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SOUTHEAST SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
FEBRUARY 5, 1994
ANDREW HOPE BUILDING
ALASKA NATIVE BROTHERHOOD AND SISTERHOOD
JUNEAU, ALASKA

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- ~~W~~illiam C. Thomas, Sr., Chairman
- ~~A~~n L. Lowe, Secretary
- ~~J~~ohn F. Vale
- ~~J~~ohn P. Feller
- ~~P~~atricia A. Phillips
- ~~M~~am Robinson
- ~~L~~onnie Anderson
- ~~M~~arilyn R. Wilson
- ~~A~~7 Millie Stevens
- ~~C~~arol Jorgensen, Coordinator

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PROCEEDINGS

1

2 MR. THOMAS: Good morning everybody. We don't
 3 have the people from the Unit Four area that were really
 4 involved in the discussion yesterday from the Council, so in
 5 fairness in regards to the representatives from that area,
 6 we're going to start this morning out with proposal number 15,
 7 which takes us to the Yakutat. John?

8

9 MR. VALE: I guess since we had a motion on the
 10 floor, it might be appropriate to move to table that proposal,
 11 is that correct?

12

13 MR. THOMAS: I don't know if we had a motion on
 14 the floor.

15

16 MR. VALE: Did we?

17

18 MR. THOMAS: I don't think we had a motion. We
 19 mentioned it about four times, and I don't think anything
 20 happened with it.

21

22 MS. JORGENSEN: No, we don't

23

24 MR. VALE: Okay.

25

26 MS. JORGENSEN: We do not have a motion on the
 27 floor. It was -- there was a

28

29 MR. THOMAS: We talked amendments before we
 30 talked the motion.

31

32 MS. JORGENSEN: Actually -- yeah. Yeah. That
 33 was withdrawn.

34

35 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Is staff prepared to forge
 36 into proposal 15?

37

38 MR. LOCKHART: Mr. Chair, I think if you'll
 39 recall, Jim Kurth was making that presentation on nine, ten,
 40 including 15, because of the fundamental similarities of the
 41 proposals.

42

43 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Thank you. Then there's
 44 other gentleman (ph). Yakutat is next.

45

46 MR. VALE: Unit 16, is that correct?

47

48 MR. THOMAS: Sixteen. Okay. Thank you. Yeah?

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1 MS. STEVENS: I thought they decided to leave
25 out, and it was just the other two, because I erased 15 in
my book, for the three that were similar for -- I don't recall
what reason.

5
6 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Actually -- well, the
analysis was all the same.

8
9 MS. STEVENS: Oh, okay.

10
11 MR. THOMAS: But in deliberations and actions
we opted to separate them.

13
14 MS. STEVENS: Okay.

15
16 MR. THOMAS: So, proposal 16. Is that the
least confusing at this point? I'll declare it to be the least
confusing.

19
20
21 MR. WILLIS: Mr. Chair, if you're -- if you're
following the progression from one through 17, we skipped over
proposal 14, which deals with marten on Chichagof Island.
Would you rather deal with that, or go to 16 which is brown
bears in Yakutat?

26
27 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, I think we'll stay away from
ABC until ABC gets here.

29
30 MR. WILLIS: Okay.

31
32 MR. THOMAS: Thank you. Other -- the reason
for that, two from that area had to leave the meetings early,
and the two remaining aren't here yet, so I would rather stay
in the frying pan than take a chance on the fire.

36
37 MR. WILLIS: Proposal number 16 was submitted
by the Yakutat Alaska Native Brotherhood and Alaska Native
Sisterhood. It deals with the brown bear regulations in Game
Management Unit Five. The current regulation allows the
harvest of only one brown bear ever four regulatory years with
an open season from September 1 to May 31. The proposal before
us is to change the harvest limit from one bear every four
years to one bear every year with the same season limits --
season opening, that is, September 1 through May 31.

46
47 The reason given is that the existing regulation is
overly restrictive, and as a result has led to subsistence

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users not being able to harvest brown bears in the customary and traditional manner. They also disagree with having to buy a \$25.00 tag in order to harvest bear.

3

4 They do anticipate -- anticipate some increase in the subsistence harvest of the brown bears, and therefore in the over-all harvest, but they don't believe that the healthy population would be jeopardized.

8

9 We don't have a great deal of information on bear populations in Unit 5A. No research has been conducted in that area. We do have information on the harvest, and the age and skull size of the bears harvested, which gives us an idea of the stability of the population. The average age and skull size of the male bears has remained relatively constant and is within the State's management objectives over the last ten years; however, the skull size and average age of females have declined over that same period.

18

19 There was a large increase in the number of bears harvested from 1991 to 1992, which has prompted a study to begin watching the population very closely for signs of over-harvest. The decreasing age and size of females is also kind of a warning sign. It doesn't tell us anything definitive yet, but it's a red flag to keep an eye on the population.

25

26 The total harvest has been -- has been going up rather steadily for about the last 20 years. It increased from an average of 18 bears per year during the 1970s to approximately 29 bears per year in the 1980s, and then took another leap to approximately 40 bears in 1991/92.

31

32 We had two different figures on that which you may see floating around. The sealing records furnished to me by the area biologist in -- for Yakutat, it listed 39 bears harvested last year, and -- but by the time it got to Anchorage, the harvest statistics produced in the Anchorage office listed 41 bears. Apparently that piece of paper killed two bears on its way to Anchorage.

39

40 But -- the increase has been largely due to an increase in guided and local sport hunting, rather than -- rather than subsistence hunting.

43

44 The residents of Yakutat are the only federally-qualified subsistence hunters eligible to hunt brown bear in 5A. Yakutat is listed here as predominantly a native community, 55%, but someone told me yesterday that that was no longer correct, but approximately 50% native and 50% nonnative.

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1 Brown bears are customary and traditionally harvested
2 in the early spring, just after emerging from the dens, and
3 again in the fall. And younger bears are preferred over the
4 larger, older bears. The average harvest by -- for subsistence
5 use in the Yakutat area over the last several years has been
6 four bears. It's been about the last 14 years is the length of
7 period over which we have data. And the highest number
8 recorded was seven in 1984.

9

10 The two areas of federal land involved here are the
11 U.S. Forest Service in the National -- Tongass National Forest,
12 and Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. 95% of the brown
13 bear population is estimated to occur on the federal public
14 lands.

15

16 The Forest Service has supported this proposal with a
17 modification of a limit of harvest of five brown bears per
18 regulatory year out of the community of Yakutat, which would be
19 implemented by distribution of permits through the local IRA
20 Council. This would be only a slight increase, one bear more
21 than has traditionally been harvested by the subsistence
22 hunters over the past 14 years.

23

24 Our staff has recommended acceptance of this proposal
25 with the modification as recommended by the Forest Service of a
26 harvest limit of five brown bears and elimination of the \$25.00
27 tag. Acceptance of this proposal would provide a harvest of
28 one brown bear per year rather than one every four years, with
29 a limit of five bears being harvested in the community. And,
30 naturally, this would be only with the concurrence of the
31 Community of Yakutat, and we hope to get it from John and the
32 other members here today, a read-out on what the people of
33 Yakutat want, how they would feel about that.

34

35 Given the unknown status of the population and concerns
36 that we may be approaching or at a maximum harvest, and the
37 harvest is increasing, we recommend that consideration be given
38 to restricting the nonsubsistence harvest if it becomes
39 necessary. If the skull sizes and ages are to decline
40 significantly, then there would be a strong need to take a look
41 at this population, because it may well be at its maximum
42 harvest right now.

43

44 We had two letters on this. Both were opposed to going
45 to a bear every -- every year rather than one every four years.
46 And the ADF&G was also in opposition, because of the fear that
47 there is an increase in harvest, and that an unlimited --
48 this was at the time when the proposal was for an unlimited

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every year harvest with no restriction on the total number, and they were rightly afraid that this could result in a large increase in harvest which would be detrimental to the population.

4

5 And have also expressed a concern that some -- the regulation, if it's accepted, needs to be constructed in such a way as to minimize the possibility of killing bears as nuisance bears simply because they're around the fish camp or around somebody's nets. This was a fear expressed by a number of people, that this liberalizing of the season would lead to shooting bears simply because they're in the way, or competing for resources.

13

14 The Park Service expressed additional support. They also were concerned about the health of the bear population, because, one thing, bears are highly mobile. They move in and out of the park a great deal. And have suggested possibly limiting the proposal to the Russell Fjord area of Unit Five, since most people stated that that's where mostly their subsistence harvest occurs.

21

22 Questions?

23

24 MR. THOMAS: Thank you, Robert. I appreciate your making it as clear -- at least to me, because obviously there's a reason for considering these different, because of the spread geographically from where we're up and out to the Yakutat area. And I, for one, am not familiar with up there, and I'm really going to yield to the information that's provided.

31

32 And what I was wondering if we could for the sake of discussion at this point, if you could help us with some language that we could use for an action language to start from, like the brown bear -- there was several considerations that you had mentioned, and for a lack of me grasping onto the wrong one of those in deliberations, so what I'm saying I guess, if I'm not confused, nobody else will be. So that would help me.

40

41 So the proposed regulation is one brown bear every four regulatory years. Okay. Now, what -- tell me again what you had mentioned in your analysis?

44

45 MR. WILLIS: The concerns were that -- that there be a limit on the number. A determination be made of how many -- how many people in Yakutat who customary and -- customarily and traditionally use brown bears for meat, because

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there are not very many who do. And

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2 MR. THOMAS: Right. But what -- what would the
3 proposed regulation, how would that be then worded in your
4 idea?

5

6 MR. WILLIS: Well, I would make

7

8 MR. THOMAS: You made -- you said there

9

10 MR. WILLIS: I would use

11

12 MR. THOMAS: you said there would be some
13 modifications. I'm interested in the modifications?

14

15 MR. WILLIS: The modifications would be a five-
16 bear limit rather than -- rather than the regulation simply
17 stating one bear every regulatory year, it would say something
18 to the effect of one bear every regulatory year with up to a
19 maximum of five bears, if that's what's decided.

20

21 MR. THOMAS: Five bears per

22

23 MR. WILLIS: Per year.

24

25 MR. THOMAS: Per year?

26

27 MR. WILLIS: Per year.

28

29 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Okay. So that's what I
30 needed -- that's what I needed to know, so it will give us some
31 place to start our discussions on.

32

33 MR. WILLIS: Understood.

34

35 MR. THOMAS: Thank you. Is that -- is that
36 kind of clear to the Council? Okay.

37

38 MR. WILLIS: I might mention that John and I
39 and some other people have discussed this on what -- what needs
40 to be in the regulation, and we haven't had the time to sit
41 down and try to write it out, so John has considerable
42 information on

43

44 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. I

45

46 MR. WILLIS: what we're trying to do with
47 the regulation.

48

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MR. THOMAS: Yeah. I'm going to continue on with the process of information, but I just need this here for 2- just for a target. It may change, but it may not, but it certainly puts me in a better place to kind of facilitate here. I thank you.

5

6 Any questions of Robert from anybody? Okay. We'll come back when we -- when we recognize the need to. Rather than going through our formality like we have, is there anybody else that would like to offer testimony or input to this? Please.

11

12 MR. TITUS: I have a few questions I'd ask -- I guess I'd like to ask the Fish and Wildlife Service about this. Good morning, Mr. Chairman. I have a few questions I guess I'd just -- points I'd like to put out there.

16

17 My name is Ken Titus. I'm a regional supervisor for the Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Conservation in Douglas.

20

21 A few points that I guess I'd like to make sure are considered, number one, is this proposal going to be in line with those types of brown bear/grizzly bear harvest programs that currently exist and have been implemented in Northwest Alaska in terms of monitoring. The State would be concerned that you need to realize that if you go to a different type of monitoring or permit or federal permit system, in the future the potential exists that we will no longer be able to provide you consistent long-term information about the harvest of bears in Yakutat, because there will, instead of being one system, there will be potentially two systems. There would be a state system for hunters that use that, and then there could potentially be a subsistence use system.

34

35 Associated with that, for example, the State requires that the hide and the skull be brought in for sealing. If those things were eliminated, the biological information that is associated with that would no longer be available. For example, we'd no longer perhaps know whether males or females were being harvested. And, of course, we're very concerned about the number of females that are harvested in brown bear populations. And we wouldn't know the size of the skull relative to a certain population attributes, or these -- these red flags that he justified -- pointed out.

45

46 So those are two of the concerns that -- that as a resource manager we wanted to make sure that you're aware of in terms of monitoring. And there are aspects of -- I think that

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are working fairly successfully in Northwest Alaska with regard to these types of subsistence use of grizzly bears where, for example, the hide and the skull I believe, and the meat must all be used in a traditional sense. And then that hide and skull cannot leave that game management unit. It -- if I'm -- I believe I'm correct in that, so that someone can't then use this under a subsistence provision and then take that animal out of that area through some type of loophole.

8

9 MR. THOMAS: Thank you. I appreciate all that you shared. And I think -- I think that you parallel our concerns very closely.

12

13 One thing, one impression I've tried to make during this whole process this week is that -- and this particular use, when we were all talking about preservation, sustained yield, healthy stocks, all this is going to be taken under consideration. And we appreciate that. And I want us to always keep in mind that as long as I'm on this Council, we're going to pay strict attention to being deliberate more than arbitrary in each case. Regarding everything.

21

22 And, yes, there will be two systems. That's obvious. It's unfortunate, but it's obvious. And I don't think anybody will dispute that. Some agree that, yes, there is a need for this to happen, some say no. But in any event, it's here, and there's no reason that we have to be adversarial in this -- in this scheme. I think that with commitment, common sense and professionalism I think we have -- we'll have a spirit of cooperative attitude in making sure this works, and I really appreciate you sharing that with us. Those are -- I was really happy to hear them. Thank you very much.

32

33 MR. TITUS: Well, I think we can make some of these things work. That's -- that's my job and other resource managers, to make sure we're providing that.

36

37 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Well, it's of the attitude of a lot of people that up to now it hasn't worked in some areas, so -- and I don't think that can be disputed.

40

41 Carol?

42

43 MS. JORGENSEN: Mr. Chairman. Kim, I know that in the northern regions, in, for instance, up in my husband's country and that, there's real -- some very traditional things that you do with the skull and that, and I know that John's going to bring that out in the -- in the Yakutat concern. Are you concerned about those things as far as having -- you know,

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leaving the skull out and making sure it's buried, or is that a problem or?

2

3 MR. TITUS: No, if that's what's -- and I think the State and feds going to work through that, in a maybe not perfect, but in a fairly positive way finally I think in Northwest Alaska. And I think you'd want to be careful and make sure that -- to close any potential loopholes that what is customary and traditional is allowed for, but what -- that people don't have the opportunity to take that regulation and abusing it some way, because for bear population, brown bear populations, they just can't tolerate excessive harvest.

12

13 MR. THOMAS: If such a thing is possible, we hope we can take advantage of your folks mistakes. You know, meaning that in complimentary, because being brand new, there's going to be mistakes over here as well, but you guys have had a longer history of doing this in Alaska, and so hopefully we'll cut down on the mistakes and improve on management and so.

19

20 Any questions for --? Thank you very much. Ken?

21

22 MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to make the Council aware that we do have a local biologist from Yakutat who is prepared to provide additional information. We would request about a 45-second recess to check on something with our Fish and Wildlife Service counterparts before we decide whether we want to say anything formally, but otherwise we are available here. Norm Walters is available to help you in your discussion.

30

31 MR. THOMAS: You caught the Chairman in a liberal mood this morning. We'll take a 75-second break here.

33

34 (Off record)

35

36 (On record)

37

38 MR. THOMAS: Okay. We're still in input mode on proposal 16. Ken?

40

41 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your indulgence. We don't have any prepared testimony at this time, but I would like to ask that Norm be made available to the Council to comment upon the situation, if I could?

45

46 MR. THOMAS: Thank you.

47

48 (Off record discussion re microphones)

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1 MR. THOMAS: John?

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3 MR. VALE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have a question
4 for Mike or Robert, whoever wants to field it. And that has to
5 do with the sealing requirement, and I'm wondering if you could
6 describe for me exactly what's required i -- for the sealing
7 requirement?

8

9 MR. WILLIS: I think I'll let Kim Titus answer
10 that. He knows far more about it than I do.

11

12 MR. TITUS: Currently -- currently throughout
13 all areas of the State I think except for some portions of
14 Northwest Alaska, and I believe it's being encouraged there, I
15 don't know the details, but certainly in all the game
16 management units One through Five, it's required that brown
17 bears be sealed, and by that, that means there is a State
18 requirement that the hide and the skull within 30 days after
19 the harvest be brought to a Fish and Game office, and the
20 evidence of sex must be left on the bear generally. And the
21 State obtains various measurements from the skull. They pull a
22 tooth to age the bear. A small tooth is taken. And we record
23 number of information. We have the hunter go to the map to
24 generally point within a wildlife analysis area where the bear
25 was harvested.

26

27 That program has been in existence at least since 1961.
28 I'm personally very familiar with the date that comes from
29 that, and it's one of the best. Unlike us not knowing much
30 about deer harvest, we do know a lot about brown bear harvest,
31 and that's the result of a very successful long-term program of
32 that. It allows us to interact with the hunters. So that's in
33 effect.

34

35 My general question about this is how would this
36 proposal relate to all of that. Are you -- you know, are you
37 proposing to eliminate the State sealing requirement, and
38 that's why I threw up that just general caution, because
39 sometime in the future we may, depending upon how the
40 regulation comes into effect, we may lose the ability to
41 monitor that brown bear population.

42

43 MR. VALE: I'd like to answer that question I
44 guess. The -- it's clear from the people I spoke with in
45 Sitka that bringing the skull in is a problem. They feel
46 that there's a great deal of significance to leaving the skull
47 in the field, and the manner in which it's treated. It gets a
48 great deal of respect, and there's a tradition in how that is

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cared for after an animal is taken. So I think it's imperative that a --- that a skull be allowed to be left in the field. And so that was an amendment that I had planned to make to this proposal.

4

5 As far as dealing with the hides, those -- we didn't have any specific discussions, but I, from my perspective, don't see a problem with having them tagged in some form. And 8- because that's already being done with other animals, such as sea otters. They're being tagged, and -- So the -- leaving the sex attached as well I suspect might be a problem also.

11

12 So I guess that's kind of where -- what I -- where I'm at on that right now, so if you can be helpful at all in trying to work something out there, that would be good.

15

16 MR. TITUS: I -- if that's the way it is, then that's the way it is. It isn't clear to me with regard to sealing -- part of our sealing is also with regard to various federal citations, canceled (ph) -- international treaty and endangered species. How this does or doesn't relate to that, I don't know, but brown bears are one of those classified species, and -- and how this relates to that, I'm not sure.

23

24 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Okay. Thank you. Any further questions? Patty?

26

27 MS. PHILLIPS: Is nuisance bears, the kill of nuisance bear included in the harvest of bear?

29

30 MR. TITUS: Yes, it is. That's called defense of life and property killing,

32

33 MS. PHILLIPS: And

34

35 MR. TITUS: and that is a different set of paperwork. That regulation requires through the Department of Public Safety

38

39 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

40

41 MR. TITUS: that the hid and the skull be brought to the State and forfeited to the State. And the reason for that is to not have the frivolous take of brown bears, so if you take a bear in defense of life and property, you must forfeit it to the State under current regulations, and that is added into our harvest.

47

48 MS. PHILLIPS: So 41 bears includes nuisance

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bears for '92?

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MR. TITUS: I -- more than likely, yes.

3

4

MS. PHILLIPS: And then what percentage is -- do you estimate is unreported?

6

7

MR. TITUS: I can't estimate that for that area. I can estimate that for the -- for parts of Chichagof Island, but not for Yakutat. I don't know.

10

11

MR. THOMAS: Marilyn?

12

13

MS. WILSON: I'd like to know, what do they do with the sealed skull? Is there studies done on them, of

16

17

MR. TITUS: The sealed skull is returned to the hunter. The Department doesn't keep the hide or the skull. The Department just takes some measurements and pulls a small, little tooth off of that. That's why it's required under State regulation that they bring the bear in, and the skull, is because we pull a little tooth, and we measure the size of the skull. And we're able to estimate some things about the population from doing that.

25

26

MR. THOMAS: Further questions?

27

28

MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask John if the skull is returned, wouldn't that signify that -- satisfy your traditional

31

32

MR. VALE: I suspect not. The manner in which the bear is treated when it's harvested, as I under -- have been told, is you're supposed to treat the bear with respect. And even when it's dressed, I've been told that the bear is supposed to be laid with his head pointing towards the mountains, and, you know, so it's very detailed in the amount of respect you're supposed to show to the bears, and so they were emphatic about the fact that the skulls were supposed to be left in the field.

41

42

I received two different stories from people. One person said that the skull's supposed to be left pointed towards the mountains, and another individual, Mr. Oscar Frank, who's chief of the Teikweidee Bear House in Yakutat, indicated me that the skull is supposed to be buried adjacent to a stream with it pointed upriver. And he says that that's so the bear will -- will be able to get a drink and will never be

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thirsty. And that's what he's described to me.

1

2 So the manner in which these skulls are treated is
3 really important, and I suspect that bringing them back to town
4 and then taking them back out to the field is not going to --
5 not going to work in that regard.

6

7 MR. THOMAS: Any more questions for Kim? Thank
8 you, Kim.

9

10 MR. TITUS: Perhaps you should address how this
11 is handled in Northwest Alaska. That may assist you.

12

13 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Thank you.

14

15 MR. LOCKHART: Mr. Chair, there is a precedence
16 for providing for cultural uses such as this, and in the
17 Northwestern Alaska Brown Bear Management Area and the Western
18 Alaska Brown Bear Management Area. The fee is waived for the
19 tag. There is a State registration permit required, and the --
20 as long as the bears are -- the skull and the -- and the hide
21 never leave that management area, there is no requirement for
22 sealing. If they are to leave the management area, then they
23 have to be sealed. The skull has to be sealed, and the -- if
24 the bear was taken for subsistence purposes, then the hide
25 would have to be rendered unusable as a trophy. So the cap of
26 the skull on the hide is removed, and the claws are removed.

27

28 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Thank you. Any questions
29 around that?

30

31 Okay. We'll hear from the Forest Service? Ken?

32

33 MR. THOMPSON: Hello, again. Mr. Chairman,
34 thanks for asking. We'd just like to make ourselves available,
35 so, for answering any questions about the local situation.

36

37 MR. THOMAS: I appreciate you doing that. I
38 don't have a set way of garnering that information, so feel
39 free to volunteer that, and we'll always welcome that, so if
40 you would do that.

41

42 MR. THOMPSON: Thanks.

43

44 MR. THOMAS: Thank you. Okay.

45

46 MR. WALTER: Mr. Chairman, Dorin Walter, Forest
47 Service biologist in Yakutat. D-o-r-n.

48

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A lot of the information that's been presented by the State and by Fish and Game is what I was going to present also. Do I do have one overhead that I could show?

3

4

MR. THOMAS: Please do.

5

6

MR. WALTER: Okay. The overhead is information that summarizes what has been spoken to earlier, so everybody can just get a visual I guess is what -- what it is.

9

10

MR. THOMAS: I recognize some of that.

11

12

MR. ANDERSON: Yeah, it looks like

13

14

MR. THOMAS: There it is.

15

16

MR. ANDERSON: It looks like what I wrote in my notes.

18

19

MR. WALTER: Can everyone see that? Okay. This is just a summary of what has been talked about, but it's a visual summary now. I'd like to point out it's broken in -- this is the -- this is records obtained from Fish and Game, and this has the total number of bears that have been killed in Yakutat. And this is for sport hunting. This is not a -- here currently is no subsistence hunt in Yakutat, so this is sport hunt information. And it shows the first -- okay. Here's the total kill, and then it shows the year. I'm not very good with these things. And then the number of males, the number of females, their average skull sizes, and over here on the very end is the number taken by locals.

31

32

MS. LOWE: What number at the very end? The written-in one?

34

35

MR. WALTER: That was a total that I had summed up.

37

38

MS. LOWE: That's for '93?

39

40

MR. THOMAS: Out of 383, 53 were taken by locals?

42

43

MR. WALTER: Fifty-three total, out of -- and that number has probably gone up a few more.

45

46

MR. THOMAS: But this number here is the total everybody?

48

49

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1 MR. WALTER: 383 total.
2 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, that 53 comes out of that
3 383?
4 MR. WALTER: Correct.
5
6 MR. THOMAS: Okay.
7
8 MS. LOWE: So, tell me what that number is
9 again? It's 383?
10
11 MR. WALTER: Three- -- correct. Yeah, I'm
12 pretty sure it's 383. My

13
14 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, that's my kind of ink.
15
16 MS. LOWE: So by locals, you mean Yakutat
17 locals or

18
19 MR. THOMAS: Yakutat locals.
20
21 MR. WALTER: Correct. Again, there's no
22 subsistence priority -- there's no subsistence hunt for bear.
23 There's no current -- it's all under sport regulation.
24
25 MS. LOWE: Okay.
26
27 MR. WALTER: I could just leave this up here,
28 and -- I think John was going to get into some of the
29 specifics, but one thing that hasn't been mentioned yet that I
30 feel is very important to this proposal is, as a biologist,
31 Bob, and -- and also for the concerns about bears being shot on
32 nets, there was -- I do know specifically of two bears that
33 were suspiciously shot and -- primarily in Dry Bay, and the Dry
34 Bay National Park Service folks, they aren't here today, but I
35 was talking to one of their representatives a month or so ago,
36 and that person knew of -- had known of two bears that had been
37 shot.
38
39 And I don't know if it was for reasons of being on nets
40 what, but there is some concerns about bears being shot, and
41 that this would be -- increase the number of bears being shot,
42 not -- by having a subsistence hunt, but the kicker, the most
43 important thing I think is that all meat, and this hasn't been
44 talked about yet, but I hope it's being proposed, and I feel
45 this is important, that all meat would be harvested from
46 subsistence bears. That's the whole idea about subsistence
47 hunting is the meat, harvesting the meat from younger bears.
48 That was put into the wording, it would eliminate a lot of
49
50

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the wanton waste defense of life and property. That's my --
~~that's~~ my feelings as a biologist.

2

3 MS. LOWE: Wanton waste killings and so forth,
 4 aren't subsistence oriented -- related.

5

6 MS. ROBINSON: Could you speak up, Ann?

7

8 MS. LOWE: Wanton waste killings, net killings,
 9 aren't subsistence related.

10

11 MR. WALTER: Right. But I've just heard

12

13 MS. LOWE: So how would that increase this? I
~~mean~~, if we're talking about subsistence users killing bears,
 how would that increase the numbers? Wanton waste is wanton
 waste. Killing for protection of nets or whatever is -- and
 not harvesting them is not connected to subsistence impact. I
~~mean~~, I -- would

19

20 MR. THOMAS: What -- yeah.

21

22 MS. LOWE: you make it more clear to
~~me~~

24

25 MR. THOMAS: Well, what happened

26

27 MS. LOWE: what you

28

29 MR. THOMAS: to the meat that was killed
 30 by a sport hunter?

31

32 MR. WALTER: It's not salvaged. Primarily it's
 33 the skull,

34

35 MR. THOMAS: So

36

37 MR. WALTER: they're going after large
 38 bears primarily, trophy bears under the current sport
 39 regulations, and the meat is not salvaged. It's the hide and
 40 the skull.

41

42 MR. THOMAS: Okay.

43

44 MR. WALTER: Yeah, I need to re-clarify, I
 45 guess, what I was thinking. It's kind of hard for me to
 46 explain this. I'm trying to keep things separate -- separate
 47 between sport and subsistence. There is no subsistence hunt in
 48 Katat for brown bears. When this proposal was first pushed

49

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around,

1

2 MS. LOWE: No legally recognized subsistence
hunted for brown bears in Yakutat.

4

5 MR. WALTER: Correct. Yeah. I'm not very good
with exact wording, but

7

8 MS. LOWE: That's okay.

9

10 MR. WALTER: When the proposal was first pushed
around, there were -- there was concerns by me that -- it was
brought to my attention that bears might -- a lot of people buy
tags for bear insurance. And by having this proposal, that one
bear per year by local residents, people would possibly start
shooting more problem bears, or a bear that was on a net.
There might be more of a possibility of this, okay?

17

18 MS. LOWE: I see. What you're saying is it
goes against their tag, and so because it goes against their
tag, if they get to do more than one a year, that would
increase the probability that they wouldn't give that bear
extra room. They'd take him. Okay. I didn't understand.

23

24 MR. WALTER: Right. But John's assured me that
that's not really a concern. And with having the harvesting
for human consumption, to salvage all of the brown bear meat,
that to me is very important under the -- under the subsistence
proposal. And I would hope that it would be considered.

29

30 MR. THOMAS: You know, just for clarification,
yesterday we discussed at length the Baranof Island, Chichagof
Island subsistence trapping of marten and weasels and whatever
else is around there. And somehow I didn't surmise that that
meat was eaten, to be considered subsistence, but if I'm wrong,
I'm less informed than I thought I was. Do they typically eat
marten and weasel and that kind of thing?

37

38 MR. WALTER: I'm not aware of that. Maybe Ted
would be -- Ted or this guy (ph) would be off hand. But this
is the information I've been getting, is that the meat is
consumed. Now, if these local -- numbers taken by locals, I
would assume that the meat is taken off of those bears, on the
last column on the -- our screen there. I'm assuming that that
meat is salvaged for use.

45

46 MR. THOMAS: I'm -- personally I'm hoping to
really have minimal assumptions in the direction I go here, and
like to dispense of words like "may," "could," "should,"

49

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"maybe," "might," you know? To me that isn't planning, and it's not very deliberate. We keep denying that we're using the SWAG approach, but we still submit those kind of terms. But before we're through here, I'm hoping to establish that I don't see anything in here that defines the use for this request, and I hope to establish that. Any questions?

6

7

MR. VALE: Well, does the Forest Service have any plans in the future to maybe work with the Department to try and get an estimate on what the population is across Unit Five there? Are there any

11

12

MR. WALTER: I'm looking through my notes.

13

14

MR. VALE: funds available for that?

15

16

MR. WALTER: A comprehensive management plan is in the works for brown bear for all of Southeast Alaska, including Yakutat. I've talked with Matt Robis, and it's been kind of on the back burner, but I would hope now that with the Federal Government being pushed, or being, you know, given the management over the brown bear now for subsistence priority preference, that we could move ahead and start a comprehensive plan.

24

25

MR. THOMAS: Like I mentioned yesterday, we've got a coat that we're still trying to take off, and we're all we're all going to have to do that. So we hope to wear a new coat before we're through here.

29

30

Any more questions for anybody? Marilyn?

31

32

MS. WILSON: I don't know if I have a question, but I kind of rankle. Every time the word "subsistence" is brought up, there's this waste, the word "waste". To me, I think there's more waste in the sports hunting and this -- the other -- the other user groups. But when we're trying to make up or change regulations for subsistence, even when we were on the State Council, that word wasn't brought up when we changed the other user groups' proposals, but the word "subsistence" runs the word "waste" with it. And people that use the subsistence do not waste.

42

43

And the other thing, I don't think a regulation should should direct a user group to say how they should use what they get. That's my belief. We're just here to provide an opportunity that's covered under the law, to give that subsistence priority. We're not here to direct people how to use their subsistence.

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1 That's -- I'm sorry. I just thought I'd bring that up.

2

3 MR. ANDERSON: A very good point, Marilyn.

4

5 MR. WALTER: Yes, the information that I'm
6 giving to you people is just concerns that were brought up by
7 biologists, and I just want to be sure that you were informed
8 of all the -- of everything, and it's my job to provide for
9 priority and preference, and to also provide for a healthy,
10 viable population of brown bear in Unit 5A.

11

12 MR. THOMAS: Ann?

13

14 MS. LOWE: When you're providing for that
15 healthy population, is it on the basis that you have enough
16 animals for trophy hunts?

