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1 SOUTHEAST ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE  
2 REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

3  
4 VOLUME I

5  
6 Craig, Alaska  
7 October 6, 2003  
8 9:00 o'clock a.m.

9

10

11 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

12

13 John Littlefield, Chairman

14 Bert Adams

15 Mike Douville

16 Dolly Garza

17 Don Hernandez

18 Harvey Kitka

19 Floyd Kookesh

20 Patricia Phillips

21 Richard Stokes

22 Marilyn Wilson

23

24 Regional Coordinator, Robert Schroeder

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

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3 (Craig, Alaska - 10/6/2003)

4

5 (On record)

6

7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The meeting will  
8 come to order, please take your seats.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 The first order of business is to have the  
13 invocation. This is a custom of the Regional Advisory  
14 Council so I'd like to call on my older brother, Mr. Bert  
15 Adams, to give the invocation.

16

17 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 Before I give the prayer, would it be appropriate for me to  
19 say a few words.

20

21 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes.

22

23 MR. ADAMS: Thank you. I want to tell you  
24 a Yakutat story, and it's a story of Raven when he was out  
25 flying way high in the sky and he was looking for food for  
26 his people after he created the world with people on it but  
27 they didn't have any food and here he was, he was flying  
28 between the Aukwa River and Dry Bay. And out in the ocean  
29 he sees this real big huge canoe, and he flied out there  
30 and realizes that in that canoe there were all of the fowls  
31 of the air and all of the game and the fish from the bottom  
32 of the ocean and the salmon, they were all placed in  
33 compartments, you know, the king salmon, the sockeye, the  
34 pinks and the chums and the cohos. And he goes back to  
35 shore and he carves out a real long staff that was  
36 patterned after the arm of an octopus and he reaches out  
37 and he pulls that real large canoe into shore. And when he  
38 got it to shore there's a place on the Aukwa River about  
39 eight miles from the mouth of the rivers there's trees on  
40 the high sandy bank and then there's about a maybe two and  
41 a half, three mile portion of that that's all sand, we call  
42 it the sand dunes and then the tree line begins again. And  
43 that's where Raven put his footprints into the sand when he  
44 was pulling in this real big arc, and it's still there.  
45 Nothing grows there. And we call it Ethesis (ph)  
46 footprints.

47

48 And we got that arc to the shore, he  
49 started letting out all of the animals, okay, the fowls of  
50 the air and the game and the halibut and the bottom fishes,

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1 they all went down to the bottom of the ocean. He was kind  
2 of different with the salmon because he let the king salmon  
3 out first, they were all in their nice compartments, and  
4 then after a bit he let out the sockeyes and then came the  
5 humpies and the dog salmon and lastly the cohos. And  
6 that's how come we have these seasons, you know, the  
7 silvers -- I mean the chinooks come in first and then the  
8 sockeye and then the others and ending up with the cohos.  
9 And so that's how he put the food upon the earth.

10

11                   And one of the commissions that he gave to  
12 the people is that they should use it wisely and that we  
13 should be held responsible, you know, for all of the  
14 resources, that we don't take any more than what we need,  
15 that there is plenty there for us, and that we need to  
16 manage our resources wisely.

17

18                   And so I wanted to share that with you so  
19 as to set the course or the kind of theme or the setting of  
20 this meeting for us today. So with that I would be happy  
21 to give the invocation.

22

23                   (Invocation)

24

25                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. The next  
26 item on the agenda would be the roll call and I'll ask Dr.  
27 Schroeder to do that.

28

29                   DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, normally  
30 Marilyn Wilson does the roll call. Marilyn had weather  
31 problems and she's expected in this morning about 10:00  
32 a.m. so I'll do the roll call.

33

34                   Mr. Adams.

35

36                   MR. ADAMS: Present.

37

38                   DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Kookesh.

39

40                   MR. KOOKESH: Here.

41

42                   DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Hernandez.

43

44                   MR. HERNANDEZ: Present.

45

46                   DR. SCHROEDER: Ms. Garza.

47

48                   DR. GARZA: Here.

49

50                   DR. SCHROEDER: And I need to apologize to

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1 Dr. Garza for the omission of her name in the membership  
2 list. It was an oversight on the part of Federal Staff.

3

4 Mr. Stokes.

5

6 MR. STOKES: Here.

7

8 DR. SCHROEDER: Mary Rudolph is not able to  
9 attend the meeting, she called and told me that she had  
10 family issues that she needed to deal with in Hoonah.

11

12 Ms. Phillips.

13

14 MS. PHILLIPS: Present.

15

16 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Douville.

17

18 MR. DOUVILLE: Here.

19

20 DR. SCHROEDER: And Mr. Kitka.

21

22 MR. KITKA: Here.

23

24 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, we have a  
25 quorum.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Having  
28 a quorum, the business of the Southeast Alaska Subsistence  
29 Regional Advisory Council is now in order. The next item,  
30 if you'll turn to Page 5 in your Board books, if you're  
31 following along, the next item is three, welcome and  
32 introduction.

33

34 First, I'd like to introduce myself. My  
35 name is John Littlefield. I'm from Sitka. I'm the acting  
36 Chair of the Regional Advisory Council. And I'd like to  
37 take this opportunity to welcome all of the Council members  
38 that could make it, as well as Staff and at this time I'm  
39 going to turn it over each Council member and let them  
40 introduce themselves, and then Dr. Schroeder will lead the  
41 Staff, will do the introductions. And then we'd like each  
42 of you in the audience to introduce yourself, too, please.  
43 So let's start down here with Mr. Hernandez.

44

45 MR. HERNANDEZ: My name's Don Hernandez.  
46 I live in Point Baker, which is here on Prince of Wales  
47 Island.

48

49 MS. PHILLIPS: I'm Patricia Phillips. I'm  
50 from Pelican, Alaska in the northern end of Southeast

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1 Alaska.

2

3 MR. DOUVILLE: Mike Douville. I live in  
4 Craig, and welcome to Craig.

5

6 MR. STOKES: I'm Dick Stokes from Wrangell.

7

8 MR. ADAMS: I'm Bert Adams, Sr., from  
9 Yakutat.

10

11 MR. KOOKESH: Floyd Kookesh from Angoon.  
12 I've been a member for four years.

13

14 MR. KITKA: Harvey Kitka, Sitka Alaska.

15

16 DR. GARZA: Kilslaay Gaauga, Kulgaat  
17 Gaauga, Xdada Laisis. Iljuuwas diuau uu iijaug. Suteene  
18 diaau uu iijang. Skungwaii hinu dii gaga.

19

20 Chiefs. Ladies held in high esteem. Good  
21 people.

22

23 I am the granddaughter of Elizabeth Gardner  
24 from Howcan, the daughter of Murna Garza from Craig, and my  
25 name is Dolly Garza. I am also a Tiin neh dee yaada, which  
26 is the Dog Salmon Clan from Klawock, my father's clan.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Gunalcheesh.  
31 Dr. Schroeder, if you could lead the Regional Staff and  
32 OSM.

33

34 DR. SCHROEDER: First, I'm Bob Schroeder.  
35 I'm the subsistence coordinator for Forest Service for  
36 Southeast. And I'd like Cal Casipit to introduce the  
37 fisheries staff.

38

39 MR. CASIPIT: Yes, my name is Cal Casipit.  
40 I'm the subsistence Staff fisheries biologist in the  
41 regional office of the Forest Service. With us today is  
42 Terry Suminski from Sitka, our biologist in Sitka. We have  
43 Ben Va Alen from Juneau. I don't think he's here, but,  
44 Robert Larson, when he comes in is from Petersburg. And  
45 unfortunately Jeff Reeves couldn't be with us from Craig,  
46 he had a family emergency and he won't be with us this  
47 week.

48

49 DR. SCHROEDER: And Marty, can you  
50 introduce yourself and your staff who might be present.

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1 MR. MEYERS: Yeah, Marty Meyers, the  
2 subsistence law enforcement coordinator for the Forest  
3 Service. And also with me today is Ken Pearson who's going  
4 to be this week who is the subsistence enforcement officer  
5 for the Tongass National Forest.

6  
7 DR. SCHROEDER: And Steve, could you  
8 introduce the Federal Staff from Anchorage. It's a test  
9 for you.

10  
11 MR. KESSLER: Let's see if I can introduce  
12 everyone. I'm Steve Kessler with the Forest Service, based  
13 out of Anchorage. Maureen Clark, Maureen is public affairs  
14 with the Office of Subsistence Management in Anchorage.  
15 Raise your hand if I can't see you. Doug McBride, Doug is  
16 with FIS, Fisheries Information group.

17  
18 DR. SCHROEDER: Marty, can you turn your  
19 mike on there please.

20  
21 MR. KESSLER: Is that better?

22  
23 DR. SCHROEDER: (Nods affirmatively)

24  
25 MR. KESSLER: All right. Pete Probasco is  
26 also with the Office of Subsistence Management in  
27 Anchorage. Glenn Chen with the Bureau of Indian Affairs in  
28 Anchorage. Warren Eastland with Bureau of Indian Affairs  
29 in Juneau. Both of them are members of the Staff  
30 Committee. Who did I miss? Amy Medeiros with Office of  
31 Subsistence Management in Anchorage also, and that's it, I  
32 think.

33  
34 DR. SCHROEDER: Now, let's see, do we have  
35 any other Federal Staff here who we may have missed?

36  
37 And how about State Staff, Marianne, would  
38 you introduce State Staff or perhaps people want to  
39 introduce themselves as well.

40  
41 MS. SEE: Yeah, I will. My name is  
42 Marianne See, I'm with the State Department of Fish and  
43 Game, and I serve as a liaison to the Federal Subsistence  
44 Program. I'm also with the Division of Subsistence. We  
45 have Division of Subsistence Staff here as well, Mike  
46 Turek, who's our regional supervisor. Nancy Ratner who's  
47 one of our researchers and we have sportfish statewide  
48 coordinator as well, Larry Boyle. And are there other  
49 sportfish staff here -- not, yet, there will be. So that's  
50 -- oh, okay.

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1 MR. MCCARTY: I'm Steve McCarty (ph), I'm  
2 a sportfish biologist here in Craig.

3  
4 MS. SEE: Thanks, Steve. Will there be  
5 other Staff coming?

6  
7 MR. MCCARTY: Tom Brookhover will be down  
8 tomorrow.

9  
10 MS. SEE: Okay, Tom Brookhover will be  
11 coming tomorrow. Jesse Dizard is also here, our statewide  
12 Subsistence Division research director who's fairly new to  
13 that position and is glad to be here, as we all are, to  
14 participate in the meeting and assist you.

15  
16 Thank you.

17  
18 DR. SCHROEDER: And do we have tribal  
19 representatives. Robi.

20  
21 MS. CRAIG: Thank you. My name is Robi  
22 Craig and I work for the Sitka Tribe. And I'd like also to  
23 introduce Doug Dobyns, who is the interim tribal biologist  
24 for Jack Lorrigan who is up at EPA right now for a year.  
25 And Helen Dangel will also be coming from Sitka also on  
26 Wednesday.

27  
28 DR. SCHROEDER: And we're being visited  
29 today by a special BIA funded project. Ida, would you  
30 introduce that project, please.

31  
32 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
33 Council. I'm Ida Hildebrand of Hildebrand Consulting. And  
34 I'm here with Jonathan Butzke. Jonathan, would you stand  
35 up, he's the videographer that has the contract with the  
36 BIA to create the subsistence videos. And Francine Taylor,  
37 who's also with him.

38  
39 DR. SCHROEDER: And could we have community  
40 members and guests introduce yourselves. Let's see, did I  
41 miss Doug McBride of the Federal Staff, excuse me, Doug.

42  
43 MR. MCBRIDE: No, you got me.

44  
45 MS. PETERSHOARE: I'm Lillian Petershoare  
46 with the Forest Service. I'm from the regional office in  
47 Juneau. I work in civil rights and tribal government  
48 relations.

49  
50 DR. SCHROEDER: Excuse me, if I missed any

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1 of the Staff members. I know there'll be quite a few other  
2 Forest Service Staff members coming in and out of the  
3 meeting. They're probably off doing work for us right now.  
4 Do we have members of the public and community, please  
5 identify yourselves.

6

7 MR. CHRISTIANSON: I'm Anthony Christianson  
8 and I'm here for the HCA, the Hydaburg Cooperative  
9 Association.

10

11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ladies and gentlemen  
12 if you could come forward and speak into the mike, this is  
13 all recorded and they need you to speak up.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 MR. CHRISTIANSON: My name is Anthony  
18 Christianson and I'm here with the Hydaburg Cooperative  
19 Association.

20

21 REPORTER: You have to turn the mike on.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Nothing like being put  
26 on the spot today, uh, right away.

27

28 REPORTER: Thank you.

29

30 MR. CHRISTIANSON: All right. Okay, my  
31 name is Anthony Christianson, I'm here with the Hydaburg  
32 Cooperative Association. I work in the Environmental  
33 Department for the planning department, and I also work on  
34 some fishery projects, specifically the Hetta Lake, the Eek  
35 Lake Project and that's why I'm here this morning, is to  
36 check in and give you an update on that.

37

38 Thanks.

39

40 DR. SCHROEDER: Thank you, Anthony. And  
41 let's see, members of organizations and public.

42

43 MR. CHRISTIANSON: And then I'd like to  
44 introduce Robert Sanderson, he also works on the project,  
45 an elder.

46

47 DR. SCHROEDER: Robert was a former member  
48 of the Southeast Regional Advisory Council some years ago.

49

50 MR. SANDERSON: Robert Sanderson. I've

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1 been working on a fishery project here in combination with  
2 the Hydaburg IRA and Fish and Wildlife, Alaska Department  
3 of Fish and Game. And we'll probably have some testimony  
4 a little bit later. But something that's been of real  
5 interest to me and probably 50 or 60 years, this type of  
6 thing.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 DR. SCHROEDER: And members of the public  
11 or organizations.

12

13 MR. MORPHET: Hi, I'm Tom Morphet, I'm  
14 subsistence outreach coordinator for United Fishermen of  
15 Alaska. And if anyone in the audience is curious what I do  
16 I'm glad -- or I'll be free to speak with anybody who is  
17 curious about my program.

18

19 Thank you.

20

21 DR. SCHROEDER: And please, members of the  
22 public, please come forward and introduce yourselves. Have  
23 I inadvertently missed anyone? I'd like to introduce ANS,  
24 who's our ANS person in the kitchen for us, Forest --  
25 Forest are you there? ANS is helping us, providing us  
26 refreshments and there'll be a number of lunches that ANS  
27 provides in this hall so we really thank ANS for their  
28 support.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

31

32 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I think we have  
33 a couple shy public. I'd like to introduce my uncle, Pat  
34 Gardner, from Craig. You don't have to.....

35

36 (Laughter)

37

38 DR. GARZA: Turn your mike on.

39

40 MR. GARDNER: Well, I don't want to be  
41 recorded, what I'm going to say.

42

43 (Laughter)

44

45 MR. GARDNER: Anyway, I'm Pat Gardner,  
46 retired educator born and raised in Craig and will probably  
47 be deceased here too. I am a subsistence user, 200  
48 percent.

49

50 Thank you.

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1 DR. SCHROEDER: And is there anyone else  
2 who wishes to introduce themselves.

3  
4 Thank you, for your introductions. Just in  
5 terms of some meeting logistics, we'll be meeting daily  
6 from 9:00 to 5:00 at the pleasure of the Chair and the  
7 Council. We should be taking a lunch break around noon for  
8 an hour or so subject to our schedule. There will be  
9 periods for public testimony at different times during this  
10 meeting and we really encourage you to come forward and let  
11 the Council know your thoughts on both the proposals they  
12 have and the issues that this meeting is addressing, and  
13 also since we're meeting in Craig on Prince of Wales  
14 Island, we'd really like to hear any comments that members  
15 of the public have about the current deer situation and the  
16 management regime that was put into effect this year.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Dr.  
19 Schroeder. And again, I'd like to welcome all of you. I  
20 didn't see very many from the locals here, mostly Staff,  
21 but hopefully this will improve. I was glad to see that we  
22 did have something in the newspaper last night as well as  
23 on the radio this morning.

24  
25 So as Dr. Schroeder said, any of you that  
26 would like to address the Council, we have a fairly open  
27 policy here that you can sign up and you're allowed to  
28 speak on any subject, not necessarily in that order. If  
29 you can only be here today and you want to speak about a  
30 proposal that doesn't come up until Wednesday, certainly we  
31 will accommodate you on those subjects.

32  
33 So the next item on our agenda is on Page  
34 5 is to adopt the agenda as a guide and I'll entertain a  
35 motion to do so.

36  
37 MR. ADAMS: So moved, Mr. Chairman.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there a second.

40  
41 MR. DOUVILLE: Second.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's been moved and  
44 seconded to adopt the agenda as a guide as shown on Page 5.  
45 All those in favor say aye.

46  
47 IN UNISON: Aye.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Opposed.

50

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1 (No opposing votes)

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Schroeder, we  
4 have the minutes on Tab A, did you want to handle that?

5

6 DR. SCHROEDER: Yes, Mr. Chair. You'll  
7 find your minutes from the last meeting in Tab A and that  
8 runs from Page 9 through 26. I've tried to keep minutes  
9 fairly complete for our meetings because they provide a  
10 really good record of Council actions and provide one more  
11 avenue for members of the public and for the Office of  
12 Subsistence Management to be aware of what Council  
13 activities take place.

14

15 I won't go through the minutes unless we  
16 want to spend the rest of the morning reading through 17  
17 pages. If there are any comments or suggested changes, I'd  
18 take those at this time.

19

20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there a  
21 motion.....

22

23 MR. STOKES: Mr. Chairman, I move that we  
24 adopt the minutes.

25

26 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there a second.

27

28 MR. KITKA: Second.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's been moved and  
31 seconded to adopt the minutes. Under discussion, are there  
32 any changes or corrections to the minutes?

33

34 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, is there some  
35 opportunity -- could we take the time right now to -- some  
36 of us have looked at the minutes and have seen some  
37 concerns, would it be appropriate for us to bring up those  
38 issues now or do we want to address them later?

39

40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams, I believe  
41 now is the time, we're under discussion. First, let me go  
42 to Patty, and then I'll come back to you, Ms. Phillips.

