, meeting dates, we're trying to find which of
36 these five weeks would work for us, for you guys.

37

38 Mr. Adams.

39

40 MR. ADAMS: I think the SRC is probably
41 going to meet the week of the 19th. We'll probably
42 pinpoint it down to the 21st and 22nd of February.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Hernandez and
45 Mr. Bangs.

46

47 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Madame
48 Chair. I think I'd propose that we hold the meeting on
49 the week starting February 26th.

50

1 MR. ADAMS: I'll second it.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Bangs.
4
5 MR. BANGS: That's okay.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, so we're
8 looking at the week of February 26th, the dates to be
9 determined as we figure things out and the invitation
10 is for Kake.
11
12 All in favor of the motion signify by
13 saying aye.
14
15 IN UNISON: Aye.
16
17 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Opposed.
18
19 (No opposing votes)
20
21 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. Kake. And
22 we're going to charter the LeConte.
23
24 (Laughter)
25
26 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: I don't know,
27 Bill, you were gone yesterday and we kind of replaced
28 you with James Stanley as our parliamentarian, so you
29 might have to duke it out with him.
30
31 (Laughter)
32
33 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Douville.
34
35 MR. DOUVILLE: There is one other issue
36 I'd like to discuss briefly. I don't want to waste a
37 lot of time, or it wouldn't be a wasted time but take a
38 lot of time and say we seem to have some sea otter
39 issues that I feel are important.
40
41 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. I do have
42 that under other business, there are a couple other
43 things there as well, I'm not sure if we want to take
44 it out of order. Once you start talking about how much
45 you hate sea otters it can take a long time.
46
47 Mr. Douville.
48
49 MR. DOUVILLE: I would like to get our
50 real business done. If we have time, we take up a

1 little discussion on that issue.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Bangs.

4

5 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
6 There is an issue that I would like to bring before the
7 Council. It has to do with the aerial spraying of Long
8 Island, I don't know if this is a good time or not.
9 But we have someone here that can give us a little
10 information on it.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. You guys
13 are throwing things at me now.

14

15 DR. SCHROEDER: I've got it on my list.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. First, let
18 me just say we were on to -- is there anybody from an
19 agency that planned on leaving this afternoon that
20 wanted to make a report that they thought they would
21 sneak in before we got to all the other important
22 business.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, your chance
27 is gone. So we will zip on down to some of the other
28 things that are important. So the aerial spraying, we
29 have talked about off and on all day, and I think we
30 have something we can bring forward.

31

32 MR. BANGS: Yes, Madame Chair. Chewier
33 James has some information that she'd like to share
34 with us, would that be okay?

35

36 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Ms. James.

37

38 MS. JAMES: Good afternoon, I'm Chewier
39 James. I'm a representative right now of Grand Camp.
40 I'm Grand Vice President of Alaska Native Sisterhood,
41 and prior IRA member for KIC, and I've been working on
42 this issue for the last couple of years. And I was the
43 author of the two resolutions that came out of Grand
44 Camp 2005-08 and 2005-13, both of them were regarding
45 aerial herbicide spraying.

46

47 The first one, 08, was titled
48 Opposition of Long Island aerial herbicide spraying
49 application.

50

1 The second one was banning aerial
2 herbicide spraying in Alaska altogether.

3
4 Right now the most pressing issue right
5 now is that yesterday DEC released a decision document
6 granting a corporation the aerial herbicide application
7 permit. And I've been working on this as a subsistence
8 committee member on Grand Camp for some time and was
9 successful in getting Grand Camp to join on
10 adjudicatory hearing requesters this month. And
11 Central Council of Tlingit-Haida Indian Tribes has
12 joined.

13
14 That resolution came out of our
15 Ketchikan Chapter, which I'm part of. And Hydaburg
16 Cooperative Association, Klawock Cooperative
17 Association, Ketchikan Indian Community has yet to sign
18 on, the Organized Village of Kasaan, Craig Community,
19 Organized Village of Saxman, Hoonah Indian Association,
20 Kake, Petersburg, Tribal Elders Joe Hotch, Klukwan
21 Elder Revends Vallans Burton (ph), Klukwan. There's
22 numerous seafood and fishing organizations and
23 businesses that have signed on. Seafood processors,
24 LongLines Fishermen Association, Alaska Trawlers
25 Association, Alaska Wild Salmon Company, Mike Sallee,
26 Dave McFadden. There's numerous conservation
27 organizations from the Alaska Community Action on
28 Toxics, Prince of Wales, Tongass Conservation, Lower
29 Chatham Conservation, Sitka Conservation, Lynn Canal
30 Conservation, Tongass Cave (ph) Project, Cook Inlet
31 Keeper, and Kachemak Bay, Alaska Youth for
32 Environmental Action as well as numerous health care
33 providers.