17

18 MR. WALTER: A good question. Under
19 subsistence, as I understand subsistence, is that we're -- that
20 subsistence has priority and preference, and as I understood
21 John, he indicated that smaller bears would be harvested, and
22 it appears that it wouldn't -- I'm not a -- I'm not a numbers
23 biologist. I'm a habitat biologist. This is a new game for
24 me. So talking with John, and looking at the information
25 myself, the sports hunters are going after large bears,
26 subsistence users are going after smaller, younger bears for
27 meat. And that's how I understand it. They take -- they want
28 meat. They also use the fur for ceremonial purposes once in a
29 lifetime. But it's the number. I don't know how many young
30 ones, or smaller bears would start being -- you know, would
31 suddenly be at the point where we'd have to start restricting
32 sport hunting for the brown -- for the larger bears.

33

34 MS. LOWE: Your getting close with your answer.
35 You're working there.

36

37 MR. THOMAS: Getting better. John?

38

39 MR. FELLER: Mr. Chairman, I heard him talk
40 about habitat. I was wondering what projects are on-going from
41 the Forest Service side there in Game Unit Five? Is there any?

42

43 MR. WALTER: Currently there are no -- in GMU
44 there are no on-going studies.

45

46 MR. FELLER: Thank you.

47

48 MR. WALTER: Forest Service.

49

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1 MR. THOMAS: Further questions? Appreciate
2 that. Thank you very much.

3
4 MR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to
5 clarify a regulatory matter?

6
7 MR. THOMAS: Okay.

8
9 MR. SCHROEDER: This is Bob Schroeder, I'm
10 Division of Subsistence -- I'd just clarify that there is
11 subsistence hunting for brown bear in this game management
12 unit. The Board of Game heard from people from the unit as
13 well as from people from Game Management Unit Four some years
14 ago about this. My recollection is that it's at least six
15 years ago, probably seven or eight years ago. And heard
16 testimony and found that there was subsistence use of brown
17 bear in those two units.

18
19 At the present time -- let's see, subsequent to that,
20 I'm unaware that there were requests for separate seasons or
21 bag limits for subsistence hunting. There -- I don't recall
22 proposals made to the Board of Game saying that there should be
23 a separate season for subsistence hunting or a separate bag
24 limit for subsistence hunting in these units.

25
26 At the present time, the regulatory on the State side,
27 there -- the State publishes regulations. They cover
28 subsistence resident hunting. And so we really couldn't say
29 that these were subsistence bears being hunted or sport bears
30 being hunted at the present time. So I hope that just doesn't
31 muddy the waters, but that it does clarify.

32
33 This proposal is basically asking for different
34 regulations for federally-qualified subsistence hunters from
35 those that apply to other hunters.

36
37 MR. THOMAS: Appreciate the clarification.

38 An?

39
40 MS. LOWE: Bob, one of the things that's
41 difficult here is Alaska natives aren't supposed to talk about
42 bear hunting. They're not supposed to announce that they're
43 even going. So it's difficult for them to participate in
44 giving knowledge and so forth, so why don't you -- I know
45 you've done some studies and you're aware of the customs here.
46 Why don't you elaborate just a few things for me, and one of
47 them is, is I heard of a suggestion that in the Interior Region
48 that they have to submit the claws, if they're leaving the game

49
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area, or what -- would you clarify that for me, and then Bob will tell me what they do use.

2

3 MR. SCHROEDER: Well, as most of you would be aware either from your cultural background or from reading, that the treatment of bears and brown bears and grizzly bears by native people is a very special thing, you know. Anthropology people write whole books on bear ceremonialism. In the treatment of bears, bears are recognized as being special wildlife, and have a particular place in -- for many hunting people around the world. And this goes back to prehistoric times actually. And so there are complexes of beliefs and practices around bears.

13

14 The Division of Subsistence was asked by the Federal Government a number of years ago, by the Federal Subsistence Program, to do a review of brown bear hunting in Southeast Alaska, and if you wish, we could give you the one minute, five-minute, or rest of the day

19

20 MS. LOWE: Give me the Yakutat

21

22 MR. SCHROEDER: version of that.

23

24 MS. LOWE: version, please.

25

26 MR. SCHROEDER: I'd like to

27

28 MS. LOWE: Since we're dealing with

29

30 MR. VALE: I passed that out for you guys. It's on the table here, the one that Bob's referring to.

32

33 MR. SCHROEDER: With the permission of the Chair, I'd like to ask Tom Thornton to come up and summarize what he found out in that report. He did interview hunters and also elders throughout Southeast Alaska.

37

38 MR. THOMAS: Thank you. Tom?

39

40 MR. THORNTON: Yeah, just quickly to back up what Bob said, the customs and traditions surrounding bear hunting are quite elaborate. Probably more elaborate than almost any other species in Southeast. And the complex is somewhat continuous all over Alaska and into the Interior and Canada, and even over into Asia. So there's a lot of continuity between the kind -- between the kinds of practices that you see.

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But there are also some differences that we found in Southeast Alaska, and -- for example, John mentioned burying the head in a certain position toward the -- toward the mountains, and that is a practice that is consistent with what we found in Yakutat, but is actually different that what was customary in other parts of Southeast Alaska where there was a different ritual associated with treating the head.

7

But, yes, there are issues about talking about brown bear hunting before you go out, and there's various circumlocutions and ways of talking about it without talking about it, if you will. And that speaks to the issue of registration, and how appropriate registration is.

13

There are issues after you kill the bear with what you do with certain parts of it. I think the main one that matters as far as regulation is concerned is the head, and how the head is treated. And as I mentioned, there may be some differences there between -- between Yakutat and other parts of Southeast Alaska based on our research. But in Yakutat, the practice seemed to be to bury the head in the field in a certain way, and there's certain ceremony attached to it, in which sealing requirements would present a conflict.

23

I guess the other thing that I would point out is that we found that there was not a lot of contemporary brown bear hunting, subsistence hunting in the communities that we looked at, but that there was some, but people still thought of it as being a very, very important resource, and one that they still did use, especially in the context of ceremonies. And there are parts of brown bears, such as brown bear ears, for example, which are very important in regalia among certain clans. So people thought it was very, very important, and

33

In the investigation, one of the things that we found trying to explain the level of brown bear use had declined, regulatory issues were cited as a factor by every single -- basically every single hunter we talked to, but not necessarily any recent regulations, but regulations stemming back all the way to territorial days.

40

MR. THOMAS: Thank you. I have to say that I appreciate that added knowledge that a lot of people don't have, that you folks just shared with us. And, you know, at least there weren't questions, I'm not going to pursue those questions at this time. One thing I would like to point out though is another important factor, that we mentioned that there isn't a lot of evidence of a lot of subsistence need or use of the bear in that area. And we'll find that to be the

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case in different areas on different -- different species, so that was a good point, and I think we need to bear that in mind whenever we -- whenever we're concerned about -- about the wasteful possible nature.

4

5 Any questions from anybody? Ann?

6

7 MS. LOWE: Did you also do any kind of study on nonnative use of the brown bear for meat consumption and what those numbers might be?

10

11 MR. THORNTON: Yes. Not so much in Yakutat though, but we did get some information on that from Sitka and other communities, there are nonnative people who are quite fond of brown bear meat and brown bear fat in particular, and some of the -- some of the native people of the community led us to those sources, so we did find that there are nonnatives who do salvage the meat as well.

18

19 MS. LOWE: And are there rituals involved in a nonnative hunt that's important in the registration?

21

22 MR. THORNTON: I would say in the report we detailed actually sort of some of the rituals involved with what you might call trophy hunting, and subsistence hunting, or European versus native. I think both -- in both cultures brown bear hunting is -- there's a lot of ritual associated with it, and you might say that it's one of the preeminent species to hunt in both cultures, so there's a lot of things connected with it. But I don't think we established that there was any complex of subsistence, non-native subsistence beliefs or rituals functioning here in Southeast.

32

33 MS. LOWE: Did you look for any?

34

35 MR. THORNTON: We interviewed -- interviewed some people who hunt brown bear regularly, yeah, but otherwise, we were -- most of our research on actual rituals was confined to either expert interviews or literature review. We didn't find anything in the -- in the -- actually, we did find some in the literature about practices associated with trophy hunting in particular, and how it's used.

42

43 MS. LOWE: I was just mostly interested in the subsistence user out there, that's

45

46 MR. THORNTON: Yeah. But I think for

47

48 MS. LOWE: maybe doing similar things.

49

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1 MR. THORNTON: for subsistence uses, we
2 did find meat, but -- and hides being used by both natives and
3 non-natives, but beyond that, I don't think we found evidence
4 of other parts of the bear being used by non-native subsistence
5 hunters.

6

7

MS. LOWE: How about the claws?

8

9

MR. THORNTON: Claws, teeth, all of those
10 things, we did find some use. But we just didn't -- this was a
11 short project, and it was really key informative (ph)
12 interviews. There was no systematic survey of either the
13 native or the non-native community.

14

15

MS. LOWE: Okay.

16

17

MR. THORNTON: Mainly because of the time
18 constraints.

19

20

MR. THOMAS: Those are good questions. You
21 know, one thing that I've learned throughout my years of
22 knowing a lot of people, there are some numbers of non-native
23 hunters that do subsistence hunt like that, and if they're
24 knowledgeable of local customs and traditions, I have seen at
25 times their attempts to copy those, hoping they have a
26 significant understanding, but they had -- they had an
27 instinctive respect to want to embrace the practices of those
28 cultures that -- as much as they knew about it at that time.
29 And that was kind of refreshing. A lot of them won't be --
30 they're not -- they're not going to come out and say, "Well, I
31 do the very same thing," you know, for their own reasons. But
32 it's safe to assume that that does happen, at least -- at least
33 minimally, so

34

35

MR. THORNTON: Yeah, I think that's true. I
36 just can't verify it.

37

38

MR. THOMAS: No, no. I understand. I
39 understand. Any further questions here?

40

41

MS. WILSON: I have something here.

42

43

MR. THOMAS: Sure.

44

45

MS. WILSON: It's not -- I always never have a
46 question, but I wanted to bring out something about the
47 assimilation of our people. My dad would be 89 this year, and
48 he lived in Admiralty. And there was lots of bears there. But

49

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a lot of the -- our people were assimilated, went to school, went to college, and got away. And also we were sort of regulated out of our own subsistence thing. And a lot of these things we're trying to bring back and learn about again. So I think the opportunity should still be there to obtain the bear if we want it and so forth, and the other resources.

6

7 MR. THORNTON: Yeah, I think that's a good point, and as I said before, even though we didn't find a high level of harvest for subsistence use by either the native or non-native community, I think particularly among the native community we found that people thought it was very important, which is an indication that the level of use may not always correspond to how important that resource is considered to be among a community.

15

16 MR. THOMAS: Further questions? Appreciate it. Thank you very much.

18

19 Is there anybody else out there that sees me in serious hazard of neglecting anything I need to hear? Yeah?

21

22 MR. SCHENK: Ted Schenk. I just want to point out that there are a number of places in the regulations where brown bears are mentioned as to implement what you had in mind with amending this regulation would also need attention. For example,

27

28 MR. THOMAS: Would you specify or list those so we're all doing the same thinking?

30

31 MR. SCHENK: Okay. Under possession and transportation of wildlife, and it's -- I can't give you all of the specific designations. It says, "A brown bear or a grizzly bear taken in the unit or portion of unit having a harvest limit of one brown or grizzly bear per year counts against one brown bear or grizzly every four years, for regulatory use harvest limit in other units. An individual may not take more than one brown or grizzly bear in a regulatory year." That's the place.

40

41 And then talking of sealing of the bear skins and skulls, there is a whole section of three places where it mentions what the regulations are, and it specifically excludes the Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area and Northwestern that had different requirements and the regulation that you're proposing might establish different requirements in this area, so they would have to be added.

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1 MR. THOMAS: What would justify

2 MR. SCHENK: But Mike is

3

4 MR. THOMAS: What would justify a difference?

5

6 MR. SCHENK: Well, it says, for example, "A
 7 person who possesses a bear shall keep the skin and skull
 8 together until a representative of the Alaska -- ADF&G has
 9 removed a rudimentary premolar tooth from the skull, and sealed
 10 both the skull and the skin. However, this provision shall not
 11 apply to brown bears taken within the Western Alaska Brown Bear
 12 Management Area or the Northwest Alaska Brown Bear Management
 13 Area, which are not removed from the management area."
 14

15 MR. THOMAS: I see. I see. Okay.

16

17 MR. SCHENK: And so if there were an interest
 18 on your part to -- for the sealing and that kind of thing,
 19 there's another place in the regulations besides in Area Five.
 20 It's just a -- and actually Mr. Lockhart is the expert at
 21 where in the regulations things would need to be changed,
 22 but

23

24 MR. THOMAS: He looks like an expert, trying to
 25 fumble frantically until he finds the right spot there.

26

27 MR. SCHENK: But I had, in doing some thinking
 28 about this, and looking the regulations, it appeared to me that
 29 there may be some additional considerations to accommodate the
 30 interest of the Council.

31

32 MS. LOWE: Mike, isn't it true that when,
 33 similar to what the State does, when you pass a regulation that
 34 changes things, it -- the legal staff and so forth have to go
 35 through and clean up or do housecleaning on the other areas to
 36 make it applicable?

37

38 MR. LOCKHART: Ann, that's correct, but even
 39 preceding all the information that Ted just brought up, there's
 40 a provision, being one which says "except for special
 41 provisions found at section 25(k)(1)," which are unit specific
 42 regulations.

43

44 MS. LOWE: Okay.

45

46 MR. LOCKHART: And you can adopt things that
 47 would go in there that do not apply to any of those things
 48 that

49

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1 MS. LOWE: Okay.
2
3 MR. LOCKHART: Ted has brought up.
4
5 MR. ANDERSON: Customary and traditional
6 use,
7
8 MR. LOCKHART: So you can make special
9 exceptions.
10
11 MR. ANDERSON: and you've got it.
12
13 MR. LOCKHART: The other thing that I didn't do
14 a good job of talking about was the other -- Northwestern and
15 Western Brown Bear Management Area regulations. They were
16 established so that people who wanted to take a bear for
17 subsistence could take one every regulatory year. It required
18 that you would declare whether you wanted to take one for
19 trophy or what have you. If you took it for subsistence every
20 regulatory year, there was a requirement that you also salvage
21 the meat.
22
23 Then -- Ann, what I was talking about is if you took
24 the hide or the skull, intended to take it out of that
25 management area, then you have to have it sealed. And the
26 actual hide, the trophy value of the hide would have to be
27 destroyed at that point. They take the top of the head off on
28 the skin and remove the claws.
29
30 But the -- you know, it certainly doesn't try to curb
31 any subsistence uses of that area in the area that it was
32 intended to be used.
33
34 MS. LOWE: Well, I guess I need to ask you a
35 question for clarification. What happens if that individual
36 lives on the dividing line between two game units?
37
38 MR. LOCKHART: Well, the
39
40 MS. LOWE: Does he have joint jurisdictional
41 subsistence use on either side of the line, so he doesn't have
42 to come in and
43
44 MR. LOCKHART: The -- the
45
46 MS. LOWE: go through that baloney
47?
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MR. LOCKHART: Those management areas encompass several units, and they were designed to take in the cultural practices of those -- of the peoples living in that area. So I don't think that's much of a problem. There potentially could be some of that, but by regulation if you were to take it outside of that management area, you have to have it sealed.

6

7

MS. LOWE: Okay. Well, I guess I'll go ahead and be specific to Southeast. That's what I'm thinking about it about anyway. Yakutat people also have relatives and responsibilities in Hoonah, Angoon, Sitka, other places.

11

12

MR. LOCKHART: Right.

13

14

MS. LOWE: Okay. If, for instance, they are a subsistence user, and we're making this regulation for Yakutat, to give them this opportunity, and maybe the rest of Southeast isn't ready yet, or hasn't got themselves prepared for it or whatever, which we aren't, but that individual takes a bear, and he takes that bear. It's his responsibility to provide for one of these ceremonies, and he's to provide that particular portion of it, the meat and possibly regalia for -- which would include claws or ears or various things, or possibly hair and hide and what have you, he would be required to bring that with him, or portions of it or whatever, out of that unit into another unit in Southeast. So at that point, do we put him at risk, because suddenly now he's got to go in and seal it, and have parts of it destroyed, or --? I mean, I'm just trying to figure out how

29

30

MR. LOCKHART: Well,

31

32

MS. LOWE: This would be workable, if you put those kind of restrictions on it.

34

35

MR. LOCKHART: Right. And I guess, you know, I think those things would have to be discussed, and particularly we'd have to try and work out something, discuss this with the State and try and figure out the best way we could do it, so that it wouldn't put somebody at risk. But I would think that, you know, if it were possible, if they were willing to seal a hide as John I think kind of indicated they might be willing to do, you know, the federal registration permit could be there, and if they want -- if they felt like they needed to do that, maybe that sealing's a mechanism that could allow for it. I don't know. And I'm not that familiar with, you know, some of the other aspects of those regulations that we may need to address. I think those kind of things can be worked out.

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MS. LOWE: Thank you.

1
2 MR. THOMAS: It would be like having a silver
3 crested parrot in Taiwan.

4
5 MR. WILLIS: Could I add something?

6
7 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, Robert?

8
9 MR. WILLIS: I would just like to point out a
10 couple of things. First of all, that all the subsistence
11 management regulations are contingent on maintaining healthy
12 populations of animals. This came up just a minute ago. The
13 focus is that consistent with maintenance of healthy
14 populations, then you have a subsistence priority. So, you
15 know, as federal agencies, that's the thing we have to look at
16 first.

17
18 Unfortunately, healthy has never been defined, and in
19 fact the Park Service has a regulation that says "healthy and
20 natural populations." So since we've been given no guidance on
21 that, then it's kind of up to us as biologists to try to work
22 out something. And what we usually come up with is a
23 sustaining population, which it may not be the absolute maximum
24 that the habitat can stand, and it may not -- hopefully not the
25 minimum, you know, minimum population that can survive, but a
26 sustaining population. And it doesn't really relate to who's
27 using it. I wanted to point that out.

28
29 The other thing is that because we manage subsistence
30 regulations -- or subsistence use by restricting or eliminating
31 nonsubsistence use, it's crucial to have data on what these
32 populations are doing. What Ann refers to as baloney is coming
33 in and sealing a hide is really crucial information, not used
34 to limit the subsistence user, but to limit the nonsubsistence
35 user if you start to threaten those healthy populations. And
36 for that reason, I would -- I would request that wherever a
37 conciliation or whatever can be made from the subsistence user
38 provide this information to the agencies, we urgently
39 request that that be done, you know, wherever that can be
40 accommodated, because that information is desperately needed,
41 not to limit the subsistence user, but to monitor the
42 population so that if it becomes necessary to limit the
43 nonsubsistence user, we can do that before population damage
44 occurs.

45
46 MR. THOMAS: I was going to mention that. I
47 think -- I think that was a welcome statement, and I would
48 suggest that in order to make that more acceptable, more

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effective, and more inviting to where people would be willing to cooperate and participate with that, if we could come up with a form, piece of information saying that we want to -- we want to recognize these different considerations, but we need your -- we need to hear from you regarding those, and so if you 5- if you let us know about so and so, we'll tell you -- this is what's available. See? Because before you mentioned that, I was considering at some point making an agenda item to this Council for future meetings to come back with some -- with some ritual considerations and practices and religious in some cases around these, but if you're confident that the Board and the -- and the Secretary will be conducive to considering some of these different -- these changes in what we normally do, I think it would behoove us to be -- to come up with some means of making that known, because people -- one of the things people have against Government is not understanding what they're thinking or what they're trying to think, so -- Ann?

17

18 MS. LOWE: Well, one of the things I have is they're intrusive in your private live. That's one. Nevertheless, they're there also to protect you, and to provide protection from enemies and so forth outside the country, so I guess we have a balance there.

23

24 But one of the things I want to ask is the definition of -- what did you say the Park Service was?

26

27 MR. WILLIS: I believe the Park Service regulation says that they will maintain healthy and natural populations, whereas ANILCA says healthy populations. And I don't think either one of those has been -- I can't really speak for the Park Service regulation, but we've had no formal definition of healthy populations under ANILCA.

33

34 MS. LOWE: So is that something that a Council should be working out, a definition of what that would be, or is that something that the Board -- I mean, where is that definition going to come from?

38

39 MR. THOMAS: If they're going to use the -- if they're going to use the language, I would leave the burden of defining to them.

42

43 MS. LOWE: Well, I'm concerned about their definition, because I want their definition -- I mean, the Park Service's sounds like, when they say "natural," it's real neat, but naturally they always leave man out of it. And so they have these things running -- and there's a difference between preservation and conservation, one of them being that in

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preservation you do nothing to manage nothing, and you let it run its natural course, and one of them is you try to manage so that you include all factors in a -- so I am concerned about that word and what that means about, you know, how you want to maintain -- at what levels you want to maintain bear populations and so forth. I mean, to people in a local community, a nice, healthy, high bear population might not be very ideal. I mean, that's why I'm wondering if maybe there shouldn't be some cooperative effort on defining health here.

9

10 MR. WILLIS: It would not hurt my feelings to get a good definition, and I'm not one of the legal people and can't really speak to that. Is Jim here? I guess Jim's disappeared. He's got much better knowledge of the administrative record and what happened after ANILCA and promulgating these guidelines, and definitions and so forth than I do, and

17

18 MS. LOWE: So how do you make

19

20 MR. WILLIS: I can't tell you which

21

22 MS. LOWE: decisions then if you

23

24 MR. WILLIS: one, you know, which one --
25 one overrides the other or not. I can't answer that. And I can't tell you who would make that -- who will eventually come up with a definition. Certainly I would think this -- if this Council could speak to that, and if they were to make a recommendation to the Board of what their idea of what a healthy population should be. But I really don't know who has the authority to make that decision. As I've said, without guidance we just -- we try to work on the basis of a population that will sustain itself.

34

35 MR. THOMAS: Let me give you a comparison of how the natives traditionally have done it compared to how -- by the different systems used now: See, we never had weirs for counting salmon in the streams. When we could look out across the backs of a stream -- of the fish in the streams, we'd estimate one or two million in there, compared with a weir and a person standing over a station with a counter. When he can count them one at a time, you know your run's in trouble. But we build weirs and put people on the payroll, give them a benefit package to go out there and count, and it seems like there a real sense of removal from what healthy is.

46

47 The same thing with herring populations. People that are proponents for the sac roe fisheries, you're -- you're

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limited to probably three areas now for doing that. They're transporting help to different parts of Alaska to try to keep that industry going.

3

4 So there's some real -- there's some real disparities
5 in establishing or considering what's healthy. And I agree
6 with -- I appreciate you bringing that out.

7

8 Gary?

9

10 MR. LAVER: Yeah, I just wanted to pointed out
11 to you that the Park Service wasn't setting up something
12 unique. It says right in ANILCA, it says "healthy and natural
13 populations for park lands, and healthy populations for
14 conservation units." So it isn't -- the Park Service isn't
15 laying on something additional to us. It's providing a more
16 conception of 815 (ph).

17

18 MR. THOMAS: Thank you. We're going to take a
19 five-minute break and come back to this.

20

21 (Off record)

22

23 (On record)

24

25 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Are we through with
26 questions of staff? Is staff through saturating us with
27 information? It looks like both ways. Thank you.

28

29 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman?

30

31 MR. THOMAS: Marilyn?

32

33 MS. WILSON: I just want it to be known that
34 I'm of the brown bear clan.

35

36 MR. VALE: What's the name of your clan,
37 Marilyn?

38

39 MS. WILSON: Teikweidee.

40

41 MR. VALE: Teikweidee?

42

43 MR. THOMAS: And you're not about to be sealed,
44 huh? To get tagged here. John?

45

46 MR. VALE: I move to adopt Proposal 16.

47

48 MS. PHILLIPS: Second.

49

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1 MR. THOMAS: Okay. It's been moved to adopt
 2 proposal 16, one brown bear every four regulatory years.

3
 4 MR. VALE: Every year.

5
 6 MS. LOWE: Marilyn, did you second it or
 7 did

8
 9 MS. PHILLIPS: I did.

10
 11 MS. LOWE: Okay. Patricia.

12
 13 MR. THOMAS: Okay. It's been moved and
 14 seconded. Discussion? John?

15
 16 MR. VALE: If I could, Mr. Chairman, I passed a
 17 couple of handouts out prior to the meeting here. One's on
 18 moose, the other's on bear. These handouts were taken from a
 19 subsistence study done by the Department of Fish and Game,
 20 which I have a copy of the entire study right here. It was
 21 done in 1984. There's about one page of discussion in here
 22 about how bears were used for subsistence, and then a couple of
 23 maps. The maps are really the important part, and they just --
 24 they demonstrate -- they show the historical use areas, which I
 25 would describe as, from the people that I spoke to, and the
 26 information I've received, the areas primarily utilized to hunt
 27 brown bear were the shores of Yakutat Bay, and the river
 28 drainages between Yakutat and the Alsek River. Basically all
 29 Unit Five. Most of the harvest probably come from the
 30 Yakutat Bay, Situk River drainages.

31
 32 I'd like to describe for the Council the process that
 33 came about, this proposal being proposed. I went to an ANB/ANS
 34 meeting, Alaska Native Brotherhood and Alaska Native
 35 Sisterhood. And for those of you who might not be familiar
 36 with their organization, they're -- it's an organization
 37 basically used by native people to discuss and take action on
 38 issues that are of concern to the group.

39
 40 And I had -- after our Regional Council meeting last
 41 October, I had approached them and explained that with the
 42 federal management, now was an opportunity to change the
 43 hunting regulations to something that was more customary and
 44 additional. The ANB/ANS formed a subsistence committee that
 45 was made up of myself, Mr. Burt Adams, and Walter Johnson, and
 46 we then formed a meeting in the community with various members
 47 of the public and other people included Walter Porter, who's
 48 president of ANB/ANS, and Marvin Adams, who's the president of

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the native corporation. And Yakutatkwon also has a subsistence committee which includes David Beady, who's their representative to the Southeast Subsistence Commission, and also Alex James. So we had this meeting where we worked on proposals, and the ones you see before you, the moose and this one and the proxy hunt, were the result of that.

6

7 Since that time, I've had a number of discussions with people around the community getting input on these. I'm going to relate that to you a little bit here.

10

11 I guess the one thing that was expressed by everybody was that the subsistence bear were identified as young bears, two to four years old primarily. They were harvested mainly in the springtime, March, April and May. The bears are usually not out in March though. It's really April and May. Very little harvest in the fall time, although occasionally it did occur.

18

19 And the main item that was pointed out to me amongst all the people that I spoke to was that what distinguished a subsistence bear from a sports hunting bear were that subsistence users utilized all the portions of the -- of the bear. And they felt that this was a key difference.

24

25 And, also, the proposal is specific to Unit 5-A, which is the eastern side of Yakutat Bay on down to Dry Bay, and including parts of the Glacier Bay National Preserve. After interviewing people on this, I discovered that also -- I guess I knew this, but the harvest do occur in Unit 5B as well, and I'm going to amend this proposal to be all of Unit Five, instead of just Unit 5A. Also, bear harvest occurred in Unit 6A, which is from Icy Bay to Cape Suckling, however, we haven't included Unit 6A in here, because that is for the most part all State land, and it seemed like there wasn't authority in that unit. So that's the reason why 6A was left out.

36

37 So -- and additionally the -- one of the people I referred to earlier, Mr. Oscar Frank, Senior, is the chief of the Teikweidee, which has the Situk River as part of their clan territory, and they have the Brown Bear House on the Situk River, which Oscar describes to me as the -- in Tlingit, as the Brown Bear Nest House. And gives me a description of why it gets that name, and it goes back to the story of Kaat, which as many of you are I'm sure aware of, and I'm not going to get into that part of it, but it -- brown bears do -- are carried in a very high regard amongst the local people.

47

48 The -- as I referred to earlier in the meeting, they

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have expressed to me that it's very important that the -- when they harvest brown bears for subsistence purposes, that they are treated with respect. And I have to tell you that I don't 3- as not being a brown bear hunter either really for subsistence or for sport, my knowledge is not very good, personal knowledge is not very good in this regard, but -- I don't know all the rituals involved with harvesting brown bears, but what was related to me was that they're to be treated with respect. I know I was told that. When they take a brown bear, that they talk to the brown bear and thank it for giving up its life for their use, and that when they're processed in the field, they're supposed to be pointed with head pointed towards the mountains, and then after they're taken care of, the skull is supposed to be -- I heard, as I mentioned earlier, two different stories. It's supposed to be pointed towards the mountains, and then Oscar told me it's supposed to be buried next to the stream, pointed upstream.

17

18 So as a result of those discussions, I have an amendment to this proposal, and I would move to amend the proposal to include all of Unit Five, that the -- that a registration -- that the hunt occur with a registration permit. That was a part of the proposal I read, by federal registration permit, the one that we submitted, and nobody told me that that was a problem, anybody that I spoke to. Nobody indicated that that was any kind of a problem. And

26

27 MR. THOMAS: Is that your amendment?

28

29 MR. VALE: Yeah, so it's by -- it's

30

31 MR. THOMAS: You're into

32

33 MR. VALE: all of Unit Five, by registration permit, and that the hide and skull -- or the hide and skull not be sealed, and that the meat be salvaged for subsistence purposes. And those -- that's my amendment.

37

38 MR. THOMAS: You heard the amendment. Is there a second?

40

41 MR. FELLER: I'll second it.

42

43 MR. THOMAS: It's been moved and second. Further discussion?

45

46 MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman,

47

48 MR. THOMAS: Lonnie?

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1 MR. ANDERSON: I have one question for
 2 John. You said that you also used Unit Six, brown bear was
 3 Hunted in Unit Six?

4
 5 MR. VALE: In 6A.

6
 7 MS. ROBINSON: State lands.

8
 9 MR. ANDERSON: Oh, that's State land?

10
 11 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.

12
 13 MR. VALE: Yeah, it's all State land there.
 14 Part of it is in the Wrangell-St. Elias Park, but that's all
 15 of the glaciers and mountains, and

16
 17 MR. ANDERSON: Okay. I didn't want

18
 19 MR. VALE: no brown bear hunting occurs
 20 here.

21
 22 MR. ANDERSON: I didn't want us to come back
 23 later and have to do Unit Six with another amendment on it.

24
 25 MR. THOMAS: After we annex it, we'll go ahead
 26 and do that, if it's all right.

27
 28 MR. ANDERSON: Okay. Thank you.

29
 30 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. So

31
 32 MR. ANDERSON: Just a technicality.

33
 34 MR. VALE: I guess since you brought it up, I'd
 35 mention that one of the clans in Yakutat, the Kogwanpon, their
 36 clan territory is exclusively in Unit 6A, and, you know, I
 37 don't know how to approach it. Since it's all State, we didn't
 38 include it in there, but, you know, I think it -- the use of
 39 bears there was extremely limited, but I kind of feel like when
 40 get back home at some point in the future they're going to
 41 say, "Well, why not here as well?" But I guess at this point
 42 time, we don't want to get into that.

43
 44 MR. THOMAS: Further discussion on the motion
 45 amend.

46
 47 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman?

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1 MR. ANDERSON: Call for

2 MR. THOMAS: To amend.

3

4 MS. WILSON: I have a question.

5

6 MR. THOMAS: Okay.

7

8 MS. WILSON: Are you -- do you think you might
 9 be limiting by saying only the meat and the hide? Is that what
 10 you put down?

11

12 MR. VALE: On the hide -- the amendment was
 13 that the hide and skull not be sealed, to mean, in other words,
 14 they don't have to bring them in and to have a tooth removed
 15 and whatever. And that the meat be salvaged for subsistence
 16 purposes. Those were the amendments. And everybody indicated
 17 to me that that was

18

19 MS. WILSON: Okay.

20

21 MR. VALE: was not a problem.

22

23 MR. THOMAS: Patti?

24

25 MS. PHILLIPS: His second part concerning the
 26 meat, I think our Federal Register already provides for that by
 27 stating, "Failure to salvage edible meat of ungulates, bear, or
 28 house and ptarmigan is prohibited." So I

29

30 MR. THOMAS: The

31

32 MS. PHILLIPS: think that covers it.

33

34 MR. VALE: I guess they might be able to
 35 clarify this. It's my understanding that that is not applied
 36 to brown bears, that might only be applying to black bears.
 37 But I would point out also that that amendment with regard to
 38 the meat is consistent with 803 in ANILCA which says that the
 39 nonwasteful subsistence uses should be accorded a priority. So
 40 I think in the minds of people in Yakutat, not salvaging the
 41 meat is wasteful.