43

44 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. On  
45 Page 17 and 18, on the bottom of 17 and the top of 18, it's  
46 talking about Proposal 5, to reduce the season and bag  
47 limit for deer for non-Federally-qualified subsistence  
48 hunters on Federal land in Unit 2 Prince of Wales Island.  
49 The last sentence on Page 17, is, any management change  
50 that is necessary to help subsistence users meet their

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1 needs should also attempt to minimize adverse impact on the  
2 non-Federally-qualified hunters who also use Unit 2. My  
3 concerns about this is that I wanted to minimize adverse  
4 impacts on Ketchikan, not specifically all non-Federally-  
5 qualified hunters who also use Unit 2.

6

7 All non-Federally-qualified hunters would  
8 also include non-residents and I just would like to see  
9 that more clarified.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Phillips, as I  
14 remember the discussion and maybe someone could correct me,  
15 I believe that was the concern of the Council, was mostly  
16 with Ketchikan residents. Is there any objection to  
17 changing that to reflect that in the record, that under our  
18 discussions we were mostly concerned about the Ketchikan  
19 residents? Any objections.

20

21 Dr. Schroeder.

22

23 DR. SCHROEDER: I've made that note.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Mr.  
26 Adams.

27

28 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On  
29 Proposal No. 1 there's some things that popped out at me,  
30 and, of course, you know, I discussed it with some of the  
31 Council members, that I think needs to be brought out and  
32 kind of clarified. If you read what the proposal says, you  
33 may take wildlife outside the seasons or harvest limits  
34 provided in this part for food in cultural events or  
35 traditional and so forth and so forth.

36

37 I think the thing that bothers some of us  
38 is this phrase outside the seasons or the harvest limits  
39 provided for this part, that phrase. Because if you go  
40 down and start reading other parts of it you find some  
41 conflicts there, and I think that needs to be kind of  
42 clarified, you know, for people who are going to be reading  
43 these and then actually going out and doing it as well as  
44 for enforcement.

45

46 All of the other parts of it I don't see  
47 any -- well, let me see, the conflicting part here, if you  
48 go down to two, that last phrase, it says, the appropriate  
49 Federal land manager will establish the number of species,  
50 sex or places of taking if necessary for the conservation

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1 purposes. And I think that, you know, is a conflict there  
2 as well.

3

4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. MR. Adams, I  
5 refer you to Page 28.

6

7 MR. ADAMS: Okay.

8

9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That was addressed  
10 at the Federal Subsistence Board and the actual language of  
11 the Proposal No. 1 as accepted by the Federal Subsistence  
12 Board is on Page 28 and I believe they addressed your  
13 concern there. Go ahead. Mr. Adams, perhaps we could  
14 address this under the next agenda item and use the actual  
15 language that came out of the Federal Subsistence Board?

16

17 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That  
18 was my purpose for bringing it up. I wanted it to be  
19 addressed, you know, at least somewhere along -- somewhere  
20 in the agenda.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

25

26 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just  
27 looking at the minutes, one clarification is Anthony  
28 Christianson is listed under members of the public. When  
29 he spoke in Ketchikan he was a tribal member. On Page 9.  
30 So he should just be moved to Page 10 under tribal  
31 government representatives.

32

33 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: You have that Dr.  
36 Schroeder?

37

38 DR. SCHROEDER: Yes.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are there any other  
41 corrections or changes to the minutes.

42

43 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman.

44

45 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kookesh.

46

47 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman, for the good of  
48 the order, I kind of have a little trouble hearing people  
49 when they have the mike on over a foot away from their  
50 mouth, and I'd really appreciate it if they would be able

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1 to move the mike a little closer when they talk because we  
2 have to kind of really struggle or strain to hear and it's  
3 just for the good of the order, I'd like to see if Council  
4 members could pull the mike in a little closer.

5

6 Thank you.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Mr.  
9 Kookesh, your point was well taken. These minutes are  
10 copied verbatim in the court transcript and we need to make  
11 sure that they can hear us, so that's well taken.

12

13 Any other comments on the minutes.

14

15 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes, go ahead.

18

19 MR. ADAMS: Proposal No. 2, I'd like to  
20 bring out another issue of concern, Mr. Chairman. Coming  
21 down to one, two, three, four.....

22

23 MR. KOOKESH: On Page 15.

24

25 MR. ADAMS: On Page 15, sorry, line number  
26 4 it says, toward the end there, the designated hunter must  
27 obtain a designated hunter permit, no problem with that.  
28 Must return the completed harvest report, no problem with  
29 that. And then it also says that designated hunter may  
30 hunt for any number of recipients and may have no more than  
31 two harvest limits in his or her possession. Now, there is  
32 a concern there for me, Mr. Chairman, in that, I think we  
33 need to clarify, you know, this possession issue.

34

35 Does that mean that if a designated hunter  
36 goes out and has, you know, several permits and he can't  
37 have more than two in possession in that one hunt?

38

39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams, I think  
40 we should discuss this under the next tab item. These are  
41 corrections or additions to the minutes. And we can get  
42 into the discussion of that proposal in the next item.

43

44 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Schroeder.

47

48 DR. SCHROEDER: I think I agree with the  
49 Chairman. We will be able to raise issues concerning  
50 wildlife proposals if the Regional Advisory Council, later

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1 on in the meeting, wishes to come up with Council proposals  
2 that address some things that don't line up quite right.  
3 So perhaps a discussion would be in order pretty soon and  
4 later on in the meeting if there's consensus, we could  
5 submit Council generated proposals for the wildlife meeting  
6 which is coming up this winter.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Just for  
9 clarification for those that are following in the Board  
10 book, Item 7, under the Chair's report, the first item is  
11 called the .805(c) letter, and this is a response to the  
12 proposals that the Regional Advisory Council took at their  
13 last meeting. And these are specifically some of the  
14 things we're discussing right now and that's the  
15 appropriate place and we will discuss those at that time.

16

17 So are there any other changes to the  
18 minutes or corrections.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Hearing none. All  
23 those in favor of adopting the minutes as amended please  
24 signify by saying aye.

25

26 IN UNISON: Aye.

27

28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Same sign, those  
29 opposed.

30

31 (No opposing votes)

32

33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The minutes are  
34 adopted. The next item on our agenda, Item 6 is Council  
35 reports. We have these listed as village Council concerns,  
36 but we recognize that this is a Regional Advisory Council  
37 and we represent everyone within the region. But you are  
38 from somewhere. And Mr. Hernandez, we're going to start at  
39 this end with Mr. Hernandez is most familiar with his  
40 community, that we believe that he is most able to talk  
41 about that and bring up the concerns of his area. So if  
42 you would like to start, Mr. Hernandez, any concerns in  
43 your local area.

44

45 MR. HERNANDEZ: Mr. Chairman, Ms. Garza,  
46 has something I think she wants to say.

47

48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

49

50 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Don. Mr. Chairman,

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1 in terms of using the agenda as a guide, I would like to  
2 add something. We do have several members in the public  
3 who are here as fishery research technicians as part of our  
4 projects that we have funded. It's my understanding that  
5 Klawock will be coming from a project that they're still on  
6 and some of the Hydaburg people need to get home so when  
7 it's appropriate for them I would like to have the  
8 opportunity to bring them forward so we can thank them or  
9 they may have comments and we may have questions. So it's  
10 sort of a floating request, I'm not sure where to put it.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza, under  
13 Item 10 we were going to discuss the fisheries proposal  
14 review, and it was my intention that those comments would  
15 come immediately following that under discussion, today,  
16 that's my intent. And you are correct, the agenda was  
17 adopted as a guide specifically so that we can add things  
18 that are concerns to the members or that the public has, we  
19 will put them on. I personally have four things under new  
20 business that we'll take care of on Board resolutions. But  
21 we're adaptable and if you want to put something on the  
22 agenda we'll certainly do that.

23  
24 So with that, Mr. Hernandez.

25  
26 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
27 I'd like to address a concern that we have as residents of  
28 Point Baker, but also as residents of Prince of Wales  
29 Island, something that could possibly effect subsistence  
30 uses here on the island, actually as well as other places  
31 in Southeast Alaska, and that's a bill in Congress,  
32 Washington, D.C., the Alaska Lands Transfer Acceleration  
33 Act, which is a bill that is going to settle up the  
34 remaining Alaska Native Claims Settlement Land allotments  
35 here in Southeast Alaska. And we are in favor of getting  
36 these land allocations settled, but we do have a concern  
37 with the process that may take place. It sounds like it  
38 may be done with legislation and negotiations between the  
39 corporations and Forest Service Staff and we would like to  
40 see more public involvement in this process, considering  
41 the effects it could have on subsistence uses, transferring  
42 lands from public ownership into private ownership.

43  
44 And I guess we might ask that this Council  
45 be included as an advisory capacity in those discussions.

46  
47 Thank you very much.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Phillips.

50

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1 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman  
2 Littlefield. My concerns are in addition to the concerns  
3 I had in Ketchikan, which is the residents of Pelican are  
4 becoming more absent residents, in that, you only have to  
5 prove the intent to live in Alaska to be a voting -- to be  
6 a registered voter, and we're having a lot of residents who  
7 do not reside in Pelican but for one month a year but it's  
8 that intent to live that gives them the right to vote in  
9 our community, even though they may spend much of their  
10 time out of state and that continues to be a concern to me.

11  
12 We are undergoing a lot of administrative  
13 changes and possible legislation related to that that's  
14 going to impact those of us who live in the communities  
15 year-round, and I'm going to continue to monitor that sort  
16 of legislation and hope that it is the residents who live  
17 year-round in the communities who say will be listened to  
18 rather than those residents who live outside of the state  
19 for most of the year.

20  
21 Thank you.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Ms.  
24 Phillips. Mr. Douville.

25  
26 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
27 There is some concern about the deer hunting season. Most  
28 people are happy with it and others are still concerned and  
29 I guess you would say want more.

30  
31 As to the subject Don touched on, is  
32 SeaAlaska over-selection or settling their lands, they were  
33 interested in land that is open to the public now and there  
34 was a lot of concern that once they take over, the public  
35 would be excluded from that land as it becomes private, and  
36 this is land that has been used for subsistence purposes  
37 for a long, long time, and that's a big concern.

38  
39 So that's all I have, thank you.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Mr.  
42 Douville. Mr. Stokes.

43  
44 MR. STOKES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We  
45 have three main concerns in Wrangell.

46  
47 The first two are probably no different  
48 than other communities, which is the halibut. Since the  
49 personal quota, we have not been able to go out and get a  
50 halibut whenever we want because there's thousands and

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1 thousands of hooks out there right from the opening in the  
2 spring until the closing in the fall. The small craft go  
3 out and lay their crab pots out all the time. The  
4 gillnetters, when they are not gillnetting, they take off  
5 their net and put on a longline and they go out and clean  
6 up the area. And also the crab, the same thing, once the  
7 crab season is open, we can't go out in front of town and  
8 get a crab.

9

10                   And the third one is the continued fight  
11 with the State of Alaska to have an opening, subsistence,  
12 on the Stikine River. They say that they do not want a new  
13 subsistence or a new fishery on the Stikine, but this is  
14 not so. For 10,000 years my people have harvested salmon  
15 on the Stikine and it wasn't up until after World War II  
16 when more of a Western style of living came to Wrangell.  
17 The Tahltans, I just spent three weeks up in Canada in the  
18 Tahltan area, and they have no objections to us fishing.  
19 In fact, I have a visitor's permit which allows me to fish  
20 in Canada and I'm allowed to harvest 30 fish a day. But  
21 this is only for First Nation individuals.

22

23                   This is all I've got to say, thank you.

24

25                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Mr.  
26 Stokes. Mr. Adams.

27

28                   MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
29 have several concerns that I'd like to just put on the  
30 table for us today. I think the number 1 here was brought  
31 up -- the number 1 issue was brought to my attention a  
32 couple of weeks ago when a Staff member from the Forest  
33 Service in Yakutat showed me a regulation in the harvest of  
34 wildlife on Federal lands, and it had to do with individual  
35 harvest limits. And I'm not going to read it, I'm just  
36 going to kind of paraphrase it in a way that I think would  
37 explain it a lot better.

38

39                   The regulation says that if I, as an  
40 individual, wanted to get a moose for a ceremonial purpose,  
41 a potlatch, for instance, that that moose, for instance, if  
42 it was a moose, would count against my subsistence take.  
43 In other words, I wouldn't be able to go out and get a  
44 moose for myself or for my family. Now, the way that we do  
45 it in our community is that if a person, you know, goes out  
46 and shoots a moose or a deer or something for a potlatch or  
47 something of some sort, that they have to use that entire  
48 meat, you know, for that purpose. If it was used for, you  
49 know, the main dish of the potlatch or ceremony, whatever  
50 was leftover would be packaged up and distributed to the

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1 people that are attending, and then that individual would  
2 be left out of the opportunity of getting a moose for  
3 himself or his family.

4

5 I was at an SRC meeting a week right after  
6 that and I brought this issue up before that board and one  
7 of the Staff members that afternoon called the office in  
8 Anchorage and got an interpretation or clarification from  
9 Bill Knauer who said that that's not so. So we're covered  
10 there. And I have a communication, an e-mail from them  
11 I'll turn over to Bob, you know, that can be put on file.  
12 But I think this needs to be a matter of discussion, you  
13 know, somewhere down the line as well.

14

15 The other thing that I'd like to talk about  
16 a little bit is the use of ATVs in the Yakutat forelands.  
17 The Yakutat forelands is one real big spawning bed for  
18 salmon, and also great habitat for moose. And we have seen  
19 over the years where ATVs have been more and more  
20 increasing, you know, in the forelands and we think that  
21 they're causing a lot of damage and, you know, those little  
22 frys that are swimming around in those little lakes and  
23 streams and the tundra there, you know, we feel are being  
24 damaged quite a bit, you know, by use of ATVs. So I think  
25 the Forest Service is doing a real good job at this point  
26 in trying to control that. But, you know, that has been a  
27 concern over the years.

28

29 We're still fighting the cruise industry.  
30 We made some progress, you know, with the influx -- well,  
31 we haven't made very much progress in the number of ships  
32 coming into the bay, but we have found out that they  
33 definitely have an impact on the seals during the pupping  
34 season where they separate the pups from the mothers and  
35 the mortality rate, you know, is pretty high. The tribal  
36 organization is trying to negotiate with them to be more  
37 respectful in entering into the bay and, you know, we're  
38 still in that discussion.

39

40 In regards to the acceleration transfer of  
41 cooperation lands, we are dealing with that as well.  
42 There's a statewide effort to try to have some real  
43 positive input. Our concern, you know, was Native  
44 allotments, you know, because if that bill went as it was,  
45 it would have done a lot of things to Native allotments.  
46 In other words, any pending Native allotment would no  
47 longer be available to pursue anymore, to get certified.  
48 There's some effort to try to reopen some Native  
49 allotments, that would never have happened, and a whole  
50 host of other things. And I think that there was a tribal

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1 -- a statewide tribal meeting through a teleconference and  
2 one face-to-face meeting in Anchorage that put together  
3 some proposed amendments to the bill that would address  
4 that. So we hope, you know, that we'll be able to see  
5 something good come out of that. Senator Murkowski had the  
6 impression that this bill was backed by all of the Native  
7 organizations in Alaska, and during a testimony meeting, or  
8 hearing, I guess it was in August, the early part of  
9 August, she found out that that wasn't so. So she gave us  
10 an opportunity to prepare some amendments to that bill and  
11 we have done, I think, a pretty good job in making some  
12 suggestions.

13

14                   So those are our concerns, Mr. Chairman, at  
15 this point.

16

17                   Thank you.

18

19                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Mr.

20 Adams. Mr. Kookesh.

21

22                   MR. KOOKESH: Thank you very much, Mr.  
23 Chairman. Because of Angoon's location, we don't seem to  
24 always have the problems with other communities coming in  
25 and interfering with our lifestyle. And recently with the  
26 passage of the 30 hook, the halibut fishery, it's made it  
27 a lot different for our community, we don't exactly feel  
28 like criminals anymore out there doing the fishery, out  
29 getting our 20. A lot of us in the community believe that  
30 20 is a lot of halibut but they're thankful that they now  
31 have that opportunity not to be always looking over their  
32 back. They can kind of determine when they want to best do  
33 the fishery, so that has been a welcome in our community  
34 and we look forward to continuing to do that.

35

36                   We do have employment problems in our  
37 community, and we're working with the Southeast Sustainable  
38 Salmon Fund in trying to make those things go away. Angoon  
39 is like every other community, it's a fishing community and  
40 we want that to continue. We just need to work through  
41 this process.

42

43                   That's all I have, sir.

44

45                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Mr.

46 Kookesh. Mr. Kitka.

47

48                   MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The  
49 concerns of the Sitka Tribe, according to the letters and  
50 talk we had with them in the community seems to deal an

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1 awful lot with the letters to Gale Norton, Secretary of  
2 Interior, and it has to do with the placement of a non-  
3 voting member from the State to the Federal Subsistence  
4 Board. And this is a matter of grave concern to the Sitka  
5 Tribe.

6  
7 I also had some talks with some of the  
8 people in Sitka and we're very concerned about the shrimp  
9 and livestock like this that seem to be overfished by some  
10 of the people. Like some of the charter industries will go  
11 out and they'll set traps and they seem like -- I know  
12 there's rules in the books where only the person that is  
13 assigned the trap is supposed to fish it but it seems like  
14 everybody is allowed to pull them and take them and they do  
15 it all year-round without regard to the rules and  
16 regulations. I know there's some good rules in the book  
17 but they just don't seem to have anybody to enforce it.

18  
19 And that's all I have.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Mr.  
22 Kitka. And now we're going to learn how to make a report,  
23 Dr. Garza.

24  
25 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
26 have several issues that are primarily from Ketchikan but  
27 also just general issues.

28  
29 I was appreciative that the Federal  
30 Subsistence Board did take the action in terms of the early  
31 opening for deer as well as moving the deer opening for  
32 urban residents back. However, at the Ketchikan meeting  
33 this Council did support an August 10th opening for non-  
34 rural residents and the concern from Ketchikan residents is  
35 that there is a need for August hunting that allows  
36 families to come over and go up into the Alpine, it's part  
37 of their community process. Many Ketchikan residents do  
38 consider themselves as rural people. They use the same  
39 resources. They live in Ketchikan because they love  
40 Alaska, they don't consider themselves to be urban and it  
41 has created a great divide between Prince of Wales and  
42 Ketchikan.