34
35 I believe that since this is the
36 Southeast Alaska Regional Advisory Council that this is
37 a subsistence issue, it's regarding spraying Long
38 Island. 75 percent of Ketchikan residents rely -- or
39 75 percent of the take of deer harvest have been from
40 Ketchikan residents and I think that it's very
41 important that SERAC joins on as requesters for an
42 adjudicatory hearing and a motion to stay. This is
43 going to keep Long Island from being aerial herbicide
44 sprayed this summer, which is the peak times of
45 harvest, which is in July and August. It will be
46 taking place approximately three times a week and this
47 would not be just for one season, this would be for
48 three ongoing seasons.

49
50 So I believe this is a pressing issue.

1 Since this decision was released
2 yesterday, March 1st, we have until March 31st to get
3 people to sign on as requesters. This doesn't bring
4 any kind of liability or out-of-pocket money, it just
5 adds the name to the list of all these requesters which
6 brings a lot more power to it. And I'm just asking
7 your guys', the Council here to consider adding their
8 name on as requesters with Grand Camp.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Bangs.

11
12 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
13 Is this -- for certain this is going to happen, they've
14 granted the petition and it's going through the appeal
15 process, has the motion been filed yet?

16
17 MS. JAMES: The decision has been made.
18 DEC has made their decision to grant the application.
19 There is two new chemicals. The ones included are
20 amazapar and it kills and targets plants. Glyphosate,
21 and they have one called inhibitor, which is supposed
22 to keep the herbicides from drifting, and there's
23 another one, I believe, called Round-Up and they only
24 tested each of these chemicals individually, they never
25 tested them mixed together to see what -- if it would
26 intensify the effect of the chemicals all mixed
27 together. They tested it on a flat site.

28
29 As some of you know Long Island is not
30 flat, it's sloping down towards the ocean. There's
31 fresh river streams. They say in here that they're
32 going to stay within 50 -- stay 50 feet away from
33 rivers and creeks and that is just hard to believe that
34 there's not going to be any kind of repercussion from
35 this. And it's going to set a precedence for other
36 corporations, other Native corporations or public
37 corporations to go forward and apply for this similar
38 kind of permit.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Dr. Schroeder.

41
42 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. The
43 issue of aerial spraying came before the Council some
44 time, I guess it was perhaps at our spring meeting or
45 at a teleconference meeting in 2004. We did submit a
46 letter on basically this same issue to Department of
47 Environmental Conservation on June 18th, and basically
48 the Council went on record as opposing the use of
49 aerial spraying for this purpose.

50

1 We also discussed this item at our
2 December teleconference meeting but there was no action
3 needed at that time. So this isn't really new
4 territory for the Council. What's being asked for is
5 that we become a requester in the next stage of
6 opposing this action.

7
8 Any action taken by the Council would
9 need to route through Office of Subsistence Management
10 to make sure that we were in line with the charter
11 obligations of the Council.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Bangs.

14
15 MR. BANGS: Thank you. I would like to
16 make a motion to resubmit the letter to the appropriate
17 -- to the DEC as one motion and I'd like to make
18 another motion after we discuss this one.

19
20 MR. ADAMS: Second.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: There is a motion
23 and that has been seconded before us to resubmit the
24 letter from 2004 to DEC stating all our objections to
25 the aerial spraying.

26
27 Mr. Hernandez.

28
29 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Madame
30 Chair. I would recommend that in this letter we also
31 express our dissatisfaction with the lack of regard for
32 the amount of public input that was put into this
33 process by the DEC.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okey-doke.

36
37 MS. JAMES: Madame Chair. I just
38 wanted to make a comment on the lack of public input.
39 As an IRA member, previous IRA member I had went out
40 with a petition, gathered 86 signatures in less than
41 two days, it only took two hours of my time, I probably
42 could have gathered three or 400 more signatures had I
43 had more time but I was bound to jump on a jet. The
44 minimum requirement was 50 signatures of citizens from
45 Ketchikan to request for a public hearing which was
46 denied.

47
48 I then held a press conference at KIC
49 along with our other committee Chair for subsistence,
50 and there just was really no good explanation other

1 than poor turnout. You know, back then, last year when
2 there was a public hearing in Ketchikan, the issue had
3 not gotten out. It was kind of a surprise. I think we
4 would have had a bigger turn out of people had there
5 been a public hearing and it was only limited to Prince
6 of Wales Island.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, so we do
9 have a motion to resubmit the letter. We do have a
10 request to update that letter, and I think we can work
11 on that language so we have a chance of getting it
12 through.

13
14 Mr. Douville.