42

43 MS. PHILLIPS: Uh-huh.

44

45 MR. THOMAS: Thank you, John. Further
 46 questions?

47

48 MS. WILSON: I have another one.

49

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1 MR. THOMAS: Yeah? That's fine.

2

3 MS. WILSON: What about -- I forget who
4 mentioned it, to help -- to help keep track of bears this size,
5 the head and so forth. Should not the subsistence community or
6 people who get the bear for subsistence be willing to help with
7 this? And how would they do it, if they could, without giving
8 up the head?

9

10 MR. VALE: I believe they would, and if we used
11 a registration permit, and, you know, the proposal reads
12 "Federal registration permit," because we didn't perceive that
13 the State could be done with this, and I don't believe that
14 people care if it's federal or State registration permit. But
15 the -- I think that you -- there could be a provision on that
16 permit for, you know, the length of the bear, for an example,
17 to give an indication of the age of it, or I think people would
18 be pretty flexible. I think they would be willing to do what's
19 necessary to provide information. So

20

21 I guess I would also point out that the one issue that
22 was raised for the sake of discussion, about what they did in
23 Western Alaska, that the hide would have to be disfigured if it
24 were transported out of the Unit, that would create a problem I
25 believe for people in Yakutat, because of their customary trade
26 that occurs with other communities, such as Sitka is one of the
27 main communities, Angoon, Hoonah, even Haines area. And
28 there's a customary trade that goes on there, and I don't feel
29 that they would stand for limitations on that customary trade
30 that's historically occurred, so I don't think they would
31 support that part, that, you know, if the federal authorities
32 wanted, I don't think that would be supported locally.

33

34 MR. THOMAS: More discussion? Patti?

35

36 MS. PHILLIPS: The definition of bear means
37 Black bear or brown or grizzly bear. Just to clarify.

38

39 MR. VALE: Thank you.

40

41 MR. THOMAS: More discussion? Ann?

42

43 MS. LOWE: Mr. Chair, I think in our discussion
44 that we'll be -- go along with the motion when the Board sees
45, I think our intention of the brown bear and how it's to be
46 used can be addressed by the Board through the regulation that
47 and in some kind of special -- when they do seal it, that
48 there's a point in time that they might be able to mention

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where they want it, if they have a special need for a ceremony, if they want to take it out of that game district, that there be something worked out where they would be given a -- recognized or given a -- if they have to be given a written permission slip, or I don't know, but something that would not be too cumbersome and intrusive done where that could be accomplished. And then I think later on this Council's going to have to address it for all of Southeast, and right now we didn't think of it for this set of rules, so I feel comfortable with John's motion to amend here. I think it's addressed most everything, and it -- the language may be need (sic) cleaned up, I'm sure they'll clean that up, so I'd like to call for the question.

13

14

MR. THOMAS: The question has been called. Please take the role. Well, this is the amendment. We'll do a voice vote on the amendment.

17

18

MS. LOWE: Okay.

19

20

MR. THOMAS: All those in favor say "aye"?

21

22

ALL: Aye.

23

24

MR. THOMAS: Opposed?

25

26

(There were no opposing votes)

27

28

MS. LOWE: Mr. Chair?

29

30

MR. THOMAS: Eight to zero. Okay. The main motion as amended. Any further discussion? Patti?

32

33

MS. PHILLIPS: I just want to add to the concerns of other residents. In the Pelican area, I know of set net fishers who, you know, have been in the -- who live in Pelican, and who live in Dry Bay, Alsek River. They're native people who migrate, and I just want to recognize those native people that migrate, though they would not be covered by this proposal.

40

41

MR. THOMAS: Thank you, Patti. Further -- Mim?

42

43

MS. ROBINSON: I just have a question. Is this four-bear allocation or five-bear allocation? I'm kind of puzzled.

46

47

MR. VALE: That's a good question, Mim, and I didn't address that. I'm glad you brought it up. I noticed in

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the staff comments they suggest a five brown bear community bag limit, and I guess I can't support that. Because -- because of the restrictive nature of these regulations, I believe there probably have been subsistence harvests of bears that have gone unreported, and in all likelihood, some of the bears that have been reported are actually sports bears and not subsistence bears, so I think we need to spend a little time here to see what is needed to meet subsistence uses.

8

9

MR. THOMAS: I was going to ask that, John. Since I've got to go make us look good, do you have any idea, and if you don't, that's fine, what you can anticipate? What would be an outside maximum guesstimate in comparison to a five per community?

14

15

MR. VALE: All I can come up with is a SWAG for Mr. Chairman.

17

18

MR. THOMAS: That's fine. That's fine.

19

20

MR. VALE: And I feel that based on, you know, what I know, that in all likelihood there is not going to be more than five brown bears utilized for subsistence purposes, but I've got -- feel we don't know, and we need a little time

25

26

MR. THOMAS: We need some history to determine that.

28

29

MR. VALE: Yeah.

30

31

MR. THOMAS: Okay. Further discussion? Ann?

32

33

MS. LOWE: This is one of those regs that fisheries departments and stuff love really well. They open up a season on something without knowledge and say, "We'll get knowledge when you harvest it and we'll find out." And I think this is one of those appropriate times where at this time we'll get more knowledge when that subsistence thing is put into place, so I feel comfortable that not putting a number on it at this time and letting it make its scene on the stage and play itself out.

42

43

MR. THOMAS: Yeah, SWAG is appropriate for this Council. Further discussion?

45

46

MS. WILSON: Question.

47

48

MR. THOMAS: Question is called for. Please

49

50

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call the roll?

1

2 MS. LOWE: This is proposal 16, for proposal 16
as amended. John Vale?

4

5

MR. VALE: Yes.

6

7

MS. LOWE: Bill Thomas?

8

9

MR. THOMAS: Yes.

10

11

MS. LOWE: John Feller?

12

13

MR. FELLER: Yes.

14

15

MS. LOWE: Patricia Phillips?

16

17

MS. PHILLIPS: Yes.

18

19

MS. LOWE: Mim Robinson?

20

21

MS. ROBINSON: Yes.

22

23

MS. LOWE: Lonnie Anderson?

24

25

MR. ANDERSON: Yes.

26

27

MS. LOWE: Marilyn Wilson?

28

29

MS. WILSON: Yes.

30

31

MS. LOWE: Ann Lowe? Yes. Mr. Chair, it
passed seven-zero-zero.

33

34

MR. THOMAS: Thank you. You know, during our
break, it was brought up that this was kind of an
agonized

37

38

MS. LOWE: Eight. Excuse me.

39

40

MR. THOMAS: It is an agonizing topic of
discussion, because of some of the personal identities through
the culture on this, and it is. And just to try to illustrate
point, those in this room that have Indian names from around
here. Let's take time to introduce ourselves. John, were you
adopted in Yakutat?

46

47

MR. VALE: No.

48

49

50

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1 MR. THOMAS: You weren't?
2 MR. VALE: No.
3
4 MR. THOMAS: Too bad.
5
6 MR. VALE: I think it's in the works.
7
8 MR. THOMAS: Oh, it's in the works. We'll
9 state with Dale. You're Raven Dog Salmon, right?
10
11 MR. KANEN: Saa-kwaa.
12
13 MR. THOMAS: Saa-kwaa. John?
14
15 MR. FELLER: My Tlingit name is Goo-dlow-oow.
16
17 MR. THOMAS: What's your?
18
19 MR. FELLER: And I'm in the Nan'-yai-yee clan.
20
21 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh. Okay.
22
23 MR. FELLER: And that's the Eagle Wolf Bear.
24
25 MR. THOMAS: Eagle Wolf Bear, yeah.
26
27 MR. FELLER: Killer whale. Yeah.
28
29 MR. THOMAS: Patti?
30
31 MS. PHILLIPS: My husband's grandfather is --
32 his Haida name is Brown Bear Kootch, and he passed that name
33 down to my son Jordan. And he adopted me and gave me the name
34 Choda Lumba.
35
36 UNIDENTIFIED: What's that mean?
37
38 MS. PHILLIPS: He gave me the history behind
39 it, and it's like -- Choda is like an aunt, but Lumba was a
40 woman who came from the Puyallup tribe and married one of the
41 Haida men in Hydaburg and became part of that community. And
42 he gave me that same name.
43
44 MR. THOMAS: Marilyn?
45
46 MS. WILSON: My name is Gush-goo-geh, and it's
47 the Brown Bear clan, Teikweidee. My father was a Dog Salmon.
48
49
50

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MR. THOMAS: I'm Jux-schu-atei'. Her dad was my brother. Raven Dog Salmon. My dad was an Eagle Wolf, Kag-wan-tan, Jax-tak-kek. We originated from Angoon. Carol?

3

MS. JORGENSEN: My Indian name is Chooh Da Beit. I am Chaek, Eagle, Keet, Killer Whale. I am Dak La Wedi, and I'm a Lux ahdi yadi. And my grandmother's clan was from Yan-des staki.

8

MR. ANDERSON: My name, my Indian name is Oonee, the Raven Clan, after Reverend Johnson of Klawock. And I don't know about different tribes right now.

12

MR. THOMAS: Ray?

13

MR. NELSON: My Tlingit name is Ah-ka-shoak, I'm a Suka nadi (ph), Raven Frog, and my father is (indiscernible) Brown Bear out of Sitka, originally from Glacier Bay (indiscernible). And my father is originally from Wangell.

20

MR. THOMAS: Did I leave anybody out? Anyway, thank you for indulging, but that just kind of gives you an idea of some of the things that is in the back of our minds throughout these discussions, and we have some associated content that you're not always familiar with, and so if we sound like we're coming off the wall, we're really falling off of totem poles, so

28

Okay. Back to the future.

29

MS. LOWE: Mr. Chair, do we have proposal number 12 still on the floor?

30

MR. THOMAS: Twelve is still on the floor. With respect to our representatives from that unit, we moved on Unit Five.

33

MS. WILSON: That's proposal five?

34

MR. THOMAS: No. We're back to proposal 12. And to the best of our recollection, by the time we broke last evening, we didn't have any action brought before us that was pending. We had -- we were still in information mode, question and answer with staff. Is that close?

45

MS. LOWE: We had motion on the floor. Proposal 12 was on the floor.

46

48

49

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MR. THOMAS: Okay.

1
2 MS. LOWE: And we broke. It was the Council's
3- Council's property, and I believe Mim was the last one to
4 speak on it as a Council member. So

5
6 MR. THOMAS: Okay. So we did have a motion.
7 We were in deliberations for action, right?

8
9 MS. LOWE: Yes, sir.

10
11 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Mim?

12
13 MS. ROBINSON: Yes. After much discussion
14 yesterday evening and stuff and trying to understand the issue
15 and what was going on, I would recommend that we just adopt
16 proposal 12 as it stands, without amending it, and if there --
17 you know, I don't know if there's any more discussion on it or
18 not. If there isn't, then I would -- I would call for the
19 question.

20
21 MR. THOMAS: There aren't any -- there aren't
22 any amendments out?

23
24 MS. LOWE: No, sir.

25
26 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Just for your information,
27 turn to page 40 in that book. I'm -- still part of proposal
28 28. If this is SWAG, I want you to tell me what it is.
29 Starting out with the reason for regulation. What's the first
30 word?

31
32 MS. PHILLIPS: If.

33
34 MR. THOMAS: If. On the bottom line, the third
35 word?

36
37 MS. PHILLIPS: May.

38
39 MR. THOMAS: Four words following that?

40
41 MS. PHILLIPS: If.

42
43 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Effect of proposed change
44 for wildlife populations, the third word?

45
46 MS. PHILLIPS: May.

47
48 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Effect of proposed change

49
50

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on subsistence user, second word of second sentence?

1

2

MS. PHILLIPS: May.

3

4

MR. THOMAS: See? I don't know about you guys. I -- those are all assumptions and possible implications. But we don't know the severity of the implications. An implication doesn't amount to anything unless it becomes a result. And I guess my biggest concern would be the last "may" on the effect of the proposed change. I'll read the entire thing:

10

11

"The proposed regulation would be less restrictive in the Sitka Sound/Peril Straits area, and the regulations would be less confusing. It may increase competition from the subsistence hunters in northeast Chichagof Island and Sitka Sound/Peril Straits areas."

16

17

Mim or Ann, do you guys have any idea what that might imply?

19

20

MS. LOWE: Well, I

21

22

MR. THOMAS: You can use "if" and "may" if you want.

24

25

MS. LOWE: Okay. I think what they're referring to is the possibility of sports hunters impacting subsistence hunters, because it -- or it will increase effort from that direction. But I never did figure that out, because it's -- basically the subsistence hunters are pretty well taking what they need anyway. They just -- the Department doesn't have the real records available to them. So I don't know for sure what they mean by that statement, and I just let it go by -- blow by my little brain and not worry about it.

34

35

MR. THOMAS: Okay. I think I'm the same way. I think Mim has offered a good motion. I will support it, but I think this will probably alert me to take a look at this in subsequent seasons and that kind of thing, because right now until we can reach a point of taking icicles (ph) off of the words "if" and "may," I will just go ahead and support this.

41

42

Further discussion?

43

44

MS. WILSON: Yeah, Mr. Chairman?

45

46

MR. THOMAS: Marilyn?

47

48

MS. WILSON: Once we change a regulation, like

49

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if we put this -- like Mim had an amendment to put on it. The more stipulations we have on it, well, you can't change it. But if you keep it like this, six deer, the Department or whoever does it, can issue

4

5

MS. ROBINSON: Emergency order?

6

7

MS. WILSON: an executive order or

8

9

MS. ROBINSON: Emergency order.

10

11

MS. WILSON: emergency order to cut down on the hunting and stuff, but our

12

13

14

MR. THOMAS: I agree.

15

16

MS. WILSON: main concern is to protect the subsistence, not only the resource, but also the user.

17

18

19

MR. THOMAS: I agree, but historically emergency orders don't occur unless they come out of an endangered species list, so -- but I'll still support the -- I'll still support the motion.

20

21

Any further discussion? Ann?

22

23

24

MS. LOWE: And we just might point out that in our discussions last night, we felt like the State regs that they have in there for a sports hunting season would adequately address the needs of the sports hunter, and we would let them worry about that, and just deal with meeting the needs of the subsistence hunter in Game Unit Four.

25

26

27

MR. THOMAS: Further question, discussion?

28

29

30

MS. PHILLIPS: No, I was just thumbs up.

31

32

33

MR. THOMAS: Oh, thumbs up? John?

34

35

MR. VALE: Just a comment. I know we heard from Hoonah, a number of different people, and Tenakee there that they're concerned about their ability to get deer and competition there, and I just wonder if six deer is appropriate throughout the management unit there, and if we should consider a lower number for that part of Chichagof Island around Tenakee and Hoonah.

36

37

38

MR. THOMAS: Ann?

39

40

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1 MS. LOWE: We talked to the Hoonah
2 representatives last night, too, and ran by what we were
3 thinking, and we have no problems with it, because they feel
4 like they will take -- if someone needs the six deer, they'll
5 take them. If they don't, they'll take -- and they said this
6 year they were having no problems, is that not correct?

7
8 MS. PHILLIPS: Right. Right.

9
10 MS. LOWE: They were having no problems meeting
11 their needs, and that they would -- the only thing that they
12 might have a little trouble with was the State's reg. They
13 thought the State ought to actually be about two instead of
14 three, but they would fight that at the State level, so we felt
15 comfortable, and they seemed to feel comfortable with what we
16 were talking about or offering, so that is why we -- we
17 remembered that Hoonah might need some relief, and that's how
18 we approached it.

19
20 MR. VALE: Thank you.

21
22 MR. THOMAS: Further discussion? I can't
23 believe all the discussion coming out yet. Further discussion?

24
25 UNIDENTIFIED: Question. Call for the
26 question.

27
28 MR. THOMAS: Thank you. The question was
29 called for. We're now on the main motion with no amendments,
30 except for SWAG. Call the roll, please?

31
32 MS. LOWE: Okay. I've run out of space. Okay.
33 Ann Lowe? Yes. Marilyn Wilson?

34
35 MS. WILSON: Yes.

36
37 MS. LOWE: Lonnie Anderson?

38
39 MR. ANDERSON: Yes.

40
41 MS. LOWE: Mim Robinson?

42
43 MS. ROBINSON: Yes.

44
45 MS. LOWE: Patricia Phillips?

46
47 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes.

48
49
50

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1 MS. LOWE: John Feller?
2 MR. FELLER: Yes.
3
4 MS. LOWE: Bill Thomas?
5
6 MR. THOMAS: Yes.
7
8 MS. LOWE: John Vale?
9
10 MR. VALE: Yes.
11
12 MS. LOWE: Mr. Chair, it passed unanimously,
13 eight-zero-zero.
14
15 MR. THOMAS: Good. Okay. On to -- Mim?
16
17 MS. ROBINSON: I think we need to move to take
18 or that you need to say to take no action on 11 and 13. Or,
19 excuse me, 11 and 15.
20
21 MR. VALE: Thirteen.
22
23 MS. ROBINSON: Was it 13?
24
25 MS. LOWE: Thirteen I think it is.
26
27 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.
28
29 MR. THOMAS: Do I hear a motion?
30
31 MR. VALE: Move to adopt 11

32 MS. LOWE: Take no action is what we're
33 saying

35 MS. ROBINSON: Take no action.
36
37 MR. VALE: Oh, okay. Move to take no action on
38 then.
39
40
41 MR. THOMAS: Is there a second?
42
43 MS. ROBINSON: Should we do -- I'll second.
44
45 MR. THOMAS: This is debatable, if you choose
46 do so. If not,

47
48 MS. ROBINSON: Question.
49
50

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1 MR. THOMAS: The question's been called for.
 2 Call the roll, please?
 3
 4 MS. LOWE: John Vale?
 5
 6 MR. VALE: Yes.
 7
 8 MS. LOWE: Bill Thomas?
 9
 10 MR. THOMAS: Yes.
 11
 12 MS. LOWE: John Feller?
 13
 14 MR. FELLER: Yes.
 15
 16 MS. LOWE: Patricia Phillips?
 17
 18 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes.
 19
 20 MS. LOWE: Mim Robinson?
 21
 22 MS. ROBINSON: Yes.
 23
 24 MS. LOWE: Lonnie Anderson?
 25
 26 MR. ANDERSON: Yes.
 27
 28 MS. LOWE: Marilyn Wilson?
 29
 30 MS. WILSON: Yes.
 31
 32 MS. LOWE: Ann Lowe? Yes. Mr. Chair, it
 33 passed unanimously.
 34
 35 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Now, my staff (ph) tells me
 36 we go to proposal 14, does that reasonable?
 37
 38 MR. VALE: That was just on 11, wasn't it? I
 39 guess we do the same thing on 13? If so, I'll move to take no
 40 action on 13.
 41
 42 MS. ROBINSON: Second.
 43
 44 MR. THOMAS: Okay. I thought we covered it
 45 with one motion?
 46
 47 MS. ROBINSON: No, I don't think so. You know,
 48 the way of doing that, just for future reference is -- I'm
 49
 50

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trying to think how the Board does it. It's real quick and you don't have to vote on it. You just -- "hearing no opposition," or "hearing no

3

4

MR. VALE: "Hearing no objections".

5

6

MS. ROBINSON: "no objections, I -- there will -- we will take no action" on such and such a proposal.

8

9

MR. THOMAS: Oh, yeah. You move and ask unanimous consent, then I say, "Hearing no objections, so moved."

12

13

MS. ROBINSON: Let's do that way. So moved.

14

15

MR. THOMAS: You move for unanimous consent. Hearing no objections, so ordered.

17

18

MS. PHILLIPS: And that's on 13?

19

20

MS. ROBINSON: That's 13.

21

22

MR. THOMAS: Well, do that on 14, too. That works pretty good.

24

25

(Laughter)

26

27

MR. THOMAS: Number 14. Staff, please?

28

29

MR. WILLIS: Proposal number 14 deals with everyone's favorite animal, the marten. The proposal was provided by the U.S. Forest Service. The current regulation has a marten season open on Chichagof Island December 1 through December 31 with -- excuse me, December 1 to February 15. For most of the Unit Four, Chichagof Island, December 1 to December 31 with no limit. The proposed regulation would close the marten season on Chichagof Island. It would not affect the marten season in the rest of Unit Four.

38

39

The reason for changing the regulation is that sealing records, carcass analysis, and trapper harvest relating to (indiscernible) of marten indicates the marten harvest over the last two trapping seasons has exceeded established criteria for maintaining healthy, harvestable populations. The ratio of juvenile to adult females harvested is too low, and the ratio of females to males harvested is too high. The proposed trapping closure, the effect on wildlife populations would -- the closure would stop the over-harvest of female marten, and will allow populations to rebuild. There would be some short-

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term economic effects, negative effects on subsistence users, but the long-term effects would be positive for those people who trap marten.

3

4 Our sealing records, carcass analysis and trapper harvest data indicates that over the last two seasons especially the harvest of martens has exceeded the criteria for healthy populations criteria, which are established in the literature from research. The recommended minimum ratio of female to two males and kit (ph) were exceeded in both 1991/92 and 1992/93, as was the minimum recommended ratio of three juveniles to one adult female. Based on an allowable harvest of 40% of the population, the maximum estimated sustainable harvest of marten on Chichagof Island would be approximately 625 per year. ADF&G sealing records indicate that a harvest in 1991/92 was 1,653, which far exceeds the maximum harvest criteria. Harvest in the following year -- excuse me -- of 1992/93 dropped to 349. Habitat alteration due to logging, and the increased accessibility of previously unreachable, what we call reservoir populations of marten that can't be reached from the beach, these two effects have simultaneously reduced the population, and also increased the harvest of marten.

22

23 There are two other furbearers which are trapped as far as to some degree on Chichagof Islands. There's three actually. There's mink, there's weasel and the otter. They're taken to a much less extent than marten. We don't really know how many of mink, because they're not sealed. There are some otters taken, and we don't information on weasel. Marten are occasionally caught in a trap meant for these species, and the Council should consider, if they adopt this proposal to close the season on marten, to also close trapping of those species also.

33

34 The conclusions drawn by the staff are that the closure of marten trapping on Chichagof Island is necessary to allow populations to rebuild in those areas that habitat remains. Based on past harvest records, a closure of this season should have a significant impact on a relatively few residents in the local community; however, at this time, the number of marten available for harvest is very low. Pelt prices are currently somewhat depressed. And the impact is actually less significant than it would be if marten populations were healthy. The impact would probably be greatest on the community of Sitka where four to eight trappers have harvested an annual average of 374 marten during the three-year period of 1990 to '93, and for Hoonah where four to seven trappers have harvested an average annual -- or an annual average of 191 over the same period.

49

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1 We had one letter in opposition to the -- to the
 2 closure, and one in support of the closure, and both proposers,
 3 the one in support requested more information but was semi in
 4 support. The one letter of opposition deals with the fact that
 5 marten are an introduced species on Chichagof Island and have
 6 caused some excessive predation on the island's bird
 7 population. This particular letter in opposition
 8 (indiscernible) to marten closure from trapping, but also
 9 proposed a road system trapping which is currently in effect.

10

11 The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is opposed to
 12 the closure. They feel that the short, one-month season, and
 13 the prohibition on use of motorized vehicles when marten
 14 trapping is sufficient to protect the population.

15

16 I might also mention that I have some verbal
 17 information from Ted Schenck, and he can expand on this if you
 18 like, that road (ph) population of mice, voles and other
 19 current species and marten have been depressed on the island
 20 for some years also may have contributed to the decline in
 21 population along with the other factors. These populations are
 22 increasing, and although the marten population is still down,
 23 the food source is there (indiscernible) is coming back, and it
 24 would -- it would be my guess, SWAG, whatever, that probably a
 25 closure of one to two years would be all that's necessary to
 26 bring populations back up to a harvestable level, although the
 27 road system closure would probably need to remain in effect,
 28 because there's a direct correlation between (indiscernible)
 29 these habits to trappers and the decline in population.

30 Questions?

31

32 MR. THOMAS: Was this proposal -- did it take
 33 into account the predation of the birds in the area at all?

34

35 MR. WILLIS: No, sir.

36

37 MR. THOMAS: Further questions?

38

39 MS. ROBINSON: I -- Bill, what was your
 40 question?

41

42 MR. THOMAS: Did this proposal, the language
 43 when it was drafted, did it take into consideration the
 44 predation of the birds, on the animal, as was pointed out to us
 45 yesterday.

46

47 MS. ROBINSON: Right. And what was your
 48 answer?

49

50

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1 MR. WILLIS: No. No, that was not a
2 consideration.

3

4 MR. THOMAS: Lonnie?

5

6 MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman, I talked
7 personally with a lot of the subsistence users in Hoonah, and
8 they say that you cannot find any grouse in the neighborhood,
9 and they said that this -- when this proposal came up, to give
10 very serious consideration about it. Eliminate the marten
11 and give them back the birds. They can't eat marten they say.

12

13 MR. THOMAS: I was wondering about that. John?

14

15 MR. VALE: Is there presently a road closures
16 now on Chichagof to

17

18 MR. WILLIS: Yes.

19

20 MR. VALE: on Chichagof, to -- so that's
21 the effect. Is there any indication that that is slowing down
22 these marten harvest for trappers?

23

24 MR. WILLIS: I'd have to check the history to
25 see how long that's been in effect, John. Or maybe Ted can
26 speak to that. He's done extensive work on the marten
27 population out there. Do you want to call him up to the
28 microphone?

29

30 MR. THOMAS: Ted?

31

32 MR. SCHENK: The road closure for trapping of
33 marten on northeast Chichagof was implemented in 1989, and the
34 closure for the side of Westport, Frederick was implemented in
35 the 1991/92 trapping season, so it's been in place for a couple
36 of years on Westport, and it's been since 1989 in the area
37 right around Hoonah.

38

39 MR. VALE: Okay. I don't remember what years
40 that those large harvests came from, but that -- apparently
41 they came during the time that this closure was still in
42 effect?

43

44 MR. WILLIS: 1991 and 1992, John, was when we
45 had 1,653 marten sealed, and the following year, 92/93, only
46 349.

47

48 MR. VALE: So the answer is, yes, those

49

50

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closures were in place when

1

2

MR. WILLIS: (Indiscernible)

3

4

MR. VALE: those harvests took

5

6

MR. SCHENK: The -- In 1990/91, we did an emergency closure on a portion of northeast Chichagof and a total of 65 marten were taken by four trappers. The following year, we implemented a shorter season on northeast Chichagof controlled use area, but not on Westport, and there were 412 marten taken, most of which were taken from the road system on the Westport area. The following year we closed Westport, and there were -- and a short season, and there were only 90 marten taken from the whole area. One individual trapped nearly 200 animals individually.

16

17

MR. VALE: That was before the

18

19

MR. SCHENK: Before the road closure on both sides of Westport.

21

22

MR VALE: Okay.

23

24

MR. SCHENK: Of Port Frederick.

25

26

MR. THOMAS: Ann?

27

28

MS. LOWE: Of that proportion of animals that we trapped, how many were females?

30

31

MR. SCHENK: I don't have that information with me right now.

33

34

MS. LOWE: 'Cause that

35

36

MR. SCHENK: A higher proportion than we were comfortable with. Just a second, I may be able to have it with me.

39

40

MR. THOMAS: Stand at ease for a second. Okay.

41

42

MR. SCHENK: In the -- on the south end of Chichagof Island in 1991/92 season, 42% of the harvest was females and 33% in 1992/93. On the north end of Chichagof Island, on both sides of Port Frederick, in 1991/92, it's 32% females, and in 92/93, it's 48% females.

47

48

MS. LOWE: What is your modeling level for

49

50

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female to male ratio?

1

2 UNIDENTIFIED: One to what?

3

4 MR. SCHENK: We would like to see a harvest of
5 one female or less per two males, so if the percent was less
6 than 33% of the harvest is females, that would be better.
7 According to the literature review that we've done, and the
8 studies that we've

9

10 MS. LOWE: So your designing these regulations
11 for one person?

12

13 MR. SCHENK: Well, we're designing the
14 populations to protect -- or designing the regulations to
15 protect the populations, to maintain healthy populations of
16 marten.

17

18 MS. LOWE: Okay. I'll rephrase the question.
19 Were protecting these populations from one person?

20

21 MR. SCHENK: That was not our intent.

22

23 MR. WILLIS: That's not entirely accurate, Ann.
24 I think I gave you the figures on how many trappers were using
25 the area from -- at least from a couple of communities. We had
26 trappers there from Hoonah, Sitka, Pelican, Horner Bay Camp,
27 Eight Fathom Bike Camp, Haines, Fairbanks, Elkin Cove, Tenakee
28 Springs, Whitestone Camp, Kennel Creek Camp, and Juneau.

29

30 MS. LOWE: Okay. Would you say the numbers
31 again of who actually trapped there then? What do those add up
32 to?

33

34 MR. ANDERSON: Page 57 gives you the

35

36 MR. WILLIS: We're waiting for a -- you would
37 like to know how many were trapped from each of those
38 communities for last year?

39

40 MS. LOWE: No, no. I just want to know how
41 many trappers were in this area that had the trouble, the
42 closure, the road closure and stuff.

43

44 MR. WILLIS: I can add that up for you. Just a
45 second. There were 17 in 1992/93, 31 in 91/92, that was that
46 year of the really high harvest. And 13 the year prior to
47 that, in 1990/91.

48

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MS. LOWE: Where did we get these statistics from? Did we do this study ourselves or?

2
3
4 records.

MR. WILLIS: This is from the ADF&G sealing

5
6 MS. LOWE: Excuse me if I say "we".

7
8 MR. WILLIS: From the State sealing
9 records

10
11 MR. THOMAS: You're family.

12
13 MR. WILLIS: for marten. Marten are
14 required to be sealed. They have to bring the pelts to the
15 ADF&G office.

16
17 MS. LOWE: So it was from ADF&G records?

18
19 MR. WILLIS: Right.

20
21 MS. LOWE: It was not a program that we had
22 ourselves. Well, didn't you mention that you had some kind of
23 study?

24
25 MR. SCHENK: The Forest Service and ADF&G have
26 entered into a cooperative agreement for at least two studies
27 for Marten on Chichagof Island, north end of Chichagof Island.
28 One is a radio telemetry project to determine the ecology of
29 the marten out there, to find out what their home range is, a
30 lot of (indiscernible). We have the specific project to
31 examine the carcasses of the marten that are trapped by
32 trapper. They turn in the carcasses and we're determining --
33 we actually pay them for the carcasses and we teeth out of them
34 and age them and sex them, inject (ph) them, and see what the
35 reproductive rate has been on the female marten, so I think we
36 have some fairly good day. We've been doing the carcass study
37 since 1992.

38
39 MR. THOMAS: John?

40
41 MR. VALE: I gather then since this road
42 closure's been in effect for a couple of years that you don't
43 think it's adequate to protect those marten?

44
45 MR. SCHENK: The road closure only covers
46 federal public lands. It does not include state or private
47 land in the area. Last season there were ten radio collared
48 martens that had home ranges that intersected roads on state or

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private land at Hoonah. Nine out of ten of those martens were trapped in the 30-day season. And, no, I don't think the closure was effective.

3

4

MR. VALE: Okay.

5

6

MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman, I have a question for Ted.

8

9

MR. THOMAS: Lonnie?

10

11

MR. ANDERSON: I look at this and you say depressed economy. I'm sure that there -- do you find that say in '91 and '92 the market for pelts were relatively high?

14

15

MR. SCHENK: I believe that they were relatively high. They were not at historical peaks.

17

18

MR. ANDERSON: Then in '92 and '93, I think you will find that there was a depressed market. Would the economy of the -- or the price of the pelts today make a decision whether to -- it looks to me like with the price of pelts, you don't have to worry about closing the season, or -- it would pretty well adjust itself. Am I not right?

24

25

MR. SCHENK: My interpretation of the graphs that we have would indicate that there's a direct relationship between the number of trappers trapping and the number of marten taken, and the price of the fur. It appears that when the price goes up, the number of trappers and the number of animals goes up. That's what the data shows.

31

32

MR. ANDERSON: Couldn't -- one other questions and then I'll relinquish. Couldn't you more or less leave the regulations is if every three years there's a high in the price of pelts? It seems the attrition takes care of itself.