43  
44 I, at the time, supported the August 10th  
45 opening. I'm quite concerned with the August 21st opening  
46 because that is basically a week before school starts. And  
47 it makes it very difficult for families to bring their  
48 children over, do some hunting, get back and get to school.  
49 So, Mr. Chairman, I will likely be submitting a proposal  
50 that will move that date back on behalf of Ketchikan

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1 residents. Realizing that this is a subsistence process,  
2 we do have to consider that there may be communities that  
3 are inappropriately listed as urban.

4

5           The other concern I have, I think, we will  
6 probably bring up and I will just continue to list it. I  
7 think it's one of Sitka Tribe's major concerns, is that, we  
8 deal with only fish and game resources, the plant  
9 resources, the spruce root that I'm weaving with, the cedar  
10 bark, the mushrooms that I'm learning how to collect, the  
11 berries that may have commercial value, those are of grave  
12 concern. And I understand that the Forest Service has a  
13 policy process for that, I was on the committee that helped  
14 draft it but I think that there still needs to be an avenue  
15 for the Council and Federal Subsistence Board to take  
16 action on occasion when necessary.

17

18           I am quite concerned after our meeting  
19 yesterday, we went on a great field trip, one of our stops  
20 was at Coffman Cove, and the impression I got was that  
21 basically the smaller communities are not accessing our  
22 packet. They may get it but they're not reading it. I  
23 don't know if it's too big, but in the proposals this  
24 meeting for C&T determination for a number of Prince of  
25 Wales communities there is absolutely no comment from  
26 anybody. I have grave concern about that. Especially  
27 since we heard in Coffman Cove that they may not be  
28 interested in having C&T determination for their community.  
29 And it makes me hesitant to vote on something like that  
30 when I haven't heard from the community members.

31

32           I heard several comments on the halibut  
33 subsistence. I know that we don't have any involvement in  
34 that process, although we have commented to it, and we have  
35 encouraged it and I'm grateful that it occurs. In  
36 Ketchikan, Native people have access to it by applying  
37 through either Tlingit-Haida or Ketchikan Indian Community,  
38 however, all of the Ketchikan area waters are excluded so  
39 you have to travel at least 30 miles in a 14 or 16 foot  
40 skiff in order to set your halibut hooks. That's clearly  
41 unsafe. We have subsistence fishermen there who are  
42 marginally employed, who don't have a lot of money, who  
43 don't have 28 foot fancy boats that they can take across  
44 over to eastern Prince of Wales, which is basically where  
45 you have to go. So that, in effect, excludes Ketchikan  
46 people from that opportunity which is really quite  
47 unfortunate.

48

49           Thank you, Mr. Chair.

50

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1                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Dr.  
2 Garza. The comments I have were covered pretty well by all  
3 of the other Council members. There was one exception to  
4 the rule of the -- when I ask for people in the community  
5 via e-mail to respond to their concerns so that I could  
6 bring them up at this meeting.

7  
8                   The number 1 item was addressed here, but  
9 it was the crab and shrimp being used by charter boats.  
10 And I think these, as well as the halibut and perhaps some  
11 of these others that have been mentioned are suitable for  
12 Board action, and if we have time I'd like to -- if the  
13 Council concurs, that we go ahead and take these up as  
14 Board resolutions and submit them to the Board of Game and  
15 Board of Fish as well as submitting a proposal on --  
16 Proposal 4, as talked about by Dr. Garza, because that does  
17 sunset, that was the Board's -- even though every bit of  
18 them -- what is it B and -- which ones are up every year,  
19 C and B, they're all up every year, they specifically said  
20 that this deer was going to sunset. So we need to take a  
21 position on that.

22  
23                   Quite of a few of these, if we have time  
24 I'd like to handle them under Item 13, which is the new  
25 business. Perhaps we might do the halibut before Mr.  
26 Probasco leaves. I don't know what day he's going to leave  
27 but he's going back up to attend the North Pacific  
28 Fisheries Management Council meeting, and it would be good  
29 for them to know that we believe that halibut is either  
30 working good for your communities, which I think it is, I  
31 think they should not change it. That's my personal view.  
32 But I think we should make those known to him before he  
33 takes off as well as others.

34  
35                   So having said that, I'd like to thank all  
36 of you for your comments. We'll have additional  
37 opportunity to respond to these. And we're going to take  
38 about 15 minutes right now and take a coffee break.

39  
40                   (Off record)

41  
42                   (On record)

43  
44                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I'd like to call the  
45 meeting back to order.

46  
47                   (Pause)

48  
49                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The meeting will  
50 come back to order, please.

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1 (Pause)

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Would you please  
4 take your seats so we could get back to order.

5

6 (Pause)

7

8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, the meeting is  
9 back to order. Item 7 is the next item on the agenda, and,  
10 again, we're using the agenda as a guide. So one change  
11 that's going to take place right away is after Agenda Item  
12 8, which will open the floor, the State of Alaska as well  
13 as the other fisheries people from Craig and Klawock, and  
14 I believe maybe even Sitka Tribe will be coming up before  
15 Doug McBride to give presentations on their projects. So  
16 that's one change.

17

18 Under Chair's report, if you'll look on Tab  
19 B, the first item is the .805(c) letter, and I'm not going  
20 to read these things to you folks. I believe everybody's  
21 had a chance to look at them. This is a response to the  
22 things that we talked about, the actions that we took last  
23 year, specifically statewide Proposal No. 1 there was some  
24 comments on. So this is the proper time to talk about  
25 those as well as any of these others. I suspect that there  
26 may be some comment on Proposals 4 and 5, which was the  
27 deer issue that took up quite a bit of our time.

28

29 So what I'm going to do is we'll just talk  
30 about this and get this item out of the way first. Mr.  
31 Adams, if you're ready to ask your question about Proposal  
32 No. 1, I think the time is appropriate now and we'll go  
33 through these just one at a time.

34

35 Go ahead, Mr. Adams.

36

37 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

38 Proposal No. 1.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: For the record,  
41 those following us that would be on Page 28 in your Board  
42 books, Page 28. And that's the second page of the Federal  
43 Subsistence Board response letter.

44

45 Go ahead.

46

47 I believe you were commenting upon that  
48 second sentence in the middle of number 1 about the  
49 appropriate Federal land manager will establish the number  
50 and species.

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1 MR. ADAMS: Page 14.

2

3 MR. KOOKESH: Page 28.

4

5 MR. ADAMS: Okay. Mr. Chairman, if it  
6 would be appropriate, you know, I'd like to go back to Page  
7 14, that's where I have the highlights and everything that  
8 will help me address this issue better.

9

10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. That's  
11 fine, but remember that the language that was actually  
12 approved by the Federal Subsistence Board is the language  
13 on Page 28, even though what we sent them was on 14. So  
14 they're a little bit different. Go ahead.

15

16 MR. ADAMS: I just wanted to bring out  
17 those points there that the appropriate -- on Page 14, item  
18 number 2, it says the appropriate Federal land manager will  
19 establish the number, species, sex or place of taking, if  
20 necessary, for conservation purposes.

21

22 And I think that where there is a conflict  
23 is that -- well, I'm kind of confused here because we're  
24 jumping back here.

25

26 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman.

27

28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kookesh, go  
29 ahead.

30

31 MR. KOOKESH: I believe that what Mr. Adams  
32 is referring to is that when we talk about taking of  
33 wildlife, which it states is outside of established seasons  
34 or harvest limits, I think that means it goes beyond and  
35 what we look at when we look at this one about the  
36 appropriate Federal land manager will establish the number  
37 of species, sex, it's kind of contradicting the first  
38 statement, which says that outside of established seasons  
39 or harvest limits, and it turns around and it says, but --  
40 but the Federal manager will determine the species and the  
41 number and the -- what we're looking at, we're looking at  
42 something that's kind of contradicting itself, and we're  
43 wondering about that kind of language as being appropriate.

44

45 That if you're going to do it that you  
46 should just say you may take wildlife for food and then go  
47 down and say that the appropriate Federal land manager will  
48 establish the number. But if you're going to go and say  
49 that you may take wildlife outside of established seasons  
50 or harvest limits, which is what we want, because we're

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1 serving for the purposes we're doing this, which is  
2 ceremonial, we're going beyond that, we're taking care of  
3 400 people at a ceremony, and what we're saying is that you  
4 either need to get rid of the appropriate Federal land  
5 manager will establish the number section or eliminate  
6 outside of established seasons or harvest limits, which  
7 when we do these ceremonial things we don't look to the law  
8 and follow it to it's legal point there.

9

10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. My  
11 understanding is that you would like to make a change to  
12 the -- the Southeast Regional Advisory Council to make a  
13 change to this which is region specific. I believe we have  
14 the opportunity to do that if we want to. This is a  
15 generic statewide that applies to all regions, let's see  
16 one to 26, which is all the regions. So I would suggest  
17 that maybe we get those put together, any concerns you have  
18 with this and we could look at that as a separate Southeast  
19 Alaska Regional Advisory Council position.

20

21 Any other comments on this.

22

23 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams.

26

27 MR. ADAMS: I want to thank Mr. Kookesh for  
28 explaining that for me a little bit better. Yeah, the  
29 thing that I was missing is that part where it says you may  
30 take wildlife outside the seasons for the harvest limits  
31 provided in this part. The way that could be interpreted,  
32 you know, as something out of the outside of the quota for  
33 that area or for that region. And I think that's what we  
34 want to clarify, is either take that part out or that part  
35 on two, where it says the appropriate Federal land manager  
36 will establish, you know, these quotas and so forth.

37

38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Federal Staff, Mr.  
39 Meyers, would you like to comment on that, is there any  
40 ambiguity there that you see?

41

42 MR. MEYERS: Mr. Chair. Actually I don't  
43 personally see anything in there that I could actually  
44 address in that myself. But to me it's pretty clear that  
45 it allows the taking of the animals outside of seasons,  
46 which is, I think, what the Councils were after. And so to  
47 me there is no issue with the particular wording. But it's  
48 important that all users, not only the Federal government,  
49 but the users understand what it means to them and if  
50 they're not clear about it then maybe you should word it

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1 differently. But as it is right now I don't see any  
2 problem with it.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams.

9

10 MR. ADAMS: If I can have, Marty, you know,  
11 clarify the limits for that region, is that included in  
12 that statement as well? I mean will that go against the  
13 quota for that region?

14

15 MR. MEYERS: Mr. Chair, I think if you're  
16 referring to such as the moose hunt where, if you got like  
17 30 animals is the max and if you want to do a potlatch or  
18 something or a ceremonial beyond that, it sounds to me that  
19 the land manager could make the decision to go -- if that's  
20 necessary to go over that limit. I don't see where it  
21 restricts that.

22

23 Does anybody else have any comment on that?

24

25 MR. JOHNSON: It only counts in those  
26 communities where there's a community harvest allocation.  
27 You'll notice in some of the regulations a community has  
28 been given an allocation rather than a limit established by  
29 the State for a harvest. And where there's an allocation,  
30 according to the reg booklet that we have it would count,  
31 but only in those cases where it's a community harvest  
32 allocation.

33

34 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams.

35

36 MR. ADAMS: Okay. Just let me use an  
37 example here and then I need to go back and I need to tell  
38 the people in my community, you know, what they can and  
39 what they cannot do.

40

41 If a person wanted -- goes out and gets his  
42 moose outside of the regular seasons, is it going to count  
43 against the -- say, for instance, you know, in Yakutat, we  
44 have I think 50 moose, you know, allocation, now will it  
45 count against that 50 or will it be able to -- will they be  
46 able to go outside of that quota?

47

48 MR. JOHNSON: It would not count against  
49 it.

50

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1 MR. ADAMS: Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other questions  
4 on Proposal 1 and the response of the Federal Subsistence  
5 Board. You'll note that they changed it a little bit, they  
6 did not accept our suggestion that they include cultural  
7 events, and saying that was more specific and if we wanted  
8 cultural events we were to go ahead and submit a change to  
9 this. And if you want to address this and clarify it we  
10 can do that later.

11

12 Any other questions. Proposal 1.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Let's go to  
17 Proposal 2. Proposal 2 is on Page 29, the center of the  
18 page and it was the designated hunter permits. And again,  
19 this was a proposal that Southeast Alaska Regional Advisory  
20 Council had some comments on but the actual language that  
21 they adopted is in the center of that page. Anybody have  
22 any comments on that. Any Council members.

23

24 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kookesh.

27

28 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman, it kind of goes  
29 along with what I mentioned earlier about outside of  
30 established seasons and harvest limits and then having the  
31 managers set the limit. It says -- I think it's the last  
32 sentence on Page 29, the designated hunter may hunt for any  
33 number of recipients and then it turns around and says, but  
34 may have no more than two harvest limits. They should  
35 either decide is it going to be harvest limits or any  
36 number of limits. Because I know people that have  
37 accidentally taken a shot at one deer and the other deer  
38 walked in front of it and got both of them, and it can be  
39 -- it's not always uncommon for that to occur, but what I'd  
40 look for here is either decide what -- if it's any number  
41 of recipients or two, settle on one number, what I would  
42 say, because you're saying two things and asking for just  
43 one all of a sudden.

44

45 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Schroeder, can  
46 you clarify that please?

47

48 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chair. Floyd. I  
49 recall we had some discussion of that issue at our wildlife  
50 meeting, particularly some comments made by Mr. Kitka about

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1 the provision of having only two harvest limits in  
2 possession at one time. The discussion of the Council at  
3 that time was that if we wanted to pursue it we should  
4 submit a proposal in the next regulatory cycle, and have a  
5 full and open discussion on whether we supported that  
6 restriction or wanted to open it up.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other comments.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: There was one change  
13 here that was -- they changed the word ungulates to deer,  
14 moose and caribou which basically eliminates the goats in  
15 Southeast Alaska. I don't know if you noticed that. Any  
16 other comments on Proposal 2.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: If you're looking to  
21 see -- just for clarification, if you're looking to see  
22 what the Regional Advisory Council supported at the last  
23 meeting, it's kind of hard to do this but I'll show you how  
24 to do it. On Page 15 is the language that we accepted for  
25 Proposal No. 2, this is what the Regional Advisory Council  
26 agreed to, and the response of the Federal Subsistence  
27 Board is in the center of the Page 29, we're going to do  
28 this through all of them. I'll try to list the pages for  
29 you so you can stay up with us.

30

31 Mr. Kookesh -- or excuse me, Mr. Adams.

32

33 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It  
34 says there that the recipient may have no more than two  
35 harvest limits in his or her possession at any time. Now,  
36 the question that popped into my mind when this thing --  
37 when I read this thing is -- let me use an example first  
38 because there was an individual back home that got a moose  
39 for himself, a moose for his daughter, a moose for another  
40 one of his children and then, you know, two moose, you  
41 know, for elders in the community. And over a period of  
42 time he had five moose hanging out of his shed, in his  
43 shed, okay. Now, does it mean that no more than two moose  
44 on the same day that he shot them or does it mean that he  
45 can take his two moose and take it home, you know, and skin  
46 it and gut it all out and hang it and then go back out and  
47 get some more?

48

49 You know, that's kind of, to me, you know,  
50 ambiguous because it says that an individual can take as

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1 many as he wants on behalf of another person but then no  
2 more two in possession.

3

4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That's a question  
5 for law enforcement. Mr. Meyers.

6

7 MR. MEYERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr.  
8 Adams. You know, basically the intent, I think, of that  
9 particular regulation was to -- you know, what's reasonable  
10 to be out there in possession of in the field. We'll come  
11 across people with a certain number of deer and I guess  
12 what the intent -- I believe what the intent was is that  
13 what's reasonable is have in possession, let's say, eight  
14 deer at one time, in which are basically two limits, and  
15 therefore you would reasonably only be taking two people's  
16 animals or two people's limits at that time.

17

18 As far as the -- there is a possession  
19 limit in the regulations which is physical control of the  
20 wildlife. I think that's kind of a grey area when it comes  
21 to designated hunter, because, like you said he could be  
22 hunting for several people and have, at one time, maybe  
23 have three or four different individuals animals hanging in  
24 their garage or whatever. But I think the possession limit  
25 in the field is our main concern is, and what's reasonable.  
26 I mean is it reasonable to have a half a dozen people's  
27 tags in your pocket, and are you actually going to get, you  
28 know, six times four deer at one time or six animals at one  
29 -- six moose at one time, and I don't think that's  
30 practical. So I think this is trying to make things more  
31 of a reasonable take standard and so when people are  
32 contacted in the field, you know, if you get two moose or  
33 if you get four deer for two people, you take those back in  
34 and then you're allowed to go out and hunt again for other  
35 animals for other people.

36

37 And I'm not sure if each designated hunter  
38 would actually hang the deer at their own place or whether  
39 they take them directly to the people that they hunted for.  
40 But to me, it sounds pretty reasonable for a designated  
41 hunter -- I mean if he's going to -- I've heard of people  
42 around here who hunt for deer and they're not getting -- I  
43 don't believe they're getting six or eight or 10 in one  
44 day.

45

46 I'll defer to Mr. Pearson if he's got any  
47 other comments on that.

48

49 MR. PEARSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
50 Council. Ken Pearson, Subsistence Enforcement for the

00031

1 Forest Service. The regulations state that a designated  
2 hunter must deliver the wildlife to the user, to the  
3 recipient -- must deliver the wildlife to the recipient  
4 promptly. Now, what does promptly mean, well, that's,  
5 again, another one of those ambiguous words.

6  
7 But to answer your question, I personally  
8 don't believe a user could have four or five moose hanging  
9 in his garage at the same time because that means he did  
10 not deliver it promptly to the user and that's over the  
11 possession limit, so that's my interpretation.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams. Could  
14 you stay with us please.

15  
16 MR. PEARSON: Yes.

17  
18 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman. Thank you. that  
19 clarifies a lot. But what if he doesn't, what if he has  
20 all of these -- and it's happened in my community, in fact  
21 my next door neighbor had five moose hanging in his shed,  
22 you know, for -- he had his own, his daughter's and another  
23 one of his children and two more for elderly people, I  
24 think. And what happens, you know, under a situation like  
25 that he did not turn it promptly over to the recipient and  
26 is that a violation? Is there a penalty for that? And not  
27 only that, but, you know, there was about three of those  
28 moose that were starting to rot and go to pot and it was  
29 his father that came over and says, you better take care of  
30 that before you go out and get anymore, you know. So what  
31 is -- is there a penalty for violating, you know, those  
32 conditions, you know, what happens?