15
16 MR. DOUVILLE: Just a question to clear
17 my mind, is resubmit the letter that we already had
18 submitted so we were okay to do that, we had permission
19 and so on and we were within FACA guidelines or
20 whatever, I mean it had the blessing of the -- whoever?

21
22 DR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. Mike.
23 We route our correspondence through Office of
24 Subsistence Management and due to the steadfast efforts
25 of Mr. Littlefield and Tom Boyd we have a good policy
26 so things move through pretty quickly, we won't be held
27 up there.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, we need to
30 keep moving. So Mr.....

31
32 MR. DOUVILLE: Question.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, question has
35 been called. All in favor of the motion signify by
36 saying aye.

37
38 IN UNISON: Aye.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Opposed.

41
42 (No opposing votes)

43
44 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Motion passes.
45 Thank you, Mr. Bangs. Your second point.

46
47 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
48 If it's the wish of the Council I would like to make a
49 motion to join the list of hearing requesters as a
50 Regional Council.

1 MR. ADAMS: Second.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: It's been moved
4 and seconded that the Regional Advisory Council join
5 the list of hearing requesters.
6
7 This motion is now on the table, I
8 think the two are listed separately because we're not
9 sure if we're stretching our bounds here but either it
10 will go forward and we'll join that list of requesters
11 or we'll get our fingers slapped once again but we
12 don't mind being slapped around once in a while.
13
14 (Laughter)
15
16 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: All in favor of
17 the motion signify by saying aye.
18
19 IN UNISON: Aye.
20
21 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Opposed.
22
23 (No opposing votes)
24
25 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Motion passes.
26 Thank you, Ms. James.
27
28 MS. JAMES: Thank you.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Something else,
31 speedy. Dr. Schroeder.
32
33 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. One of
34 our quickest Council members is Council member Bertrand
35 Adams from.....
36
37 (Laughter)
38
39 DR. SCHROEDER:from Yakutat who -
40 - I've discussed the petition for -- concerning the
41 license issue with Mr. Adams and he's offered both
42 substantive and literary suggestions to the draft that
43 is before you.
44
45 (Laughter)
46
47 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Thank you.
48
49 DR. SCHROEDER: I have no hopes,
50 however, that the collected memos will be published

1 from this Council.

2

3 The item in question is in your thicker
4 handout and this would be Page 103 of that handout.
5 And this was circulated to you earlier. This is
6 following up on an issue that the Council raised in its
7 last annual report and was raised a number of other
8 times in proposals to the Federal Subsistence Board
9 which could not be acted on by the Board because this
10 requirement is reserved for the Secretaries.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So just a point of
13 clarification, Dr. Schroeder, I don't want to pull out
14 the thin and the thick one each time so if you could
15 just refer to the date at the top otherwise I have to
16 pull them both out and figure out which one's thin and
17 which one's thick.

18

19 DR. SCHROEDER: This one's thicker.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So it's the one
22 that says Southeast Regional Advisory Council February
23 16th, 2006, this was mailed as a separate packet. Near
24 the end of it is Page 103.

25

26 Mr. Adams.

27

28 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Madame Chairman.

29

30 I think it was the other day when I was
31 kind of forced to volunteer to do this. So I went to
32 the room and I read it and I marked it all up but most
33 of the marks are just, you know, things that I did for
34 my own self. I think the letter is good as it is. And
35 I talked with Dr. Schroeder about it further and there
36 might be a little bit of clean up that needs to be done
37 and I'll allow him to do that.

38

39 But the only suggestion I had -- it
40 depends on how hard you want to hit this issue, you
41 know, to the Secretary. And that first paragraph, you
42 know, it goes kind of like from the general to the
43 specific, and that's fine. But I think it would have
44 more effect if you came right to the point and put the
45 second paragraph first and then follow it through with
46 that first paragraph and then go to the body of the
47 letter, and I think it addresses all of the
48 justifications very well. Other than the fact that Dr.
49 Schroeder said that he needed to take care of some of
50 the issues on the last page.

1 And I think also, you know, we talked
2 about, you know, sharing the letter with the other
3 Regional Councils and getting them to either submit a
4 letter that's of the same like or tweaking it to their
5 own best -- but I think the best way would be for them
6 to look at our letter after it's been finalized and
7 everything and then let them support this letter. The
8 going back and forth, you know, I think would cause a
9 lot of delays and so forth and so I think that's the
10 way that I would like to approach it.

11
12 And, Dr. Schroeder, did you have
13 anything else to add to that please.

14
15 MR. SCHROEDER: Thanks very much, Bert.
16 What we were talking about is what happens with this.