36

37

MR. SCHENK: That previously had been my assumption. The facts that we are getting from the radio marten indicate that there is a high probability of reducing the populations below a viable level on the north end of Chichagof Island if we allow continued trapping. There's a high probability that the marten can be -- suffer a distinct mortality up there. That's within our study area. I can't speak to all of Chichagof Island, because it's not all as faded.

46

47

MR. THOMAS: Ann?

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1 MS. LOWE: This proposal, number 14, that
 2 you've got here says "Chichagof Island, no open season."

3 MR. SCHENK: That's correct.
 4

5 MS. LOWE: And you're telling me, because
 6 you've got an area north that's in trouble, you're going to
 7 close the whole island. That's what I just heard you say?

8
 9 MR. SCHENK: We do have road systems on more
 10 than just northeast Chichagof. There's a road system off of
 11 Tenakee

12
 13 MS. LOWE: And so you've got problems on all
 14 the road systems then you're saying?

15
 16 MR. SCHENK: We don't have the study down
 17 there, but it appears that we may have that same problem.

18
 19 MS. LOWE: Why does it appear that way?

20
 21 MR. SCHENK: The road systems are not being --
 22 currently being restrained, and there's a high probability of
 23 traffic. Any marten that enters that Goose Home Range
 24 intersects one of those roads. If the same level of trapping
 25 effort is going on near the road systems that are going on in
 26 northeast Chichagof, and the population declines in prey
 27 species that we are seeing is going on on the rest of the
 28 island.

29
 30 MS. LOWE: If it's going on on the rest of the
 31 island? Right. Okay.

32
 33 MR. SCHENK: Then I would have that concern.
 34 In my trapping small mammals at Corner Bay, I've found similar
 35 types of population declines down there as we did in the study
 36 area.

37
 38 MR. THOMAS: Patti, and then Mim.

39
 40 MS. PHILLIPS: When were the marten
 41 transplanted? And how many were in that original stock?

42
 43 MR. SCHENK: Okay. Marten were introduced to
 44 Baranof and Chichagof Islands -- they were put on Baranof
 45 Island, seven animals were put on Baranof Island in 1934, and
 46 were put on Chichagof Island between 1949 and 1952. That we
 47 know about.

48
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1 MS. PHILLIPS: So from 21 animals, they've gone
2 to this harvest number in 40 years roughly. Okay.

3

4

5

6

7

8 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah. I'd kind of like to get
9 into a discussion about C and T and how you deal with that when
10 you have the -- a species that's introduced to an area that
11 it's not -- does not naturally occur in. And what I'm thinking
12 about is the C & T use of the bird population, and how that's
13 being impacted by this introduced species. Do you have any
14 thoughts on that?

15

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refer to Mike or someone else. There's certain regulations that we have -- the Subsistence Board has to follow in making any different kinds of closures.

3

4 MR. WILLIS: I'll say a few words to that, Marilyn. The temporary closure, as Ted said, requires public notice and a public hearing. It's not like an ADF&G closure where they can shut something down and just announce in the newspaper that it's closed, and it's closed from the moment that they announce it. With the Federal Subsistence Board, they have to issue this temporary closure, announce it to the public for a 30-day period, and within that period they have to hold a hearing within the local area. So it's -- that's a much longer, drawn out process. The only exception to that is if we have a quota hunt or season on a species, when that quota is reached, then we can close the season just by announcing it. But otherwise, it takes a minimum of 30 days, plus a public meeting, to get these closures in place. And once you have a temporary closure in place, it's good for only a limited period of time. I believe it's 60 days, and then it expires. And so you have to deal with it in the regulatory process.

21

22 And nothing that is closed is closed forever, but that's kind of a common misconception that I run into with the other Councils. But the fact that the closure is put in this year, it comes up again next year. If the populations are up, then it can be re-opened just as easily as it was closed.

27

28 MR. THOMAS: Mim?

29

30 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah, just a question to throw out to you, Mike, while you're looking in your regulation book here, is the question how long does a hunt have to have occurred on an introduced species before it's considered C and T? To me that's the issue that we're dealing with, and we -- our councils throughout the State are going to be having to deal with. And the Board.

37

38 MR. LOCKHART: I think truthfully that's a new issue. I have no answer for you, to tell you the truth. Sorry.

41

42 MS. ROBINSON: So

43

44 MR. THOMAS: So that's not a C and T issue?

45

46 UNIDENTIFIED: I think they have to

47

48 MS. LOWE: Mr. Chairman?

49

50

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1 MR. THOMAS: Marilyn?

2

3 MS. WILSON: How much is this marten used by
4 subsistence people to make money? You know, to supplement
5 their income? Is there any record of that?

6

7 MR. WILLIS: That brings us back to the numbers
8 mentioned earlier that we had last year, 1992/93, 17 trappers
9 who were working on Chichagof Island. The year prior to that
10 30 trappers. And the year prior to that, 13 trappers. That's
11 as far back as my information goes. And all these people, with
12 the exception of in 1990/91 -- 1991/92, there were three from
13 Juneau who would not be subsistence users obviously. And three
14 years ago, in 1990/91, there was one person from Fairbanks. So
15 other than those three people over three years, all those
16 people would be subsistence trappers.

17

18 MR. THOMAS: What provisions of access is being
19 used? They've got permits or licenses or

20

21 MS. LOWE: State license.

22

23 MR. THOMAS: State license?

24

25 MS. LOWE: Uh-huh.

26

27 MR. THOMAS: I see.

28

29 MR. WILLIS: State trapping license is all
30 that's required to my knowledge.

31

32 MS. LOWE: By (indiscernible).

33

34 MR. THOMAS: Further questions? Mike?

35

36 MR. ANDERSON: I have a question for Robert
37 while he's on that.

38

39 MR. THOMAS: You've got -- okay, Lonnie.

40

41 MR. ANDERSON: How many of these locations here
42 are logging camps? Bob, do you know?

43

44 MR. WILLIS: Someone else would have to tell me
45 some of that. I can count them out again: We have Hoonah,
46 Sitka, Pelican, Corner Bay Camp,

47

48 MS. LOWE: Corner Bay is one.

49

50

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1 MR. WILLIS: (indiscernible, simultaneous
 2 speech). Someone can count them up while I'm running through.
 3 Eighth Fathom Bike (ph) Camp, Haines, Fairbanks, Elkin Cove,
 4 Tenakee Springs, Whitestone Camp and Kennel Creek Camp
 5 (indiscernible).

6
 7 MS. LOWE: There's four.

8
 9 MR. THOMAS: And John Camp. Questions? Mike?

10
 11 MR. LOCKHART: Mr. Chair, just as a point of
 12 clarification, and I'm not sure how this enters into this
 13 discussion, but it doesn't appear that we have a customary and
 14 additional determination for grouse or ptarmigan.

15
 16 MS. ROBINSON: We do not?

17
 18 MS. LOWE: You don't.

19
 20 MR. LOCKHART: No.

21
 22 MS. LOWE: No, we do not. Mr. Chairman?

23
 24 MR. THOMAS: They disappeared before that term
 25 came out.

26
 27 MS. LOWE: That's right.

28
 29 MR. THOMAS: Ann?

30
 31 MS. LOWE: Mr. Chair, if the Council is -- I'd
 32 like to bring it to the Council table so we can get some other
 33 things cleared up, and ask questions from the Council table we
 34 can. But I -- there's some -- since you're only allowing us to
 35 ask questions, and there's so many things here that they're not
 36 seeming to get to us, I'd like to bring it back to the Council
 37 now, and

38
 39 MS. ROBINSON: You want to adopt

40
 41 MS. LOWE: Yeah. Want to adopt it.

42
 43 MS. ROBINSON: move to adopt? I move
 44 that we adopt proposal 14.

45
 46 MR. THOMAS: You heard the

47
 48 MS. WILSON: I'd second it.

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 50

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1 MR. THOMAS: motion to adopt. Is there a
2 second? A second?

3

4 MS. WILSON: Second.

5

6 MR. THOMAS: Moved and second. Discussion?
7 Any discussion? Ann?

8

9 MS. LOWE: Council members, I'd like for us to
10 not support this proposal. I realize that there must be some
11 effort made here to appear that -- or to be concerned about a
12 resource, and I don't -- in my experience and from things I've
13 seen around, I don't think there needs to be any concern for
14 the whole island of Chichagof Island. The whole island does
15 not have a road system on it. There's a lot of beach trapping
16 on that island. Trapping on the road system is not as
17 detrimental as we're being led to believe.

18

19 Every cotton picking year on the State level, when
20 trapping regulations come up, they're always messing with the
21 seasons and messing with this and messing with that, and in
22 spite of what we do, the animals continue to thrive. Trappers
23 who are going to make it or break it on those things continue
24 to do their thing. They come and they go. Those who are good
25 at their job, at trapping, get two and 300 animals. I might
26 not that some of these trappers that get the high numbers have
27 been doing it for a long time. They're very good. They are
28 not completely confined to the road system. They also have
29 animals that come off the beaches and other areas that they get
30 off and walk up to.

31

32 I'm one of those trappers. I use a vehicle. I walk a
33 bridge. I come back down to my vehicle. I do that to protect
34 my trapline from intrusion from other human beings. I also go
35 along the beach, and most trappers that on the beach you're
36 most likely, if there's anything around there, you're most
37 likely to get a mink on the beach, and it's more likely that
38 you'll get the marten in the timber.

39

40 Most of us know that the marten like to run the high
41 timberlines, they like to run the ridges on the -- along the
42 big timber. They will run through clear-cut areas on their way
43 to a timbered area. They're not as territorial as mink. Once
44 you catch a mink in a certain area, you can pretty well move
45 it. Once you catch a marten, you can leave your set in a --
46 marten set in an area and come back and come back and come back
47 and get marten.

48

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A lot of trappers -- we have a lot of new trappers these days, who are not educated about catching females. That is, it's a good sign to a trapper when he starts to catch females in his line, to pull it and move on and go somewhere else. We have some young trappers out there that are learning. It keeps those numbers superficially high on females. I mean, I've had young trappers say to me, "Oh, I saw your trap. It was on the other side of that tree. I set behind you." And causing undue pressure there, but they learn from experience, and the marten have been able to recover.

10

11 Prices and weather dictate things that will happen with the marten. I personally myself am not worried about that marten population. They were introduced, they took off. They'll make it. We've had a road system on Kruzof in places for a long time that we've traditionally used. And False Island is no different. We've traditionally used them up there. We have lots of areas that haven't been logged.

18

19 And logging is real significant. I feel like logging has a real significant impact on marten, because they like the old growth. They like those big trees.

22

23 However, I've been real tickled in some areas where I've seen, around Sitka, a lot of kids who are first learning, don't have the equipment to get out away from town, so they go up in the woods and do their little thing, and catch cats and marten, too, sometimes, and so forth. But what's happened is, they tended to thin out the marten around town. And I saw a ptarmigan in my back yard, running up and down the fence. And that was neat. And I knew that because they have been thinned out some, and I'm close to a mountain, so -- the back side of the mountain where the birds evidently have, you know, started together in the high country and came down, because of the snow and so forth, and that there wasn't any real predator pressure on them, that they had somewhat increased. I was very unhappy with my cat who caught one, but nevertheless I -- to see one in town, to see three or four in town is a pleasure. It was really neat, not just because I like to see them, but because I like to see the numbers come back, because they're also very good eating.

41

42 I have popped a few on Kruzof Island, up around the Volcano. Just, boom, right up in front of me, and they're very good eating, especially if they've been eating off the berries and so forth. They're pretty doggone good. And if they haven't been, you can always do all kinds of weird things to them to make them taste better, soaking them in various and sundry things. So I kind of like that.

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1 There is going to be enough marten around to continue
2 to entice the trapper to go after him, if prices are right and
3 weather conditions are good. And yet, there will be enough
4 pressure, maybe, and sometimes there isn't enough pressure,
5 there are a lot of them out there, there's enough pressure,
6 maybe to allow some ptarmigan to start to come back. And
7 that's -- that sounds like a really neat balance to me of all
8 the conditions around there.

9

10 We had a gentleman who lived here in Juneau, by the
11 name of Davis, who bought furs from trappers in Sitka and all
12 over Southeast, and he could tell you by the color of the hair
13 on that marten exactly what drainage he came out of. And I
14 think there have been studies from way back when they first
15 started doing this about how they interrelate with some of the
16 populations, how they've been detrimental to some of our
17 indigenous species here. We also introduced a squirrel that we
18 had no business introducing. To do that, to be the main meal,
19 which they ignored and took after the less smart individuals
20 out there. And a lot of trappers don't know that when they get
21 a squirrel in their trap, it's time to move on. There's no
22 marten there, or it would be gone. He'd be eaten up.

23

24 So there are a lot of things that trappers learn from
25 their elders, and their people who have been doing it for a
26 while and have gotten more experience. And you have to leave
27 room for mistakes that way, but I don't think their impacts are that
28 great, and it doesn't take very long to start to catch on about
29 certain things.

30

31 And a subsistence user goes after that to supplement an
32 income, and for the bodily health that it brings. It not only
33 keeps you in great shape, but it gets your mind cleared out
34 from all the garbage in town, or wherever else you're at, and
35 can be an experience that is akin to a spiritual experience.
36 I don't know how to explain it exactly.

37

38 But I don't see the need to restrict this whole island
39 for a problem here in a logged area that will eventually
40 balance itself out as it's done in other logged off areas. The
41 impacts of logging are very severe, there's no doubt about it.
42 And if we really want to get to the protection here of that
43 species, and to make sure there's enough for that, you'd better
44 address the habitat part of this issue on those martens. That's
45 where you need to be focusing protecting them instead of
46 fiddling around with the seasons and changing them over here
47 and changing them there and trying to figure out what you're
48 doing. Get that habitat -- I'm sorry if I get excited about

49

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this habitat business, but get that habitat squared away, and if you want to make -- improve the numbers of these things, improve how you go about taking advantage of their habitat. You know, don't try to place it off on the trappers and other individuals out there. The real problem is your habitat. If that habitat was there, there would be plenty to go around for everyone.

7

8 A road system is an avenue for an efficient, and a subsistence user tends to try to be as efficient as he can be. Efficient use, efficient tools to do a good job when he's out there trapping. And some of the trapping, of course, needs some personal training from elders and some -- maybe you could put out some literature from the Forest Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service about good moral, ethical type trapping practices. That would help go a long way to help clear up some of these so-called abuses that you might be seeing, or taking off too many females. And I would rather see that avenue than to try to be so restrictive and invasive in the subsistence user's lifestyle. And so, with that, even though I'm trying to be non-emotional, I'm somewhat shook up here, with that I'll urge the Council not to support this proposal, that things will balance out just fine.

23

24

MR. THOMAS: Mim?

25

26

MS. ROBINSON: Yeah, I'm going to be in opposition to this proposal, too. And, also, a thought that occurred to me in the Forest Service background and justification for proposed changes for this proposal, it says under name of current management plan or plans, "ADF&G management objectives for marten, mink and weasel are to maintain a furbearer population capable of sustaining harvest at the 1984/85 levels. Specifically 1,355 marten harvest is used."

35

36

My thought is that perhaps ADF&G's management objective is too high, and that having it at this high level is impacting the grouse and ptarmigan populations, and that perhaps it should be -- maybe the Federal Government should be having a lower number than ADF&G does, and maybe ADF&G will come into alignment with that at some point down the road.

42

43

MR. THOMAS: Further discussions? Marilyn?

44

45

MS. WILSON: I just want to say I think I'm going to vote against this, because I feel like Ann, that we shouldn't be changing the seasons and the -- and put so many limitations. This is -- affects the subsistence user. And the

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marten, I think, like Ann says, will be protected like from the market price and the weather and so forth, all the natural things. I don't know too much about it, but I'm voting against it.

4

5

MR. THOMAS: Further discussions? John?

6

7

MR. VALE: The problem you guys described, is it -- if I understand correctly, is it primarily on northeast Chichagof? I mean, that's the roaded area, is that correct? And you've got the whole island in here, but your information and everything, is that just the one part of the island primarily?

13

14

MR. WILLIS: Unlike deer, which tend to stick to a particular drainage, marten travel very widely, especially the younger animals when they're searching for a home range, and the reason for the closure on the entire island is that all of those populations, all of those marten are at risk from the road system, because of the great distances that they travel. We know this from having put radio transmitters on a number of them on that island.

22

23

MR. VALE: Okay.

24

25

MR. WILLIS: I'd also point out, I'm not sure about the figure that Mim gave there. I see the figure here in the book, 1,355 marten as an objective harvest level. Mim, I'm not sure if that's for Chichagof Island or all of GMU Four. Do you know?

30

31

MS. ROBINSON: (Shakes head negative)

32

33

MR. WILLIS: It seems -- I think that's probably for all of GMU Four, and not just Chichagof.

35

36

MS. ROBINSON: Uh-huh.

37

38

MR. THOMAS: John?

39

40

MR. VALE: Yeah, I guess, you know, I'm having some trouble with this, thinking about the comments we heard from Hoonah about their need -- desire to harvest birds, and that this marten population has I guess brought that to a halt, and I'm real sensitive to that. However, you know, these martens are here now, and we're hearing from staff that we don't have a healthy population of them, and, you know, it's creating some trouble for me. But I guess I'm going to side with the -- this resource here and be supporting the proposal

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here.

1
2 MR. THOMAS: John?

3
4 MR. FELLER: Mr. Chairman, I didn't hear a
5 second to that motion, but I'll second it, in case there
6 wasn't.

7
8 MS. ROBINSON: Marilyn seconded it.

9
10 MS. LOWE: It was seconded by Marilyn Wilson.

11
12 MR. FELLER: Oh, okay. Maybe I better clean my
13 ears out.

14
15 I also speak in favor of this motion. I -- my main
16 hang-up was that it might be closed for a longer period of
17 time, and I was assured by Robert that it would be two years at
18 the most, is that?

19
20 MR. WILLIS: I didn't assure you it would be
21 two years. That was my best guess, because of the fact that
22 they can come back pretty rapidly, and the food supply is
23 coming back also, so I'm just projecting that you're probably
24 looking at a fairly short period of closure here.

25
26 MR. THOMAS: If you want to ask him, Ann?

27
28 MS. LOWE: Yeah. John, you're saying that
29 you're going to support closing all of Chichagof Island,
30 because he said that he might do an emergency closure on it for
31 two years?

32
33 MR. VALE: No, what I said is I was going

34
35 MS. LOWE: No, not that John, John Feller.

36
37 MR. FELLER: That was my only hang-up I said.

38
39 MS. LOWE: Oh. But did he clarify

40
41 MR. FELLER: Because I don't like

42
43 MS. LOWE: that there -- you wouldn't do
44 that, or what did you say in response?

45
46 MR. WILLIS: What I said, John said I -- I
47 think he said I could guarantee that it wouldn't be for more
48 than two years, and I wanted to reiterate the fact that I am

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not guaranteeing that it won't be for two years and then it will be open. What I said was that because the populations can recover quickly, and because the rodents that they primarily feed on, the populations of those animals are coming up and according to Ted's work, that with the closure of the marten population, it should be able to come back very quickly, and the closure would probably -- probably would not may be more than a year or two. That's the best professional judgment.

8

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MS. ROBINSON: SWAG.

10

11

MR. WILLIS: You can call it SWAG if you want to, but we're working at the fringes of our knowledge. We almost always are. People always -- who are not professionals always demand more information than we have, and we're giving you the very best information that we have, and all of the information that we have, and when we get to a point where we don't have hard information, that's when we have to say "may," and "if," and "this will probably happen." I mean, we're giving you our best professional judgment, and I think we owe you that, and it's -- it's certainly not an attempt to straddle the fence.

22

23

MR. THOMAS: Well, that just seems to be inherent with the issue. Ann?

25

26

MS. LOWE: You know the reason why folks give you a hard time and want to know hard numbers is you're managing -- you're attempting to influence the management of it over ways that we see it might should go. And so, you know, we're out there with experience, and you're sitting there with biology, trying to give us reasons why you think it ought to go a certain way. That's why we're so demanding about, "Okay. Why? Where's your numbers? Where's this? Where's that?" Because we don't see you out there running around participating in that activity. And I don't mean you, Robert, I mean collectively the biological world. And there are some guys that are trying really hard to get it together to figure -- so they'll have a hand on that, and can identify with the trapper and the people that are using it. And I appreciate those efforts. I don't mean to indicate that I'm not appreciative of them.

42

43

But there are two issues that we've seen here that we're -- that have been addressed, and the subsistence people have said to you. One of them is, is we have birds we would like to eat, and maybe, which Mim has pointed out, maybe your goals are too high for that population, and maybe the stress that you perceive is coming from trappers is what it needs to

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help that ptarmigan population come back.

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2 MR. THOMAS: Well, I think we established that
with them. I think we can that within ourself, you know,
because we have to justify this

5
6 MS. LOWE: I don't mean to be just
talking

8
9 MR. WILSON: We have to justify

10
11 MS. LOWE: to them, Mr. Chairman.

12
13 MR. THOMAS: this at the Board anyway, so
why don't we do that. Okay? Further questions, discussions?

15
16 MS. WILSON: Question. Could this proposal --
could we put an amendment on it maybe to -- to close it for a
certain period of time?

19
20 MR. WILLIS: That's certainly within this --
This Council's purview to make that kind of an amendment.

22
23 MS. WILSON: Like John was worried about that,
and to me, I always hate changing -- changing regulations,
because in the State, once you change a regulation, it's
changed, and you have a heck of a time getting it back. That's
been the history. So I don't know about the federal part.
We're just now getting into

29
30 UNIDENTIFIED: Count on it.

31
32 MS. WILSON: this, so

33
34 MR. THOMAS: So we don't know if we're going to
have that problem with the feds.

36
37 MS. WILSON: Yeah. So that's why I'm wondering
if we -- if we could

39
40 MR. WILLIS: Ted, do you want to

41
42 MS. WILSON: put a limitation

43
44 MR. WILLIS: add something here?

45
46 MS. WILSON: on the closure?

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48 MR. SCHENK: I'd like to respond to your

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question a little bit. In discussing how to manage the marten population to be fair to the subsistence users, and to also account for the health and welfare of the resource, we came up with different strategies on how to do this. And Butch Young, who formerly worked for ADF&G, and I spent an extensive amount of time looking at the literature on how to manage marten populations. And clearly one way is to set a regulation in place and not worry about them.

8

9 Ann's comments about the population levels are appropriate. There's not as much habitat on the north end of Chichagof Island for marten, and part of the Forest Service document, and the records of decision for our timber sales, say we will work cooperatively to close the roads to protect the marten populations. It wasn't until there was, quote, "management" of the resources that the Federal Subsistence Board was able to close the road down.

17

18 In our research, we came up with a technique that said, if we came up with a proposal for management of the marten populations, and said that if the male to female ratio in the harvest from the previous year exceeds a two to one ratio, and if the juvenile to adult ratio exceeds a three to one ratio, or words to that effect, then certain things would happen. If there was no problem with the ratios, then there could be a season. If there was a certain level, then the subsistence users would have the season, and the nonsubsistence users would not. If there was another level, there would not be a season. And that would be in place, and everybody would know based on the results of the effort what the season would be.

30

31 And I have to tell you that our data indicate that marten move all over Chichagof Island. For example, one was trapped at Salt Lake Bay, ended up being killed near Belican. Another one that was trapped at Salt Lake Bay ended up being killed at the end of Iyoukeen Peninsula, which is almost as far away from Salt Lake Bay as you could get on the north end of Chichagof Island. These animals can move 25 to 35 miles easily, and do routinely. They move along the beaches. That's why it's easy to trap there.

40

41 We are concerned about the population of marten on Chichagof Island. If northeast Chichagof is representative, there are one-third as many marten as there are brown bears, and at that level of density right now, they're not making much difference on the ptarmigan population. But trapping can have the effect of wiping them out of portions of northeast Chichagof Island.

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MS. LOWE: I think that's what Hoonah wants.

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MR. SCHENK: And -- well, Hoonah may want that. As a federal biologist I am charged with the responsibility of providing to the forest supervisor wildlife input so that none of our management actions will result in a loss of continued viability for a population of any native or desired non-native species. The Federal Subsistence Board has made a customary and traditional determination that marten are a subsistence resource. They have made no determination on grouse and ptarmigan. So everybody can use it. So I'm in a tough spot as a federal biologist. I have to make this recommendation, because of the viability of the population of marten, and I know that's contrary to the wishes of the people at Hoonah. But it's your decision on what you're going to take to the Federal Subsistence Board.

16

17

MS. LOWE: Okay.

18

19

MR. THOMAS: We had a question and answer period, and we're -- what's the intent? Do we want to continue the exchange here or what are we looking for? Mim had her hand up first.

23

24

MS. ROBINSON: What I was going to find an answer to in my own mind is what the subsistence use is of marten, because we're supposed to keep in mind how the recommendation affects subsistence uses, and I -- what he said there really surprised me about the marten, and

29

30

MR. THOMAS: No, that's -- that's a good question, so I'll allow that.

32

33

MS. ROBINSON: Could I -- could you answer that? What is the -- is it -- is the trapping the subsistence use, or is it eating?

36

37

MR. SCHENK: The trapping and the sale of the fur is the subsistence use.

39

40

MS. ROBINSON: Even though it started in 1962 I think is when it was started on

42

43

MR. SCHENK: Even -- even though they were introduced in

45

46

MS. ROBINSON: Uh-huh.

47

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MR. SCHENK: on Chichagof Island in the

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1940s and the 1950s.

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2 MS. ROBINSON: The trapping season began on
Chichagof Island in 1962. So the Board considers that to be
4 customary and traditional?

5

6 MR. SCHENK: The Alaska Department of Fish and
Game had made the determination

8

9 MS. ROBINSON: ADF&G said it was? Okay.

10

11 MR. SCHENK: And at the time that the federal
12 regulations were adopted, there was a C and T use for marten
13 that was adopted.

14

15 MS. ROBINSON: Dating back to 1962.

16

17 MR. SCHENK: I don't have any idea of when it
18 was started.

19

20 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chair?

21

22 MR. THOMAS: Marilyn?

23

24 MS. WILSON: We are sitting here as Council
25 members and we're supposed to be responsible to protect the
26 resources, the animals, the wildlife. We're also supposed to
27 protect the subsistence user of that resource, so we have quite
28 responsibility, and that's why I ask questions. And sometime
29 when it's too late.

30

31 MR. THOMAS: You made -- you made reference to
32 an amendment, that you have an amendment in mind?

33

34 MS. WILSON: Yes, I'd like to amend the
35 proposal to include a time limit of one year.

36

37 MR. VALE: Second.

38

39 MR. THOMAS: It's been moved and seconded to
40 include a time limit of one year. Any discussion on the
41 amendment? Ann?

42

43 MS. LOWE: The reason I'm not going to vote for
44 in the positive for the amendment is I'm not going to vote
45 for this thing, this closure, because I do not believe it is
46 necessary. I do not believe they need to close the whole
47 land to subsistence users, period. And if they want to make
48 regulation here that excludes the trappers from Fairbanks,

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Juneau, and so forth, that are not residents of Southeast, then that's satisfactory to me, but I cannot see closing off a subsistence use totally, and especially when it has not been proven to me that there is a resource that's in really dire trouble. It's based on research and assumptions that were done on the northern end in a logged-off area. Also, the reason I'm not going to support it is because suddenly Don told me that we're stuck with the State baggage again.

8

9

MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

10

11

MS. LOWE: That they adopted this thing in totality, and when they were first coming on line, we asked that Board not to do any regulations until they had a Council in place to help them formulate these things, and they went on of their own merry way introducing and doing things the way they wanted to do them, and here we are now stuck with this baggage and trying to work with a proposal that comes off of that baggage. And so it's too late for us at this meeting now, and I think Bill indicated we get a chance to address it later, it's too late for us now to address ptarmigan and C and T on that, and C and T, period. And so I'm not ready to acquiesce to this request from them, because of that baggage. I just -- it doesn't make sense.

24

25

MR. THOMAS: Okay. Yeah, I'm not either. Any further discussion on the amendment?

27

28

MR. VALE: Question.

29

30

MR. THOMAS: The question has been called for. I think we need a roll on this amendment.

32

33

MS. LOWE: Okay. As I understand the amendment, it is to make the season for one year only -- or make the closure for one year only.

36

37

MR. THOMAS: Discussion?

38

39

MS. ROBINSON: Ann got me thinking here. If instead of doing this proposed amendment we did -- we amended the proposal this way: Area two is closed to rural residents not residing outside the unit. If that were done,

43

44

MR. THOMAS: Let's dispose of this amendment first.

46

47

MS. ROBINSON: Well, I'm not sure how -- I don't know if

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1 MR. THOMAS: Well,

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3 MS. ROBINSON: this one's workable. If
4 it's not workable, then maybe I would go with

5

6 MR. THOMAS: Well, if you think this one's
7 workable, support it. If you don't think

8

9 MS. ROBINSON: Well, so I need some
10 information. I don't know how many -- I'm not sure how many
11 hunters are residing in that Area Two as compared to how many
12 have hunted it.

13

14 MR. THOMAS: Okay. I've got as much time as
15 anybody does. Go ahead.

16

17 MS. ROBINSON: I think he's looking. Could I
18 get an answer from you guys on that?

19

20 MS. LOWE: Who seconded that? Who seconded
21 Marilyn's amendment?

22

23 MR. THOMAS: John.

24

25 MS. WILSON: John Vale.

26

27 MS. LOWE: John Vale.

28

29 MS. ROBINSON: Did

30

31 MR. SCHENK: Trapping is only limited to
32 residents of Unit Four.

33

34 MS. ROBINSON: Okay. But how many are from
35 Area Two in GMU Four?

36

37 MR. WILLIS: The northeast Chichagof
38 area,

39

40 MS. ROBINSON: Pardon?

41

42 MR. WILLIS: (indiscernible) northeast
43 Chichagof? How many are actually from Chichagof Island?

44

45 MS. ROBINSON: No, from Area Two.

46

47 MR. SCHENK: The deer management area two?

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MS. ROBINSON: Yes.

MR. WILLIS: Yeah, that's northeast Chichagof Island.

MS. ROBINSON: Okay. All right.

MR. SCHENK: We can give you that in a second, Jim.

(Off record discussions)

MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman?

MR. THOMAS: Lonnie?

MR. ANDERSON: I need to go and make a phone call and change reservations.

MR. THOMAS: Okay. Yeah. Make it for Tuesday.

MS. ROBINSON: Maybe we should take a short break while they're

MR. WILLIS: I'll have this in just a second.

MS. LOWE: A short break.

MR. THOMAS: There's a short federal break.

(Off record)

(On record)

MR. THOMAS: Once again, like I mentioned before, we want to take as much opportunity as we can to have everybody participate so we can make the most clear decisions on what we do, right or wrong. We want to be clear what we're doing.

During the break, it's been brought to my attention that there was some information that wasn't quite accurate from staff and from other people that have been providing us some information, and so I told them we'd give them that opportunity now to make those corrections, and then that will have some impact on our deliberations, so, yeah, Mike?

MR. LOCKHART: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just as a point of clarification, if the Board adopted this proposal,

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they would have to close federal public lands to all use of the
marten, all trapping of martens. Subsistence and other users.

2
3
4 caught on.

MS. LOWE: That's right. Somebody finally

5
6 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Correction number two?

7
8 MR. WILLIS: I wouldn't call this a correction.
9 It's an answer to Mim's question about how many of those
10 trappers that I listed actually live on Chichagof Island, and
11 the answer is 35 trappers over the past three years have
12 trapped marten on Chichagof Island who actually live on the --
13 on the island.

14
15 MR. SCHENK: And one other correction, I may
16 have misspoke. According to the current federal regulations,
17 there is no C and T determination on marten.

18
19 MR. THOMAS: Thank you. Okay. With
20 that,

21
22 MS. ROBINSON: That's quite the opposite, Ted.

23
24 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Okay. Yeah, that's why I
25 wanted to afford this time. And I appreciate you bringing that
26 as quickly as you did. Robert?