33  
34 MR. PEARSON: Yes, there is a penalty for  
35 that. It's under the 36 CFR, Parts 242. You actually have  
36 potentially two or three violations there. One, of course,  
37 is possession of over the limit. Now, if he's hunting for  
38 his daughter and he's hunting for his wife and himself, so,  
39 you know, he's allowed to have three moose. And, of  
40 course, I doubt that he could use three moose, but -- and  
41 then if he's got two more there then again that's over the  
42 possession limit and that's a criminal offense under  
43 Federal subsistence regulations. And you have moose that  
44 are going to rot, you have some potential for wanton waste  
45 which is also in violation.

46  
47 So, yes, at that point, you know, law  
48 enforcement should conduct an investigation.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other questions

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1 for law enforcement on Proposal 2.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Mr.

6 Pearson.

7

8 MR. PEARSON: Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The next proposal  
11 we're going to look at as passed by the Federal Subsistence  
12 Board is on Page 29, the bottom of Page 29 and this is  
13 Proposal No. 3, and the concurrent language that was  
14 approved by the Regional Advisory Council is on Page 16,  
15 and this was the brown bear hunt. Any questions on  
16 Proposal 3 and the response?

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I believe their  
21 response was to accept ours as noted. Okay, we'll go on to  
22 one that probably has no questions either.

23

24 (Laughter)

25

26 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's Proposal No. 4,  
27 and I believe we'll consider Proposal No. 4 and 5 together,  
28 both of them concern the deer on Prince of Wales Island.

29

30 The Federal Subsistence Board response to  
31 Proposals 4 and 5 starts on Page 30 of your book and the  
32 proposals that were debated by the Regional Advisory  
33 Council are on Page 16 and 17, and they did make a few  
34 changes here that was addressed a little bit by Dr. Garza,  
35 and perhaps would you like to start off here.

36

37 DR. GARZA: Yes, Mr. Chairman, thank you.  
38 I was quite surprised, I mean, certainly happy that the  
39 Federal Subsistence Board finally took some action on the  
40 Prince of Wales deer issue because it has become before us  
41 for a number of years. However, I was quite surprised that  
42 they changed the date from August 10th to August 21st and  
43 as I stated earlier under Council comments, that really  
44 does have an impact on Ketchikan family access to Prince of  
45 Wales deer during August when you would have young hunters  
46 who are part of a family having the opportunity to hunt  
47 before school starts.

48

49 And I have heard the argument that, well,  
50 you know, it's not our place to be concerned about urban

00033

1 hunters, however, I would further argue and did state in  
2 our letter to the Federal Subsistence Board in our annual  
3 report, that we, as a Council, and perhaps I'm wrong, but  
4 certainly myself, supports the concept that Ketchikan is a  
5 rural community. That Ketchikan has 30 percent of the  
6 population is Native, Ketchikan Indian Community is very  
7 large. There is a lot of people there that have  
8 subsistence opportunities, rights, uses, use patterns. A  
9 number of those people are from Prince of Wales who have  
10 gone to Ketchikan simply because of jobs.

11

12 In addition, when we looked at the  
13 Ketchikan at the rural determination process, which  
14 probably is in this packet, at the Ketchikan meeting where,  
15 accept for Bill Thomas and myself, all of the members at  
16 that meeting, the scoping meeting were non-Native, every  
17 single one of them except one supported Ketchikan as a  
18 rural community. And so I would hate to see us say, okay,  
19 well, we don't have to do anything because Ketchikan isn't  
20 rural because it should be.

21

22 So I am quite concerned that the Federal  
23 Subsistence Board changed the date from August 10th to  
24 August 21st and I intend to submit a proposal to move it at  
25 least to August 14th and hope to get discussion from the  
26 Council.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Dr.  
31 Garza. Under discussion at the Federal Subsistence Board  
32 when I made my report I did tell the Federal Subsistence  
33 Board that we supported Ketchikan as being a rural  
34 community. And then when we talked about Proposal 4 and 5  
35 it definitely raised their ears and they were wondering how  
36 we could both, but that's still my stand and it's the stand  
37 of the Regional Advisory Council, that we support Ketchikan  
38 as a rural community.

39

40 Separating those deer between rural  
41 residents is within the bounds, things that the Regional  
42 Advisory Council can do if they become a problem and we can  
43 take care of it.

44

45 What happened was the Federal Subsistence  
46 Board was loath to impose a two limit deer which was the  
47 Southeast Regional Advisory Council had proposed, August  
48 1st to August 10th closure with a two deer limit for non-  
49 Federally-qualified residents. Even though there was --  
50 Mr. Ustasiewski gave us a presentation in Ketchikan that

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1 that was legal as well as a simple yes from the regional --  
2 Mr. Goltz, said that it was legal, that he could defend  
3 that, the Federal Subsistence Board did not want to go  
4 there and they fought mightily against that. I did the  
5 best I could to try to get them to approve exactly what the  
6 Regional Advisory Council had supported and I still believe  
7 that that's -- we'll get into that a little later about  
8 deference to Regional Advisory Council recommendations.

9

10 But what the discussion was, as I remember  
11 it, was that if they didn't give us the two deer that we  
12 had thought about the neighbors in Ketchikan, if they  
13 wouldn't allow us to drop them down to two deer, they had  
14 to give us something back, and what they did is they give  
15 us a little bit more time to come up with kind of the same  
16 amount of deer that they thought would be taken. In other  
17 words, if they didn't go to the two deer, they had to give  
18 something to the subsistence users. And the way I looked  
19 at it is they went to the 21st. Now, that was not  
20 supported by me. I did not support that because we had  
21 already taken a decision. But I considered 4 and 5 to be  
22 positive steps and I told them so even though I still  
23 believed the action taken by the Regional Advisory Council  
24 was the correct one.

25

26 So any other comments on 4 and 5 and this  
27 is -- like I said, this was the one that took up all of the  
28 time at the last meeting and maybe if I could have Dr.  
29 Schroeder have summarize the effects of Proposals 4 and 5  
30 as adopted by the Federal Subsistence Board for the Council  
31 as well as all the people here so we know exactly what they  
32 did support.

33

34 DR. SCHROEDER: Well, the effect of the  
35 proposals that were adopted were to open the hunting season  
36 for subsistence users on Prince of Wales a week earlier in  
37 July and then to have non-subsistence hunters closed out of  
38 hunting on Prince of Wales through August 21st.

39

40 At some time, I'm not sure whether we're  
41 going to have Jim Brainard here, if you could give me a  
42 couple of minutes, I'll let you know how that hunt went  
43 this year. But I'll have to find a piece of paper that I  
44 have here.

45

46 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other comments  
47 on Proposal 4 and 5.

48

49 (No comments)

50

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1                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD:  What I'd like to do  
2 is invite the public to respond to what they saw happen  
3 with Proposals 4 and 5 this year, even though we haven't  
4 opened the floor yet to public comments.  And we have in  
5 the back -- maybe I should explain that, these public  
6 testimony forms, very simple, just fill one out, hand it to  
7 Dr. Schroeder and you're allowed to address the Council,  
8 not necessarily on Proposals 4 and 5 today, but if you want  
9 to talk about it tomorrow, that's fine, you want to talk  
10 about Proposal 37 today, we're real flexible.  So we allow  
11 you to talk about any subject you want to but right now I  
12 would entertain anyone in the audience who would like to  
13 talk about Proposals 4 and 5, you're welcome to do so at  
14 this time and just come on up and introduce yourself.

15  
16                   DR. SCHROEDER:  I could do a brief report  
17 right not.

18  
19                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD:  Dr. Schroeder.

20  
21                   DR. SCHROEDER:  I do have just a few brief  
22 comments on how this deer season went.  Jim Brainard has  
23 been -- and Forest Service Staff were leads on issuing  
24 Federal permits for this hunt and they really did an  
25 excellent job.  It was an awful lot of work for Staff in  
26 the district offices, mainly because they had crowds of  
27 people coming in for permits.  I'll give you very  
28 approximate numbers because really this is Jim's piece of  
29 work and we're still getting some permit responses.

30  
31                   There were approximately 3,600 Federal  
32 permits issued, which would cover the deer hunting that was  
33 taking place under Federal permit, either in the July  
34 season or in the closed portion of the August season.  Now,  
35 the 3,600 belies the fact that each permit was considered  
36 separately.  So that works out to about 860 individuals  
37 receiving permits to hunt during this time.

38  
39                   Based on our preliminary reports, which  
40 were accurate up to about September 11th, or so, we believe  
41 that 169 deer were taken in the July season of this hunt on  
42 Prince of Wales by all hunters.  And approximately 113 more  
43 deer were taken in the period August 1 through August 21.  
44 And we expect those figures to be revised over time.

45  
46                   We do have numbers of who got permits for  
47 deer, and the leading communities were Coffman Cove, Craig,  
48 Klawock, Naukati, and Thorne Bay, but we also had  
49 participation in the smaller communities on Prince of Wales  
50 and a small level of participation from Wrangell with 14 of

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1 the approximately 855 permits issued there. And nine  
2 permits were issued to Petersburg.

3

4 We also used the occasion of issuing  
5 Federal permits as a means of getting information, permit-  
6 related information. We asked people who got permits how  
7 many deer they got the previous year. Those data  
8 corresponded real closely with mailout survey information  
9 interestingly enough at 1.4 deer per year. We also  
10 gathered some information on how many days people hunted  
11 last year.

12

13 The people asking for Federal permits were  
14 asked whether or not their last years harvest was enough to  
15 meet their family's needs. Overall, 67 percent of the  
16 people who gave a response to that question said that last  
17 years harvest was not enough for their family's needs.  
18 One-third said that it was enough. We had a total response  
19 of about 600 responses out of the approximately 850. Those  
20 responses were pretty uniform across the communities that  
21 got permits.

22

23 We also asked a number of questions about  
24 how many deer people would personally need to take in this  
25 coming year, so that's something of need. And by way of  
26 background we wanted to see how many years people had  
27 hunted on Prince of Wales so we have those data as well.  
28 And we asked about dependence on deer.

29

30 These are preliminary figures, I've got  
31 copies available if people are interested, and these have  
32 been circulated to Federal Staff -- Federal and State Staff  
33 for review at this time.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Dr.  
36 Schroeder. Any public comments on Proposals 4 and 5.  
37 Please come forward and use the mike, state your name for  
38 the record, please.

39

40 MR. DEMMERT: Yeah, my name is Art Demmert.  
41 And the people that wrote this proposal, some of them are  
42 out of town for Craig Association, although a lot of us on  
43 the Inter-Tribe -- or Inter-Island Tribes have participated  
44 in this here. For the most part, for the island people,  
45 you know, this was the first time that they've been able to  
46 get their deer early. In previous years they've had a lot  
47 of difficulty getting their deer.

48

49 So I think that the people on the island  
50 would like to keep the rules and the regulations as they

00037

1 stand.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Just a  
6 second, if you'll wait a minute.

7

8 MR. DEMMERT: Okay.

9

10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are there any  
11 questions for Mr. Demmert or comments.

12

13 (No comments)

14

15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you for your  
16 testimony. Just one clarification, I want to make sure  
17 everyone understands that this proposal as adopted by the  
18 Federal Subsistence Board is supposed to sunset this year,  
19 so it's going to be something we're going to have to take  
20 a stand on. So you're implying that you are in favor of  
21 the things the way they are?

22

23 MR. DEMMERT: Yes.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Just a  
26 second, please.

27

28 MR. DEMMERT: Okay.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams, you have  
31 a question for Mr. Demmert.

32

33 MR. ADAMS: No.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. If you could  
36 turn that mike off, please. Mr. Adams.

37

38 MR. ADAMS: I didn't have anything, Mr.

39 Chairman.

40

41 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other public  
42 comments on the proposals. Please come forward and state  
43 your name for the record.

44

45 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Anthony Christianson and  
46 I'm from Hydaburg. On Proposal 4, we did a survey to check  
47 how community members felt about the proposal and we did  
48 this about two weeks ago so we could get an idea of the  
49 community consensus on it, and it seemed that a majority of  
50 the community members were in favor of the proposal because

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1 it gave them an opportunity to hunt. And a lot of them  
2 didn't hunt in the July timeframe because of the working  
3 season and stuff, but they had noted that they did see a  
4 little more deer in areas after the season was even opened  
5 to off-island hunters. So the early season provided an  
6 opportunity for them by leaving some deer in areas that  
7 they weren't normally seeing deer when they were getting  
8 out there and competing with off-island hunters. So it did  
9 give a little bit of an advantage as far as meeting some of  
10 their harvest needs.

11

12 So the proposal, I would have to support  
13 again and hope to see some type of system put in place that  
14 will continue these and limiting off-island hunters because  
15 they do have an opportunity to get their other two deer in  
16 other areas and it creates har -- you know, it gives the  
17 island people a chance to get it who are customary and  
18 traditionally users and have -- I wouldn't say they have a  
19 more reliance on it because I couldn't disclude urban  
20 people from having a reliance on the resource too, but I  
21 would say that Prince of Wales users and the community --  
22 the survey was done in all of the communities. The tribes  
23 pulled together and a lot of people were real happy with it  
24 and they got their deer early but then there was a lot of  
25 people who said they didn't hunt at that time. They didn't  
26 hunt until October and November, and if they were to see  
27 any changes to it they would limit the hunting access time  
28 to when they are customarily and traditionally hunting  
29 which is late October, early November.

30

31 Maybe the early hunt leaves more deer for  
32 that, maybe it doesn't, that's not something we can find  
33 out in one year. So I think this proposal or something  
34 like it should continue on into the future so that we can,  
35 you know, get some numbers, rather than just one year,  
36 maybe a few years to see if there's going to be an increase  
37 in the harvest, and then maybe we can go back to the old  
38 regulation and let them get four in the future or  
39 something. But I don't think one year is going to give  
40 enough information to determine whether the program worked  
41 or not. But the survey said -- the community members liked  
42 it. Most of them would like to see it stay the way it is  
43 or cut them off more. That was what I -- I mean that was  
44 the response I got from the community was to limit them  
45 more.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. You  
48 mentioned Proposal 4. What about Proposal 5, which was the  
49 early closure in August?

50

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1 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Was it August 1 to  
2 September 31st?

3  
4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: No, it was.....

5  
6 MR. CHRISTIANSON: No, I mean September 1.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: .....August 1st to  
9 August 21st.

10  
11 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Well, like you had  
12 stated originally it was August 10th, I believe, and that  
13 was what we had supported in Ketchikan and then it went and  
14 changed to the 21st, and, you know, that was a little bit  
15 of a surprise, too, but I mean like I said the community  
16 members said any length of time to get extra hunting is  
17 what they'd like. So I'd either -- leave it the same. I  
18 mean that's -- that was what the community had stated.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I guess if you don't  
21 mind responding, I'd like to ask you the date the 14th was  
22 mentioned as a possibility that may come up, is that date  
23 acceptable, 1st to the 14th as opposed to the 1st to the  
24 21st?

25  
26 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Does that leave in place  
27 the July 24th date?

28  
29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes, that's Proposal  
30 4, that would not change that at all.

31  
32 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Yeah, I don't see the  
33 difference of five days as long as they're still restricted  
34 to the two deer, whether they get it. Are they still  
35 restricted to two deer in Proposal 5?

36  
37 DR. SCHROEDER: No, Tony, the way that was  
38 tasked by the Federal Subsistence Board is that there  
39 wasn't a limitation on the bag limit, so the bag limit  
40 stayed the same at four deer for non-subsistence users. So  
41 the only effect was closing up August 1 through August 21.  
42 The two deer bag limit didn't make it through.

43  
44 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Okay. Then I would  
45 probably have to not support that.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, thank you.  
48 Any questions from Council.

49  
50 MR. HERNANDEZ: Mr. Chairman.

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1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Hernandez.

2

3 MR. HERNANDEZ: Mr. Christianson's  
4 testimony kind of brings up a question in my mind, not  
5 necessarily for him to answer, but he commented on how  
6 people may have noticed an overall effect to the  
7 availability of deer given the restriction on Ketchikan  
8 residents. And I might ask Mr. Schroeder, are we going to  
9 be able to see some kind of survey results of the non-  
10 subsistence qualified hunters, to see how their take may  
11 have been affected by the -- their overall take may have  
12 been affected by our actions before our next game meetings?

13

14 DR. SCHROEDER: Don, I'll make a comment  
15 and then ask Marianne See if she has something to say on  
16 that. At present we don't have anything in place that will  
17 really give us that information by that time. An issue  
18 came up during this hunt that the people receiving Federal  
19 permits were required to respond real quickly to what their  
20 harvests were and the subsistence users, by and large, were  
21 extremely cooperative on that. And we had an extremely  
22 high level of compliance. I think it was a matter of  
23 subsistence hunter ethics, if you will, that people  
24 recognized the importance of getting back to the program  
25 and letting people know whether it worked and whether they  
26 got deer and that was part of their responsibility as  
27 subsistence hunters.

28

29 At the present time, we don't have  
30 something in place that provides that reporting for the  
31 general hunt. So the Federal Subsistence Board and this  
32 Council has strongly supported coming up with something,  
33 either a registration requirement such as you have for  
34 moose or some other means of getting timely and accurate  
35 reporting of the general harvest. But to my knowledge we  
36 don't have that in place right now. A possible Council  
37 action, which was suggested by the Federal Subsistence  
38 Board is that we petition the Department of Fish and Game  
39 and the State Board of Game to give us a requirement that  
40 would have a registration permit or something else in place  
41 this coming season so we'd have that information.

42

43 So that's kind of a long comment, but,  
44 perhaps Marianne See could help us out on how the State's  
45 going to improve its reporting requirements.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Just a second  
48 please. Anthony, we'll have him finish up, please, and  
49 then we'll go to Ms. See.