17
18 One is the body of the letter, which is
19 what the Southeast Advisory Council is requesting and
20 the final paragraph is review by other Councils needs
21 to be reworked a little bit. What Council member Adams
22 and I were thinking is it should go to other Councils
23 for their review and support and then there's the
24 question of what do we do with what other Councils may
25 have to say about this proposal. So we talked a bit
26 about that and we believe the best thing to do would be
27 to append their statements concerning this proposal --
28 excuse me, concerning this petition to the petition and
29 submit that to the Secretaries.

30
31 The Councils have no way of meeting as
32 a group since the Councils of Chairs is no longer in
33 operation where the Councils can jointly work together
34 on things like wording or order or things of that
35 nature. What would happen, if this went forward in
36 this way, it would be that Councils would be able to
37 review this petition and support, comment on or oppose
38 the petition at their fall meetings. I think it would
39 be best for us to schedule a very brief teleconference
40 meeting, perhaps a month or so later to put things
41 together and make sure that we're firm on our action to
42 proceed at that time.

43
44 So what's needed from the Council at
45 this moment is approval of that course of action and
46 then we'll proceed.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Is there a motion.
49 Mr. Adams.

50

1 MR. ADAMS: I will make that motion,
2 Madame Chairman.
3
4 Thank you.
5
6 MR. DOUVILLE: Second.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: It's been moved
9 and seconded. And can I clarify the intent of the
10 motion.
11
12 (Council nods affirmatively)
13
14 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Adams.
15
16 (No comments)
17
18 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Adams, your
19 microphone.
20
21 MR. ADAMS: I didn't want you guys to
22 hear me.
23
24 (Laughter)
25
26 MR. ADAMS: The intent of the motion is
27 to accept this letter with the changes that I kind of
28 suggested, I guess, you know, and then I think it's
29 pretty well written other than the fact that Dr.
30 Schroeder, you know, had the concern about other
31 Regional Advisory Councils commenting, so to me it's
32 just to accept it and then tweak it to our liking.
33
34 Am I okay with that, Dr. Schroeder, I
35 think that's what we talked about.
36
37 MR. SCHROEDER: (Nods affirmatively)
38
39 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: A little bit
40 confusing, Mr. Kitka.
41
42 (No comments)
43
44 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So the intent is
45 to support the concept of a Federal license for deer,
46 and the draft letter before us will be reviewed and
47 revised -- that's a \$5 fine, Mr. Thomas.
48
49 MR. THOMAS: It's not me.
50

1 (Laughter)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So do we need to
4 approve -- to the motion is to approve this in concept
5 and have it cleared up.
6
7 (Council nods affirmatively)
8
9 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. All in
10 favor of the motion signify by saying aye.
11
12 IN UNISON: Aye.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Opposed.
15
16 (No opposing votes)
17
18 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Do you need a
19 clean up crew or are we okay?
20
21 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. If I
22 could work with the person who's most published on the
23 Council that would suffice.
24
25 (Laughter)
26
27 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: You're it, Mr.
28 Adams.
29
30 Okay, it is a quarter to 5:00 and my
31 intent is to recess at 5:00. We're not going to be
32 able to finish tonight. To take a break after a long
33 night last night and to come back tomorrow morning. I
34 would like to come back here at 8:00 o'clock because
35 there are a few people who would like to wrap up a
36 little early, get a little shopping done and jump on a
37 ferry or a jet or whatever they can. Some of us will
38 be here in the afternoon and try and wrap up some stuff
39 on Unit 2 Subcommittee, so if we got a jump on that
40 that would also be helpful.
41
42 Do we have something we can do in 15
43 minutes?
44
45 DR. SCHROEDER: I'm sure we can do
46 something in 15 minutes.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Just a minute.
49 Melinda.
50

1 (Pause)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Thank you. Mr.
4 James, can you take 15 minutes.
5
6 (Pause)
7
8 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair.
9
10 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Pacific Salmon
11 Commission, I'm going to jump ahead of you and I'm the
12 Chair.
13
14 DR. SCHROEDER: But.....
15
16 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: All right.
17
18 DR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair, I'm not
19 jumping in front of you because you are the Chair.
20
21 (Laughter)
22
23 DR. SCHROEDER: We do have a number of
24 items that we need to pay attention to in the remainder
25 of this meeting. Probably the largest item I suggest
26 we take up tomorrow morning and that has to do with the
27 subsistence use amounts protocol and you have materials
28 in your book as well as some supplementary materials
29 which were passed out, handed out -- I got it wrong.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Another five.
32
33 DR. SCHROEDER: Another \$5. And I
34 suggest we do that in the morning. We have a number of
35 other items, we were talking about Pacific Salmon
36 Treaty representation. We have an item on the Kuiu
37 timber sale. We have an item on perhaps an updated
38 letter or if there's any Council action concerning the
39 rural determination perhaps dealing with hearings. And
40 we have annual report items to be discussed. And Mr.
41 Douville wishes to discuss sea otters. And we may have
42 other Staff reports as well, a number of informational
43 items and Staff reports.
44
45 So my estimate would be we have a few
46 hours of work to do to be completed.
47
48 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: The other one I
49 added was from Mr. Franklin James on halibut and that
50 was something that Mr. Stokes also brought up so we'll

1 add halibut after sea otters.