27
28 MR. WILLIS: Could I add something, Mr. Chair?
29 This is not intended to sway the Council one way or the other
30 on a solution. Obviously there's a divergence of opinion, and
31 we're bound by federal managers to maintain healthy populations
32 of all these species as Ted said earlier, but I just wanted to
33 point out in the answers to future deliberations on proposals,
34 we have spent thousands of man hours on this particular
35 project, trap- -- live trapping marten, radio tracking these
36 marten, buying carcasses from trappers, analyzing those
37 carcasses for age and sex data. It's been an enormous
38 expenditure of effort and funds, and we have good solid
39 biological data on this issue that we don't have on very many.
40 In fact, from the standpoint of information that we can
41 provide to you for your deliberations, this is as good as it
42 gets. You are not likely to see another proposal in your
43 lifetime where we have the kind of accurate and detailed
44 information that we have on the marten situation on Chichagof
45 Island. I just want to point that out, and for your benefit
46 and future deliberations on proposals, you know, when you're --
47 when you're wondering how good information is and whether or
48 not you accept or reject that information. This is as good as

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it gets. There are no ifs and maybes and buts and so forth in the biological data that's been presented here on marten, so I just -- I just want to point to that out, that this is one where we have that information, and you can take it or leave it.

5

6 MR. THOMAS: Well, like I mentioned earlier, I don't want to leave the impression that we don't respect and regard and honor the data that is collected and presented. What does happen at times though is when you've got all that data, what do you do with it from there, see, so in making these predictions, and conclusions, and this kind of thing, doesn't -- it doesn't -- it doesn't necessarily support all the intents I guess. I don't know what -- it will -- it will come out in our deliberations and our actions, but whatever we do, we still appreciate and regard that. Hopefully it will get better. You say it doesn't get any better than this. Either there won't be a need for it to improve, or there will be a need for it to improve. Either there won't be a mandate for it to improve, or there may be one. We don't know. We're pretty new. So -- but we always do appreciate that. And -- Mim?

21

22 MS. ROBINSON: I noticed in talking and the papers I have here and stuff, that ADF&G was opposed to this proposal. And is there still someone here from ADF&G that could speak to that, as to why they were in opposition?

26

27 MR. VALE: You'll have to excuse me for a minute, Mr. Chairman. I'll be right back.

29

30 MS. LOWE: Bruce, spell your last name, please?

31

32 MR. DINNEFORD: You have it in the record already.

34

35 MS. LOWE: Spell it again.

36

37 MR. DINNEFORD: D-i-n-n-e-f-o-r-d.

38

39 MS. LOWE: Thank you.

40

41 MR. DINNEFORD: Yeah, Mim, the main reasons for conservation that we feel that the -- the conservation measures already imposed by the Forest Service, having the road closure at the area where we have the best information on adequately addresses the conservation issues that we're concerned with.

46

47 MS. ROBINSON: Okay. Simple.

48

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1 MR. THOMAS: Okay. We're still discussing the
2 amendment. Any further discussion from the Council?

3 MS. WILSON: Question.
4

5 MR. THOMAS: The question's been called. All
6 those in favor of the amendment, say "aye"?

7
8 (No ayes.)
9

10 MR. THOMAS: All those opposed say "aye"?

11
12 ALL: Aye.
13

14 MR. THOMAS: We now have the main motion. The
15 main motion is to adopt proposal 14.

16
17 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman?

18
19 MR. THOMAS: Marilyn?

20
21 MS. WILSON: I would like to make an amendment
22 proposal 14.

23
24 MR. THOMAS: An amendment is in order.
25

26 MS. WILSON: That -- I move that we add the add
27 the words, "federal lands are closed to trapping by non-
28 federally qualified subsistence users."
29

30 MR. THOMAS: You heard the motion, is there a
31 second?

32
33 MS. LOWE: Second. I mean -- yeah, second.
34

35 MR. THOMAS: It's been moved and second.
36

37 Discussion?
38

39 MS. ROBINSON: Marilyn, could you read that
40 again?

41 MS. WILSON: That we add the words, "Federal
42 lands are closed to trapping by non-federally qualified
43 subsistence users."
44

45 MR. THOMAS: Discussion on the amendment?
46

47 UNIDENTIFIED: Was there a second?
48

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1 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, Ann seconded it. Patti?
2 MS. PHILLIPS: I'm a little confused. Would
3 that keep in Chichagof Island, no open season?
4
5 MS. LOWE: No.
6
7 MS. PHILLIPS: That would delete that?
8
9 MS. LOWE: This is an amendment to the proposal
10 that's on the floor. We're going to have to do some more
11 amendments to do that.
12
13 MS. PHILLIPS: Oh, okay.
14
15 MR. THOMAS: Any further discussion on the
16 amendment? Ann?
17
18 MS. LOWE: The purpose of this amendment is the
19 State has a regulation on trapping also, and that regulation
20 would allow folks from out of our region to come and trap in
21 that region who are not federally-qualified subsistence users.
22 And so that's why we introduced that amendment in there, to
23 take care of that particular pressure from the outside.
24
25 MR. THOMAS: Further discussion?
26
27 MS. ROBINSON: You seconded this, Ann?
28
29 MS. LOWE: Yes.
30
31 MS. ROBINSON: So you are -- you are in favor
32 of -- so you would pass this proposal with that amendment?
33
34 MS. LOWE: No. I

35
36 MS. ROBINSON: What else would you do?
37
38 MS. LOWE: There's some more amendments that
39 need to happen here.
40
41 MS. ROBINSON: Could I hear just -- not with --
42 you know, just where

43
44 MS. LOWE: If the Chair allows me.
45
46 MS. ROBINSON: you're headed with this?
47 What you would do with it, so that I know what I'd be voting
48 on?
49
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1 MS. LOWE: Mr. Chair, I would be asking that
2 the words "Chichagof Island, no open season" be struck, and
3 that instead that we would insert the original regulation, the
4 current regulation, which is "trapping marten, Unit Four," ta-
5 da-ta-da, "open season December 1st/December 31st. The
6 remainder of Unit Four, no limit, open season December 1st to
7 February 15th."

8

9 MR. THOMAS: So you would eliminate the

10

11 MS. LOWE: The -- that new change

12

13 MR. THOMAS: the proposal to change?

14

15 MS. LOWE: Right. I would -- what I would be
16 saying to everyone was we're going -- let's do the status quo
17 with the caveat that federal lands are closed to non-federally
18 qualified subsistence users. Is that logical or clear what I'm
19 hoping to do here?

20

21 MS. ROBINSON: Uh-huh. Yeah.

22

23 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Okay. I'm just trying --
24 I'm just trying to find the -- a clean way to dispose of this.
25 So we would need to take action to eliminate language under
26 proposal 14, is that correct? To get it back -- in order to
27 have it like it is, we need to

28

29 MS. LOWE: Get rid of that

30

31 MR. THOMAS: we need to put this on the
32 table and dispose of it.

33

34 MS. ROBINSON: We would need to vote against
35 proposal 14,

36

37 MR. THOMAS: Yes.

38

39 MS. ROBINSON: and then somebody would
40 need to make a motion to change the existing regulation by
41 adding that sentence.

42

43 MS. LOWE: Oh, okay. That's fine.

44

45 MS. ROBINSON: To me, that's how it could be
46 done.

47

48 MS. LOWE: That's all right with me.

49

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1 MS. ROBINSON: I

2

3 MS. WILSON: It makes sense.

4

5 MS. LOWE: Marilyn, how about you? Do you want
6 to withdraw the

7

8 MS. WILSON: Withdraw.

9

10 MS. LOWE: motion and let them do it that
11 way?

12

13 MS. WILSON: Yeah.

14

15 MS. LOWE: Is that right, Mr. Chairman?

16

17 MR. THOMAS: Yes.

18

19 MS. LOWE: We's just vote proposal 14 down and
20 then -- then we make a motion to

21

22 MS. ROBINSON: Change the existing regulation
23 by adding that sentence.

24

25 MS. LOWE: Okay. Are we violating anything,
26 Mike?

27

28 MS. ROBINSON: Did you catch that, Mike?

29

30 MR. THOMAS: No, actually rather than to vote
31 proposal 14 down, and then to come back with that proposal 14,
32 we need to amend that language. Offer an amendment. The
33 motion to adopt proposal 14, we would have to change the
34 wording in proposal 14.

35

36 MS. LOWE: Well, can we call it 14A or
37 something like that?

38

39 MS. ROBINSON: You would -- you could just --
40 the amendment would be inclusive of -- it wouldn't be just
41 adding the sentence, it would be also saying that

42

43 MS. WILSON: We adopt

44

45 MS. ROBINSON: you'd be adding this other
46 language.

47

48 MS. WILSON: That we adopt proposal 14 as

49

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amended.

- 1
2 MR. ANDERSON: As amended would be -- take care
of the
- 4
5 MS. LOWE: Okay. Mr. Chair, I think -- I think
what we
- 7
8 MR. THOMAS: Let's go through it, and if we get
into trouble, we'll
- 10
11 MS. LOWE: Okay. We'll backtrack?
- 12
13 MR. THOMAS: lie our way out of it.
Yeah.
- 15
16 MS. LOWE: Okay. There's a motion on the floor
to amend proposal 14, which happens to be -- I guess the real
wording of 14 is "Chichagof Island, no open season." That's
the proposal before us. So I guess we're going to amend it
with this sentence, and then we're going to amend it by adding
the other wording?
- 22
23 MS. ROBINSON: No, you don't need to -- what
I'm -- I'm sorry.
- 25
26 MR. THOMAS: No, go ahead.
- 27
28 MS. ROBINSON: What you -- what I think, all
you need to do is say, "I want to amend this regulation by
saying Unit Four, that portion within the NECCIA," all the way
down to
- 32
33 MS. WILSON: The Chichagof.
- 34
35 MS. ROBINSON: to where it says December
31st. And then
- 37
38 MS. LOWE: Remainder of Unit Four.
- 39
40 MS. ROBINSON: Because that's the only thing
that proposal 14 changes, is where they struck off those lines.
So you want to say that in your amendment, those words, you
want to put them back in there.
- 44
45 MR. THOMAS: So the only thing we'd leave in
this proposal
- 47
48 MS. ROBINSON: And then it would
- 49
50

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1 MR. THOMAS: would be the bottom line?
2
3 MS. ROBINSON: and then you would add
4 that sentence, "Federal lands are closed," et cetera, wherever
5 that goes.
6
7 MR. THOMAS: So what this needs to read?
8
9 MS. LOWE: Okay.
10
11 MS. ROBINSON: Do you understand?
12
13 MS. LOWE: Mr. Chair, is it needs to read, --
14 this is what we
15
16 MR. THOMAS: Yep. Yep.
17
18 MS. LOWE: want to end up with:
19
20 MR. THOMAS: Yep. Yep.
21
22 MS. LOWE: "Trapping, marten, Unit Four,
23 that portion within the NECCUA, no limit. Marten trapping on
24 public lands within NECCUA is prohibited except by rural Alaska
25 residents. Open seasons, December 1st through December 31st.
26 Remainder of Unit Four, no limit. Open season December 1st
27 through February the 15th." And we want to say, "Federal lands
28 are closed to non-federally qualified subsistence users."
29
30 MS. ROBINSON: "To trapping by federally --
31 non-federally qualified."
32
33 MS. LOWE: Okay. "Federal lands are closed to
34 trapping."
35
36 MS. ROBINSON: You left out "trapping". By
37 trapping.
38
39 MS. LOWE: Yeah. I just was assuming that that
40 was understood.
41
42 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Now that all that was said,
43 do you offer that as an amendment?
44
45 MS. LOWE: Yes, sir. I think Marilyn's
46 within
47
48 MS. WILSON: Should that -- should that
49
50

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be

1

2 MR. VALE: Do we still have an amendment,
~~Mr.~~ Chair, to vote on?

4

5 MS. WILSON: Housekeeping.

6

7 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

8

9 MS. LOWE: Is that housekeeping.

10

11 MS. WILSON: It could be written a little
~~be~~ better.

13

14 MS. LOWE: Yeah.

15

16 MR. THOMAS: Oh, we voted that down.

17

18 MR. VALE: We did?

19

20 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, that one here, yeah.

21

22 MS. LOWE: Okay. That's your motion, Marilyn,
~~then?~~ Is that acceptable? Because I'll second it, if that's
~~what~~ you want to do.

25

26 MS. WILSON: Yeah, but it needs to be put up by
~~27~~ except by

28

29 MS. LOWE: Okay.

30

31 MS. WILSON: oh, that's right. That's
~~okay.~~ Yeah, that's my motion.

33

34 MS. LOWE: Okay.

35

36 MR. THOMAS: Okay?

37

38 MS. LOWE: I'll second that amendment.

39

40 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, you've got me doing the
~~st.~~ Vitus here. Okay. Discussion on the -- on the proposal 14
~~is~~ amended?

43

44 MS. WILSON: Do we do anything with the other
~~part~~ of it?

46

47 MR. ANDERSON: Well, Mr. Chairman, I

~~request~~

49

50

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1 MS. ROBINSON: That's out of there, Marilyn.
2
3 MS. WILSON: Oh, it is?
4
5 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.
6
7 MR. ANDERSON: 14 be read as amended.
8
9 MS. ROBINSON: Your amendment leaves that out.
10
11 MS. LOWE: Okay. Fourteen as amended will
12 read, "Unit Four, that portion within the NECCUA, no limit.
13 Martin trapping on public lands within the NECCUA is prohibited
14 except by rural Alaska residents. Open season, December 1st
15 through December 31st. Remainder of Unit Four, no limit. Open
16 season December 1st through February 15th. Federal lands are
17 closed to trapping to non-federally qualified subsistence
18 users." By non -- let's see. I should put the word "by,"
19 excuse me. Better English.
20
21 MS. THOMAS: Discussion?
22
23 MS. ROBINSON: Question.
24
25 MR. THOMAS: The question has been called.
26 Call the roll, please?
27
28 MR. VALE: Is this on the amendment or the main
29 motion?
30
31 MS. WILSON: Amendment.
32
33 MS. ROBINSON: The whole -- the whole thing.
34
35 MS. WILSON: The amendment.
36
37 MR. THOMAS: This is the whole thing, yeah.
38
39 MS. ROBINSON: The whole thing.
40
41 MR. THOMAS: This is 14 as amended, right?
42
43 MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Chair?
44
45 MR. THOMAS: Lonnie?
46
47 MR. ANDERSON: I'm getting
48
49
50

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MS. LOWE: Confused?

1
2 MR. ANDERSON: consternation on the faces
3 of a couple of gentlemen here at the table, and I have a couple
4 of questions, but I think Bob could

5
6 MS. LOWE: Robert.

7
8 MR. ANDERSON: do you have some concern
9 about this?

10
11 MR. WILLIS: Yes. The way -- the way it's
12 being worded, just from listening in on your conversations
13 there. Regulation 25(k)(4) deals with trapping of marten in
14 Unit Four. All of Unit Four. The first section deals only
15 with the NECCUA, the Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area.
16 There's special regulation there. Then the next sentence deals
17 with the remainder of Unit Four. If you go in underneath that
18 sentence and say that all federal lands are closed

19
20 MS. LOWE: Oh, I see. So we

21
22 MR. WILLIS: you are closing all

23
24 MS. LOWE: do need to move

25
26 MR. WILLIS: of Unit Four to

27
28 MS. LOWE: Okay. So we do need to

29
30 MR. WILLIS: nonsubsistence trapping.

31
32 MS. LOWE: We need to move it up into a
33 different area in the reg?

34
35 MR. WILLIS: You need to put it in, to
36 substitute the word "Chichagof Island" for the NECCUA, and I
37 think that will take care of what you're trying to do. If
38 you're trying to close all of Chichagof Island to everyone
39 except rural Alaska residents, all you have to do is substitute
40 Chichagof Island for NECCUA in both places there, and I think
41 that will take care of it.

42
43 MS. LOWE: Okay.

44
45 MR. THOMAS: Thank you.

46
47 MS. WILSON: Cross out NECCUA and put
48 Chichagof.

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1 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh. Well, when we're finished
 2 exchanging glances, we'll vote on this.

3
 4 MR. ANDERSON: That was -- that was my
 5 question, Mr. Chairman.

6
 7 MR. THOMAS: Okay.

8
 9 MR. ANDERSON: Call for the

10
 11 MR. THOMAS: Further discussion? Was there a
 12 question called for?

13
 14 MR. ANDERSON: Question called for.

15
 16 MR. THOMAS: Call the role, please.

17
 18 MS. LOWE: This is an amendment, so do you want
 19 the roll call on the amendment, Mr. Chair?

20
 21 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

22
 23 MS. ROBINSON: So we're crossing out that
 24 sentence, "Federal lands are closed," et cetera, and instead
 25 we're just putting "Chichagof"? I'm confused now.

26
 27 MS. PHILLIPS: I am, too.

28
 29 MS. ROBINSON: So we don't need -- with -- in
 30 crossing out NECCUA and putting Chichagof Island in both those
 31 places in the existing regulation, we do not need to have the
 32 sentence that Ann and Marilyn were suggesting that we add, is
 33 that correct?

34
 35 MR. WILLIS: No, you've already said it.

36
 37 MS. ROBINSON: That's what I thought.

38
 39 MR. WILLIS: It says

40
 41 MS. ROBINSON: Right. Except by

42
 43 MR. WILLIS: trapping is prohibited

44
 45 MS. ROBINSON: rural Alaska residents.

46
 47 MR. WILLIS: except by rural Alaska
 48 residents.

49
 50

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1 MS. ROBINSON: Right. Okay.
2
3 MS. LOWE: So should I read this amendment now
4 so we know what we're voting on here?
5
6 MR. VALE: Yes.
7
8 MS. LOWE: Okay. "In Unit Four, that portion
9 within Chichagof Island--dash--no limit. Marten trapping on
10 public lands within Chichagof Island -- or "on Chichagof
11 Island." I don't know. That "within" doesn't sound cool.
12
13 MS. ROBINSON: No, "on Chichagof".
14
15 MS. LOWE: "On Chichagof Island is prohibited
16 except by rural Alaska residents. Open season December 1st
17 through December 31st. Remainder of Unit Four, no limit. Open
18 season December 1st through February 15th."
19
20 MR. THOMAS: Okay. All those in favor say
21 "aye"?
22
23 ALL: Aye.
24
25 MR. THOMAS: Opposed?
26
27 (There were no opposing votes)
28
29 MR. THOMAS: The amendment passes.
30
31 MS. LOWE: Call for the question on the amended
32 proposal.
33
34 MR. THOMAS: The question's been called. Take
35 the roll.
36
37 MS. WILSON: The amended proposal would be --
38 we struck "federal lands"?
39
40 MS. ROBINSON: Yes.
41
42 MS. WILSON: Okay.
43
44 MS. ROBINSON: Just what Ann read is what we're
45 going to vote on now.
46
47 MS. WILSON: Yeah. 'Cause we didn't need it.
48
49
50

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MS. LOWE: The amended proposal now will be the, just one more time so we're all clear, "Unit Four, that portion on Chichagof Island --" "within" or "on"? On?

3
4 MS. ROBINSON: "On".

5
6 MS. LOWE: "No limit. Marten trapping on public lands on Chichagof Island is prohibited except by rural Alaska residents. Open season December 1st through December 91st. Remainder of Unit Four, no limit. Open season December 10t through February 15th." Call for the question, Mr. Chair.

11
12 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. I tried to call the roll three times.

14
15 MS. PHILLIPS: Question.

16
17 MS. LOWE: I know.

18
19 MR. THOMAS: Are we ready for the roll? Call the roll.

21
22 MS. LOWE: Okay. John Vale?

23
24 MR. VALE: Abstain.

25
26 MS. LOWE: Bill Thomas?

27
28 MR. THOMAS: Yes.

29
30 MS. LOWE: John Feller?

31
32 MR. FELLER: Yes.

33
34 MS. LOWE: Patricia Phillips?

35
36 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes.

37
38 MS. LOWE: Mim Robinson?

39
40 MS. ROBINSON: Yes.

41
42 MS. LOWE: Lonnie Anderson?

43
44 MR. ANDERSON: Yes.

45
46 MS. LOWE: Marilyn Wilson?

47
48 MS. WILSON: Yes.

49
50

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1 MS. LOWE: Ann Lowe? Yes. Mr. Chair, it
 2 passed seven-zero-one abstention.

3
 4 MR. THOMAS: For the information of people that
 5 abstain the vote, abstain and no is compared like guilty and no
 6 contest. So, just for your information.

7
 8 Okay. Now, that takes us to what, 17? All ready.

9
 10 (Off record conversation)

11
 12 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Staff, please. Proposal

13.
 14
 15 MR. LOCKHART: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Proposal
 16 is by the Alaska Native Brotherhood and Alaska Native
 17 Brotherhood of Yakutat. It proposes to include a provision
 18 under section 25(k)(5) which would read as follows: "Unit 5A,
 19 except Nunitak Bench, one antlerless moose by federal
 20 registration permit. The season is closed when ten antlerless
 21 moose have been taken from the unit. Public lands are closed
 22 the taking of antlerless moose except by qualified rural
 23 residents of Unit 5A. Federal registration permits will be
 24 issued to a designated community entity per procedures mutually
 25 developed the federal -- by federal agency and Yakutat
 26 representatives. Open season, August 1st through December
 27 1st."

28
 29 The proposed cites the reasons for changing the
 30 regulation is that the season, the existing season is not
 31 adequate to provide for community needs. Additional moose are
 32 needed to distribute meat to those members who receive little
 33 or no moose meat, and provide an opportunity for ceremonial
 34 potlatches and other social occasions, such as the annual moose
 35 barbecue.

36
 37 The proponents wants to -- wish to leave the other
 38 existing hunt intact to continue opportunities that are
 39 available for both local and nonlocal hunters.

40
 41 There's a large cow moose population that can sustain
 42 this limited harvest. Proposed season dates would be long
 43 enough to allow harvest for cultural and social events, as well
 44 for providing an opportunity to distribute meat to those who
 45 didn't receive any after the regular season.

46
 47 The length of the season would also increase hunters
 48 ability to select cows that are not accompanied by calves or

49
 50

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cows that are likely passed their breeding years.

1

2 Proponents' preference is to have ten federal
3 registration permits issued to a community entity, or
4 alternatively they requested that if they're issued to
5 individuals that these permits not count against individual bag
6 limits.

7

8 The proposed changes on -- the effects of the proposed
9 change on wildlife populations, due to the large number of
10 cows, there would be no effect on the over-all moose
11 population. The change on subsistence users, proponents say
12 the regulation will greatly benefit subsistence users by
13 providing meat to those who receive little or no meat, and
14 providing meat for cultural and social events. At the same
15 time, this regulation will not affect the health of the over-
16 all moose population.

17

18 In our staff analysis, I'll just hit some of the
19 highlights of that. Federal subsistence management regulations
20 allow the Board to implement individual or community harvest of
21 wildlife for one time or annual special purposes, including
22 ceremonies or potlatches. The Board has implemented such
23 systems for the communities of Kaltag and Nulato.

24

25 The proposal states that the existing moose regulations
26 do not accommodate the nutritional, social or cultural
27 requirements of Yakutat residents. To remedy these problems,
28 proposal 17 requests a community-based cow moose season be
29 established and that ten harvest permits be issued to a
30 community body. This body would be responsible for and
31 facilitate the taking and distribution of ten moose. The
32 requested extra moose would be for residents not receiving
33 moose during the regular season and for ceremonial and social
34 events. This would be akin to harvesting community property
35 and is not intended to inhibit designated harvesters from
36 making individual limits for personal consumption.

37

38 In 1987, 12.7% of Yakutat's surveyed households
39 reported harvesting moose. This resource was distributed and
40 distributed until it reached approximately 54% of the
41 community. Despite the extent of this distribution, nearly 40%
42 46% of those surveyed neither harvested nor received moose.

43

44 Potlatching and feasting permeate the culture and
45 society and are central to the ideological, political and
46 economic systems. The distribution and consumption of food and
47 resources in these communal forums functions to enhance
48 community and regional social solidarity, and individual social

49

50

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and cultural well-being.

1

2 The role of the community entity in facilitating
3 resource harvest, distribution and consumption has historical
4 parallels within the area. Yakutat with a population of 534 in
5 1990 is the only community within Unit 5A. Slightly more than
6 half of the 1990 population, 55%, were Alaska natives. Rural
7 residents of Unit 5A were the only individuals having a
8 customary and traditional use determination for moose within
9 the unit.

10

11 Since 1983, moose harvest in Unit 5A has been limited
12 to 60 bulls. The harvest is evenly allocated between those
13 portions of the unit lying to the east and west of Dangerous
14 River. Normally the western section of the unit is subjected
15 to heavier hunting pressure. As a result, the area west of
16 Dangerous River is closed when the harvest in that section
17 approaches 30 moose. The mean annual reported harvest for the
18 entire unit over the past ten years is 49. The over-all unit
19 harvest limit of 60 bulls has never been achieved. Between
20 1990 and 1992, residents of Yakutat reported harvesting 40, 28,
21 and 32 moose respectively. Nonlocal hunters harvested 17, 24,
22 and 18 moose from Unit 5A during the same years. Proponents
23 state that they want to leave the other existing hunt intact
24 and continue the opportunities available for both local and
25 nonlocal hunters.

26

27 Area biologists of the ADF&G and U.S. Forest Service
28 believe the moose population is stable to increasing in size.
29 Although due to lack of adequate survey data, the exact number
30 of moose is unknown, it is the opinion of the area biologists
31 that the population is approximately 200 animals, although the
32 habitat's estimated carrying capacity is 1,000 animals.
33 Predation by bears and wolves is thought to be a contributing
34 factor.

35

36 While the proposal asserts that there large numbers of
37 cows in the unit, there are no available biological data
38 suggesting the existence of excessive females in the
39 population.

40

41 The annual reported harvest of moose in Unit 5A during
42 the last three years has been between 50 and 57 animals, and
43 local managers believe the population -- that the population is
44 stable or increasing. An additional ten moose may be harvested
45 without risking the health of this population. However,
46 without better information on the age and sex ratio of the
47 population, we believe it will be in the best interest -- would
48 not be in the best interest of either the resource or the

49

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subsistence users to permit the harvest of cow moose at this time.

2

3 That concludes the analysis. We'd be happy to take
4 questions.

5

6 MR. THOMAS: In your estimation or -- you
7 mentioned that the unit harvest level of 60 bulls had never
8 been achieved. In your observations and professionalism, does
9 that indicate that the -- that it's not getting the pressure
10 that it could actually withstand, is that?

11

12 MR. LOCKHART: Well, other people should
13 probably chime in here, but what I understand is on one side of
14 the river where it's been split, they have met the 30 animals,
15 and on the other side, they haven't. It's probably due to
16 access, but there's other people who can answer that a lot
17 better than I can.

18

19 MR. THOMAS: I'm just curious. That's one
20 incident that sounds like a promising situation.

21

22 MR. DINNEFORD: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
23 Bruce Dinneford with Department of Fish and Game.

24

25 The quota of 60 bulls was established in 1990. Prior
26 that time, there was a quota of 50 bull moose. Several
27 times prior to 1990, that 50-bull quota was reached. Mike was
28 very accurate when he said since 1990 we've never achieved the
29 50-bull harvest. Our regulations, State regulations, say that
30 no more than 30 may come from west of the Dangerous River. We
31 have reached that 30 subquota, if you will, and have closed
32 that area between the Dangerous River and Yakutat Bay.
33 However, in theory, all 60 could come from east of the
34 Dangerous, so it's not an allocation of 30 and 30. It's just
35 more.

36

37 And we put that in there, because we felt that with
38 Forest Highway Ten that runs out to Harlequin Lake, the access
39 is very, very good on the west side for especially road access
40 compared to the east side where it's almost entirely aircraft
41 access and boat access.

42

43 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. I've never heard of any
44 stresses around that arrangement, so

45

46 MR. DINNEFORD: Right. If I could

47

48 MR. THOMAS: Sure.

49

50

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1 MR. DINNEFORD: continue? The reason for
2 not achieving the 60-bull quota is a combination of factors.
3 In years when it is rainier than normal, and I don't know what
4 that is, John, for Yakutat, but

5
6 MR. VALE: Most of the time.

7
8 MR. DINNEFORD: Most of the time? We see a
9 real decrease in hunter effort, and hunters are apparently
10 unwilling to go out and slog through the rain for very many
11 days before they give up. We don't believe it's due to any
12 shortage of moose. The population estimate of 800 to 1,000
13 moose is -- it's not real tight. The last real close to a
14 complete survey we got was in the last -- or late 80s. '88 I
15 believe it was. It might have been '89. And at that time we
16 were estimating maybe up to 1,000 moose.

17
18 MR. THOMAS: Just out of curiosity, not that it
19 has anything to do with my consideration here, we entered into
20 discussions and considerations of winter condition mortality.
21 I'm assuming that occurs within the moose population, and do
22 you have a way of -- are there obvious culls when that occurs,
23 or

24
25 MR. DINNEFORD: Well, maybe a little more
26 history might be helpful here. The Yakutat Wildlife Division
27 office was closed in 1986 when the cost of oil went down a
28 little bit, and the state office in Fort Yukon and in Yakutat
29 was closed, so we haven't had a wildlife biologist stationed
30 here since that time. And in fact, I was the biologist
31 stationed there at that time, and living there, I might get in
32 80 hours worth of survey before snow storms or whatever drove
33 me out of the sky, and I could -- I could piece together a
34 number of days. It's a lot different these days when our area
35 biologist lives in Douglas and has responsibilities for Haines
36 and Skagway and the Juneau area and down to Cape Fanshaw, and
37 when he gets a little window of flying time, which can be very
38 brief in Southeast Alaska, to run out there, and by the time he
39 gets there, maybe it's blowing 50 knots, and the survey
40 conditions are no longer there. So that's one of the excuses
41 for not having more recent

42
43 MR. THOMAS: No, I understand.

44
45 MR. DINNEFORD: surveys.

46
47 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Yeah.

48
49
50

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MR. DINNEFORD: To monitor the spring condition, or the end of winter condition, we don't have surveys that really give us that. All our survey information has been, has been late fall or early winter surveys, and when we could get the snow conditions early enough that allow us to do counts, then we can get not only a bull to cow ratio, but a calf to cow ratio, which will give us the calf to cow ratio, as well as the calf percentage in the herd. And that surely does not tell us what the conditions are going to be the following spring, but as long as you see production staying at a fairly consistent rate, we tend to believe that we're not having a problem with excessive (indiscernible) mortality.

12

13 MR. THOMAS: Thank you very much. Any
14 questions? John?

15

16 MR. VALE: Yeah. Bruce, you've got three years
17 with a 60-bull quota. I believe this last season was the first
18 season where it actually went the full length of the -- of the
19 scheduled season. The first two years with the 60-bull quota,
20 was shut earlier by the Department. It was closed down
21 earlier by the Department, anticipating that we'd reached the
22 60-bull quota, but that in fact we did not. For example, in
23 1992, I believe it was only like 52 moose that were taken, even
24 though the Department had shut down the season, you know, a
25 week or two earlier than the scheduled closure. That's
26 correct, is it not?

27

28 MR. DINNEFORD: I don't believe so, John.
29 There was one year where we had a harvest of 57, and that year
30 we did close the season. In 19-- -- or the year that you're
31 referring to there was 52, the season closed west of the
32 Dangerous, but it did not close throughout the entire unit. We
33 the season closed at the end of the established season date.
34 What we did not do, we did no extent the season because we did
35 not reach the quota. When we establish a quota for this moose
36 population, we don't feel that that number needs to be taken,
37 but we feel up to that number can be taken.

38

39 MR. VALE: Yeah. Yeah.

40

41 MR. DINNEFORD: So I don't want to really
42 argue,

43

44 MR. VALE: Okay. Well,

45

46 MR. DINNEFORD: but my recollection
47

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MR. VALE: Yeah.

1
2 MR. DINNEFORD: there was just one year
3 that we closed it by emergency order.

4
5 MR. VALE: Okay. So I guess, well, you've
6 corrected me there on '92 is that it was closed west of the
7 Dangerous, but east of the Dangerous it remained open for the
8 length of the season?

9
10 MR. DINNEFORD: Through November 15th.

11
12 MR. VALE: Yeah.

13
14 MR. DINNEFORD: Right.

15
16 MR. VALE: Okay. Another one, we haven't had
17 any recent surveys, but given the population to 800, do you
18 feel that ten cows per year is going to jeopardize the herd
19 there, and this is a two-part question, do you think ten cows
20 west of the Dangerous will in any way jeopardize the population
21 there?