50

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1 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Just one more comment on  
2 that. I think that one way that we would be able to help  
3 out is have those permits issued out of the office in the  
4 communities. We were allowed to issue some doe hunt  
5 permits last year, that would be the Hydaburg Cooperative  
6 Association, those permits came a little bit late in the  
7 season and we weren't able to issue any. They came in the  
8 month of the December. I called on those permits this year  
9 to see if we would be allowed to issue the same permits  
10 having an early subsistence hunt and for some reason the  
11 permits weren't allowed to come to our office and be  
12 issued. So maybe one way to help get better numbers, and  
13 as you note there wasn't a high use by Hydaburg on that  
14 permit process and I would have liked to have issued those  
15 out of our office so that we can get our people utilizing  
16 the hunt so they're not incriminating themselves because  
17 they are hunting. And I think the opportunity for rural  
18 hunters to get a permit should be made available in the  
19 office. We have been issuing State permits for Fish and  
20 Game and I think that we have showed the capacity to issue  
21 those. And the only reason we would like to do that is so  
22 that we could make them available for our community members  
23 so that they utilize the permitting process so that we can  
24 get the actual numbers because it benefits our community.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kookesh, do you  
27 have a question for Mr. Christianson.

28  
29 MR. KOOKESH: I don't but I do have a  
30 comment toward Don Hernandez. No disrespect to the urban  
31 hunter but I believe that the role of the Southeast  
32 Regional Advisory Council on subsistence is for a rural  
33 preference, and that is our role is to serve the rural  
34 areas, and to take care of them and not -- and the numbers  
35 that do come in for the urban areas, that's not our job.  
36 Our job is to provide for a rural preference and to only be  
37 concerned with those numbers.

38  
39 Thank you.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Johnson, would  
42 you care to respond to Mr. Christian's comment about  
43 issuing permits in the local areas.

44  
45 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, Mr. Chairman, Council,  
46 and Anthony. The reason that permits were not sent to the  
47 tribes this year was because the requirement for the new  
48 permit that the Forest Service was going to be issuing,  
49 this registration permit, if you will, was newly  
50 implemented and the analyst permit part of that was done

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1 away with. There was no antlerless permits sent to any of  
2 the offices. The only permits that were issued was the  
3 State -- or I'm sorry, the registration hunt that the  
4 Forest Service permits that included on there a place for  
5 antlerless deer to be recorded as well. But certainly,  
6 just as we have in the past, we have no problem or concern  
7 about having any of the tribes on the island issue those  
8 permits.

9

10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, thank you, Mr.  
11 Johnson. As you well know, this is the first -- we just  
12 initiated this so I'm assuming that this will get a little  
13 better if it is approved by the Federal Subsistence Board  
14 to continue so I expect improvements there.

15

16 Any other questions for Mr. Christianson.

17

18 Mr. Johnson.

19

20 MR. JOHNSON: One other comment, Mr.  
21 Chairman. This year we had some other issues with respect  
22 to the permits like having to issue four permits per hunter  
23 rather than having a single permit to be issued to each  
24 hunter. And it was a pretty big nightmare with the Staff  
25 that we had working on it pretty much full-time in the  
26 front office and we felt that that would also be an  
27 imposition and a burden on the tribes that might also have  
28 fingers pointed at them if something did not work and so we  
29 felt that the Forest Service, if something didn't work we  
30 should be the ones to shoulder that the first year.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Mr.  
37 Christianson. Ms. See -- excuse me. Anthony, if you'll  
38 wait a minute.

39

40 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Okay.

41

42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Douville.

43

44 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
45 This doesn't really concern Tony, but I have a couple  
46 comments to make on the Federal permits. One is that it's  
47 my understanding you only needed the Federal permit for the  
48 first week of the season, that would have been the Federal  
49 season. I went to the Forest Service office believing that  
50 I needed it for the first part of the August also but in

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1 reality you did not.

2

3

4                   The other thing is these Federal permits  
5 are issued and they're good for a buck or a doe, and I  
6 believe that that is a loophole in the system that needs to  
7 be corrected if no other -- I don't know if you plan to  
8 issue other permits for does or use the same ones but if no  
9 one was the wiser or watching you could use all four of  
10 those permits to take a doe and that needs to be fixed.

10

11                   The other comment I would like to make is  
12 there was just a lot of people for the permits and also  
13 they requested you to fill out a prior survey for the year  
14 before, which I didn't exactly agree with but I guess it  
15 did provide some information.

16

17                   Thank you.

18

19                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Mr.

20 Johnson.

21

22

23                   MR. JOHNSON: Yes, some of the other  
24 problems we had was in terms of the record keeping part of  
25 this since the Forest Service was going to be responsible  
26 for it we wanted the permits to be returned to the  
27 Petersburg office and so we had to change addresses on the  
28 forms, which was another problem. Also you're right Mr.  
29 Douville, it was not clear in terms of the permit would it  
30 be for the -- only the seven days in July or would it be  
31 for that plus the three weeks in August or would it be for  
32 the entire season. The intent was that we needed to know  
33 throughout the entire season, including the early part of  
34 the season how many Federal deer, if you will, are being  
35 taken in the Unit 2 harvest. Because we've had, as you  
36 know, Mr. Chairman, and Council, the information about  
37 harvest has been sketchy at best.

37

38

39                   But you're absolutely right, Mike, that the  
40 other problem for law enforcement, was so is the person  
41 hunting on Federal regulations or are they hunting on  
42 State. Obviously if it was in July it would have had to  
43 have been Federal. After that technically a person could  
44 use State or Federal. So it definitely needs some work for  
45 this coming year if it's continued.

45

46                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council  
47 for Anthony so we can let him go.

48

49

(No comments)

50

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1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you very much.

2 Ms. See.

3

4 MS. SEE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Members of  
5 the Council. I just had three thoughts that we wanted to  
6 offer here this morning on this topic, and we have  
7 discussed this a bit internally as well. Certainly with  
8 the first year of some of these changes, that's a challenge  
9 and we would support the effort to get the data that has  
10 been discussed here, the kinds of information, the survey  
11 information. We recognize that there many need to be  
12 streamlining to make that work better, both for the users  
13 and for the agencies who need the information. So if  
14 there's any way that we need to coordinate to make that  
15 work better, we'd certainly offer to do that.

16

17 We also recognize that what the data mean  
18 is a very important issue here, too. And that we need to  
19 see the entire season in order to put this in context. And  
20 that is probably going to be necessary over more than one  
21 year as one speaker mentioned, it's hard to just evaluate  
22 -- especially the first year of a change. So it may take  
23 some time and feedback from all users to get a better sense  
24 of what all this means when you put together the whole  
25 picture of harvest. But we certainly are very, very  
26 concerned with this. We want to be very proactive and work  
27 with the Forest Service as well in understanding what the  
28 information means.

29

30 Also on the State's process, certainly we  
31 have said before and reiterate that if the Council or  
32 anyone feels that it's appropriate to offer a proposal to  
33 the State Board of Game about State harvest regulations  
34 that that is always an avenue. And that is something that  
35 should always be considered if there's a question about the  
36 State bag limits and other provisions of the hunts.

37

38 And if there's any questions I'd certainly  
39 be happy to try to answer them.

40

41 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any questions or  
42 comments, Council.

43

44 Mr. Johnson.

45

46 MR. JOHNSON: I guess the only question I  
47 would have Marianne, do you perceive any reason why the  
48 State or Board of Game would have a problem with a  
49 requirement for a registration harvest since it would  
50 provide the kind of information that you just mentioned

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1 that would be for all harvest occurring in Unit 2.

2

3 MS. SEE: Through the Chair. I don't know  
4 specifically about whether there would be an objection to  
5 that. I certainly think it could be proposed and  
6 considered and I'll certainly take that question back to  
7 our wildlife staff who, if there's an additional piece of  
8 information about that I'd certainly ask them to convey it  
9 to the Forest Service and to the Council.

10

11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other questions.  
12 Council.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Any  
17 other members of the public that would like to comment on  
18 Proposals 4 and 5, please come forward.

19

20 MR. DEMMERT: I think that.....

21

22 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Would you state your  
23 name for the record.

24

25 MR. DEMMERT: Art Demmert. With the new  
26 highway system, I know that was part of the criteria for  
27 the people to try to limit the people coming in because if  
28 they can get their resource more efficiently and quickly.  
29 And another thing that we kind of researched was a majority  
30 of the people came from Ketchikan from October 15th to  
31 November 15th and the purpose of that was they came over  
32 during the time when it snowed so the deer were easier for  
33 them to get. And I think those are vital concerns that  
34 this Council needs to take into consideration as well.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Any  
39 questions.

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, very  
44 much. Anybody else on Proposals 4 and 5. In the back, go  
45 ahead, please come forward and state your name for the  
46 record.

47

48 MS. JAMES: My name is Elena James. I work  
49 for the Craig Community Association, Environmental  
50 Protection Division. And I would just like to say on

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1 behalf of a lot of Craig residents and tribal members, that  
2 most people would like to see these regulations continue in  
3 the future or amended. I'm also on the Tribal  
4 Environmental Coalition with Tony and we did a lot of  
5 surveys and most people said that they liked having the  
6 opportunity to hunt without the competition of non-rural  
7 hunters. And community feedback states that there should  
8 be a longer period, that this should go on for more than  
9 just this year, and I agree.

10

11 I also concur with Tony as far as tribes  
12 being able to issue permits. We have a lot of outreach  
13 through our offices, we see a lot more people than go to  
14 the Forest Service or Fish and Game. You know, we have the  
15 ability to reach more people and I think it would behoove  
16 everyone to have the tribes be able to issue permits. And  
17 just a comment on the permits that were issued, the permit  
18 process from Forest Service was kind of asinine, filling  
19 out the same four papers four times, you know, writing your  
20 name down and -- so that's it.

21

22 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. I  
23 believe we understand.

24

25 (Laughter)

26

27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any comments.

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other member of  
32 the public who would like to comment on Proposals 4 and 5,  
33 please come forward and state your name for the record.

34

35 MS. PREFONTAINE: Brandy Prefontaine from  
36 the Naukati Homeowners Association. And I would just like  
37 to make a statement of observation from the north side of  
38 the island. That a lot of the spiked and forked horns were  
39 more prevalent this August than ever before because of the  
40 non-competition from Ketchikan. And many feel that most of  
41 the residents on the island allow the younger deer to  
42 remain to grow versus the off-island hunters coming and  
43 removing them from the breeding population. And the  
44 residents on the north side of the island were happy to  
45 have the opportunity to hunt without the competition and  
46 the tents cities that usually spring up. Because in past  
47 years when you'd go out to hike up Alpine you'd have a tent  
48 city at the end of the landing with three or four spikes  
49 hanging up, you know, with just an inch of horns standing  
50 out and just very small deer that weren't allowed to grow

00047

1 to their potential. So we support the continuation of  
2 these regulations for keeping Ketchikan hunters and keeping  
3 it more localized.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Any  
6 Council comments or questions for Ms. Prefontaine.

7

8 (No comments)

9

10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, thank you.

11

12 MR. GARDNER: My name is Patrick Gardner.  
13 And I'll make some comments. I listened to some of the  
14 hunters on Prince of Wales Island and they're kind of in  
15 favor of keeping what we had this year so my only comment  
16 is that I'd like to see it remain the same for a couple of  
17 years until they get a study. But so far everybody's kind  
18 of happy because it's more of a safety reason, too, just  
19 the locals go out hunting versus when you go out when the  
20 non-residents from the other islands, Wrangell, Petersburg  
21 or Anchorage, they all come here, and Ketchikan, they all  
22 get here, it's kind of hazardous out there. The first day  
23 of opening out there, you got to kind of duck around  
24 without getting shot. But now it's the locals going out  
25 and getting their deer first, it's kind of nice. We're  
26 finally getting what we want. So I hate to see anything  
27 change until we get a couple of years underneath the belt.

28

29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Any  
30 questions Council, comments, for Mr. Gardner.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Could you turn that  
35 mike off, sir. Thank you very much. Anyone else.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, we've got to  
40 make up some time here. We're on Page 30 of your Board  
41 book, Proposals No. 6 and we'll go through three of these  
42 real quick. Six on Page 30, Dr. Garza.

43

44 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chair, thank you. Just one  
45 closing comment on Proposal 5, if you look at the two  
46 indented paragraphs -- Proposal 5 on Page 30. It states  
47 that the deer population in Unit 2 is likely to experience  
48 a long-term decline in coming years; we have never seen  
49 this acknowledged by the Federal Subsistence Board before  
50 so I'm happy to see that there.

00048

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other -- I guess  
4 I should ask, any other Council comments on Proposals 4 and  
5 5.

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, hearing none,  
10 we'll go on with Proposal 6 on Page 30, Proposal 7 on Page  
11 31 as well as 8. These were part of the consent agenda and  
12 were adopted along with -- in accordance with the  
13 recommendations of the Regional Advisory Council. Proposal  
14 9 on Page 31 was withdrawn by the proponent. Proposal 10  
15 was a Board proposal, I mean a Southeast Regional Advisory  
16 Council proposal and was accepted. On Page 32, the last  
17 proposal was Proposal 11 which was submitted by the Hoonah  
18 Indian Association, a proposal that had been before us  
19 several times before and this was one that I was personally  
20 a miffed by because this was a proposal that had received  
21 the consensus, agreement of the users in the area, as well  
22 as the Federal Staff signing off on it and the Department  
23 Staff, and then later when it came to be the State backed  
24 out. I was a little bit miffed on this.

25

26 That's the only one that it was a little  
27 bit different than what we had proposed. So if there's any  
28 questions or comments on Proposal 11, Council members.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Schroeder.

33

34 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, this proposal  
35 won't die, it will be before you once again in its yearly  
36 form. I believe our biologist Chuck Parsley in Hoonah is  
37 planning on doing a little bit extra work this time and to  
38 see if some of the suggestions that were made last year, in  
39 fact, worked. So part of those have to do with collecting  
40 -- talking with trappers, collecting carcasses during the  
41 season and working up some age/sex information.

42

43 So we will be meeting again with trappers,  
44 with Hoonah Indian Association, and with our State  
45 colleagues to try to get this to work this time around.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Any  
50 other comments on the .805(c) letter from the Council.

00049

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. We'll go to  
4 Page 5 on the agenda, the next item is the annual report  
5 response, but remember we adopted the agenda as a guide.  
6 And what I needed to do right now, we're going to offer Mr.  
7 Casipit a couple minutes to make a presentation on a white  
8 paper and immediately following that we'd like to ask Megan  
9 Cartwright to have her group ready to go before lunch so we  
10 can accommodate them, and then after lunch we'll come back  
11 with the annual report response.

12

13 Mr. Casipit.

14

15 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you. Mr. Chairman.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Wait, one second  
18 please.

19

20 MR. CASIPIT: Oh.

21

22 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: There were several  
23 Staff that came in and maybe you could catch them, there's  
24 a couple of them that came in. If we'll catch them right  
25 now so that everybody knows who they are. I believe Bob  
26 Larson came in and a couple others.

27

28 MR. CASIPIT: Yes, Bob, if you would stand  
29 please. Bob Larson is our subsistence fisheries biologist  
30 in Petersburg.

31

32 DR. SCHROEDER: Excuse me, I neglected to  
33 introduce our court reporter, Salena, who's done great work  
34 with us in other years as well. And I think we have a  
35 number of members of the public who are here. I see Victor  
36 Burgess and Vicki LeCornu and a number of other people and  
37 we welcome you to our meeting.

38

39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Mr.  
40 Casipit.

41

42 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I  
43 didn't really have a presentation. What I.....

44

45 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, before Mr.  
46 Casipit -- I mean, Cal goes and does his -- I'd like to  
47 introduce Jim Capra from Yakutat. Jim, would you please  
48 stand and introduce yourself.

49

50 MR. CAPRA: You just did.

00050

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any others that we  
2 missed, Federal Staff, State Staff.

3  
4 (No comments)

5  
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: No. Okay, Mr.  
7 Casipit.

8  
9 MR. CASIPIT: Sorry, I was just looking to  
10 see if I missed any more Federal Staff back there. I don't  
11 really have a presentation on this, with the pleasure of  
12 the Council we'd like to discuss the issue tomorrow maybe  
13 before we actually start the fisheries proposals. But I'm  
14 going to pass out to the Council over lunchtime a white  
15 paper that I'd like you to take a look at and study tonight  
16 so we can discuss it tomorrow morning. I also have  
17 additional copies for members of the public that I'll put  
18 on the back table at lunch time.

19  
20 But it's simply a white paper to talk about  
21 the issue of permits, fisheries permits for next summer.  
22 And we would like the Council to review this and provide us  
23 some recommendations. You'll notice that what I passed out  
24 is stamped Draft, we haven't decided on exactly how we're  
25 going to proceed and we would like the wisdom of the  
26 Council before me go much further than this. So these will  
27 be at your tables during lunchtime and if you could review  
28 them and come prepared to discuss it tomorrow, and I'm  
29 suggesting we discuss it before we actually start the  
30 fisheries proposals.

31  
32 Thank you.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: So noted. We'll  
35 discuss that before the fisheries proposals. Dr. Garza.

36  
37 DR. GARZA: Just as a point of order, Cal,  
38 we don't pass out around here, we can distribute those.

39  
40 (Laughter)

41  
42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Schroeder.

43  
44 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, I just would  
45 like to make sure that everyone who's present signs in each  
46 day so we know who's here. Terry Suminski has a list which  
47 he won't let you out of the room until you sign in and give  
48 us names, and if you can give us your affiliation and we  
49 don't mean whether you're a Lutheran or a  
50 Congregationalist, and if you could give us phone numbers

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1 and e-mail addresses  
2 that would be useful as well.

3

4                   One other announcement, Dave Johnson would  
5 like to let you know how lunches are being handled.

6

7                   MR. JOHNSON: Today people will be on their  
8 own for lunches but there'll be a couple sheets of paper on  
9 the back table later after lunch. For tomorrow the Craig  
10 Alaska Native Sisterhood are doing a fundraising and they  
11 will be providing Indian Tacos, dessert, and beverage for  
12 \$6. And we need a firm number on folks that plan to stay  
13 for that. On Wednesday we're going to have a halibut  
14 lasagna entre with salad dessert and beverage for \$7 that  
15 also will be put on by the ANS. So if you're interested in  
16 staying for that just sign up on the sheets of paper that  
17 will be on the back table.

18

19                   Thank you.

20

21                   MR. JOHNSON: Also one other thing, on the  
22 refreshments for this morning, ANS, again, requested that  
23 donations are warmly accepted.