2

3 I think the request from Mr. James
4 could be dealt with quickly. And then the one thing I
5 got from -- who I got many things from last night, but
6 one thing I don't think that we've hit on and I would
7 like to hit on in the annual report, so if you could
8 write it down so we don't forget it, is the government
9 to government relations that we have to recognize our
10 Federal agencies should be working with the Saxman IRA,
11 with the Ketchikan Indian Community, with the other
12 tribes, that we are not substitutes for them.

13

14 DR. SCHROEDER: Concerning
15 consultation.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Yes. Mr. Bangs.

18

19 MR. BANGS: Yes, I'd like to entertain
20 the idea of introducing a paper reduction act.

21

22 (Laughter)

23

24 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Here. Here.

25

26 (Laughter)

27

28 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, so if you
29 have put one of these items on the agenda for tomorrow
30 I'm going to ask you to come here with a clean idea of
31 what you want. If you have potential language, if you
32 want to talk about it with someone tonight so that we
33 have something tomorrow because tomorrow is going to
34 fly by. So does anybody have a problem with starting
35 the meeting at 8:00 o'clock as opposed to 8:30 so it
36 will be a rush.

37

38 (No comments)

39

40 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, recess until
41 8:00 a.m. Wait, we have 10 more minutes, we're going
42 to do Pacific Salmon Commission.

43

44 Mr. Douville.

45

46 MR. DOUVILLE: The sea otter issue that
47 I'm talking about could wait until the next meeting or
48 whatever but I would like to address it at some time,
49 you know, I'm not sure we can go there or if we have
50 any business going there but there are a lot more

1 important things to discuss left on our agenda.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. I faked the
6 recess, sit back down.

7

8 (Laughter)

9

10 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, so Pacific
11 Salmon Commission. Again, I did mention in our opening
12 comments, I was physically at the hotel where the last
13 Pacific Salmon Commission meeting met in February down
14 in Vancouver. In talking to some of the participants
15 at the commission, including U.S. commissioners and
16 people on the committees for both sides of the
17 countries, there is an interest in having an Alaska
18 Native and Alaska subsistence participation on the
19 committees, at least, and I think that we have an
20 opportune window to submit names. I think if we come
21 up with names then we can route around and figure out
22 through which process we should submit them.

23

24 At our reception the other night try
25 and pigeon-hole a couple people to be considered for
26 the panels. The two panels that there was interest in
27 is the TransBoundary Panel which covers the Stikine,
28 the Taku and the Alsek. And there was interest from
29 the Canadian side of the TransBoundary Panel to have
30 somebody from Yakutat on there because there are some
31 potential issues coming up. I did ask Mr. Adams if he
32 would allow to have his name be submitted for it and he
33 did.

34

35 So I would like to have a motion that
36 we submit Bert's name for the TransBoundary Panel.

37

38 MR. DOUVILLE: So moved.

39

40 MR. HERNANDEZ: Second.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Moved and
43 seconded, and I'm going to do this a couple times so
44 call -- if someone would call for the question.

45

46 MR. ADAMS: Question.

47

48 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: All in favor
49 signify by saying aye.

50

1 IN UNISON: Aye.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: In addition, I
4 mean we have no idea who may go forward so I would like
5 to have several names where I can -- I think we need at
6 least one name from the southern part and so I did --
7 which one of you did I ask, Mr. Bangs?
8
9 MR. BANGS: (Nods affirmatively)
10
11 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Yes, Mr. Bangs, if
12 he would be willing to be considered for TransBoundary
13 Panel because of the issues with the Stikine and he did
14 agree to that, so if we could have a motion for Mr.
15 Bangs.
16
17 MR. ADAMS: So moved, Madame Chair.
18
19 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. Is there a
20 second.
21
22 MR. DOUVILLE: Second.
23
24 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, it's been
25 moved and seconded.
26
27 MR. DOUVILLE: Question.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Question has been
30 called, all in favor signify by saying aye.
31
32 IN UNISON: Aye.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Motion passes. Do
35 you want your name in the hat, Dick.
36
37 MR. STOKES: (Nods affirmatively)
38
39 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, from
40 Wrangell, Dick Stokes, is there a motion.
41
42 MR. DOUVILLE: So moved.
43
44 MR. DAVIS: Second.
45
46 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Moved and seconded
47 for Mr. Stokes.
48
49 MR. KITKA: Question.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Question has been
2 called. Hearing no objections, Mr. Stokes. So we will
3 submit these three names and I would like to do it
4 separately just because they have their own process of
5 going through that.