22
23 MR. DINNEFORD: With the agreement of the
24 Board, if I could make maybe a 90-second of it, or a two-second
25 answer -- or a 90-second answer out of a two-second answer. As
26 you recall, through the years that I lived there and worked
27 there, there were two or three days when we indeed came to the
28 Yukutat Advisory Committee, and asked them to consider a cow
29 season. In fact it was the -- it might have been the last year
30 was there, maybe the fall of '85 or '86, where I believe you
31 as chairman finally threw the deciding vote that said, yes,
32 let's give it a try. Let's look at it very cautiously. For
33 whatever reasons, that proposal never came before the Board of
34 Game. For years the Department had wished to look at taking a
35 few cows, and I can't remember if we were looking at five or
36 ten when we did that in '85/86.

37
38 MR. VALE: I don't recall either.

39
40 MR. DINNEFORD: So there is a history of the
41 Department of Fish and Game supporting a very conservative,
42 very tightly controlled -- and we were looking at the method at
43 that time would have been a drawing permit, but there would
44 have been no more than probably, you know, for ten permits,
45 there would have been only ten hunters out in the field.

46
47 MR. VALE: Uh-huh.

48
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MR. DINNEFORD: So that there would have been no legal way, -- if we would have said that everybody can hunt for three days, we could have exceeded our desired quota.

3

4

MR. VALE: Yeah.

5

MR. DINNEFORD: But with a drawing permit, that wouldn't have happened. To get more precisely to your question, I don't know real honestly. I guess I would like to see more recent good data information before -- before we opened it up for a cow hunt. Survey information.

11

12

MR. VALE: Okay. Thanks.

13

MR. THOMAS: Further questions? Anybody else have any input on this? Thank you very much. Is there further input?

17

18

MR. WALTER: Dorin Walter, Yakutat, Forest Service. I'd like to hand -- give a handout and you could go over this. This is just a summation to maybe help you better. Again, instead of orating it, to actually look at it, and maybe help in your decision making. The information was obtained from Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and I had the names (ph) on everybody's at the top of it. Just

25

26

MS. ROBINSON: Somebody doesn't have one.

27

28

MR. WALTER: I was one short?

29

30

MS. ROBINSON: Yeah. Marilyn.

31

32

MR. WALTER: Oh, wait, here we go. Does everybody have one?

34

35

At the bottom of the page I wrote in some historical information. Again, this is just to help you to give you an idea of what's been happening there with the moose in Yakutat on the forelands. I'm sorry for the chicken scratches, I was writing it out rather quickly. I can read over it. In 1968 approximately 2,000 to 2,500 moose were estimated to be on the forelands, and starting in 1968, there was a declining population due to several factors including, primarily, declining range, browse overuse, severe winters, most notably '69 and '70, and '71 and '72, and secondarily wolf, bear predation, and hunting. Then in 1974 there was another survey of 300. The population started building back, and after '74, because the Alaska Department of Fish and Game closed down the hunting season from '74 to 77. And then in '77 there was a

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survey of 700 individual moose.

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2 Then at the top of the -- of this page, there's
3 information that was referred to earlier about a number of
4 bulls, the number of cows and calves that were observed from
5 survey data starting in 88/89. And in 1988 and '89, there was
6 a total sample of 515 observed, and from this number Alaska
7 Department of Fish and Game then estimates I think it's -- I
8 don't know what the exact percentage is, but that's where they
9 come up with in 88/89 of approximately 800 individuals in the
10 total population, because there are a number that aren't seen.

11

12 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Well, we appreciate that
13 information. John?

14

15 MR. VALE: Well, the information they just
16 handed out here, I want to point out on -- I believe in 92/93,
17 the last column there, that wasn't a complete survey of the
18 forelands. It was only a partial survey, and that's the reason
19 why those numbers are lower there.

20

21 Dorin, are you guys going to be able to do anything in
22 terms of getting the population surveys done?

23

24 MR. WALTER: Okay. I've been talking with Matt
25 Robis and with the National Park Service. The weather
26 conditions and the snow conditions haven't been that good in
27 Yakutat. There have been a few windows, but they've been
28 rather short notice. We have organized, the National Park
29 Service, the Forest Service, and Alaska Department of Fish and
30 Game, we have organized, and we're ready to conquer, so to
31 speak. The next window I've committed to getting up. I've got
32 the how to do -- you've got to remember I -- again, this is for
33 me, so I'm -- I just have -- I just learned what a moose looks
34 like from an airplane, so -- at 500 feet, so I'm committed to,
35 along with the National Park Service and Alaska Department Fish
36 and Game to get a survey done sometime in the next -- in our
37 next good window of opportunity.

38

39 MR. THOMAS: No more Mr. Nice Guy, huh?
40 Further questions?

41

42 MR. ANDERSON: Well, Mr. Chairman,

43

44 MR. THOMAS: Mim?

45

46 MR. ANDERSON: I have one

47

48 MR. THOMAS: Mim has got the floor, Lonnie.

49

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Ladies first.

1
 2 MR. ANDERSON: I declare an executive session.
 3
 4 MS. ROBINSON: I raised my hand, you didn't.
 5
 6 MR. THOMAS: She's taugt better. She is up to
 the hand motion.
 8
 9 MR ANDERSON: I'll yield to my
 10
 11 MS. ROBINSON: The -- it sounds like there's
 quite a -- most of the time the sport number of 60 has not been
 reached, is that -- that's correct?
 14
 15 MR. WALTER: Correct.
 16
 17 MS. ROBINSON: One year it came real close?
 18
 19 MR. WALTER: Fifty-seven, correct, in 1990.
 20
 21 MS. ROBINSON: Okay. But other years it's been
 considerably less I take it?
 23
 24 MR. WALTER: Yes.
 25
 26 MS. ROBINSON: Why -- I don't understand then
 why the residents feel that they're not getting enough meat
 through this process, if there's -- if they're not even
 watching the -- if they're not killing the number that they're
 allowed, is it because they're just not seeing enough bulls, or
 is I mean, -- or -- and that's sort of a related question: Why
 do they want the cows? Is it -- is there some significance to
 that? You know, a religious significance or is it just the
 meat tastes better or -- ? So I've got a couple of questions
 out there for you, or whoever can answer them.
 36
 37 MR. VALE: I probably would be the best person
 to answer those, Mim. I don't know if we want it now or when
 we get into the discussions, so -- you would like me to go
 ahead?
 41
 42 MR. THOMAS: By all means.
 43
 44 MR. VALE: You know, the 60-bull quota's been
 found for three years. One year it was basically reached, and
 they closed it down with 57. I got a report from Dorin last
 year or last fall at our Regional Council meeting, and I
 believe it indicated to me that there were only 52 moose
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harvested in 1992, of which half of them, only 25 or 26, were taken west of the Dangerous, and that's -- so I think the season was shut down prematurely by the Department on that year. I think they felt there were probably more moose that were going to be turned in, and it turned out they weren't, and I think they probably erred by shutting the season down a little prematurely.

7

8 There's some concern locally that we might be over-harvesting the bull population. It's not substantiated. We need some harvest survey information to really make a determination on that. And basically I think the bull/cow ratios have been pretty good. But that's why we didn't ask for any more bulls.

14

15 And there is a desire, you know, to -- local residents are given a seven-day priority, this priority is maintained for local residents by giving them a seven-day head start on nonlocal residents in the moose hunt. And that gives them an advantage. Most of the people -- the moose are in the same general areas every year, and people know where they're at, and so they're able to go in there and get a pretty good knock on them before the rest of the nonlocal hunters start.

23

24 And there was a feeling around the community that they didn't want to, if we asked -- tried to get even more of the bulls, that we would be taking away from the nonlocal residents needlessly when there was available resources in cow moose that that would meet the needs.

29

30 And as Bruce mentioned earlier, the Department had proposed a cow season several years back, and in that discussion we were looking for methods and means of picking out cows that were not with calves, and maybe passed their breeding ages and felt that at that time that the -- it would be okay to harvest some cows, because of the -- really the large number of them. Well, as he said, 800 to 1,000 across the forelands. So the feeling was that there are plenty of animals available, and that the cows -- removal of that many cows would not impact the health of the population. So that's why we looked to cows to provide for the -- those needs.

41

42 In addition to that, the -- there is a desire to -- part of what led into this proposal was there's a desire by local residents to be able to obtain resources for potlatches and for social occasions that don't coincide with the moose season, and that these moose -- and it hasn't been available to these -- for these purposes, because of the timing of the moose season. And we felt that, you know, by looking to cows to

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supply those needs, you know, it allows the flexibility. We have proposed a long month, from August 1st to December 31st, and the idea was that these organizations would have -- by having such a long period of time, that it would allow them the opportunity that when they need a moose for potlatch, or for another social occasion in the community, they could go get one, use it for that purpose, and then towards the end of the year, say we use four or five for potlatches or other purposes, towards the end of the year, however many cows were left could then be harvested and distributed to people who didn't obtain adequate moose resources during the regular season. So that was sort of the thought process that went into the creation of this proposal.

13

14 So -- and then beyond that, since it was for community purposes, we were looking to either have a community organization, such as the local association, you know, distribute those -- through the Forest Service, distribute those harvest permits, or even the Forest Service could distribute them directly to community organizations.

20

21 And we were not wanting to limit this to native organizations, recognizing that ANILCA is providing for nonnatives as well. To give you an example, since the late 1960s we've had what we call the annual moose barbecue in Yakutat. Well, since the crash of the moose populations due to severe winters in the early 70s, the season has been changed to October 15th, it used to be opened up -- I'm not sure what date, August 1st or something like that, but the moose barbecue occurs in August every year, and since then they've never had a moose for the moose barbecue. They've gotten beef and other -- pork, and other items that are utilized at this. And this is sponsored by the American Legion, by the way, not by one of the native organizations. And so we were looking to this as a means of getting moose for these types of social gatherings as well.

36

37 So I hope that kind of gives you some background and some clarification of where this proposal comes from.

39

40 MS. ROBINSON: Thank you, John.

41

42 MR. THOMAS: I missed some of that. Would you
43 that again?

44

45 (Laughter)

46

47 MR. THOMAS: Further discussion?

48

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1 MS. LOWE: Motion to support proposal 17.
2 MR. THOMAS: It's been moved to
3
4 MR. VALE: Second.
5
6 MR. THOMAS: adopt proposal 17. Seconded
7 By Yakutat ANS. Further discussion?
8
9 MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman? I have
10
11 MR. THOMAS: Lonnie?
12
13 MR. ANDERSON: I have a question for Mr. --
14 maybe Mr. Dorin.
15
16 MR. THOMAS: Okay.
17
18 MR. ANDERSON: Or Walter. But -- or John or --
19 this -- before we jump off and start annihilating cows, how
20 many outside entities came in, say sports hunters, and
21 harvested moose? Do you have
22
23 MR. SCHENK: Harvest for the nonlocals in 1990
24 was 17, in '91 24, in '92 18. Come from Juneau, Ketchikan,
25 Sitka, Pelican, Hoonah, Petersburg, Haines, Wrangell, other
26 Alaska, and some (indiscernible).
27
28 MR. WALTER: Would you like to see this on the
29 overhead?
30
31 MS. ROBINSON: Yes.
32
33 MR. ANDERSON: My other question would be is
34 due to no survey, you cannot tell me the status of the moose
35 herds to an accurately -- accurate?
36
37 MR. WALTER: Correct.
38
39 MR. ANDERSON: Yet at the same time due not to
40 being able to do this, you go ahead and recommend a cow season?
41 Is that not right?
42
43 MR. WALTER: Correct. Well, that's given the
44 communities desires. Working with the community and talking
45 with Alaska Department of Fish and Game, that I came up with
46 the conclusion that I would support this proposal.
47
48 MR. ANDERSON: My other question would be, is
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the herd figurative, over-all speaking, in danger?

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2 MR. WALTER: In danger of becoming
3 (indiscernible)

4

5 MR. ANDERSON: Going under the allowable
6 harvest of say 60 or

7

8 MS. LOWE: Sustainable.

9

10 MR. ANDERSON: Sustainable harvest.

11

12 MR. WALTER: I don't know if I could answer
13 that question. I don't know if I have enough biological
14 background in Yakutat. I think the State may be -- unless
15 you're asking me specifically as the Forest Service Biologist?

16

17 MR. ANDERSON: No, I need this information or
18 I'm going to have to abstain from participating in this. And
19 when you start taking the females out, and they're barely
20 making a sustained harvest level, I have a question about that.
21 That's to my

22

23 MS. LOWE: Ted I think can help us here.

24

25 MR. ANDERSON: Ted?

26

27 MR. SCHENK: Bruce is here. I may call on him
28 to help a little bit, Lonnie. The percent of calves in the
29 surveys that we've had recently has remained fairly stable,
30 even though we don't have a complete survey of the -- of the
31 whole forelands, and we don't have recent data for the past two
32 or three years. The percent of calves in the population has
33 remained fairly consistent. It's varied from 17 to 20% of the
34 calves that we observed with calves. As Bruce may have mentioned
35 earlier, and Dorin certainly did, when we survey for the moose,
36 there's a lot of things that we see, but there's quite a few
37 that we don't. Gazaway and some other folks have developed
38 some methodologies by which we can make some estimates. And
39 we're a lot more comfortable saying when we know what the herd
40 ratios are. But clearly out of 800 animals every year, there
41 are going to be -- there's going to be mortality within that
42 population on the bulls as well as the cows, and we've done a
43 real good job of harvesting bulls here recently, and there
44 would be reason for me to believe that there would be a fairly
45 high population of cows in that herd.

46

47 MR. DINNEFORD: If I could add something.
48 Bruce Dinneford with Fish and Game. There's a couple of things

49

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maybe I'll touch on that Ted mentioned. In the -- the figures we're looking at here, these percentages of what we call on our chart "calves," when we do surveys in November or December, even January, those might by a range man or a cattle person, those might be more accurately called long yearlings. They're the calves that were born the previous spring. So if they have survived the neonatal mortality, the early mortality right after they are dropped, and made it through December or January, with the exception of extreme deep snow conditions, there's a reasonable chance that most of those long yearlings will make the yearling status. Because we have the same kind of percentage and a relatively stable number of moose year to year, that tends to support that contention.

13

14 A couple things maybe as background. Dorin Walters was talking about our last -- one of our most complete counts. In fact it was the most moose ever counted, not estimated, but counted, since 1968 I believe it was with 515 moose. We use a 50% sightability factor. Some work done by our area biologist who was there in 1976 or '77, he collared a bunch of animals, and did -- in a very simple mark with a capture experiment flew and counted the number of moose with the known number of marked sample. He had 50% sightability of collared animals. So we have used -- it's crude, but if we see 500 moose, we say, well, maybe there's 1,000 moose out there, so we'll use a range 800 to 1,000.

26

27 Another thing that I wanted to point out that might have a bearing on consideration is that the quota of 60 is just for Unit 5A. That's in Yakutat Bay to the east. And then there's also a 25-bull quota in Unit 5B, which is across Yakutat Bay. Not as easily accessible to Yakutat, but it is relatively close.

33

34 And one final thing, when we were talking about our cow proposal with the Yakutat Advisory Committee in the 80s, the purpose for that, and Mim was asking this earlier as have you, was to even though as John accurately mentioned that we were talking about if we only had ten hunters out there, it would be relatively easy to sit down with each one of them and say, "When you hunt, you know, any cow is legal, but instead of taking a yearling, why don't you take an older cow," but at the same time we thought that, well, we're at about what we feel the carrying capacity of this herd is, and we don't want to see repeat of what happened in the late 60s, early 70s, where we had several, two to 3,000 moose out there on the forelands, and then we had a combination of two out of three winters with terribly deep snow, and the moose yarded up within the most critical range, which in the case of Yakutat is within a mile

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or two strip of the beach, generally speaking. There's some other areas along major rivers. And the estimate of moose in the Yakutat Forelands got down to about 300 animals. And we don't feel we're carrying that population at an artificially high level now, but at that time in the late 80s when we were 5- we had more accurate information about, well, maybe we're experiencing enough growth that we should take a few cows in a restrictive (ph). That was the reason for that.

8

9 MR. ANDERSON: The reason that I was asking this, I get the same number of calves here in '93, 37, and then percentage of calves sighted, if -- even if -- 19, which is about 50% as you were saying. I yield the floor. I, you know,

14

15 MR. DINNEFORD: Well, if you notice, after 92/93, there's a "W". That's a winter survey. So at that time we can't estimate accurately the number of bulls and cows, so that's the percentage of the population, that's not a bull to cow ratio that you're looking at there. And that's a -- and we had a small sample size of only 159 animals. And as John pointed out earlier, that's a real small sample. I can't recall what -- I didn't fly that survey, and I can't recall what areas Matt was able to get to, what part of the forelands, but it was probably not a representative sample throughout the forelands. It was perhaps the stuff close to Yakutat itself or the airstrip. It was (indiscernible) Air Charter Services. I just don't know.

28

29 MR. ANDERSON: Okay.

30

31 MR. THOMAS: Further discussion? John?

32

33 MR. VALE: Bruce, the -- in the past the Department said -- told us and used as an indication of the health of the population two things: the bull/cow ratio and then the calf/cow ratio. And I guess from what we've been told in the past, and what this information shows is that there's no problems, that we have -- based on that, that we have a healthy population here. So would you say that's fair?

40

41 MR. DINNEFORD: I tend to agree with you, at the level of harvest we're at now, John.

43

44 MR. VALE: Uh-huh. Okay.

45

46 MR. THOMAS: Further discussion?

47

48 MS. ROBINSON: Question.

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1 MR. THOMAS: The question's been called. The
 motion before us is to adopt proposal 17. Call the roll,
 please. Before we get to calling the roll, we'll be just a
 minute.

5
 6 MS. LOWE: John Feller?

7
 8 MR. FELLER: Yes.

9
 10 MS. LOWE: Patricia Phillips?

11
 12 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes.

13
 14 MS. LOWE: Mim Robinson?

15
 16 MS. ROBINSON: Yes.

17
 18 MS. LOWE: Lonnie Anderson?

19
 20 MR. ANDERSON: Yes.

21
 22 MS. LOWE: Marilyn Wilson?

23
 24 MS. WILSON: Yes.

25
 26 MS. LOWE: Ann Lowe? Yes. John Vale?

27
 28 MR. VALE: Yes.

29
 30 MS. LOWE: Bill Thomas?

31
 32 MR. THOMAS: Yes.

33
 34 MS. LOWE: Mr. Chairman, it passed eight-zero-
 zero.

35
 36
 37 MR. THOMAS: That concludes the proposals that
 we had presented to us for our consideration. In the event
 that some of you aren't able to stay, I want to thank you for
 helping us get to this point. And don't be discouraged. I
 hope we do things that makes it encouraging for you, so thanks
 again. And those of you that came in late and offered your
 input, we really appreciate that. Thank you. Mim?

38
 39 MS. ROBINSON: Before they do disappear, there
 was some concern expressed about some -- two of the proposals
 that we passed concerning -- the ones concerning the proxy.
 The fact that we included -- that it wasn't just on deer, that

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it was on all the animals, and that there was some concern that those proposals might get thrown out, because they were just too broad, and that there was some populations, like goat and Brown bear, that might be adversely affected. And what I was suggesting is to reconsider those two proposals and change it to deer and moose. Or maybe moose. And to help ensure that those pass.

7

8

MS. LOWE: Dale might

9

10

MR. THOMAS: I -- personally I would -- I would leave them like it is, because we're having a tendency to treat subsistence like people treat native culture. People think native culture is a dance and artistry, and subsistence is confined to moose and deer.

15

16

Dale? Yeah. I see you gesturing, so I need to call you.

18

19

MR. KANEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is Dale Kanen. I support the spirit and intent of the proposals nine and ten as you passed them. But I am concerned, because we did not discuss some species in terms of the population and information that we have. And the two in particular are brown bear and mountain goats, which could be affected. And particularly with mountain goats, I am concerned that it is possible that some of our small local populations or some, say, a high school kid to do -- go collect proxies from all of his buddies, and on one nice day have a considerable impact on a very small herd. And without having heard that data and going at length into that, and I don't know what you have the time right now, the proposals as passed are vulnerable to a contest by the Secretary that they perhaps violate concerns for a healthy herd or healthy populations with respect to perhaps to the mountain goats, and maybe brown bear hunting. So rather than leave them vulnerable to that type of contest from the Secretary or from the Federal Subsistence Board, you may want to consider at this time, until you have time to deliberate further on the other species, you may want to speak to just deer which you have heard extensive information, or perhaps moose. I wasn't sure how Yakutat would feel. So I support the spirit, but I'm

42

43

MR. THOMAS: But you've still got the old quota there. They -- see, I'm not concerned. The Council -- the rest of the Council may, but I'm not. Again, we're talking a violation. We're talking subsistence. Violation of this provision is in a different area.

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MR. KANEN: No. No, it would be perfectly legal the way your proxy proposal is proposed for a rural resident

3

MR. THOMAS: If it meets the provision and the intent of the proposal, then there's no harm.

6

MS. LOWE: Mr. Chair?

8

MR. THOMAS: Ann?

10

MS. LOWE: First of all, there's laws about wanton waste and other things, and it is impossible for anybody to go up and get ten deer out and get them out. I mean,

14

MR. KANEN: I wasn't

16

MS. LOWE:

18

MR. KANEN:

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1 MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman?
2
3 MR THOMAS: Lonnie?
4
5 MR. ANDERSON: Is this referring to proposal
6 en?
7
8 MS. ROBINSON: Nine and ten.
9
10 MS. LOWE: Nine and ten.
11
12 MR. ANDERSON: Nine and ten. Proposal ten
13 specifically states deer as passed.
14
15 MR. THOMAS: Whatever is specified.
16
17 MS. WILSON: Nine and eight we made over-all.
18
19 MR. THOMAS: Whatever it addresses. I don't
20 want to -- I don't want to come here and portray subsistence as
21 a villain.
22
23 MR. ANDERSON: No.
24
25 MR. THOMAS: If it's a villain that's
26 determined, then it is. If it's not, let's not treat it like
27 one.
28
29 MR. ANDERSON: Next order of business,
30 Mr. Chairman.
31
32 MS. LOWE: Yeah, onward.
33
34 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Okay. Our next order of
35 business is on our Wednesday agenda, presentation of factors
36 (ph), Cal Casiper (ph).
37
38 MR. VALE: Mr. Chairman?
39
40 MS. LOWE: Can we -- Mr. Chair, can we go back
41 to the charter that we didn't finish?
42
43 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. We were pretty close to it.
44
45 MR. VALE: Yeah, we were about done with it as
46 far as I could tell. Mr. Chairman, I would move to approve our
47 charter as amended.
48
49
50

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1 MS. ROBINSON: Could we take a short break?
2
3 MR. VALE: Withdraw that.
4
5 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, we'll take a short break.
6 No, a motion to adopt is okay. We can still talk.
7
8 (Off record)
9
10 (On record)
11
12 MR. THOMAS: Council charter for review
13 and recommendations. Mike?
14
15 MR. LOCKHART: I'm sorry, Mr. Chair, there's a
16 matter of business that we'd like to clear up, and maybe Carol
17 can help me out. I'm not real sure on the protocols for this,
18 but we were wondering about whether we even need this portion
19 of the meeting, to have -- if we need a transcript. I'm just
20 I know we need it for the public part of it, but do we need
21 it for this part? I'm seeing you go this, and you're going
22 that way.
23
24 MS. LOWE: For the charter, we're stilling
25 working on the charter.
26
27 MS. JORGENSEN: For the charter we do.
28
29 MR. LOCKHART: For the charter, okay.
30
31 MS. JORGENSEN: Once we get the charter done,
32 then
33
34 MR. THOMAS: We're real close to being done
35 with that, so
36
37 MR. LOCKHART: Okay.
38
39 MR. THOMAS: Okay.
40
41 MR. ANDERSON: That was a nice try, Joe.
42
43 MR. THOMAS: Rather than to confuse things with
44 any more formal action, if somebody would take the initiative
45 and tell us where we think we're at and -- Ann?
46
47 MS. LOWE: Mr. Chair, the Council is -- you
48 told us that we -- as we worked on the charter, that if other
49 things came up, that we could address them.
50

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1 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh.
2
3 MS. LOWE: And I have one. I would like to
4 make a motion under "objectives and scope of activity in the
5 charter," number two, to add the wording, we have the wording
6 here, "meaning- --" "To have a meaningful role in the
7 management of fish and wild- --" "fish-comma-wildlife, and
8 other renewable resources, and of subsistence uses of those
9 resources on public lands in the region." That's under our
10 "Objectives and scopes and activity". And I'd like to put a
11 comma after "fish," comma after "wildlife," and add the words
12 "and other renewable resources."
13
14 MR. THOMAS: Okay.
15
16 MR. ANDERSON: And strike out the first "and"?
17
18 MS. LOWE: Yes.
19
20 MS. ROBINSON: Is it -- is it before -- and
21 when you still have "and of subsistence uses," et cetera?
22
23 MS. LOWE: Yes. Right.
24
25 MS. ROBINSON: Okay.
26
27 MR. THOMAS: Rather than to act on

28
29 MR. ANDERSON: You said "renewable"?
30
31 MR. THOMAS: rather than act on each one,
32 unless we have a violent objection, let's just move onto the
33 next and then we'll go through in its entirety, and then if
34 we've got any heartburn along the way, we can address it there.
35 If we don't, we will breeze right through.
36
37 MS. WILSON: Did she make a motion or no?
38
39 MR. THOMAS: No.
40
41 MS. WILSON: No?
42
43 MR. THOMAS: We're not going to deal with a
44 motion yet.
45
46 MS. LOWE: Until it's all finished.
47
48 MR. THOMAS: We're going to -- we're going to
49
50

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go over the whole thing.

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MS. WILSON: Okay. Mr. Chairman?

MR. ANDERSON: Any other change.

MR. THOMAS: Marilyn?

MS. WILSON: I'd like us to address number nine, membership. I would like to see the words deleted from here: "Each from different communities." Strike the words "Each from different communities."

MS. ROBINSON: I'd support that.

MR. VALE: Mr. Chairman, I

MR. THOMAS: John?

MR. VALE: when we addressed the charter earlier, just for the sake of accuracy here, when we addressed the charter earlier, I believe we did use motions and votes on each of the actions that we took. And since we addressed this previously, I think we'd -- the proper method would be to ask for a reconsideration of that motion. I believe.

MR. THOMAS: We could do that after we do the whole thing.

MS. ROBINSON: We probably should.

MR. VALE: It has to come from somebody who voted, you know, in the affirmative on it.

MS. WILSON: I forget how I voted. I think I voted for it.

MS. ROBINSON: You voted for it, I think.

MS. WILSON: Yeah.

MS. ROBINSON: Go for it, Marilyn.

MS. LOWE: Is that a motion then, Marilyn, separate from our listing of things we want to see changed?

MS. WILSON: Do I have to move to reconsider that

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1 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.
2 MS. WILSON: motion?
3
4 MS. LOWE: Yes.
5
6 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, that would be fine.
7
8 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman, I move to reconsider
9 the motion, amended motion, if that's the word.
10
11 MR. VALE: Second.
12
13 MR. THOMAS: Okay. It's been moved and
14 seconded. Discussion?
15
16 MS. LOWE: Who second it?
17
18 MR. THOMAS: John.
19
20 MS. LOWE: John?
21
22 MS. WILSON: Yeah.
23
24 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh.
25
26 MS. WILSON: Question.
27
28 MR. THOMAS: The question has been called. All
29 those in favor say "aye"?
30
31 ALL: Aye.
32
33 MR. THOMAS: Opposed?
34
35 MS. PHILLIPS: Aye.
36
37 MR. THOMAS: Note one opposition. And the
38 reconsideration, move to strike
39
40 MS. WILSON: Do I make a motion again,
41
42 MR. VALE: Yes.
43
44 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman?
45
46 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.
47
48 MS. WILSON: I move that number nine be amended
49
50

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by striking the words "each from different communities."

1
2 MR. VALE: Second.

3
4 MR. THOMAS: It's been moved and seconded to
5 strike "each from different communities." Discussion?

6
7 MR. VALE: Call for the question.

8
9 MR. THOMAS: The question has been called. All
10 those in favor say "aye"?

11
12 ALL: Aye.

13
14 MR. THOMAS: Opposed?

15
16 MS. PHILLIPS: Aye.

17
18 MR. THOMAS: One dissention. Next?

19
20 MS. LOWE: I will turn that suggestion into a
21 motion now if there's no other changes?

22
23 MR. THOMAS: Okay.

24
25 MS. LOWE: I move to change the wording under
26 number two, "objectives and scope of activity."

27
28 MR. THOMAS: Okay. You hear the motion.

29
30 MS. ROBINSON: Second.

31
32 MR. THOMAS: It's been moved and seconded. So

33 adopt

34
35 MR. VALE: Ann, can you clarify what the
36 changes are in there?

37
38 MS. LOWE: The changes would be, it would read,
39 one, two, three, fourth line down, it says, "and requirements
40 to have a meaningful role in the management of fish-comma-
41 wildlife-comma-and other renewable resources, and of
42 subsistence uses of those resources on public lands in the
43 region."

44
45 MR. VALE: Okay. Thanks.

46
47 MR. ANDERSON: Ann, you could have used another
48 comma after the "renewable resources," you double compound the

49
50

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sentence.

1

2

MS. LOWE: Okay.

3

4

ph).

6

7

MS. LOWE: Okay.

8

9

MR. VALE: Call for the question.

10

11

minute, John.

13

14

MS. LOWE: He wants to make sure I get my commas and "ands" in the right place. Okay. It would read, "Requirements to have a meaningful role in the management of fish-comma-wildlife-comma-other renewable resources"?

18

19

MR. ANDERSON: Yeah.

20

21

MS. ROBINSON: Comma.

22

23

MR. ANDERSON: Yeah.

24

25

MS. LOWE: "Comma-and of subsistence uses of those resources on public lands in this region."

27

28

MR. ANDERSON: That's proper grammar.

29

30

Further question?

32

33

MR. ANDERSON: Question.

34

35

MR. THOMAS: All those in favor say "aye"?

36

37

ALL: Aye.

38

39

MR. THOMAS: Opposed?

40

41

MS. PHILLIPS: Aye.

42

43

Next one, please?

45

46

MS. PHILLIPS: Was that for the whole charter?

48

49

50

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1 MS. ROBINSON: That was just for that.
2 MS. LOWE: The number two.
3
4 MS. PHILLIPS: Then I'm sorry.
5
6 MS. ROBINSON: Does that mean you
7 misunderstood?
8
9 MS. PHILLIPS: Yes.
10
11 MS. ROBINSON: I was wondering why you were
12 voting against that.
13
14 MS. PHILLIPS: I want to -- I'll -- can I
15 change my vote? I misunderstood.
16
17 MR. THOMAS: You certainly can.
18
19 MS. LOWE: Okay.
20
21 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay. I thought it was for the
22 whole charter.
23
24 MS. WILSON: Is there something in the charter
25 you wanted to change?
26
27 MR. THOMAS: Well, the reason for
28 reconsideration was because we have taken action on it before,
29 to reconsider, we had to go through that formality to bring
30 to this point.
31
32 Okay. The next item?
33
34 MS. ROBINSON: Where did -- let's see, we left
35 off on nine?
36
37 MR. VALE: Yeah.
38
39 MS. ROBINSON: Is that?
40
41 MS. WILSON: That's where I left off at.
42
43 MS. ROBINSON: Had we talked about vacancy yet,
44?
45
46 MR. VALE: We amended that to 14. We were done
47 actually I think. We just
48
49
50

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2
3
4 quite.

5
6
7
8 MR. VALE: We were on the last two sentences,
9 Or the last two paragraphs is where we had left off.

10
11 MS. ROBINSON: On page two?

12
13 MR. VALE: Yeah.

14
15 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

16
17 MS. ROBINSON: Or page three?

18
19 MR. VALE: Page three.

20
21 MS. ROBINSON: Page three? I don't

22
23 MR. THOMAS: Uh-huh.

24
25 MS. ROBINSON: Okay. Well, then I've got
26 something that Richard Dalton had talked about wanting to do,
27 and I'll go ahead and present it. I've got it written down
28 here. He wanted to

29
30 MR. VALE: Where are you?