24

25                   DR. SCHROEDER: And one item for Council  
26 members, just right when we break for lunch Andrea will  
27 handle paperwork for travel and per diem. Andrea, could  
28 you stand up so everybody sees who you are. And then if  
29 you come up here she'll take care of us.

30

31                   Thank you, much.

32

33                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Cartwright, are  
34 you ready for your presentation.

35

36                   MS. CARTWRIGHT: Mr. Chair. members of the  
37 Council. I am going to bring up the field technicians for  
38 the sockeye salmon research projects on Prince William  
39 Sound Island, introduce them and then get out of the way  
40 that so you can answer -- ask them any questions that you  
41 want.

42

43                   So now I'd like Henry Kennedy and Peter  
44 Brown to come up from the Klawock Community Association.  
45 These guys have been with the project for three years now  
46 and it's just a pleasure to work with them. Also Bob  
47 Sanderson from the Hydaburg for the Hetta project and Tony  
48 Christianson who oversees the Hetta Lake project.

49

50                   You guys come on up here and then I'll get

00052

1 out of the way.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Just go  
6 ahead and bring a chair up and we'll leave the mike on.  
7 And for the record, before you speak could you please  
8 introduce yourself so that we get this on the court  
9 reporter.

10

11 MR. BROWN: Peter Brown.

12

13 MR. KENNEDY: Henry Kennedy.

14

15 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Anthony Christianson.

16

17 MR. SANDERSON: Robert Sanderson.

18

19 MS. BROWN: I believe the intent of Meg was  
20 to have us get up here and explain kind of what the project  
21 was and you guys know about the ins and outs of the  
22 monitoring program to get some baseline data on harvest  
23 assessment and returns, what's getting into the lake to  
24 spawn and I think she wanted us more up here so that we  
25 could kind of answer some questions or maybe get a feel of  
26 what the text have to say about the project, them being in  
27 the field a little more than myself. I'll just turn it  
28 over to anyone of them,

29

30 MR. KOOKESH: And just in terms of what Meg  
31 wanted, it's been me pushing Meg, and she certainly has  
32 agreed, but I think that it's important that the Council  
33 know who you guys are. And so in different regions we have  
34 heard from different technicians, and so we're not trying  
35 to put you on the spot, we just want you here to say we're  
36 glad you're doing the work you're doing. We really  
37 encourage what you're doing. We'd love for you to -- I  
38 would love if you would get into fisheries as a career, but  
39 we're not up here to day are you doing your job, we're here  
40 to day thank you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: And I'd like to add  
43 to that, she's absolutely correct. We're not here to rate  
44 you at all or how you -- we want to hear from what you're  
45 doing on your project because we're going to be stuck this  
46 afternoon or maybe first thing in the morning with making  
47 some really tough decisions on who to support and we want  
48 to hear from you about your projects. So the problem is we  
49 don't have enough money, it all boils down to we don't have  
50 enough money so we have to make some choices. Those depend

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1 upon some of the things that you guy say could help the  
2 Council if they have any questions. So it certainly is a  
3 positive -- I want to make sure that that's how you  
4 interpret, that having you up here is positive, and not  
5 meant to be any other thing else.

6

7 MR. SANDERSON: Okay, when I first got  
8 involved in this project here, you know, it's something  
9 that I've tried to push for many, many years, sometimes  
10 almost 60 years on this project. The reason why we've  
11 pushed this one so heavily is the most important sockeye  
12 subsistence stream for Hydaburg and it's probably the most  
13 -- at one time, and maybe still is, the most productive  
14 sockeye system south of the Chilkat River. It has pink  
15 production years of over 200,000, many years like that.  
16 And that's a factor of three to four to one over any other  
17 system on this island.

18

19 In deed, I think you'd have to go clean to  
20 the Chilkat River to find anything comparable. Now, this  
21 place has always fascinated me. You know, we have records  
22 in the Hydaburg Coop during the cannery when we had a  
23 directed fishery, probably the only one that ever existed  
24 where they had a directed seine fishery on one stock of  
25 salmon. The other thing that's remarkable about this  
26 system is this, the runs used to start at June 1 and go  
27 into September of three separate peaks. Come to a peak in  
28 June and then go down, and then come to a peak in July and  
29 then the August run was the main peak, that's the one that  
30 supported the commercial fishery in which the subsistence  
31 fishery formerly came out of the June and July runs.

32

33 But when you look at the lake it's two  
34 miles long, it's much smaller than Klawock, in area, or  
35 some of these other systems with very large spawning areas.  
36 And from personal observation, it looks to me like the  
37 spawning area is rather limited. Then the question comes  
38 to this, why did it produce 200,000 sockeye a year. And we  
39 found a number of things. I've had some conclusions, you  
40 know, that I've come to after the last three years. We  
41 wanted to get some answers and we've got some of them now.  
42 We've had a pretty good group, you know, from Fish and  
43 Game, and Mr. Lee Charles who worked with me, he's gotten  
44 really good at this project here, and that it's something  
45 that, you know, I think we've given -- or tried to give a  
46 lot of cooperation because we want some answers on this.

47

48 The lake in some years, I know is under  
49 reported, on peak years. There were times, in my opinion,  
50 that it probably produced more than all other systems put

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1 together for the subsistence users. And the problems we  
2 have, sometimes on this is this, you know, that sometimes  
3 I wish I had the management authority to manage these  
4 systems, you know, they probably -- mostly it's on the  
5 drought -- say there's a one month drought in July, the  
6 fish will not go up and it's heavily fished, I've seen this  
7 happen on Eek more than once and maybe Hetta more than  
8 once, you get lots of rain it doesn't make the problem  
9 because they're always going up. We found in some of the  
10 material that was written when we had a hatchery there and  
11 people that had lived there, Frankie Young lived there for  
12 28 years, because his father and grandfather worked in the  
13 hatchery at one time, and they recorded sockeye spawning in  
14 October, November, December and even into the spring of all  
15 things. And to reinforce that, right below the camp we  
16 had, two years ago, seven sockeye moved in there at the  
17 beginning of September, at the lake, which we were out  
18 there doing our work and then two weeks later we came back  
19 again, they were still there. So we did our tagging again  
20 and went home and two weeks later they were still there.  
21 So when they closed the project down around the 15th of  
22 October we went back and five of those fish were still  
23 there. And that's six weeks in one place, one red. And I  
24 think they would have been there later if we had gone back  
25 later.

26

27                   That's something that I've really wanted to  
28 do on this project, is to go back in November and December  
29 and just kind of check it out because there's people that  
30 used to go out there in the spring, in February and March  
31 to spear one to eat.

32

33                   And they'd take these sockeye, they said  
34 they'd be swimming and spawning around the rim of the lake  
35 and you miss them with the spear, the darn things would  
36 swim over the drop off and they'd come back just like a  
37 rubber band, right to the same place, and we observed that  
38 in those few that we looked at the other day.

39

40                   We need to do this one. I'd like to expand  
41 it even. You know, I really wanted to see Eek Lake go this  
42 year because that's the other important system. Not only  
43 have we monitored those two lakes, but we monitored three  
44 others at the same time. We didn't have to do it but we  
45 did it, that Hunter Bay, Klakasi and Koosuk because as the  
46 population grows and the boats get bigger and faster that  
47 some of these areas are going to be looked at and be  
48 utilized heavily for subsistence like they used to be in  
49 the past when we had camps down there in the old days. And  
50 maybe that's a better thing, too, because it would take the

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1 pressure off maybe one or two stocks, so that we want to  
2 continue this even though it's not a part of our project.

3

4

5 I've enjoyed this work here. It's  
6 something that I've always liked to do. I was involved one  
7 year in a historic site investigation for SeaAlaska  
8 Corporation and went to 1,100 places and we must have  
9 covered every sockeye system in Southeastern Alaska where  
10 there was a camp that included around Sitka, Angoon, Kake,  
11 even Yakutat, and the other side, I think we visited every  
12 one of them, and was fortunate enough to see sockeye runs  
13 in several of those places at the time of the year, in late  
14 June and early July. So I think I have a knowledge of most  
15 of these. I went to school in Sitka and I knew those areas  
16 quite well. But it's something that, again, I know I just  
17 emphasize that we have a good relationship with the Fish  
18 and Game, we've tried our best to cooperate and they have  
19 done the same.

20

21 So think that's about it for me, thank you.

22

23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I take it that  
24 you're supporting the Hetta Lake sockeye project.

25

26 MR. SANDERSON: Yes, we'd have to be.

27

28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We understand that,  
29 and thank you.

30

31 MR. SANDERSON: Yes. Yes, the Hetta. I'm  
32 hoping to get Eek Lake, because that probably -- there's  
33 years when Eek Lake came to a peak that probably produced  
34 more fish than many of these systems that you got listed in  
35 this book here. And we were just kind of fortunate that we  
36 lived close to a real lucrative sockeye system that we were  
37 the largest users of sockeye in Southeastern Alaska, even  
38 more than Klukwan did in the past because we had this good  
39 sockeye system right close to the village. And other  
40 villages maybe not so fortunate, they'd have to run several  
41 hours with seine boats over some rather rough waters to get  
42 at -- wherever they get sockeye, you know, I think of Kake  
43 and several other communities where they have to go several  
44 hours to get them, Hoonah is another one.

45

46 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, well, thank  
47 you very much.

48

49 MR. SANDERSON: Thank you.

50

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1                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Your encyclopedia of  
2 knowledge. You got quite a bit of knowledge there, maybe  
3 it would be good for you to be managing the program.  
4 Anthony, go ahead.

5  
6                   MR. CHRISTIANSON: Anthony Christianson.  
7 Right along with what Bob said, with three years of data  
8 under the Hetta Lake project, in talking with biologists it  
9 doesn't give us a broad range or a scope of the entire life  
10 of sockeye. And in the last three years we've found that  
11 there is some type of factor with the sockeye and we  
12 haven't been recording a high number of returning salmon to  
13 the system. Bob spoke of harvest records of 200,000 in the  
14 past, and the last two years of data which we have in a  
15 report form shows an escapement of 5,000 to 10,000 and a  
16 harvest of about the same. So we're looking at under or  
17 less than 10,000 sockeye returning to a system that had a  
18 couple hundred thousand fish. And I think that we need  
19 more data to try to create some type of co-management  
20 program to where we can get a handle on the numbers and try  
21 to get adequate escapement into the system so that we're  
22 not hurting our subsistence needs down the road in the  
23 future by overharvesting during drought or during, you  
24 know, weather conditions that come up, you know, the  
25 fisheries open but the fish can't get up so we're  
26 harvesting them. There has to be some kind of local  
27 management that can say, hey, wait a second we need to slow  
28 down here or we can have some devastating impacts on our  
29 future runs because there isn't an escapement.

30  
31                   And I think that these projects are putting  
32 a little bit of resource management capabilities into the  
33 local people's hands and it gives us a better understanding  
34 of the resource and helps us relate it to our community,  
35 hey, this is really important, you know, we need to sit  
36 back and look at it as, you know, sure there might seem to  
37 -- or appear to be a lot of fish but there isn't. You  
38 know, they might all be coming in at one time, like Bob  
39 stated there was three peaks, while we're noting now that  
40 two of those peaks are very diminished. There's little to  
41 no return on them. Subsistence users are having to pan out  
42 and that's why we've went to monitoring five different  
43 systems underneath one program. I mean we've started doing  
44 krill surveys on our own to get a community need and where  
45 harvest limits are coming from and what systems they're  
46 utilizing.

47  
48                   And with the proposal to fund Hetta Lake  
49 three further years, I think the tribe would continue to do  
50 the same, and get more bang for the buck, so to say, on

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1 just one project. Because it's important to us to get all  
2 of that data. And by providing us with some funding to  
3 keep these guys rolling down the road to get us some data  
4 that's going to give us some avenues to explore as far as  
5 future funding or what it's going to take to get the lake  
6 back to at least a safe level of return of salmon, you  
7 know, we're going to need six years of data, you know,  
8 we're going to need an entire cycle and in that we're going  
9 to also get some community structure as to how we can  
10 manage those systems and say, hey, we're not getting a  
11 return here, we need to move to alternate systems, so we  
12 can get management of our own resource. And I think that's  
13 what this one project goes. And I would say that any  
14 resource a tribal community harvest should have some type  
15 of monitoring program, the same with the deer, the same  
16 with any resource we got, we need to go local with it so  
17 that we get real numbers and that feel people ownership and  
18 then you'll get the real numbers. Because they'll see the  
19 advantage of monitoring your resource to ensure  
20 sustainability. And I think that's what this program does.  
21 And it's provided a couple of jobs for local people which  
22 is a big thing in this day and age with high unemployment  
23 rates in our local communities.

24

25 So we would have to support that project.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Go  
28 ahead, next.

29

30 MR. BROWN: My name is Peter Brown. And  
31 I've been working on the project for the last two years and  
32 like Tony said it does need to be studied for another three  
33 to four years to see the whole life cycle of the sockeye  
34 returning, even the June, July is kind of not what it used  
35 to be compared to the later, in the August.

36

37 Other than that, I don't know what else to  
38 say.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, thank you. Go  
41 ahead, next. Dr. Garza.

42

43 DR. GARZA: So just as a point of  
44 clarification, you're working on the Klawock project?

45

46 MR. BROWN: Yeah, the Klawock Lake project.

47

48 DR. GARZA: Okay. And maybe one of you  
49 could tell us what you guys are doing there.

50

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1 MR. BROWN: We're counting fish past the  
2 weir. We're doing a recapture up in the lake. We're doing  
3 the stream surveys, counting the recaptures up in the four  
4 systems that feed the lake. Earlier in the spring we did  
5 the fry count of the sockeye hatching coming into the lake  
6 and we did a trout predation study to see if the trout are  
7 actually eating the salmon fry coming out of the creeks.  
8 And we did the krill survey out in the bay which was real  
9 successful, we got some good numbers, which was about the  
10 same as last year, what they caught, six to 8,000 fish.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That was great,  
13 thank you. Go ahead.

14  
15 MR. KENNEDY: My name is Henry. I work  
16 with Pete at the Klawock system. The management type that  
17 Tony was talking about, say, like in the dry season when  
18 the sockeye are ready to go up into the stream but they  
19 can't because the river's so low, working out some type to  
20 manage that better for people to be catching a lot.

21  
22 Sorry, I wasn't prepared to speak. That's  
23 about it.

24  
25 MR. BROWN: You can't have a -- July -- the  
26 dry -- first -- the first and second week of July is pretty  
27 dry so a lot of fish are getting caught without getting up  
28 into the system, a lot of fish.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Any  
31 questions. Dr. Garza.

32  
33 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So a  
34 comment from either of you, it's Pete, I forget your names  
35 already.

36  
37 MR. BROWN: Pete and Henry.

38  
39 DR. GARZA: Either Pete or Henry, so Bob  
40 Sanderson and Anthony did state that they believe the Hetta  
41 project should continue and we'd like to know for certain  
42 what you think of the Klawock Lake project, what should  
43 continue or is it going good as it is or what?

44  
45 MR. BROWN: Well, it's different each year.  
46 There seems to be a little less fish this year than last  
47 year, and it would be nice to get another, at least, three  
48 year study on the system to see the whole life cycle since  
49 we've started to see if those fish are coming back in more  
50 or less. And it seems to be an up and down type thing.

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1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council  
2 questions.

3  
4 Mr. Stokes.

5  
6 MR. STOKES: Do you find that it's the male  
7 that comes in first and the female comes in the second run  
8 or do they come in at the same time, both male and female?

9  
10 MR. BROWN: It seems like they come in  
11 mostly females and it's a male/female ratio, then towards  
12 the end it's a -- seems like a lot of male come in.

13  
14 MR. STOKES: Thank you.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams.

17  
18 MR. ADAMS: I sit here really amazed at you  
19 men for this project that you're taking on. I'm really  
20 impressed with Mr. Sanderson's, you know, knowledge, and I  
21 think that he's probably -- you know, you young men are  
22 feeding a lot of information from him. But I have a  
23 question for each of you, do any of you have a degree in  
24 marine biology?

25  
26 MR. BROWN: No, I don't.

27  
28 MR. KENNEDY: (Shakes head negatively)

29  
30 MR. ADAMS: That's amazing, thank you.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I think Mr.  
33 Sanderson does.

34  
35 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Yeah, Bob's pretty  
36 close. he read all the books.

37  
38 MR. SANDERSON: I have quite a library at  
39 Hydaburg. You know, I had 1,400 books of just about every  
40 subject there is but I've gotten a lot of fishery books.  
41 I used to get them from the University of Washington, Fish  
42 and Game, the Feds, whatever. I tried to read up on some  
43 of these and there are places that have really nothing  
44 behind them and these areas around the village, in many  
45 areas, there's just nothing, nothing, no information at  
46 all, so we tried to provide it.

47  
48 You know, there was a time when many elders  
49 were still alive and I picked up a lot of that from them,  
50 you know, even around Sitka, I picked up some as a young

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1 boy from Andrew Hope way back. And Paul Morrison, you  
2 know, Ben Duncan, James Edensol, and Fred Grant, though,  
3 they're no longer with us but I picked up a lot up from  
4 them.

5  
6 One of the things, and getting back to  
7 Hetta, I think it's a real resilient system, especially the  
8 lake spawn. We recorded a rather mediocre escapement two  
9 years, yet it brought back the largest fry count of any  
10 lake that you folks have studied, you know, it's just --  
11 that's one of those things I think that contributes to  
12 maybe being the largest single producer in the past there.  
13 If this project had opened one year earlier you would have  
14 seen a big run, you know, that people had all they wanted,  
15 it quit early, in other words, and it's one of those that  
16 came in like a wall, you know, the boats would go down  
17 there and just come back loaded and just in a short time in  
18 the afternoon. This last two years it hasn't been that  
19 way. This year, I don't know, I just call it fair, and the  
20 year before was fairly poor and the year before that when  
21 we first started was fair. And it's something that -- like  
22 I mentioned, we tried to get some answers on this one here.  
23 You know, it has the potential to supply us, on peak runs  
24 it supplied Craig and Klawock, you know, I mean it used to  
25 support a commercial fishery, a directed fishery, our  
26 fishery.