6
7 The other panel that is important is
8 the Northern Panel, and the Northern Panel is important
9 because it addresses some of the stocks like king
10 salmon, which are important to us. I did twist our
11 Chairman's -- what do you twist his -- his arm, and
12 told him about how the hotels are fairly nice that they
13 stay at and so although he does have a full life, no
14 casinos, they do not meet in casinos, he did agree to
15 have his name being considered for the Northern Panel
16 so I would hope there is a motion for him.

17
18 MR. HERNANDEZ: So moved.

19
20 MR. ADAMS: Second.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, it's been
23 moved and seconded that Southeast Regional Advisory
24 Council submit John Littlefield's name for the Northern
25 Panel of the Pacific Salmon Commission.

26
27 MR. DAVIS: Question.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Question has been
30 called, all in favor signify by saying aye.

31
32 IN UNISON: Aye.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Opposed.

35
36 (No opposing votes)

37
38 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Motion passes. I
39 think that's looking pretty good.

40
41 Dr. Schroeder.

42
43 MR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. Would
44 those be correspondence that would route through the
45 Federal Subsistence Program under our correspondence
46 policy or how would you like to do that.

47
48 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Through multi-
49 avenues. If correspondence can go forward that would
50 be great. I also intend to talk to people.

1 Five to 5:00, anything we can do in
2 five minutes.

3
4 MR. SCHROEDER: I think we almost could
5 do something in five minutes if -- you know, we've
6 spent a great deal of time during these last few days
7 on the rural determination issue. We were here last
8 night for six hours listening to public testimony. We
9 had other testimony during the course of the meeting.

10
11 The Council is on record with its
12 statements about its view on the rural determination
13 process as they were on approximately October 28. Is
14 there any follow up action at this time that the
15 Council wishes to take on rural determination. I'll
16 leave it at that.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, I'm turning
19 the Chair over to Mr. Adams.

20
21 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Okay. What's the
22 wish of the Council.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I am
25 requesting that the Council submit correspondence to
26 the Federal Subsistence Board, again, in favor of
27 Ketchikan and Saxman, that they both be rural. And
28 that the decision for Ketchikan and Saxman not be tied,
29 which has been considered but we should not be
30 requesting that.

31
32 Further that -- and we can turn this
33 into a resolution perhaps, that the Federal Subsistence
34 Board hold a public hearing in Ketchikan and Saxman
35 before their determination is made so they have the
36 opportunity to listen to, to hear all of the people who
37 spoke to us so they can understand how important
38 subsistence is to these communities.

39
40 MR. DOUVILLE: Second.

41
42 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Go ahead.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: There was a
45 second.

46
47 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Okay, there was a
48 motion and a second. Is everyone clear about what's
49 going to be -- it's going to be a resolution as I
50 understand it. Any questions. Comments.

1 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: As we go forward
2 with this Mr. Chairman, I guess I need to get an idea
3 from Federal Subsistence Board Staff if we're doing
4 this in the proper manner to make sure that we properly
5 get the request forward to the Federal Subsistence
6 Board, so Mr. Buklis if you could help us there.

7
8 MR. BUKLIS: Mr. Chairman. Dr. Garza.
9 The Council certainly has the latitude to make a
10 resolution at this meeting and to advance that
11 resolution to the Board on your views on the rural
12 determination process. I can't speak for the Board as
13 to how that will be received or whether they'll change
14 the course of the process because of that.

15
16 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Dolly.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Thank you, Mr.
19 Chair. So I guess a question I have is if we develop a
20 resolution requesting a public hearing prior to their
21 decision, is there a process for that resolution to go
22 before the Federal Subsistence Board in a timely manner
23 so that if they wanted to consider holding a public
24 hearing they would actually hear about the request or
25 would this resolution go in with the May meeting and
26 then likely reduce that opportunity of a public
27 hearing?

28
29 MR. BUKLIS: Mr. Chairman. Dr. Garza.
30 My understanding is your resolution would be advanced
31 to the Board as soon as it is processed by your Staff.
32 It wouldn't have to wait for a meeting to be advanced.

33
34 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: So then if it's
35 advanced forward Mr. Chair, then it would go forward to
36 one of their work sessions. John Littlefield knows
37 about this as Chair and I'm sort of winging it here.

38
39 MR. BUKLIS: Mr. Chairman. Dr. Garza.
40 My understanding is the resolution from the Council
41 would be distributed to the Board members and the Staff
42 Committee members that support them immediately upon
43 its availability and that would hinge on your Staff
44 preparing it and your Council verifying it but it
45 wouldn't have to be delivered at a public meeting. It
46 could be sent by correspondence, by email, it could be
47 shared quite timely.