31
32 MS. ROBINSON: I'm sorry, yeah. Page three
33 under "removal of members". Okay. He wanted to -- let's see,
34 how would -- it's been a while since I've looked at this. Let
35 me make sure I'm going to say it right here. Okay. He would
36 strike "misses three consecutive," and instead it would say,
37 "has three consecutive unexcused absences for." And then along
38 with doing that, there would be a new section called "excused
39 absences," and that would read, "A member shall submit in
40 writing his or her reason for missing a regularly scheduled
41 meeting. The Chairman will then excuse or not excuse the
42 member's absence."

43
44 MR. THOMAS: Is that a motion?

45
46 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.

47
48 MR. THOMAS: You heard the motion.

49
50 MS. LOWE: I'm lost, Mr. Chair. I didn't
follow it very good.

MR. THOMAS: Okay. That's okay.

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1 MR. ANDERSON: He went back -- Mr. Chairman, he
went back to the city excuse for Council members that is stated
for excuse.

4
5 MS. ROBINSON: This will go here, and this
would go under this one here.

7
8 MR. THOMAS: Well, he was here, so he'll
reflect as being here all the time.

10
11 MR. ANDERSON: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

12
13 MS. LOWE: Okay.

14
15 MR. THOMAS: The same as the guy that wasn't
here.

17
18 MR. ANDERSON: No, but that's the
terminology

20
21 MR. THOMAS: The same as the guy that

22
23 MR. ANDERSON: I know where you

24
25 MR. THOMAS: The same as the guy that was here
when we started.

27
28 MR. ANDERSON: he got his terminology at.

29
30 MS. LOWE: This

31
32 MS. ROBINSON: I'm sorry, this is this one.

33
34 MS. LOWE: Which goes where now?

35
36 MR. ANDERSON: He read the City of Hoonah's
Council's

38
39 MR. THOMAS: Tlingit and Haida.

40
41 MR. ANDERSON: And it's good to be consistent
all the way down.

43
44 MS. ROBINSON: While you're copying that, how
about -- do you want me read it out loud again

46
47 UNIDENTIFIED: Yes.

48
49
50

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MS. ROBINSON: while Ann's copying it down? Okay. Under -- okay. First of all, underneath -- Between "Chair" and "the removal of members" would be a new paragraph. It would be called "excused absences". It would read as follows: "A member shall submit in writing his or her reason for missing a regularly scheduled meeting, period. The Chairman will then excuse or not excuse the member's absence." And then in the next paragraph, under "removal of members," delete "misses three consecutive," and add the following: "Has three consecutive unexcused absences for."

10

11 MR. VALE: Friendly amendment?

12

13 MS. ROBINSON: Sure.

14

15 MR. VALE: Would you consider just saying, "The member would submit to the Chair the reasons for not making the meeting," and delete the "in writing" portion of it,

18

19 MS. ROBINSON: Sure.

20

21 MR. VALE: so that a phone call would be adequate to

23

24 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah, that's a good idea. So, "A member shall -- " What did you -- how did you say that?

26

27 MS. LOWE: "Submit the reasons."

28

29 MS. ROBINSON: "Submit the reasons for his or her missing a regularly scheduled meeting to the Chair."

31

32 MR. ANDERSON: Boy, I was in line, wasn't I?

33

34 MS. ROBINSON: What?

35

36 MR. ANDERSON: That's what I did with Bill Monday night. The night life.

38

39 MS. ROBINSON: I'm missing something.

40

41 MS. PHILLIPS: What was the first part again?

42

43 MS. WILSON: Excused absences.

44

45 MS. PHILLIPS: Three

46

47 MS. ROBINSON: I feel like I jumped in the middle of a conversation.

49

50

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1 MS. WILSON: Three consecutive excused
2 absences. Okay. Has three consecutive unexcused absences.
3
4 MS. PHILLIPS: Unexcused.
5
6 MS. WILSON: And that's it.
7
8 MS. PHILLIPS: From regularly scheduled
9 meetings.
10
11 MS. WILSON: Yeah.
12
13 MS. ROBINSON: Okay Did you get the -- did you
14 get the friendly amendment?
15
16 MS. LOWE: Yeah.
17
18 MS. ROBINSON: Good, 'cause I didn't.
19
20 MR. THOMAS: Okay. When you get to it, would
21 you read that, please? Would you read that again?
22
23 MS. LOWE: Okay. A motion's been made to add a
24 paragraph above "removal of members" that would read "excused
25 absences: A member shall submit the reasons for his or her --"
26 should

27
28 MS. ROBINSON: How about "submit to the Chair
29 Chairman his or her reasons for missing a regularly
30 scheduled meeting"?
31
32 MS. LOWE: Yeah, that's better. This one's
33 awkward.
34
35 MR. ANDERSON: And if you -- Mr. Chairman?
36
37 MR. THOMAS: Lonnie?
38
39 MR. ANDERSON: A lot of time you're -- the
40 Chair is not available. I would think that it would be very
41 logical to

42
43 MS. LOWE: To do the coordinator.
44
45 MR. ANDERSON: call Carol as the most --
46 and submit it to the Chair.
47
48 MR. VALE: She can submit for us, I would
49
50

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think.

1

2

MS. LOWE: Uh-huh.

3

4

MR. VALE: So long as he gets the word.

5

6

MR. ANDERSON: That I'm playing hookey.

7

8

MS. LOWE: Well, we can just put the "Chair or
the Coordinator".

10

11

MS. ROBINSON: Or Regional Coordinator.

12

13

MS. LOWE: Yeah.

14

15

MR. FELLER: Yeah. 'Cause it's hard to get
a hold of her, too, sometimes.

17

18

MR. THOMAS: Are you suggesting that Carol's
more available than I am? Or what

20

21

UNIDENTIFIED: Well, sometimes (indiscernible).

22

23

MR. FELLER: Who is available.

24

25

MS. ROBINSON: But it would be up to the
Chairman to give the, you know,

27

28

MR. ANDERSON: Report

29

30

MS. ROBINSON: grant the excuse or not.

31

32

MR. ANDERSON: the members.

33

34

MS. LOWE: Okay. I think I've got it now,
Chair.

36

37

MR. THOMAS: Okay.

38

39

MS. LOWE: Okay. The paragraph would read:
Excused Absences: A member shall submit to the Chairman or
Regional Coordinator reasons for missing regular scheduled
meetings. The Chairman will then excuse or not excuse the
member's absence." And then under the -- add new wording under
Removal of members" which would read in front of "consecutive"
and between "three," would read "has three consecutive
excused absences."

47

48

MS. ROBINSON: For regular

49

50

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1 MS. LOWE: So the word we're going to
2 insert between "three" and "consecutive" is "unexcused". We're
3 just inserting a word there, "unexcused".

4
5 Mr. Chair, is this open for discussion now?

6
7 MR. THOMAS: Yes, it is.

8
9 MS. LOWE: Okay. I don't think I have much of
10 a problem with the new paragraph, but I do have a problem with
11 "unexcused".

12
13 MS. ROBINSON: Your wording doesn't say what I
14 was trying to say, that you changed, Ann.

15
16 MR. ANDERSON: Well, Mr. Chairman?

17
18 MR. THOMAS: Lonnie?

19
20 MR. ANDERSON: I'd like to make a point. We
21 meet at the most two times a year.

22
23 MS. LOWE: That's what I was going to say.
24 All yield.

25
26 MS. ROBINSON: Okay.

27
28 MR. ANDERSON: Now, if a person can't make at
29 least one of those, he probably -- he or she or they should
30 be

31
32 MR. THOMAS: It.

33
34 MR. ANDERSON: It. History.

35
36 MR. THOMAS: You're out of here.

37
38 MR. ANDERSON: Yeah. And why go about drumming
39 up all of these verbiage, little details to complicate, and I
40 can miss the whole year every time I didn't want to come, or
41 write a letter to you or Carol and say, "Hey, I'm going fishing
42 this -- I'm going to be missing." I think if you are dedicated
43 enough to have put your name in, that you could be there at
44 least one, two times out of the three.

45
46 MR. THOMAS: I was letting this run its course.
47 What I was going to say was that I think that each member out
48 here has the integrity and the responsibility enough to fulfill

49
50

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these, and there's enough built in and given provisions for that, that -- but I'm just honoring whatever people want to do.
Ann?

3

4 MS. LOWE: Well, I probably -- under the
circumstances of knowing how few times we meet would have
gotten tougher. But they've made it three, and I guess I can
live with that, but I don't need to -- I don't think we need to
add the verbiage of whether they're excused or not, because
that's exactly what I sitting here thinking, a guy could get on
here, and we'd never ever see him. He'd just keep calling up
and having some

12

13 MS. ROBINSON: Always being excused.

14

15 MS. LOWE: excuse, and he'd still take up
a seat for somebody that should be here that can represent a
community.

18

19 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.

20

21 MS. LOWE: And you would have a voice that's
not being heard, because maybe they just got the position
because they thought it was some honor somewhere or something,
and not a work place. This is a work position, and so

25

26 MS. ROBINSON: But then what you would want to
take it out

28

29 MS. LOWE: Leave it like it is.

30

31 MS. ROBINSON: Leave it, but you could
also

33

34 MS. WILSON: How about putting "one"?

35

36 MS. ROBINSON: you could still have that
sentence there about submitting to the Chair or Regional
Council the reasons for missing

39

40 MS. LOWE: I don't even think he needs to
submit anything.

42

43 MS. ROBINSON: Uh-huh.

44

45 MS. LOWE: I don't think we need to have to be
treated like children, that we're missing school. If you miss,
you're out. If you miss three times, you're out. You --
somebody else needs to be here that can do the job.

49

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1 MS. ROBINSON: Uh-huh.
2
3 MR. THOMAS: But in order to protect yourself,
4 you might give me some clue if you're not going to be here,
5 instead of leaving it up to my creativity as to why you're not
6 here.
7
8 MS. ROBINSON: Uh-huh.
9
10 MS. LOWE: Uh-huh.
11
12 MR. THOMAS: 'Cause my
13
14 MS. LOWE: I -- just for common courtesy it's a
15 good idea to call the Chairman and say why you're not going to
16 be at a Council meeting.
17
18 MS. ROBINSON: Why not have it in writing?
19
20 MR. THOMAS: This goes down to John Feller.
21
22 MS. LOWE: Yeah.
23
24 MS. ROBINSON: John? John? Bill.
25
26 MR. FELLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
27
28 MS. LOWE: I mean, I don't think we need to
29 tell members that they need to call the Chair and make excuses
30 of why they're not there. They need to call, just because it's
31 a courteous thing to do.
32
33 MR. THOMAS: This is a very reputable
34 organization, and we're going to treat it as such.
35
36 MS. PHILLIPS: We've been given enough time,
37 advance notice on dates that we can, you know, be setting --
38 making arrangements to be here. I mean, we set in October the
39 date we were going to have this meeting. That is adequate
40 enough time to, even though I realize the weather played a
41 real
42
43 MS. LOWE: Bummer deal.
44
45 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, we had four months notice of
46 when we were going to meet and we were three days late in
47 starting.
48
49
50

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MS. PHILLIPS: Well, this is Alaska, and we all know the circumstances of, you know, of the weather.

2

3 MS. LOWE: There's -- obviously, like Patti's pointing out, there's going to be some unusual circumstances, but we all know that we should be able -- we should be planning, and if a death comes up in your family that day, or you die, or something, we'll take that into consideration, but I mean, really

9

10 MS. JORGENSEN: If you die, we might take it into consideration.

12

13 MR. THOMAS: No, death is not an excuse. Marilyn?

15

16 MS. WILSON: (Indiscernible, laughter) getting tired. I

18

19 MR. THOMAS: We've got to be out -- we've got to be out

21

22 MS. WILSON: We mentioned the fact, too,

23

24 MR. THOMAS: of here in 45 minutes.

25

26 MS. WILSON: that we were going to have maybe more than three meetings or two meetings a year.

28

29 MR. THOMAS: Well, the thing says two. At least two a year.

31

32 MS. JORGENSEN: A minimum of two.

33

34 MS. LOWE: Right. A minimum of two.

35

36 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, a minimum of two.

37

38 MS. WILSON: I think we would change it to one meeting. You miss one meeting, you're out.

40

41 MS. ROBINSON: That's pretty harsh.

42

43 MS. LOWE: That's harsh.

44

45 MR. THOMAS: That's harsh.

46

47 MS. WILSON: That's good.

48

49

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MS. ROBINSON: That's really harsh.

MR. ANDERSON: What if you die? You

MR. THOMAS: We're reputable to meet,

MS. LOWE: You're out. If you die, you're out.

MR. THOMAS: We're reputable, but not that
reputable.

MS. WILSON: Well, make it two.

MS. ROBINSON: I mean, I could see two more --
better than one.

MS. LOWE: Because there is

MS. ROBINSON: But one's too much.

MS. LOWE: you know, some folks did plan
to be here the dates we really had planned this to be, and they
had other activities they had to do Thursday and Friday. And,
I mean, we can't say, "Oh, you missed that one. You're gone,
you're history," you know. I mean, that was -- and that's an
excused absence. I mean, that's -- we just accept that. So I
think that this three is giving us more than enough latitude.

MR. THOMAS: Yeah, the way it's written is
fine.

MS. ROBINSON: Why don't we leave it as it is,
and

MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

MS. ROBINSON: give it a go until it's
time for the

MR. THOMAS: Well, let's

MR. ANDERSON: Mim, that was a good idea.

MR. THOMAS: For

MS. ROBINSON: It wasn't mine, it was
Richard's.

MR. THOMAS: For the record, let's dispose of

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the motion.

1

2 MS. LOWE: I don't think anyone ever seconded
3 it, sir.

4

5 MS. ROBINSON: It was never seconded. I
6 withdraw my motion.

7

8 MR. THOMAS: Send a memo to Richard to tell him
9 where to get off (ph).

10

11 MS. ROBINSON: That was easy, yeah?

12

13 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman, could I
14 explain

15

16 MS. ROBINSON: That's all I've got.

17

18 MR. THOMAS: Marilyn?

19

20 MS. WILSON: why? I need to explain why
21 I wanted to bring up that number nine again. We are -- we are
22 not representing just the communities we're from. We're
23 representing all of Southeast, and we submitted more than one
24 name from our community, and you have people write letters of
25 commendation from all over, from anywhere

26

27 MS. ROBINSON: Uh-huh.

28

29 MS. WILSON: for your -- the people you
30 want in there. And if it was like the State system, I would go
31 for it. We don't even have enough members to have it from each
32 community,

33

34 MS. ROBINSON: Uh-uh.

35

36 MS. WILSON: so until we can change it to
37 be a little better, maybe more people,

38

39 MR. THOMAS: A motion is in order.

40

41 MS. WILSON: to set it at 15. Well, we
42 already changed it.

43

44 MS. ROBINSON: We -- she was just getting her
45 reasons on there.

46

47 MS. WILSON: I just wanted to explain.

48

49

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1 MR. THOMAS: Oh, okay.
2 MS. WILSON: I already changed my mind.
3
4 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Where are we at?
5
6 MS. LOWE: We need to -- we're done.
7
8 MS. ROBINSON: I move that we adopt the
9 charter
10
11 MS. WILSON: Yes.
12
13 MS. ROBINSON: as amended.
14
15 MR. THOMAS: It's been moved to adopt the
16 charter as amended.
17
18 MR. VALE: Second.
19
20 MR. THOMAS: Second. Discussion?
21
22 MS. WILSON: Question.
23
24 MR. THOMAS: Staff analysis? Question.
25
26 UNIDENTIFIED: I'm lost.
27
28 MR. THOMAS: Call the roll, please? Let's take
29 a voice vote. All those in favor say "aye"?
30
31 ALL: Aye.
32
33 MR. ANDERSON: Unanimous.
34
35 MS. LOWE: Who seconded that?
36
37 MR. THOMAS: John.
38
39 MS. ROBINSON: He didn't ask if anyone is
40 opposed.
41
42 MS. WILSON: You didn't ask the opposed.
43
44 MR. THOMAS: Opposed?
45
46 MS. PHILLIPS: Aye.
47
48 MR. THOMAS: One opposed, with a capital "O".
49
50

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1 MS. LOWE: Passed, Mr. Chair, seven-one-zero.

2

3 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Okay. Carol, I need some
4 guidance on who's here and who's not here?

5

6 MS. LOWE: I need some paper, Carol.

7

8 MS. JORGENSEN: Mr. Chairman, as far as the
9 presentations go, on the -- they've all been canceled, but
10 there's some order of business we still need to -- we still
11 need for the record, while our reporter is here, we need to
12 discuss the Operations Manual, because that needs to go into
13 final, so that you've got an Operations Manual you can say is
14 not longer draft, and -- and then the -- that's probably all
15 that we need to do for the record.

16

17 And then there's the concern, Mr. Chairman, that the
18 Kenai C and T, we have a letter on that, and also this Council
19 needs to decide after reading the Kenai C and T, what they
20 want. This -- the reason is you would not normally discuss the
21 Kenai C and T, because it's not Southeast, but because the
22 report sets the measuring tool and the precedents from this
23 point on for all other regions, other Regional Councils have a
24 right to comment on it. So that's -- and it's there.

25

26 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Thank you.

27

28 (Off record conversation)

29

30 MR. THOMAS: What are you handing out, Carol?

31

32 MS. JORGENSEN: Operations Manuals.

33

34 MR. THOMAS: Oh, you have another one? I left
35 I left my duplications in the room, and I left some of my
36 originals there, too. Let's see.

37

38 (Off record conversation)

39

40 MS. JORGENSEN: Mr. Lockhart?

41

42 MR. LOCKHART: Yeah?

43

44 MS. JORGENSEN: On this one, is this any change
45 from this one? I sent -- we sent this one out, and that's the
46 one most Council members have. I notice we have now a
47 different colored?

48

49

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MR. LOCKHART: Carol, this is -- as you know, I'm very new into this, and this was the one that was handed to me. I do -- have not seen the blue ones, so I don't know where 3- I -- my understanding is that this is the latest draft. It was based on other comments, and we're going to be taking information from the Council, all the Councils on this, and rolling it into the approved document, (indiscernible, simultaneous speech) to the Board for signature, so this is like the last shot at making comments, as I understand it.

9

10 (Off record conversation)

11

12 MS. JORGENSEN: Okay. And as I'm noticing as I leaf through, there's a summary of changes to final draft operations. That -- oh, you have that.

15

16 MS. ROBINSON: Well, it came -- it's with my blue one, so I'm assuming that that brings my blue one up to date with the green one.

19

20 MS. JORGENSEN: I don't think so. I think the blue one has been preceded by the green one.

22

23 MR. ANDERSON: Even the green one is outdated.

24

25 (Off record conversation)

26

27 MR. THOMAS: Okay. We are looking at this. Okay. One of the -- one of the things I noticed on page 12, or right after page 11, was a flow chart.

30

31 MS. WILSON: After page 11?

32

33 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. On the flow chart, I would like to see the Regional Councils in there some place. See what our

36

37 MS. ROBINSON: Where we fit in?

38

39 MR. THOMAS: See where they, yeah, see how we're part of this, all part of this

41

42 MR. ANDERSON: Oh, there you are.

43

44 MR. THOMAS: part of this scheme.

45

46 MR. ANDERSON: Down here at the bottom.

47

48 MR. LOCKHART: Well, this

49

50

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1 MR. THOMAS: Well, that's coordinator.
2
3 MR. LOCKHART: is the Fish and Wildlife
4 Service

5
6 MS. LOWE: Flow chart.
7
8 MR. LOCKHART: office organizational
9 chart. I think what you're talking about in terms of us, and
10 maybe I'm misunderstanding what you're saying?
11

12 MR. THOMAS: Is there a flow chart that depicts
13 in the system?
14

15 MS. ROBINSON: Page five.
16

17 MR. LOCKHART: Well, I think this -- that's
18 what this is supposed to do in terms of providing input into
19 the whole regulatory

20
21 MR. THOMAS: Okay.
22

23 MR. LOCKHART: process, but -- on page
24 five.
25

26 MR. THOMAS: Oh, okay. Then I don't have a
27 question.
28

29 MR. LOCKHART: And I, you know, just from my
30 preliminary look at this, it looks like this could be
31 improved

32
33 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.
34

35 MR. LOCKHART: substantially.
36

37 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.
38

39 MR. LOCKHART: Because

40
41 MS. ROBINSON: It's confusing.
42

43 MR. LOCKHART: the general public
44 provides input to the agency staff, the agency staff provides
45 direct input as we did today to the Subsistence Regional
46 Advisory Council. There's a lot of different little dodges and
47 ends in there. And I think we can make this a little clearer.
48
49
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1 MS. ROBINSON: Uh-huh.
2
3 MR. LOCKHART: So we'll probably work on that.
4
5 MR. ANDERSON: In other words, the general
6 public doesn't really have to make any notice to the
7 subsistence -- regional subsistence, they could go directly to
8 the Board.
9
10 MR. LOCKHART: Absolutely. That's right. But
11 the Board gives deference to the Council. It's in the public's
12 best interest if they can bring things through the Council.
13
14 MS. ROBINSON: That's the reason for the heavy
15 back line?
16
17 MR. LOCKHART: Probably.
18
19 MR. ANDERSON: I would have put the -- put
20 general public a dotted line.
21
22 UNIDENTIFIED: Up to the Board.
23
24 MR. ANDERSON: That's the normal pattern in the
25 office protocol.
26
27 MR. LOCKHART: Okay. I'm just not sure what
28 all this -- I'll have to talk to the people that originated
29 this and find out what it all means. But any comments you have
30 on it like that are great, and I'll certainly take
31 (indiscernible).
32
33 MR. ANDERSON: Well, if I was from the general
34 public, I could -- I would assume that I'd have a readily
35 available channel to the Board. And we encourage them to use
36 the regional councils first, and then the dotted line would be
37 the alternative route.
38
39 MR. THOMAS: It doesn't matter what kind of
40 one you put there. It's going to be circumvented anyway.
41
42 MS. JORGENSEN: Mr. Chairman?
43
44 MR. THOMAS: Carol?
45
46 MS. JORGENSEN: I think that what I feel is
47 people still would like to review this, especially, the green,
48 water one. Is there an opportunity that they could get their
49
50

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comments in writing to say me or to you at a later -- for the sake of time, at a later times, so that they feel comfortable, and don't just bless this document if they're

3

4 MR. LOCKHART: I think that's an excellent idea. What -- probably the best way to facilitate this is maybe individually they supply comments to you and you construct a, you know, cumulative comments on this that will represent the Council's over-all recommendations on how they'd want to see it. And then maybe you could get that back out. And then if we could just get something in writing, you know, that would be probably the best.

12

13 MS. ROBINSON: What would be your deadline?

14

15 MR. LOCKHART: Well, we have council meetings going all the way up into March. And I'm not sure what the schedule of this is. I assume that they'll try to act on it probably, you know, in the spring meeting or something there. I'm not real sure. Carol, have you heard anything in terms of when they're trying to really get this thing finished?

21

22 MS. JORGENSEN: I know it's -- I know by the next meeting they want to have -- well, I know before that they want to have this done so that we've got guidelines that we can really count on. But you're right, up until the end of the last regional council meeting, we should have time to comment on this.

28

29 MR. LOCKHART: I still think there's plenty of time.

31

32 MS. LOWE: Mr. Chair, right off the bat, on page 31, we have already done it in our charter, and I think other places indicated that we wish to have our report go to the Secretary of the Interior with copies going to the Federal Board and to the Secretary of Agriculture. And if you'll look on page 31, that wording there needs to be cleaned -- cleared up to reflect what we've already acted upon in another document. So there are definitely things that we want to do here to make recommended changes to correspond to changes we've made in other areas. Are you looking where I'm looking, Mike? You're all

43

44 MR. LOCKHART: I am. I'm just -- I'm trying to get up to speed on it.

46

47 MS. ROBINSON: Do you have it marked in the charter?

49

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1 MS. LOWE: It says in dark print, "Each
Regional Council shall also file an annual ANILCA report with
the Chair of the Board," and it's in dark print there?

4

5 MR. LOCKHART: Uh-huh.

6

7 MS. LOWE: And this Council voted that we're
going to file our report with the Secretary of Interior and
send a copy of it to the Federal Board, and a copy to the
Secretary of Agriculture.

11

12 MR. LOCKHART: Yeah. I wish I could talk from
an educated standpoint on this. I really don't know what the
process is. In my understanding of the word annual report is
it goes to the Secretary, just, you know, from what I've heard,
and so this is kind of

17

18 MS. JORGENSEN: We've gone over and over this
in our meetings, and the coordinators, and it was delegated to
the Federal Subsistence Board, but the -- but the consensus was
from the coordinators from the groups that they've been talking
to, they want -- they want the Secretary of Interior and the
Secretary of Agriculture to get the original report, and it be
then sent, a copy to the Federal Subsistence Board. No
disrespect to the Federal Subsistence Board, because they're
certainly a body that governs, too, but they want that, because
this is with the Department of Interior and Department of Ag,
they want to make sure that copies are sent first to the
Secretaries.

30

31 MS. ROBINSON: Uh-huh. Because that's what it
says in ANILCA.

33

34 MS. LOWE: That's right.

35

36 MR. LOCKHART: Well, I'll -- you know, I'll --
I think that sounds -- from my standpoint, that sounds
perfectly reasonable. And what I'll have to do is talk to
Gavin a little bit more, but I don't understand some of this
language. It's the first time I've really seen it. But I'll
have to do some more research on it personally. I think you
commend doing that, and that will be the simple

43

44 MR. THOMAS: Well, anyway, we'll be offering
that change.

46

47 MR. LOCKHART: Right.

48

49

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MS. LOWE: Because evidently everything in dark print in here is added words? I mean, I'm beginning to kind of catch the gist of it. Page -- on page 32, it says "the Secretary should be addressed to the Board Chair." It says we're -- all correspondence that we might send to the Secretary should be addressed to the Board Chair. We don't want to do that.

7

MR. LOCKHART: Well, one of the things maybe that they're trying to say there though is that the Board has the delegation.

11

MS. LOWE: We realize that.

13

MR. LOCKHART: It's going to be kicked down to them anyway.

16

MS. LOWE: Fine.

18

MR. LOCKHART: So it's -- you know, it's fine. And I think as a matter of -- particularly for the reports, if they're supposed to go to the Secretary, it sounds to me like that's more than reasonable. If you're waiting for -- if you're trying to do something though, by initiating an action, say it's something outside of subpart D, and

25

MS. LOWE: Well, -- yeah.

27

MR. LOCKHART: and you want to look at A and B, which requires that the Secretary make the changes to the regulations, if you -- if you did that just by submitting something directly to the Secretary, nothing is going to happen. It's going to -- he's going to kick that back down to the Board to get a recommendation

34

MS. LOWE: Well, it will happen,

36

MR. LOCKHART: as well as staff (andiscernible).

39

MS. LOWE: just maybe take a little longer, is that what you're saying?

42

MR. THOMAS: Well, that's the system, and

44

MR. VALE: It's the way it should work.

46

MR. THOMAS: What?

48

49

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1 work.
2

3 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Yeah. Because if we're
4 going to have a loop, we might as well leave it intact. It's
5 kind of a squiggly loop, but it's a loop. In any case, the
6 other regions are going to have to embrace the same thing in
7 order for it to play anyway I think.

8
9 MR. LOCKHART: I'm sorry?

10
11 MR. THOMAS: This thing will work for the whole
12 state, won't it? This manual?

13
14 MR. LOCKHART: Yes.

15
16 MR. THOMAS: It will apply to all councils?

17
18 MR. LOCKHART: Yes.

19
20 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

21
22 MR. LOCKHART: And as I understood, one part of
23 the concern though is that some of the -- particularly in
24 Northwest Alaska and Western Alaska, they wanted to hear
25 directly from the Secretary as well, and, you know, with the
26 bureaucracy established the way it is, that's probably -- I
27 mean, they'll see something, but it will be drafted and
28 developed again by the Board for -- before the Secretary will
29 sign it.

30
31 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, I think -- I think one of
32 our charges is to make something work rather than to wrestle
33 (ph) it why it won't.

34
35 We've got 30 minutes in here in case, so we're going to
36 have to be gone. So what's the wishes here? Do you want to
37 take that and -- how are we going to deal with this? Are we
38 going to send all our stuff to them and assume that it's going
39 to be adopted by the rest of the members?

40
41 MS. LOWE: Mr. Chair, I would recommend that
42 the Council -- any Council members that wants to see changes to
43 the Operation Manual write those changes up and submit it to
44 Carol to forward for us in a timely manner.

45
46 MR. THOMAS: Right directly to the Board?

47
48 MS. LOWE: To Carol.

49
50

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1 MR. THOMAS: I mean, she would

2

3 MS. LOWE: Yes.

4

5 MR. THOMAS: forward them directly?

6

7 MS. LOWE: Right.

8

9 MR. THOMAS: Okay.

10

11 MS. WILSON: May I mention something real fast
before we close? I have something on page 29 that I would see
13 like to see added to, and "The Secretary of Interior
deciding after review of the State Advisory System, that the
State Fish and Game Advisory Committees were adequate and
fulfilled the responsibilities of Title Eight." They do not, I
don't think. But we need to add they can also be in there, but
we need to add other entities, too, so -- it seems to me.

19

20 MR. THOMAS: We've got 28 minutes before we're
out of here, so our time isn't

22

23 MS. WILSON: I just wanted to bring that up.

24

25 MR. THOMAS: All right.

26

27 MS. ROBINSON: Good point.

28

29 MR. THOMAS: Our time isn't growing, I just
wanted to remind you.

31

32 MS. ROBINSON: I'd put it in a new paragraph
though, 'cause that's just dealing with advisory committees.

34

35 MS. WILSON: Yeah.

36

37 MS. ROBINSON: I'd, you know, do a separate
paragraph for it.

39

40 MR. THOMAS: When are the pizzas getting here,
Mim?

42

43 MS. ROBINSON: You never ordered them.
Steamroller Bill just went moving right along.

45

46 MR. THOMAS: Thank goodness. I'm a lifesaver.

47

48 MR. ANDERSON: Engine Number One on this end of

49

50

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the table.

1

2

MR. THOMAS: Carol?

3

4

Manual now?

6

7

MR. THOMAS: Yeah.

8

9

MS. JORGENSEN: Okay. As you know, I sent you out -- xeroxed you copies of the Kenai C and T, and one of the reasons that I did that was again the coordinators and the rest of us were discussing this, and it has some very clear ramifications that will affect other regions, good or bad or different, but it definitely will affect the other regions, so I would like to quickly read you this letter that I was given -- brought down to, and it's to "Dear Advisory Council Chairs," but it's to the Council, "Please find enclosed for your review the draft policy options and proposed conclusions of the Kenai Peninsula Units Seven and 15 customary and additional use determination report dated January 1994. This document focuses on the Kenai Peninsula; however, this is the first time that the Federal Subsistence Board will be reviewing the existing eligibility determinations which were incorporated from an earlier State of Alaska decision. Since the Board will be considering alternatives which may have implications for determinations in other regions in Alaska, the Regional Coordinators have suggested that each of the Regional Advisory Council Chairs have an opportunity to review and offer comments on the policy discussion.

30

31

"The Board's decision regarding customary and additional use determinations on the Kenai Peninsula will take place in two phases: On February 15th," and that's why it's important we deal with this here, "1994, the Board will meet to act on preliminary determinations, which will be published as a proposed rule in the Federal Register. The proposed rule is then opened for public comment and reaction for 45 days. As noted on the enclosed schedule, the Southcentral Subsistence Regional Advisory Council met on January 28th, 1994 to review the background documents and provide comments prior to the preliminary decision. The Board's staff committee will meet on February 10, 1994, to prepare its recommendations. The second phase includes the steps leading up to the Board meeting of June 14, 1994, at which the final rule will be adopted. In preparation for the final decision, the Southcentral Council will meet during the week of May 2 and 6 -- through 6th, 1994 to offer a formal recommendation which, pursuant to Title Eight of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act,

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receives special consideration by the Board. The Board's staff committee will meet on May 26th, 1994 to prepare its recommendations for final decision.

3

4 "For additional information, please contact your
Regional Coordinator or Taylor Brelesford, Chief Social
Scientist Branch, 271-2310, or 1-800-478-1456.