27  
28 And in those times, you know, from our old  
29 records it produced anywhere from maybe 30 or 40,000 in  
30 August up to 140,000, I still remember that year, you know,  
31 that our low boat had 4,000 and the high boat had 11,000.  
32 We had a big fleet. Victor Burgess ran a boat that year,  
33 the first year he ever ran a boat and he got 7,000 that one  
34 year back in the '50s. So I know the potential is there  
35 and if you build that escapement up it will come back. And  
36 it's not one of those that comes to a peak one year and  
37 then flattens out for four years, it's one of those that  
38 produces every year. And it's a small lake, it's deep,  
39 it's very deep, it's very clear. And again, you know, I'm  
40 thinking it produced 200,000 sockeye a year, there must  
41 have been six or seven million smelts a year in that lake,  
42 and how does it support it, you know, that's something I'd  
43 like to find out.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All right, thank  
46 you. Dr. Garza.

47  
48 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And I  
49 would like to echo what Bert had stated. I am absolutely  
50 impressed with the four of you and the work that you are

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1 doing. I have been introduced several times as Dr. Garza  
2 but you are doing the same work that I do, you have the --  
3 from your work, the equivalent easily of a bachelors and if  
4 you went to school at UAS or Sheldon Jackson or UAF, you  
5 would likely just zip right through the classes, and so I  
6 would encourage you in that direction.

7

8                   And I know that you have a -- I am assuming  
9 that you have a good working relationship with Meg  
10 Cartwright as well as with Bert Lewis and if that's not  
11 true we would like to hear that so we can always work to  
12 improve this process, but it looks like it's going fairly  
13 well. And so I commend Meg on that as well as Bert, and  
14 he's probably out in the field somewhere, because I think  
15 he loves his job.

16

17                   The final point I wanted to make is that as  
18 Chairman Littlefield stated, we will be making decisions or  
19 recommendations on which proposals should be funded. The  
20 requests are far greater than the monies that we have  
21 available. One point to make is that we have never had  
22 enough requests for the TEK funds. One-third of the funds  
23 are supposed to be traditional ecological knowledge sort of  
24 grants, and Sitka Tribe has been pretty good at applying  
25 for those but we generally don't get them from other  
26 communities so that maybe an opportunity, say, for Hydaburg  
27 to do some of the historic knowledge or even Klawock to do  
28 historic knowledge on use patterns of Klawock Lake or  
29 Hetta, and so that would be another avenue of working into  
30 it. So it doesn't have to be the out on the field work  
31 every day but perhaps the interviewing types of information  
32 to get data and information from our elders.

33

34                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

35

36                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council.  
37 Mr. Douville.

38

39                   MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
40 have a question, you said you did a krill census, and I was  
41 just curious as to how you did that, is it randomly or do  
42 you check everybody fishing every day throughout the run or  
43 maybe you could explain that.

44

45                   Thank you.

46

47                   MR. SANDERSON: How they do the krill?

48

49                   MR. CHRISTIANSON: Yeah.

50

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1 MR. SANDERSON: I didn't -- is that  
2 directed to me?

3

4 MR. CHRISTIANSON: Yeah, Bob, missed the  
5 question, I'll answer that. When we first started the  
6 study back three years ago, the krill was a random draw and  
7 we would basically throw ping pong balls in the thing and  
8 grab them out and pick two days or four days out of the  
9 week and that didn't work for a small community. There's  
10 a general pattern of people that fish when they can fish  
11 and that's when they aren't working. And a lot of our days  
12 were falling on weekdays so we changed the krill survey and  
13 began doing it on site which gave us the approximate number  
14 of fish being harvested rather than getting guesses and  
15 plugging into a formula, we went to the grounds observed  
16 fishing seven days a week and got approximate number of  
17 fish. And a lot of this was done on the budget that we had  
18 five days a week, eight hours a day but the guys worked  
19 seven hours a day so -- I mean eight hours, sometimes 12  
20 hours, splitting shifts but basically we would try to cover  
21 seven days of the week so that we could get the approximate  
22 number of fish harvested. And the only way to do this was  
23 to get out to the systems by boat so that we could observe  
24 who was fishing and then ask them people what their harvest  
25 was and what stream they had got it from.

26

27 So that was the direction we took the krill  
28 survey from the original study to monitoring it so that it  
29 fit our community so that we could get real numbers. And  
30 this was done by interviewing all of the people harvesting  
31 fish.

32

33 MR. SANDERSON: And we went right down on  
34 the grounds and counted every fish. What we have, the  
35 figures that have been turned in are very, very accurate.  
36 You know, that if we had a good relationship with the  
37 people that fished, you know, that they'd always -- you  
38 know, if someone else would come in while we were gone, you  
39 know, that they'd let us know so we could track them down.  
40 So this last three years, I think what you have and what  
41 we've given, and the data we put together as far as the  
42 catches are concerned are really accurate. There's just no  
43 formula saying that if you fish two days then you'll get  
44 the same amount the next two days, in other words so it  
45 didn't work right off the bat, I'll have to say that.  
46 First of all they're going -- you know it could not be done  
47 like they do in Klawock where the fishery is right in the  
48 harbor and your people that are monitoring that are right  
49 there, they could see every boat. So it's -- when they  
50 tried to do that in Hydaburg, you know, the boats come

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1 whistling past with their -- and we'd have to track them  
2 down, trace them down, finally about three days of that we  
3 just started to put some gas in outboard motors and just go  
4 down and do it and it's worked better every year, we're  
5 very close.

6

7 Thank you.

8

9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kitka.

10

11 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
12 heard one comment out there and that kind of struck home  
13 with me and that was kind of a local management type of  
14 thing. And under this local management thing it seemed  
15 like during the dry spells that this group should have some  
16 say on when they can fish. And I know I think it was  
17 Angoon that when they discovered that the runs were real  
18 weak and the fisheries, that they asked their people to go  
19 to a different stream so that they could conserve the run,  
20 if I'm -- I'm pretty sure I'm right on this point.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council.  
25 Ms. Phillips. And first, before we -- I'd like to welcome  
26 Council member Marilyn Wilson from her safe travels and  
27 glad you made it, and welcome.

28

29 MS. WILSON: Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Phillips.

32

33 MS. PHILLIPS: Who is the in-season manager  
34 for Hetta or Klawock?

35

36 MR. CHRISTIANSON: That'd be the Department  
37 of Fish and Game.

38

39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Casipit.

40

41 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chair, Ms. Phillips. For  
42 the Federal subsistence fisheries on Prince of Wales the  
43 in-season manger is the district ranger at Craig.

44

45 MS. CARTWRIGHT: Mr. Chair. Council. For  
46 the State of Alaska it's still Dorety (ph) he's an area  
47 management biologist out of Ketchikan.

48

49 MS. PHILLIPS: And your name.

50

00064

1 MS. CARTWRIGHT: I'm Meg Cartwright.

2

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair, a follow up.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Phillips.

6

7 MS. PHILLIPS: Does the in-season manager  
8 ask you fellow for recommendations concerning in-season  
9 management?

10

11 MR. CHRISTIANSON: No they don't. But with  
12 the current data and the situations with the lakes, I don't  
13 think we have adequate information to be telling them when  
14 to stop it or open it because we're still trying to figure  
15 out what the stocks are doing. So right now that's the  
16 importance of furthering the study so that we can get  
17 information and a cycle that the sockeye are going through  
18 so we can say this year or that year this is what's going  
19 on and maybe make recommendations on past data.

20

21 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That was a good  
22 answer, Anthony.

23

24 (Laughter)

25

26 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council.

27

28 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair, follow up.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Phillips.

31

32 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you. And they do get  
33 your input in your recorded data that you submit. And when  
34 you four men approached the table I had sense of pride  
35 surge up within me and I want to thank the Federal Resource  
36 Monitoring Program for the capacity building that they are  
37 doing. And I'd like to thank Meg Cartwright for  
38 facilitating that capacity building with the tribes and  
39 thank you gentlemen for your follow through and your  
40 commitment to the project and I encourage you to continue  
41 on.

42

43 And I'd also like to say that in no way  
44 feel a sense of less esteem for not having a degree. I  
45 know that I don't have a degree, but the level of my local  
46 knowledge gives me that integrity I need to sit on this  
47 panel and it also gives you the integrity that you have in  
48 your job performance, which is to me, outstanding.

49

50 Thank you.

00065

1 (Applause)

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams.

4

5 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
6 just want to make a comment here, you know, about these  
7 young men and Mr. Sanderson. I'm a real strong advocate of  
8 TEK, getting all of the information, you know, that the  
9 elders and information you know about how the fish runs  
10 were -- the patterns that we have done. Mr. Sanderson  
11 mentioned that, you know, there were times when there were  
12 200,000 fish in that lake and that's really important to  
13 know and understand. And then why has it declined, you  
14 know, so taking TEK, or traditional knowledge, and I think  
15 that Mr. Sanderson has both of those, he has not only  
16 traditional knowledge, but the books and everything that he  
17 has read, you know, has also done what I have been trying  
18 to get our tribe to do is to take TEK and Western science  
19 and bridge them together. And when it comes time to do  
20 management, you know, then you can use that data on both  
21 sides of the fence to develop a good management plan for  
22 whatever it is that you're working on.

23

24 And so I really commend you guys, you know,  
25 for the great work that you are doing there and keep up the  
26 good work because you are setting, to me, a precedence that  
27 could spread to other areas as well.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council.  
32 I'd like to note, I also want to congratulate all of you.  
33 This Council has gone on record as supporting and  
34 prioritizing fisheries projects by first supporting, as Dr.  
35 Garza mentioned, the traditional TEK projects and harvest  
36 monitoring, those are very high priority to us and later  
37 when we get into discussion of funding, those are going to  
38 be projects that we likely are to fund given the available  
39 fundings, and then the next important things were sockeye.  
40 We realize that salmon, sockeye and coho are most important  
41 to our people as subsistence, and so they have higher  
42 priorities. And we understand that the sockeye life is six  
43 years, so I believe this Council is -- you're going to find  
44 that we want to study those for six years, too. And the  
45 next priority would be the steelhead trout and other  
46 issues.

47

48 So you can be sure that the Council is  
49 really supportive of projects that have partnering, we've  
50 spoke about that before, that we want partnering with

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1 tribes and it is a pleasure to see the four of you up here  
2 and I'd like to thank you for making your presentation  
3 today.

4

5                   And right now I think we need to take a  
6 lunch break, and we're going to take one hour today because  
7 we need to get these things going.

8

9                   Again, thank you, gentlemen.

10

11                   Mr. Johnson.

12

13                   MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, and Council.  
14 For those of you that are not familiar with Craig, there  
15 are several places to eat lunch, Ruth Anne's which is  
16 downtown, the Bait Box, which is on the way, Rhonda's which  
17 is right across the way, Dockside Cafe and Zack's Pizza and  
18 there's also, Thompson House has a deli, so there you go.

19

20                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, we will  
21 reconvene at 1:30.

22

23                   (Off record)

24

25                   (On record)

26

27                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Please take your  
28 seats and come back to order.

29

30                   (Pause)

31

32                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Please take your  
33 seats and come back to order.

34

35                   (Pause)

36

37                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The meeting is back  
38 in order. We're on Agenda Item 7B, which is the annual  
39 report response. If you'll look in your Board books on  
40 Page 33, there is a response letter from the Federal  
41 Subsistence Board on previous actions taken by the Council  
42 by resolution and also by other means in their annual  
43 report. I guess we'll go through these just like we did  
44 the report, with the understanding that I don't want to  
45 spend all day on it, we got to get Mr. McBride out of here  
46 at 6:00 o'clock, so if there's something here that really  
47 sticks in your craw maybe we'll put it under Item 13 and  
48 new business. So with that, on Page 33, issue one, the  
49 Regional Advisory Council appointments.

50

00067

1 Any Council comment on that.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Once again, for the  
6 Council, we're on Page 33 and this is the Federal  
7 Subsistence Board response to our annual report. The  
8 response is in the second paragraph, and what we asked for  
9 is in the first. So any Council comments.

10

11 MR. STOKES: Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Stokes.

14

15 MR. STOKES: I was just wondering how the  
16 -- you know, on the response here, we're going to have  
17 commercial fishermen and charter boat operators and  
18 tourism, I'm just wondering how this is going to affect us.  
19 You know, because myself, my family operates a charter  
20 outfit, and we're in the tourism, so I'm just wondering how  
21 that would affect us?

22

23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, maybe I could  
24 have Dr. Schroeder respond to that.

25

26 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Stokes, it's really a  
27 little bit hard to say how this is going to play out. The  
28 existing Council members, the seated Council members are  
29 listed in the paperwork that we file under the Federal  
30 Advisory Committee Act or under FACA, I've tried to  
31 identify your different commercial interests or your  
32 involvement in tourism. Under the new selection criteria  
33 for members of the Regional Advisory Council's however, a  
34 person has to be declared as representing a commercial  
35 interest or a sport interest to be counted against the 30  
36 percent of the seats that will go for -- in that category.

37

38 The Federal Subsistence Board has made its  
39 suggestions to the Department of Interior and Department of  
40 Agriculture concerning the new Board appointments and so  
41 we'll be hearing from them hopefully in the near future.

42

43 MR. STOKES: Thank you. Well, what would  
44 you suggest, like myself, I'm a subsistence person and yet  
45 I'm associated with the charter and tourism, but like I  
46 say, my son-in-law won't take a person out halibut fishing.  
47 So -- but he's one of the exceptions. But I was just  
48 wondering, would you suggest that I sign up for the charter  
49 and the tourism or how would I go about that? Because I'm  
50 not up for appointment until next year.

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1 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Stokes, it's really  
2 hard to say. I think we should see how this round of  
3 appointments goes and then what I'd suggest to any Council  
4 member who's coming up, who's term is coming up, is that we  
5 look at how many seats we're filling for the coming year  
6 and then the person has to decide who they're going to  
7 represent, which category they put themselves in. So this  
8 Council will end up, according to the current regime with  
9 four seats that are assigned to people who declare  
10 themselves as being sport or commercial interests.

11  
12 Until we get this years appointments,  
13 however, we don't know of the next years seats how many  
14 will need to be designated that way. So, for example, this  
15 year we have five seats that are open, until we get the  
16 Secretarial appointments, we won't be certain how many of  
17 those seats are filled with sport or commercial interests.  
18 In the next year we'll probably need to fill one or two of  
19 our seats with sport or commercial interests. So it will  
20 be a little bit like someone will have to evaluate that  
21 circumstance right then. And many people have said that,  
22 Council members not only from this Council, but around the  
23 State wear a lot of different hats that definitely have  
24 backgrounds and economic activities and charter businesses  
25 and tourism and commercial fishing and guiding or just some  
26 other business. However, under the current regime, someone  
27 needs to declare who they're going to represent.

28  
29 MR. STOKES: Thank you.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council  
32 comments.

33  
34 Dr. Garza.

35  
36 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Chair. So it was  
37 also my understanding that Native American Rights Fund was  
38 trying to serve as an intervenor to stop the process until  
39 the issue was resolved, is that the case or has it been  
40 resolved?

41  
42 DR. SCHROEDER: Dr. Garza, the Native  
43 American Rights Fund was granted intervenor status and this  
44 was quite awhile ago. I did -- I haven't had any briefing  
45 on the status of that lawsuit, which is the Safari  
46 litigation. I did hear from our Federal lawyers that  
47 nothing was happening over the next couple of months, there  
48 wasn't anything scheduled that was likely to come out in  
49 that case in the next couple of months. So it remains to  
50 be seen how the courts will act on that and one of the

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1 arguments made by NRF was that this action shouldn't  
2 proceed. But NRF hasn't, to my knowledge, requested that  
3 that decision to proceed be stayed or postponed.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Dr.  
6 Schroeder. I believe we should put this on Item 13 and  
7 discuss it further under new business with a possible --  
8 another resolution or reaffirming from the Council on what  
9 they'd like to do on this.

10

11 The second item was on Page 34, top of 34,  
12 was the license requirements. This is kind of a pet peeve  
13 of mine, I don't believe that you should have a hunting  
14 license to take subsistence resources. But that, again,  
15 was shot down and it looks to me like this is a Secretarial  
16 decision and will probably be shot down again, but that  
17 doesn't mean I'm not willing to ask for it again.

18

19 So anybody have any questions on the  
20 hunting license, subsistence hunting license.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. The next item  
25 is rural determination for Sitka and Ketchikan. When I  
26 made a presentation in May to the Federal Subsistence Board  
27 I did tell them that we had supported, by resolution, the  
28 inclusion of Ketchikan as a community which should have  
29 rural status, and that took them quite by surprise, several  
30 of the Federal Subsistence Board. Again, as reiterated by  
31 Dr. Garza, she still supports that as do I. I think the  
32 characterization is rural right now, more rural than it is  
33 non-rural.

34

35 So if anybody has any other comments on the  
36 rural determination for Sitka and Ketchikan, do you have  
37 any comments on that, Council.

38

39 Dr. Garza.

40

41 DR. GARZA: I guess we could move this also  
42 to old business or new business or something, but the  
43 process that I'm not aware of is how, beyond a resolution  
44 to this Council, how residents or organizations in  
45 Ketchikan would approach Federal Subsistence Board or even  
46 be aware that they're going through this process, because  
47 other than the RACs, nobody really knows that this process  
48 is ongoing as a 10 year review. And so there doesn't  
49 appear to be an apparent avenue of trying to change  
50 anything.

00070

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Schroeder would  
4 you respond to Dr. Garza's question.

5

6 DR. SCHROEDER: Dr. Garza, we haven't had  
7 anything fresh, meaning over the last month or two beyond  
8 the response to the annual report on this. The Board is  
9 waiting to get peer review comments on the ICER report and  
10 then the Board will have to schedule some work sessions to  
11 come up with a suggestion on how to proceed on the  
12 urban/rural question. So one step is that the ICER report  
13 will get reviewed and revised. And it will make  
14 suggestions, the Board could follow those suggestions or  
15 not. We've been assured that there'll be a full public  
16 review of this process and that the Councils would be  
17 involved. So I guess I don't have anything more to add on  
18 that.

19

20 If there's another Federal Staff person  
21 here who has further information I'd welcome them to come  
22 up.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Again, we'll move  
25 this to Item 13 and have further discussion on new  
26 business. And next was on Page 35, center of the page,  
27 Issue 4, which was commercialization of marine plants. I  
28 was a little unhappy with the response of the Federal  
29 Subsistence Board here. We still believe, at least, I  
30 still believe it's within the authority of the Regional  
31 Advisory Council to look at other resources by fish and  
32 wildlife.