48
49 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Dr. Garza, go
50 ahead.

1 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: One more question,
2 Mr. Chair, thank you. So as part of that request can
3 the letters of support or the testimony which we
4 received last night for six hours be part of that
5 documentation so that the Federal Subsistence Board
6 would have a pretty good clue as to how important it is
7 to Ketchikan and Saxman residents?

8
9 MR. BUKLIS: Mr. Chairman. Dr. Garza.
10 If I understand your line of thinking, the Council
11 could communicate its summary of what it heard and the
12 documentation of what it heard in the form of
13 transcripts and letters with your resolution. That
14 might delay the development of your resolution a bit
15 because the transcripts take a while for us to receive
16 and to be available to your Staff and then your Staff
17 would have to compile all that with the correspondence
18 and your resolution but it's really a matter of how
19 much time it takes to do that administrative work.
20 It's not a procedural issue.

21
22 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay. So we will
23 do that to the best of our ability and we do have close
24 to 100 letters and if we could include that as part of
25 that resolution I think that would say something.

26
27 So thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you
28 Mr. Buklis.

29
30 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: And I guess it
31 would really depend on, you know, how quickly you would
32 want this to go through the process and everything so
33 it appears to me like there might be plenty of time to
34 go ahead and allow those other documents to be
35 included.

36
37 Yes.

38
39 MR. BUKLIS: Mr. Chairman, thank you.
40 In follow up, in terms you asked about meetings, I
41 described how this could be shared with the Board as
42 soon as it's already it doesn't have to wait for a
43 meeting to be presented to them, but in terms of any
44 deliberations they might make, the normal course would
45 be for them to consider such issues at a work session.
46 It can be done by teleconference or some other
47 emergency measure but the normal process is a work
48 session or a public meeting. And the next work session
49 is next week March 9th. Now, I suspect the transcripts
50 wouldn't be ready in that time, but if you want the

1 central message of your resolution which might be a
2 page or two, you know, you and your Staff might be able
3 to develop that by March 9th. But if you wanted this
4 larger transmittal that might be some time later. So
5 you'd have to make a decision as to whether you'd want
6 the main themes advanced and in their hands before a
7 work session or a more complete package which would be
8 later into March.

9

10 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11

12 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: So how do you want
13 to deal with this, Dr. Garza.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Chairman,
16 there would be a couple different processes. One is
17 that we could summarize the intent of the testimony
18 from last night and I think we could also include the
19 near 100 letters as part of that packet, or, two, we
20 could wait or the transcripts and find out when the
21 following work session might be so that it can be
22 submitted at, not the March 9th, but the next one.

23

24 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Go ahead, Larry.

25

26 MR. BUKLIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
27 Yes, the next meeting of the Board that's been
28 scheduled is the Board public meeting, May 16, 17 and
29 18 to deal with the wildlife cycle regulatory proposals
30 that you've been dealing with so you've got a meeting
31 very soon, that's a work session in exactly one week
32 from today, and then you've got a large Board public
33 meeting, three day meeting in Anchorage two months
34 later. So there's a very near term deadline or target,
35 and kind of a distant target. And by mid-to late May
36 you're approaching the June Proposed Rule process,
37 anyways.

38

39 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Dr. Schroeder.

40

41 MR. SCHROEDER: Larry, is there any
42 potential for another work session after March 9 to
43 deal specifically with this issue if it was the request
44 of the Council; is that feasible or is that out of
45 bounds?

46

47 MR. BUKLIS: Nothing has been
48 scheduled. Mr. Chairman, nothing has been scheduled
49 and I can't speak for the Board. They're aware of the
50 interest in hearings and have been aware for some time.

1 In fact, the considerations for having hearings is on
2 their work session agenda next week but I've heard
3 nothing about an emergency track for addressing the
4 hearings issue.

5
6 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Bob, go ahead.

7
8 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman. It seems
9 like in all of these things there are always time
10 constraints. I think it would be feasible to have
11 something to the Federal Subsistence Board as basically
12 an informational item next week. The 9th is coming
13 very quickly so we'll barely get home from this meeting
14 and turnaround and it will be the 9th, and quite
15 typically the Federal Subsistence Board, for their
16 meeting, Staff needs some time to do some preparations
17 before that. I think it might be feasible if the
18 Council wished to have a one page issue identification
19 and then to follow that with the detail, just in terms
20 of what's feasible to get done, that would be a
21 possible thing to get done.