7

8 "The Board appreciates your interest and involvement in
implementing the Federal Subsistence Management Program.
Sincerely Ronald B. McCoy, Interim Chair, Federal Subsistence
Board. Enclosures: Regional Council Coordinators."

12

13 I feel, and I know the other coordinators do, too, we
feel real concerned about this, because it could, looking at
the alternatives, have some serious implications in other
regions. And also the coordinators sat in on a meeting where
the social science staff gave a very good presentation to the
Kenai Regional Council. But there were concerns by the Kenai
Regional Council also. Things like Ninilchik and other areas
that, if you remember, Kenai is not viewed by the State as
rural at all, and so there's never been really -- there's been
State customary and traditional use studies, but the State has
not themselves, from the Division of Subsistence, even happy
with the studies completely, because there's never been a
serious -- and I can attest to this, having been the deputy
there when these studies went on, there was never real
comprehensive studies, plus they're outdated. But in these
studies made, the staff has used a lot of the information
there, but they've also gone out to the communities to some
extent, but there's also been a short time frame to do this.
It's been very difficult for staff. They've done as best they
can, but it's -- and my concern in listening to the Regional
Council and their concerns, too, I think there's some concerns
here, and so I hear things like it could eventually eliminate
communities, whole communities. Maybe Mr. Kanen would want to
speak on some of the things that the Forest Service has been
concerned about, too.

38

39 MR. THOMAS: Okay. Dale? Before you start,
have a seat.

41

42 (Off record conversation)

43

44 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, the xerox is what now. But
from my -- from my end of things, with the amount of reading
and studying we've had to do in such a short time, it would be
helpful to me if you would share with us some specific concerns
and some rationale behind it, so that we can have a place to at

49

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least establish an opinion or share the -- share the excitement around it. Dale, if you would?

2

3 MR. KANEN: Well, I sat in on a lunch hour
4 discussion of our agency's initial evaluation of the -- of the
5 Kenai C and T, and this isn't the final. This is all
6 preliminary. And I -- and not having read the document, I
7 really am almost a little nervous about working on rumor and
8 innuendo, but our initial -- from the Forest Service, the
9 initial assessment is that there are -- there are three
10 alternatives in the document I believe, and alternative A would
11 have an impact here in Southeast of eliminating all but about
12 10% of the population from any subsistence. The only
13 communities that would remain would be those probably the very
14 old, established, probably native communities. Perhaps Angoon
15 would be an example. A lot of the newer communities, or
16 perhaps not so traditional would be eliminated under
17 alternative A in this proposal, such as -- oh, excuse me, I've
18 been corrected, it's alternative C. That's the danger of
19 running on rumor. Communities that were used as an example
20 would be Petersburg, Wrangell, Sitka, Edna Bay, Port
21 Protection, Port Alexander. Those types of communities which
22 are newer. I believe alternative C eliminates

23

24 MR. THOMAS: Let me -- let me -- I've got it
25 right here. It's not very long, and it's in big print. I've
26 got alternative C right here. I just happened to turn to it.
27 I've never seen it before. "Conclusions applying to
28 alternative C." Will that be helpful?

29

30 MR. KANEN: It's probably conclusions as it
31 applies to the Kenai. This would be the effect if the same
32 strategy and policy is institutionalized and then carried
33 forward into our Region and applied, and our initial assessment
34 that only 10% of the population in Southeast Alaska would
35 continue to have subsistence protection.

36

37 MS. ROBINSON: We don't have this. I don't
38 have what you have.

39

40 MR. THOMAS: I knew that. I knew that.

41

42 MS. ROBINSON: You knew that, huh? I'm sorry.
43 just -- I don't -- I think it looks like there's two copies
44 that at the table here, and it's really hard to have a
45 discussion on it

46

47 MR. THOMAS: I've got -- I've got two copies,
48 but I believe that came in the mail.

49

50

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1 MS. ROBINSON: Without a copy of it.
2
3 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.
4
5 MR. KANEN: It's even harder to talk about it
6 without a copy.
7
8 MR. THOMAS: Yeah.
9
10 MS. ROBINSON: I mean, I don't have one, she
11 doesn't, she doesn't. I mean, I don't think any of us have
12 one. Carol and Bill have them.
13
14 MS. WILSON: Bill, what is that?
15
16 MR. THOMAS: This is the

17
18 MS. ROBINSON: All I have is the introduction.
19
20 MR. THOMAS: Which is the draft, Kenai
21 Peninsula Units 7 and 15, customary and traditional use
22 termination report.
23
24 MS. ROBINSON: All we've got is a copy of the
25 introduction, I believe.
26
27 MR. THOMAS: I -- the other copy I had, I left
28 in the room with a whole bunch of other papers, including my
29 manual and charter and -- the only thing I brought today was
30 the agenda. That's why I asked the question, because I didn't
31 even I did read it, I didn't know what to look for. Here,
32 here, you could read mine. Send one -- send one down to Mim.
33
34 (Off record conversation re copies)
35
36 MR. VALE: Mr. Chairman, I don't think we can
37 adequately analyze this here in the next half hour and deal
38 with it.
39
40 MR. THOMAS: We've got 17 minutes, we've got to
41 be out of here.
42
43 MS. WILSON: Let's have an audio conference on
44 it. I haven't even

45
46 MR. FELLER: Yeah.
47
48 MS. WILSON: had a chance to review it.
49
50

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1 MS. ROBINSON: We haven't even
2
3 MS. WILSON: I didn't know what he was talking
4 about.
5
6 MS. ROBINSON: We haven't even seen it, so, I
7 mean, how do
8
9 MR. KANEN: We just wanted to get your
10 attention.
11
12 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah. You got it. Well, is
13 there -- is there something then that you could say to us about
14 this without having read it, without really knowing what's in
15 there, that can speed this along and -- I mean, I don't even
16 know what we're going to be doing here.
17
18 MR. KANEN: I believe the other Regional
19 Councils are requesting an extension of the comment period.
20
21 MS. JORGENSEN: Yes, they are.
22
23 MS. ROBINSON: Well, I'd say I'd -- we ought to
24 ask that.
25
26 MS. WILSON: Yeah.
27
28 MR. KANEN: And under Section 805 I would
29 say
30
31 MR. VALE: We want more time.
32
33 MR. KANEN: that you have -- you're the
34 body that should be reviewing management
35
36 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.
37
38 MR. KANEN: strategies. That's one of
39 our duties.
40
41 MS. WILSON: Well, we shouldn't
42
43 MS. ROBINSON: So move.
44
45 MS. WILSON: Yeah, I would second.
46
47 MR. THOMAS: So as a Council, we'll support the
48 request for an extension.
49
50

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1 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.

2

3 MR. THOMAS: Carol?

4

5 MS. JORGENSEN: Okay. That pretty well takes
6 care of it. The other chairs along with Bill have had a
7 teleconference.

8

9 MR. LOCKHART: Well, I just wanted to -- you
10 know, I haven't really been involved in this very much. The
11 reason for the schedule was pushed like this is because it was
12 a decision that was made at the last Board meeting that said
13 they would try to get some answers on C and T for the Kenai
14 Peninsula by this next regulatory year. And so that's what's
15 driving it.

16

17 Now, as far as Dale's characterization, I can't really
18 say that I'm -- that I can attest that what he said is actually
19 accurate, because part of what happened in alternative C is to
20 my understanding is it reflected the to uses on federal lands,
21 which are more fragmented down there, particularly in some of
22 the communities -- the communities on the lower part of the
23 Peninsula.

24

25 MR. THOMAS: Well, I

26

27 MR. LOCKHART: So I don't know. And it's --
28 and certainly the reason that this came out is because of a
29 meeting we had in Anchorage where the other Council
30 coordinators hadn't been apprised of what was going on, and
31 everybody mutually agreed that the -- that the Councils need to
32 look at it. But there is -- there is a driving consideration
33 that we're trying to be responsive to the users -- user groups.
34 So a delay in one -- you know, one view, could impact
35 potential subsistence users there, too, and I -- you know,
36 beyond that, I think you need to look at it, and to the extent
37 you can, try to provide as good -- as much good information,
38 and maybe talk to the Southcentral committee -- Council
39 members.

40

41 MS. LOWE: When is the deadline for comment

42 e?

43

44 MR. THOMAS: If we wrote -- if we wrote a
45 letter with a single request, including one item, and said we'd
46 like a response back by February 15th, do you think we'd get it
47 back by then? No, we wouldn't. See, and so why should -- how
48 could they expect us to come up with this kind of a response in

49

50

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that amount of time?

1

2 MR. LOCKHART: I think certainly from the
3 standpoint of this -- if this process has implications to how C
4 and T will be entertained in your area, then certainly

5

6 MS. LOWE: It isn't an "if". It is.

7

8 MR. LOCKHART: Right. Then certainly you need
9 to be able to look at that, and I think the Board would
10 seriously consider the, you know, request to extend it. But I
11 just wanted you to be aware that there's other factors that are
12 driving that process, and there's,

13

14 MR. THOMAS: Yeah. Well,

15

16 MR. LOCKHART: you know, some subsistence
17 issues that are hanging there that have been

18

19 MR. THOMAS: We -- we -- we're

20

21 MR. LOCKHART: hanging for a long time
22 that they want resolved.

23

24 MR. THOMAS: We're aware of those factors, and
25 we respect them, but if we have -- if we don't learn how to use
26 them, then we won't know. If we're going to anticipate each
27 time and assume, we're not going to be very progressive. And I
28 think -- I think at least in my case, I have to get burnt or
29 get a sliver my hand before I know that the surface isn't
30 smooth. And I think that -- I don't know, unless the Council's
31 got other feelings?

32

33 MS. WILSON: We have a motion on the floor yet.

34

35 MR. THOMAS: No.

36

37 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.

38

39 MS. LOWE: Mr. Chair,

40

41 MR. THOMAS: Is there a motion?

42

43 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.

44

45 MS. LOWE: Mr. Chair, there's a motion on the
46 floor to request an extension deadline for comment on the C and
47 determination of the Kenai Peninsula. And I'd like to make a
48 friendly saying, did you guys notice this letter that she gave

49

50

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us in our packets as an example?

1

2 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.

3

4 MS. PHILLIPS: Right.

5

6 MS. LOWE: Would you include that in your
motion as this one to be sent?

8

9 MS. JORGENSEN: The wording will still be
m~~h~~assaged some, but

11

12 MS. PHILLIPS: I'll accept the amendment.

13

14 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.

15

16 MS. LOWE: Okay.

17

18 MS. PHILLIPS: Does the second concur?

19

20 MS. WILSON: Yeah.

21

22 MS. LOWE: Okay.

23

24 MR. THOMAS: Good.

25

26 MS. ROBINSON: That was cute, Lonnie.

27

28 MR. THOMAS: Yeah?

29

30 MR. KANEN: Just so it's -- so it's not
misunderstood by the agency, usually a comment period refers to
a 2 period after it comes out as a proposed rule in the Federal
R 3 e g i s t e r . As I understand it, you would like a chance to
c 4 o m m e n t and perhaps modify it prior to it ever being published
a 5 a proposed rule in the Federal Register?

36

37 MS. LOWE: That's exactly what we're saying.
H 8 o w come you don't know that?

39

40 MR. KANEN: You would like to -- you would like
1 perhaps review and modify it prior to -- before it goes to
2 r publics here in Southeast?

43

44 MS. WILSON: Yeah.

45

46 MS. LOWE: That's exactly what we've said in
7 his letter, right to the "T".

48

49

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MS. JORGENSEN: One of the concerns of the coordinators was also once -- even though it's still comment period and all of that, once it gets into the proposed rule, it's really difficult after that process.

4

MR. LOCKHART: Yeah, I guess I'd like to comment on that. I think historically that has been the case. Usually when there's a proposed rule developed, it's -- you know, that's pretty much what an agency has lined up. However, we have the new elements of having the Councils in there, and I think they could more heavily impact how a proposed rule will be modified. But I think -- I think it is, in the best of all worlds, it's certainly good for all the Councils to be up on board on how these C and T processes are going to be developed, because it's going to be done

15

MR. THOMAS: Well, and it's

16

17

MR. LOCKHART: over the course of a lot of years.

18

19

20

MR. THOMAS: It's a perfect opportunity to see how serious they are about wanting advisory councils.

21

22

23

MS. LOWE: Call for the question on the motion.

24

25

MR. THOMAS: Question has been called for. All those in favor say "aye"?

26

27

28

ALL: Aye.

29

30

MR. THOMAS: Opposed.

31

32

(There were no votes in opposition)

33

34

MS. LOWE: Passed unanimously, Mr. Chair.

35

36

MS. ROBINSON: Along the same lines of that, I'd like to make a motion that we send a letter to these Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture requesting funding for studies on subsistence in Southeast Alaska.

37

38

39

40

MR. THOMAS: You heard the motion. Is there a second?

41

42

43

44

MR. VALE: Excuse me. I think

45

46

MS. WILSON: Would that be under the Forestry Service?

47

48

49

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1 MR. THOMAS: Is there a second?
2
3 MR. FELLER: I'll second it.
4
5 MS. ROBINSON: It would go -- that's up to the
6 Secretaries to figure out.
7
8 MR. THOMAS: It's been moved and second.
9 Discussion?
10
11 MS. LOWE: Who seconded that? I didn't.
12
13 MR. THOMAS: John. John Feller.
14
15 MR. VALE: I think in order for us to request
16 funding, we should be specific as to what we want that funding
17 for. So

18
19 MS. ROBINSON: What I have in mind is the fact
20 that we're going to be making some C and T determinations at
21 some point down the road here, and it would sure be nice to
22 have some studies under our belt before we do that.
23
24 MR. VALE: I still think we need to be
25 specific, because we already have

26
27 MS. ROBINSON: Uh-huh.
28
29 MR. VALE: studies that have been, and --
30 like the Truck study, and maybe it's inadequate or
31 something,

32
33 MS. ROBINSON: What

34
35 MR. VALE: but if you have a specific --
36 I think you need more -- to be more specific than that?
37
38 MS. ROBINSON: Can you make a suggestion?
39
40 MR. VALE: No, I think we need to -- it's with
41 that's something that we should do. We should ask for
42 studies, but we need to know what information we want, and we
43 just shouldn't be jumping out there and saying we need money
44 for studies. We've got to be specific and point out exactly
45 what we want studied, and, you know, unless we're prepared to
46 that, I don't know if we should be asking for the funding
47

48
49
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1 MS. ROBINSON: Uh-huh.
2 MS. LOWE: Mr Chair?
3
4 MR. THOMAS: Ann?
5
6 MS. LOWE: I could live with a letter written
by -- in concert with you or whatever, written, asking for the
funding and identifying areas and then mailing it out to the
Council for approval. It's not like we have to rush this
letter about funding anywhere. And that would address John's
concerns about identifying exactly what we're going to need
this funding for, and then each Council member when they get a
copy of this, can add things that they think we ought to be
concerned about or what, and mail it back to Carol so it's at a
main place, and we can look at it and incorporate whatever
anybody's concerned about back into the letter.
17
18 MR. THOMAS: Well, treat the language of the
letter like you're receiving it. If I wrote -- If I wrote the
letter and said, "Ann, I need some money for a study," would
you write me a check and say, "Here's a check for a study"?
Probably not.
23
24 MS. LOWE: If I had lots of money, I'd give you
whatever you wanted.
26
27 MR. THOMAS: No, you wouldn't. Typical

28
29 MS. LOWE: If I had your money, I could do with
30 (indiscernible) got my money.
31
32 MS. WILSON: Does he type all this down?
33
34 MR. THOMAS: Speak into his sleeve.
35
36 MS. ROBINSON: There's a motion on the floor.
Are we going to

38
39 MS. LOWE: It's seconded. It's to write a
letter to the Secretary of Interior and Agriculture for
appropriate funding for studies on subsistence in Southeast.
42
43 MR. THOMAS: Further discussion?
44
45 MS. ROBINSON: Question.
46
47 MR. THOMAS: The question's been called. All
those in favor say "Aye"?
49
50

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1 ALL: Aye.
2
3 MR. THOMAS: Opposed?
4
5 MR. VALE: No.
6
7 MR. THOMAS: The motion carries with one no.
8
9 MR. VALE: Mr. Chairman?
10
11 MR. THOMAS: John?
12
13 MR. VALE: It looks like we're nearing
14 conclusion here. With regards to our next meeting, whenever
15 that takes place, you know, we've heard at this meeting and at
16 the last one, one of the most important issues from subsistence
17 community is protection of habitat for subsistence resources.
18 I'd like to make sure at our next meeting that we provide ample
19 time to address those issues, and I'd like to see reports from
20 the Forest Service on how they use -- protect subsistence
21 habitats in their managements, and I'd just like to make sure
22 we have adequate time at the next meeting to properly address
23 that. And I feel that we're -- and that's at least one day
24 that we're going to need.
25
26 MS. ROBINSON: Uh-huh. And PACFISH was missed,
27 and the bills.
28
29 MS. JORGENSEN: Mr. Chairman? And -- I'm glad
30 you've brought that up, to make sure that it's on the agenda
31 next time on the record. Because there was people waiting by.
32 They had full reports

33
34 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.
35
36 MS. JORGENSEN: and everything to give,
37 but, you know, in the interest of time and the weather, that
38 didn't happen. So they're ready, and, of course, they'll
39 update it as it goes along.
40
41 MR. THOMAS: Mim?
42
43 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah. The -- okay. And are
44 you, Carol, also considering the PACFISH thing, and?
45
46 MS. JORGENSEN: Uh-huh.
47
48 MS. ROBINSON: Okay. The one item that we
49
50

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missed here that I assume wouldn't be on the next agenda, because it would be in the fall, would be the legislative bills affecting the Council. And what I would request is that we get a letter or a report or something from Russell Heath, whoever that is, and -- summarizing the bills maybe and how they affect the Council, so that we can act on those now. I think that would be helpful.

7

8 And also I would -- I'd like to request that a federal legal counsel be -- you know, attorney, be present at our -- any future meetings that we have to advise us on the legality of proposals that we're making or, amendments to proposals. I think it's really, really necessary and critical to have someone there to answer the questions as they occur. I don't know if that needs to be in the form of a motion or not, but

16

17 MR. VALE: I don't think so. I think anybody can make that request.

19

20 MR. ANDERSON: Are you emphasizing that things have done illegally in these

22

23 MR. THOMAS: She recognized the potential for that.

25

26 MR. ANDERSON: Potential.

27

28 MS. LOWE: Are we going to set another meeting some now?

30

31 MS. JORGENSEN: That would be good.

32

33 MS. ROBINSON: I'm not -- I'm not done yet. The -- I see there's a copy of a letter, thank you, Carol, about modifications for future Federal Registers, with bracketing and underlining and stuff. And there's just a correction at the very end, on the word "address," it should be "addressed." I just -- I -- it didn't look like that was going to get mentioned, and I thought that

40

41 MS. LOWE: I never saw it.

42

43 MS. ROBINSON: Do I have the only copy?

44

45 MS. JORGENSEN: Yeah, I handed it out (indiscernible).

47

48 MS. LOWE: Oh. I haven't had a chance to look

49

50

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at it.

1

2

But

4

5

6

7

Haven't

9

10

11

12

13

14

We need -- I mean, it looks good to me. I don't know. We never talked about it, so I thought I should bring it up.

17

18

real quick?

20

21

MS. ROBINSON: Sure. "Office of the Federal Register, Washington, D.C., Director of the Federal Register. At the October 6th to 7th Southeast Alaska Federal Subsistence Advisory Council meeting held in Sitka, Alaska, the Southeast Council made a number of recommendations. One of these recommendations entailed changing the Federal Register's format. The Federal Regional Advisory Council has had many years of experience working with State and federal regulations. Based on the declaration to simplify government, eliminate bureaucratic legalese, relate and communicate effectively with our publics, it was moved and seconded to ask the Office of the Federal Register to seriously consider some modifications. The modifications would entail bracketing all potential changes to the regulations that would be omitted from the present regulations if passed, and underlining all potential changes to be added to the regulation proposal if passed.

37

38

"The Federal Regional Advisory Council realizes that this is an unusual request and one that would affect the Federal Register nationwide. But if the public's participation is important and critical, this request will help eliminate some of the binding red tape and complexity to the regulation process. The Council believes that this is not an unreasonable request, and would clarify and simplify nationwide the regulatory process. It is the hope of the Council that this issue will be addressed. Sincerely, William Thomas, Chairman," cetera. And it's cc'd to one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight different places, including our Council.

49

50

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1 MS. LOWE: I would like just to add the words
 2 after Bill's name, Chairman, Southeast Federal Subsistence
 3 Regional Advisory Council.

4
 5 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah, we need to get the title
 6 right. And maybe we can put our little -- the words, you know,
 7 the

8
 9 MR. THOMAS: The little acronyms?

10
 11 MS. ROBINSON: The acronym.

12
 13 MS. LOWE: After that parenthesis, so

14
 15 MS. ROBINSON: And use it.

16
 17 MS. LOWE: Right.

18
 19 MR. THOMAS: What about our logo?

20
 21 MS. LOWE: We haven't got that yet.

22
 23 MS. ROBINSON: We've got to -- I'll see if I
 24 can come up with one.

25
 26 MS. LOWE: Glad you brought it up.

27
 28 MR. LOCKHART: I'm impressed, Bill, you're
 29 taking on the Federal Register.

30
 31 MS. ROBINSON: Mike, that was -- Mike, that was
 32 my motion.

33
 34 MR. THOMAS: That was -- that's a paper
 35 reduction act. Does it go under that?

36
 37 MS. LOWE: That's right,

38
 39 MS. ROBINSON: Yes. Yes.

40
 41 MS. LOWE: we're going after the paper
 42 reduction act. They're next.

43
 44 MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Chairman, we haven't
 45 discussed the next meeting.

46
 47 MS. LOWE: Is there -- was there a motion to
 48 accept the letter, or do we need one? Or, Mr. Chair, can you

49
 50

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can you just order it?

1

2 MS. WILSON: No, it's already been

3

4 MS. ROBINSON: It was already done at the last
meeting. I had some -- a list of recommendations on -- that
are -- that are just sort of general, and I don't know what to
do with them, if you guys want to hear what they are. There's
like four or five of them or something, or if I should just
write a letter and send it?

10

11 MS. LOWE: Can we have them at the next
meeting?

13

14 MS. ROBINSON: Well, they need to be heard
before the next meeting, because they have to do with the kind
of materials that we have to work with, and how things happen
and

18

19 MS. WILSON: How long would it take you to
read?

21

22 MS. ROBINSON: Not very long.

23

24 MS. WILSON: (Indiscernible) read.

25

26 MS. ROBINSON: I can just read it real quick
and I'll write something up, too, and send it in. How about if
I do that?

29

30 MR. THOMAS: While she's doing that, somebody
be thinking about the next meeting, too?

32

33 MS. ROBINSON: Okay. Let's see. Okay. First
of all, I wanted to make sure, Carol, that you got the message
that we all need copies of ANILCA, that little orange book or
something that people have had. I think that's what that is.
That's really important, I think.

38

39 Also Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service
need to give overviews of Southeast before taking up proposals,
and prior to public testimony. For example, in an overview
they could cover the health of the species, their range,
general descriptions of issues in certain units, things like
that. Specific comments and questions can occur during
discussion of specific proposals later on. This would put
Council members in a better position of understanding public
testimony and thus asking better informed questions of people
that are testifying.

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1 Also, a public comment time needs to be provided for
2 those testifying that want to speak in general terms, you know,
3 on general issues, or cannot stay for the entire meeting. I
4 think that needs to happen right, you know, like maybe right
5 after the Department or the different staff people do their
6 presentation.

7

8 Let's see. Also, I feel that we need an accurate list
9 of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, and ADF&G
10 recommendations on proposals. That was sort of embarrassing
11 that I had this list and when I commented on the fact, and it
12 was inaccurate. That's a real drag. It was helpful having
13 that there. Just make sure that it's up to date.

14

15 MR. KANEN: I would like to see that.

16

17 UNIDENTIFIED: You got -- she got ahold of a
18 list she wasn't supposed to have.

19

20 MR. VALE: Yeah.

21

22 MS. ROBINSON: Well, somebody gave it to me. I
23 don't know. And it was helpful. It's nice to have a real
24 short sheet with just a real quick glance what, you know, --
25 where people stand.

26

27 And then one more, just one more thing.

28

29 MS. WILSON: Hurry.

30

31 MS. ROBINSON: We need background or
32 justification and background for proposed changes for each
33 proposal, and information should include the proposer of the
34 proposal. And what I'm referring to is the stuff from the
35 Forest Service that Dale gave to some people, and it had a lot
36 of really good background information and justification, and it
37 was extremely helpful on those proposals that had -- you know,
38 that dealt with the issues. I mean, I didn't have them for all
39 of the proposals that we looked at, but they were there for the
40 ones that were dealing with Forest Service proposals. Is that
41 correct?

42

43 MR. KANEN: Yeah.

44

45 MS. ROBINSON: Okay.

46

47 MR. KANEN: Well, they dealt with ones in the
48 Chatham area

49

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1 MS. ROBINSON: Okay. All right.
2
3 MR. KANEN: had done, and I
4
5 MS. ROBINSON They were very
6
7 MR. KANEN: didn't have those for the
8 other areas.
9
10 MS. ROBINSON: very good, and I think
11 that that's the kind of information that helps us to make good
12 decisions, and it should be provided for every single proposal
13 that we deal with, no matter who the maker of the proposal is.
14
15 MS. JORGENSEN: Mr. Chairman, just to comment
16 on that, and I have that background data, I would be most happy
17 to be able to give that to you. Also, in the future, I would
18 be -- you know, we have these as they design them, these teams
19 which I think are very good, but I would like the freedom to be
20 able to send out my comments on those proposals, because a lot
21 of my comments weren't in that, in the presentation and the
22 analysis, and so just -- I'm a real believer in public
23 information anyway, and so anything put on paper would go out.
24 So I think that's a good suggestion.
25
26 MS. LOWE: I just want to suggest to the
27 Coordinator that it would really be nice if she would make up a
28 list of the membership and -- so that I had a roll call list
29 with vote things beside it.
30
31 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah. Really.
32
33 MR. THOMAS: I thought you did pretty good.
34
35 MS. LOWE: Yeah, but I want her to do it.
36
37 MR. ANDERSON: Yeah, but that can be -- the way
38 the list is made up could sway certain votes in this.
39
40 MS. LOWE: Well, that's why I called different
41 people first.
42
43 MS. JORGENSEN: That's something that we put
44 together in-house just -- it's a briefing document that we give
45 it sometimes to like if we go to CENTS (ph) or we go to some
46 of these others, what's the mission, what's the statement, and
47 on.
48
49
50

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1 MS. ROBINSON: For Regional Councils?
2
3 MS. JORGENSEN: For anybody.
4
5 MS. ROBINSON: I mean -- but I mean, it's your
6 public -- it says "strategic plan, subsistence management on
7 the national forests of Alaska," so

8 MS. JORGENSEN: Right.
9
10 MS. ROBINSON: so that's what -- so this
11 is a handout that you give to people?
12
13 MS. JORGENSEN: Right.
14
15 MS. ROBINSON: Okay. Thank you.
16
17 MS. JORGENSEN: There will be a brochure
18 coming. The brochure has been in the making for a very long
19 time, and that should be coming out soon, too.
20
21 MS. ROBINSON: Okay.
22
23 MS. LOWE: What is a date, Carol that we could
24 have our next meeting?
25
26 MS. JORGENSEN: There wasn't dates ever talked
27 about for our next meetings in the next go-around in the time
28 frame of what -- there's usually a spring and a fall meeting.
29 September was something that was being discussed, but

30
31 MS. LOWE: We want one

32
33 MS. JORGENSEN: it was never locked in.
34
35 MS. LOWE: Right. We want one this spring
36 again, because we have got business that we have not completed.
37 This year, this spring.
38
39 MR. LOCKHART: That process, as I understand
40 it, would be to develop a tentative agenda and -- of what you
41 want to talk about and when you want to do it, and then send it
42 through, and you've got to approve the agenda.
43
44 MS. LOWE: Okay.
45
46 MS. ROBINSON: Ann, are you referring to the
47 items on the agenda that we haven't gotten to yet, that we were
48 that

49
50

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1 MS. LOWE: Those, and what John was talking
 2 about. We need to

3

4 MS. ROBINSON: Uh-huh.

5

6 MS. LOWE: we've got EIS's coming up here
 7 pretty -- we do have some right now that are due in the Forest
 8 Service program. And things like that, and we wanted to have a
 9 presentation and address those things. We don't want to wait
 10 for a year to pass to do it.

11

12 MS. JORGENSEN: Also, before I forget, there
 13 will be a chairman and possibly vice chairman meeting with the
 14 Federal Subsistence Board in April, is that correct?

15

16 MR. LOCKHART: The Chair. It's set up so that
 17 the Chair can be there. You

18

19 MS. JORGENSEN: And there was conversation at
 20 the coordinators meetings that the vice chairs be there, too.

21

22 MR. LOCKHART: Okay. I'm not aware of that.
 23 The way it's set up now, as I understand it, is the Chair will
 24 represent the Council during all the deliberations. Or the --
 25 you know, or the designated if not the Chair.

26

27 MS. ROBINSON: So do we want to have

28

29 MR. VALE: The question that Ann raised,

30

31 MS. ROBINSON: another meeting?

32

33 MR. VALE: excuse me, Mim.

34

35 MS. ROBINSON: Yeah, go ahead.

36

37 MR. VALE: The question that Ann raises then,
 38 are we going to meet again this spring to take up, for example,
 39 habitat issues, or are we waiting until next fall to take those
 40 up? I guess we need to, you know, to get some input from
 41 Council members whether or not they want to go -- do another
 42 meeting this spring, or shall this be something that we tackle
 43 next fall?

44

45 MR. THOMAS: Mim?

46

47 MS. ROBINSON: Well, one of the advantages I
 48 see of meeting this spring on this, is to be developing some

49

50

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proposals that we would submit and go over at our fall meeting. I think that it's going to require some time, more than what we're going to have next fall to do a good job of it.

3

4

MS. LOWE: Also we could probably start looking at our annual report for next year.

6

7

MS. ROBINSON: Yeah.

8

9

MS. JORGENSEN: Uh-huh.

10

11

MR. THOMAS: Carol?

12

13

MS. JORGENSEN: Can I poll all -- because of time and nobody has their calendars in front of them, can I next week poll everybody and call them?

16

17

MS. ROBINSON: On the fall?

18

19

MS. WILSON: It has to be before May.

20

21

MS. JORGENSEN: That's when I leave. You know, everybody has different opinions.

23

24

MR. ANDERSON: Why May?

25

26

(Off record conversation and laughter)

27

28

MS. JORGENSEN: Because of -- but what -- because also what is happening is they've got us intermittently also going at different times up to Anchorage.

31

32

MR. THOMAS: I have my calendar made up until June, so I'll fax you a copy.

34

35

MR. VALE: Sounds good.

36

37

MS. ROBINSON: Yeah, that would be fine.

38

39

MS. JORGENSEN: Dale?

40

41

MR. KANEN: Ann, April 27th is Secretary's Day.

42

43

MS. LOWE: Is what?

44

45

MR. KANEN: Secretary's day.

46

47

MS. ROBINSON: April 27th?

48

49

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1 MS. LOWE: Secretary's Day. Yeah, it's
2 Secretary's Day. I want red roses.

3 MR. THOMAS: By all means. By all means.
4

5 MS. JORGENSEN: Meet in April? Is that a
6 suggestion?

7
8 MS. ROBINSON: Well, the -- shouldn't it be --
9 would it be better to have it before the Subsistence Board
10 meets? Or does it -- would it make any difference for us?

11
12 MR. THOMAS: April is really a full month for
13 me, but let's see what happens. Gabe might have to be called
14 into action. Yeah, time for us to go.

15
16 MS. LOWE: Motion to adjourn.

17
18 MR. THOMAS: Motion to adjourn. All those in
19 favor say "aye".

20
21 ALL: Aye.

22
23 MR. ANDERSON: Opposed the same sign? No.

24
25 MR. THOMAS: Opposed the same sign.

26
27 MR. ANDERSON: No.

28
29 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

30
31 * * * * *

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21 THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party
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