22
23 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Thank you, Dr.
24 Schroeder. Dr. Garza.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Thank you. I
27 agree with that. I think considering the timelines
28 we're dealing with that we would submit a resolution
29 and potentially the Xerox of the letters for the March
30 9th work session. And at that time request that there
31 be an additional work session to deal with the larger
32 issue if that would include the transcripts from the
33 public hearing as well as by then we should have
34 results from the subsistence use survey that was
35 conducted through KIC using BIA funds. Because that
36 data is not available now and I don't know that it
37 would be available for the work session next week.

38
39 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Okay. Any other
40 discussions or questions to ask of Mr. Buklis.

41
42 (No comments)

43
44 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: What's the wish of
45 the Council.

46
47 Dr. Garza.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: I can't remember
50 if I've already made a motion but I would move that we

1 submit a resolution -- I think I started that, Tina?

2

3 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)

4

5 DR. SCHROEDER: You started it.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, I do have a
8 resolution. Okay. So the resolution that we have on
9 the table is to support Ketchikan and Saxman as rural
10 independently. The motion also requested a public
11 hearing prior to their decision-making.

12

13 I would speak in favor of the motion,
14 Mr. Chairman, and I would request that we submit that
15 resolution and attach with it, any letters that we have
16 received with the request to their March 9th work
17 session.

18

19 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Thank you, Dolly.
20 Anything else.

21

22 MR. KITKA: Call for the question.

23

24 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Question's been
25 called for, all in favor please say aye.

26

27 IN UNISON: Aye.

28

29 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Opposed.

30

31 (No opposed votes)

32

33 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Thank you. The
34 motion carries.

35

36 Yes, go ahead.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I
39 would also move that the Southeast Regional Advisory
40 Council plead with the Federal Subsistence Board to
41 hold a special work session to review the public
42 testimony records from the Ketchikan/Saxman special
43 meeting on rural status that was held last night and
44 also to review the data which should be available soon
45 regarding the BIA/KIC subsistence use amounts survey.

46

47 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Okay,
48 clarification here, would this be in the form of a
49 letter?

50

1 MR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, between
2 now and the 9th it would be best to do something rather
3 succinct, I believe for the 9th, by letter, and perhaps
4 we include both items in that letter. The one item
5 would be our rather brief kind of high level summary of
6 what we've heard in our time here and our Council
7 position, and then to say that this will be followed
8 with a more detailed.....

9
10 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Dr. Schroeder, can
11 I interrupt you, I think we need a second to go on any
12 farther. I just wanted to clarify that, I'm sorry.

13
14 MR. STOKES: Second.

15
16 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: He seconded. So
17 go ahead.

18
19 DR. SCHROEDER: So just my
20 understanding of Board procedures are that, as I said,
21 Staff usually need a little bit of time to prepare for
22 Board work sessions and so it wouldn't do for something
23 to come in on the morning of the 9th and to be
24 considered very carefully. So it would be probably
25 best if we got something in that was fairly succinct
26 and then follow that with much more detailed
27 information, and I think that's the intent of Dr.
28 Garza's resolution here.

29
30 And we could either work on the
31 language of the resolution or leave that for a
32 discussion between Dr. Garza and Staff to figure out
33 the final wording.

34
35 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Thank you, Dr.
36 Schroeder. I think it would be more expeditious if Dr.
37 Garza worked with Staff on that.

38
39 MR. SCHROEDER: Doctors.

40
41 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Yeah, Doctors,
42 right.

43
44 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: The young one and
45 the old one.

46
47 (Laughter)

48
49 DR. SCHROEDER: The one who is retiring
50 and the one who is continuing to work.

1 (Laughter)
2
3 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, so the
4 second motion is it can be combined in a letter or a
5 resolution with the first, however, the intent is to
6 request a special work session to review the Ketchikan
7 transcripts from the public hearing and to review the
8 results of the survey from the BIA/KIC subsistence use
9 amount study.
10
11 So that is a motion that's on the table
12 so I would call for the question, Mr. Chair.
13
14 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Question has been
15 called for. All in favor say aye.
16
17 IN UNISON: Aye.
18
19 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Opposed.
20
21 (No opposing votes)
22
23 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: Motion carries.
24
25 MR. DOUVILLE: That took more than 5
26 minutes.
27
28 ACTING CHAIR ADAMS: That's what I was
29 going to say, it took 20 minutes.
30
31 (Laughter)
32
33 MADAME CHAIR GARZA: Okay, so we are
34 recessed until 8:00 a.m. Please be sharp we've got
35 lots to do, lots to do. See you tomorrow.
36
37 (Off record)
38
39 (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, 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 538
through 656 contain a full, true and correct Transcript
of the VOLUME IV, SOUTHEAST FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically
by Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC on the 2nd day
of March 2006, beginning at the hour of 9:30 o'clock
a.m. in Saxman, 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 March 2006.

Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 03/12/08