33

34 So if there's any Council that would like  
35 to comment on it.

36

37 Dr. Garza.

38

39 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. This,  
40 again, is one of the areas of my concern and I think that  
41 it's something that we still need to keep in front of us  
42 and keep bringing back to the Federal Subsistence Board.  
43 And perhaps what we need to do is to look, I think that  
44 it's -- I know that at one time, Jude Pate, as attorney for  
45 Sitka Tribe went through the process of clearly identifying  
46 how it should be included and where the error was made and  
47 was reading what language. And so if we could dig that  
48 back up, maybe we could send that back as part of our  
49 response.

50

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1                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Let's move  
2 this to Item 13 and maybe we could ask the Sitka Tribe if  
3 they could research that and provide that to us by  
4 Wednesday, is that possible -- okay, we'll go that  
5 direction.

6  
7                   Item 5, this is one of Mr. Stokes'  
8 longstanding concerns, and, again, that he mentioned today,  
9 was developing a local management plan for halibut near  
10 Wrangell. Again, they said we could make some  
11 recommendations and I would like to do that before Mr.  
12 Probasco leaves, talk about that as well as our support for  
13 -- the positive support for the halibut subsistence  
14 program. So maybe we could just put that on the agenda  
15 before Pete takes off. I don't know where that would be  
16 right now, but this is as a guide, so we'll talk more about  
17 that one.

18  
19                   Issue 6 was brought up by Mr. Adams, I  
20 believe, cruise ship pollution and subsistence activities  
21 being interrupted. Would you like to comment on that.

22  
23                   MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We  
24 still have a grave concern about the cruise ships entering  
25 into Yakutat and Disenchantment Bay. Also, you know, with  
26 the pollution of the waters, you know, through their  
27 dumping, you know, they claim that they don't do that in  
28 the bays per se. But there's a lot of concern about the  
29 Royez River that goes up the coast of -- the Gulf Coast of  
30 Alaska. It's -- and it travels, you know, at a pretty  
31 rapid speed, and, you know, some people suspect that they  
32 are dumping in that area and it's still washing to the  
33 shores in the Yakutat area.

34  
35                   Right now the tribe is trying to work out  
36 a protocol to enter into the bay. We're suggesting a  
37 designated route so as not to disturb the seals during the  
38 pupping season, and that's been identified from May 15th  
39 through July 15th. There is going to be a route to set out  
40 for them, they go in the same way and come back out the  
41 same way, and also we're asking that they be monitored so  
42 that we can study the effects, you know, that new route  
43 will provide, whether it is, you know, helping or a  
44 detriment. So, just in a nutshell, that's what it's all  
45 about.

46  
47                   The community or the tribe put together a  
48 proposal to the industry. There were some things in there  
49 they didn't like, like the number of ships that are coming  
50 in has been increasing more and more every year. This year

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1 there was more than 150, we're trying to cap it at 150.  
2 Next year they're planning to send in 180 ships in there  
3 and it's going to increase more and more each year. And  
4 they're not paying attention, you know, to our concerns  
5 there but the proposal that we submitted to them, you know,  
6 puts a cap on it at 150. The designated route idea. We  
7 also want them to fund the monitoring program. That's  
8 going to be pretty elaborate. They think that -- the  
9 industry thinks that they can do that, and they've taken  
10 our proposal and they're going to discuss it at a meeting  
11 sometime this month, I guess it is -- yeah, sometime this  
12 month and then get back with us.

13

14 So that's about where we're at on that Mr.  
15 Chairman, we're still trying to wheel and deal with the  
16 industry to make sure, you know, that our resources and our  
17 environment, you know, are kept in pristine order.

18

19 Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Mr.  
22 Adams. I think what I'm going to do is I'm going to ask  
23 Dr. Schroeder to just put annual report under new business,  
24 Item 13, just about every one of these are deserving of  
25 discussion again. And the funny thing is when -- I've  
26 looked back through every annual report that the Regional  
27 Advisory Council has developed and you're going to find  
28 about half of these things have been on there since day  
29 one. But anyway, notwithstanding that, I think, we need to  
30 discuss them and again take a position on it.

31

32 So the next would be support, Issue 7, Page  
33 36, support for local management, and this was using Angoon  
34 as an example here. So is there anyone who would like to  
35 comment on that with the understanding that we're going to  
36 discuss each one of these later under Item 13, new  
37 business.

38

39 Mr. Kookesh.

40

41 MR. KOOKESH: I'd like to comment to the  
42 fact that in listening to the gentlemen this morning, Mr.  
43 Sanderson and Mr. Christianson, that Angoon has done this  
44 for more than one year, where we had local control on our  
45 sockeye fishery for Kanalku, and when we implemented the  
46 program over a year ago, one of the things that we should  
47 have done was ask for a five year, to follow the full cycle  
48 of the sockeye salmon. Because with the local control, all  
49 we're asking for the residents to do is to voluntarily  
50 refrain from taking sockeyes. And this is our second year



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1 Subsistence Board, I think, is responding pretty strongly  
2 to this comment coming from this item in our annual report,  
3 which is supported by a number of other Regional Councils.  
4 Later on in the meeting, Steve Kessler will be talking  
5 about possible changes in Staff Committee role in agency  
6 reports, 12, and some of those changes were stimulated by  
7 the comments of the Southeast Regional Advisory Council as  
8 well as other Councils on this question.

9

10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Dr.  
11 Schroeder. The last item is Issue 10 on Page 37, the  
12 Stikine River subsistence salmon fishing. You see their  
13 response in there but we're going to bring this up again  
14 under Proposal 40, and I believe that that's probably the  
15 proper time to talk about any additional comments on the  
16 Stikine unless some Council member would like to address  
17 that now.

18

19 Any Council.

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. We'll make  
24 sure that we address the -- I'm sure it will get addressed  
25 without having to mention it under 40. So, okay, on the  
26 agenda now we're under customary trade implementation.  
27 Maybe we could turn this over for -- Mr. Meyers would you  
28 care to comment on customary trade and then maybe, Mr.  
29 Probasco, if you would like to, too.

30

31 MR. MEYERS: Mary Meyers, Forest Service  
32 law enforcement. From what we can tell with customary  
33 trade, there hasn't been any real effect, I guess, that  
34 have created any issues as far as we've been aware of so  
35 far. So as far as I can tell everything is working as it  
36 should. So at least in Southeast.

37

38 Thank you.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you.

41

42 MR. PROBASCO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm  
43 Pete Probasco from the Office of Subsistence Management.  
44 And I wouldn't have too much more to add to Mr. Meyers'  
45 comments. This was our first year. Things are off to a  
46 good start and we continue to monitor it and as you know  
47 the Council, on an annual basis has the ability to modify  
48 customary trade regulations if they so see fit. So that's  
49 the beauty of our regulations, that if issues do come up we  
50 can address them in a much more timely manner.

00075

1 Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Are  
4 there any Council that have questions or comments.

5

6 Dr. Garza.

7

8 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Pete, so  
9 one of the things that I had heard, particularly around  
10 this community, was the confusion over -- it seemed like  
11 the language was changed from what we saw so that it  
12 prohibited customary trade of processed foods and people  
13 were concerned that that would exclude trading smoked  
14 salmon that was jarred, and then in the end people said,  
15 well, we don't really care because all our fish comes from  
16 State waters. But it still seemed like it was an issue  
17 that I didn't hear of any resolution to.

18

19 MR. PROBASCO: Mr. Chair. Dr. Garza. The  
20 issue, and it's a good point to bring to clarify, the issue  
21 is not our Federal regulations prohibiting, it's the State  
22 and Federal health regulations that are very explicit on  
23 what can and cannot be sold and what conditions product  
24 have to be in under processing requirements. So that's  
25 where the conflict comes in.

26

27 When a subsistence user elects to process  
28 fish, they immediately fall under State DEC rules that  
29 govern processing of salmon or other fish products.

30

31 Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

34

35 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Pete,  
36 well, I guess the concern I have is just in my job with the  
37 marine advisory program, I know that a number of  
38 smokehouses along the Yukon have gotten waivers from DEC in  
39 order to commercially sell some of the product that they've  
40 produced, and you would think that if something like that  
41 could occur, that it could occur in this whole process.  
42 Secondarily and perhaps more importantly from that, I'm not  
43 sure that customary trade and barter falls in with  
44 commerce, which is what DEC regulates and so I'm not sure  
45 that DEC regulates and so I'm not sure that DEC should have  
46 anything to do with whether or not I'm buying a jar of  
47 smoked fish from somebody in Klawock.

48

49 MR. PROBASCO: Mr. Chair. Dr. Garza. Two  
50 issues there. In fact, on the Yukon, individuals that have

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1 tried under subsistence to sell chinook salmon strips did  
2 have to meet DEC requirements, and that became an issue  
3 there back in the early '90s. As far as the issue of our  
4 subsistence take regulations that apply to customary trade,  
5 the debate as far as do those regulations that govern  
6 processing also apply to subsistence users is the  
7 recommendation from our legal counsel that they do. And so  
8 to me, if there is a difference of opinion, that type of  
9 issue would probably have to go through legal litigations  
10 to get resolved.

11

12 Mr. Chair.

13

14 DR. GARZA: So, Mr. Chairman, just adding  
15 to the length of our meeting since I'll be leaving early,  
16 I think that this needs to be added because it's something  
17 that is very confusing to customary trade and barter  
18 people. I think they will continue to do what they want  
19 and perhaps enforcement isn't going to do anything about it  
20 because it's been ongoing for so long, but, as was stated  
21 by some of the locals earlier, there's no reason to be  
22 making criminals out somebody for something that they have  
23 already been doing. And that's basically what we did when  
24 this language was modified.

25

26 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I agree. We'll put  
27 that on Item 13. Mr. Meyers.

28

29 MR. MEYERS: Yeah, one additional comment  
30 that I've got is we're actually doing some research of the  
31 regulation. Because the regulation states if there is a  
32 State regulation that a person needs to be concerned about,  
33 they need to check and find out what that is. And I guess  
34 the question that we have in our minds and we're trying to  
35 look back into is specifically what would prevent a  
36 subsistence user from selling their fish. And I think  
37 that's really not clear because we really don't know  
38 specifically what State regulation may conflict with that.  
39 But as far as, you know, as far as the Federal regulation  
40 goes, you're okay to do it as long as you don't conflict  
41 with a State law. And I don't think it's clear to the  
42 people who are doing it, as far as what conflicts there  
43 are, so we are looking into that and hopefully we'll have  
44 a report to give some time here in the future.

45

46 Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Like I  
49 said, this definitely needs more discussion. When are you  
50 going to be leaving?

00077

1 MR. PROBASCO: Mr. Chair, I will be leaving  
2 Wednesday morning, so I will be here all day tomorrow.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. I'd like to  
5 get this on the agenda before you leave so that you can  
6 have that information because these things are really  
7 confusing to me and I made that clear in Anchorage.  
8 There's a law against people selling me a cookie in the  
9 back from ANS but nobody's in here breaking them and we  
10 really need to get this clarified so that people understand  
11 exactly whether it's legal or not legal. Because that  
12 customary trade brochure has one column it says, is this  
13 legal, yes; and then the very next column it says, is this  
14 legal and it says no. And that's confusing to me and I'm  
15 certain that's confusing to everybody else. So we'll try  
16 to get that on the agenda before you go and we'll have  
17 further discussion on that. So I'll leave it there.

18  
19 Thank you, Gentlemen.

20  
21 MR. PROBASCO: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Initiation of Prince  
24 of Wales Island deer planning. Steve, Mr. Kessler.

25  
26 Dave Johnson, first.

27  
28 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman. Council  
29 members. My name is Dave Johnson, and I'm the subsistence  
30 coordinator for the Tongass. With regards to the Prince of  
31 Wales Island deer cooperative planning scoping and  
32 feasibility assessment, in May of 2003, the Federal  
33 Subsistence Board directed the Forest Service to begin a  
34 cooperative management process to involved deer users and  
35 managers in finding some long-term solutions to conflicts  
36 related to deer management in Unit 2. And actually they  
37 went back to a year earlier than that but because of FACA  
38 issues and some other issues it took a year for us to sort  
39 through that.

40  
41 Before initiating a full scale cooperative  
42 management planning process, the Forest Service hired  
43 Shineberg & Associates, a Juneau consulting firm to assess  
44 the feasibility and the potential for success in such a  
45 process that was described. And there were three goals or  
46 three directives, if you will, to Shineberg & Associates.  
47 One was to interview people who have a key interest in and  
48 experience with deer hunting on Prince of Wales Island,  
49 that includes both Federally-qualified and non-Federally-  
50 qualified hunters. It was also to assess, based on those

00078

1 interviews, whether or not a cooperative management process  
2 would be or could be successful. And then lastly it was to  
3 recommend how to structure and conduct the process if, in  
4 fact, it was to go to the next level of a full cooperative  
5 management planning process.

6  
7 As an update to the Council, the following  
8 has been accomplished to date, a steering committee,  
9 including Forest Service, Department of Fish and Game and  
10 Regional Advisory Council representatives have met twice  
11 with Shineberg & Associates to help identify approximately  
12 25 to 30 people among the various communities and in the  
13 various groups I just mentioned who hunt and/or use deer on  
14 the island to interview during the project and to review  
15 the interview approach and questions. A list of names was  
16 compiled and the steering committee came to consensus on  
17 the group of folks to be contacted and those folks were  
18 contacted. Shineberg & Associates has additionally  
19 followed up and conducted interviews with people in  
20 Ketchikan and people on the island during the weeks of  
21 September 22nd, and also the week of September 24th.

22  
23 A draft report will be submitted to the  
24 Forest Service by October 17th as part of the contract  
25 requirement. The report will summarize the interview  
26 responses, provide an opinion regarding the potential for  
27 achieving consensus among the stakeholder groups,  
28 developing a viable management set of options through a  
29 cooperative management process and looking to reduce  
30 conflict through this approach and further recommend how  
31 that cooperative management process should be structured.  
32 The final report will be in December.

33  
34 Following the completion of the report, the  
35 Board will actually determine, I'm sure in consultation  
36 with the Council, if they want to move to a full-blown  
37 cooperative process, how it should be structured, who will  
38 take the lead, what the cost will be. All those details  
39 are yet to be decided.

40  
41 That concludes my update, Mr. Chairman and  
42 Council. Thank you.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you.  
45 Questions for Dave.

46  
47 Dr. Garza.

48  
49 DR. GARZA: Dave, have you been in contact  
50 with Jan Caulfield to find out if she was, in fact, able to

00079

1 contact all or the majority of the people to be  
2 interviewed?

3

4 MR. JOHNSON: Dolly. Mr. Chair. Council.  
5 Yes, in fact, Jan was here last week and we did some follow  
6 up, making phone calls and basically looking for folks that  
7 she had been unable to contact. Most of the people she has  
8 been able to contact. I don't have the exact number but  
9 she said there was only a couple of folks that she hadn't  
10 been able to track down.

11

12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council. Dr.  
13 Garza.

14

15 DR. GARZA: Just one final question. I  
16 didn't -- maybe I didn't hear you. When that report is  
17 done, will it have to be reviewed by anybody or will it go  
18 out to the ad hoc committee or will it go out to this  
19 Council?

20

21 MR. JOHNSON: The first step will be the  
22 contractor and the Forest Service will ensure that the  
23 contract, in fact, was completed as was prescribed in the  
24 contract. There will then be a report that will go to the  
25 Board, and the Board will then make a determination on  
26 whether to proceed and, if so, how that will occur. The  
27 stakeholder group that would be identified, the steering  
28 committee that would be put in place would probably include  
29 many of the same people that are in the committee that was  
30 put together -- the steering committee that was put  
31 together to start with, but all that is, you know, for the  
32 sake of discussion up to the Board really.

33

34 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, so I'm just  
35 trying to figure out the timeline. So what time is that  
36 report due, will it make it to the Federal Subsistence  
37 Board process this fall to be considered or are we looking  
38 at next spring? I'm just not sure.

39

40 MR. JOHNSON: Dolly. Council. I don't  
41 know the exact date of the December board meeting, FSB  
42 meeting, but my understanding is at least the draft report  
43 would be ready just in a couple weeks here so the Board  
44 would have that, certainly prior to the end of the year.  
45 Whether or not it will actually be completed, I don't know  
46 the exact contract date deadline.

47

48 MR. KESSLER: I'm Steve Kessler. Dr.  
49 Garza. Council. I would expect that that will be taken up  
50 in one of the monthly work sessions that the Board has, and

00080

1 I'm sure that it will be done with contact with the  
2 Council. I think December is probably too early for it.

3

4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other questions  
5 Council.

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Just for the record,  
10 when we discussed this in Anchorage, the Board did say in  
11 their response was that they would heavily involve the  
12 Regional Advisory Council in any decision. So when you  
13 asked who was going to be involved, we're going to be  
14 involved in this and we're certainly going to be making a  
15 decision on it.

16

17 Any other Council.

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Johnson.

22

23 MR. JOHNSON: Just one other comment, Mr.  
24 Chair, Council. The fact that the Council members, several  
25 of the Council members have been involved to date on the  
26 number of teleconferences and other aspects of actually  
27 formulating the steering committee and actually then  
28 putting the contract together, I think, again, is  
29 indicative of the role that the Council will play in the  
30 final decision.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. We're on Item  
33 8, open the floor to public comments. Before we do that,  
34 I'd like to ask Ms. Hildebrand if she'd like to make a  
35 clarification on her program, and then if there are any  
36 other introductions we'll do that at this time.

37

38 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you. Mr. Chairman.  
39 Council. Ida Hildebrand. I wanted to clarify that the  
40 contract for the series of subsistence videos was awarded  
41 to John Butzke. I introduced him this morning but I didn't  
42 know which of his companies had the contract. He owns both  
43 Video Perspective and Talking Circle Media, and the  
44 contract went to Video Perspective. And he and Francine  
45 Taylor have been around shooting video on various Council  
46 members throughout the meeting and are currently  
47 interviewing someone, and they'll be interviewing Council  
48 members individually and other Staff during the course of  
49 your meeting.

50

00081

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are there any other  
4 Staff that are late arriving and didn't get introduced  
5 earlier?

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, thank you.  
10 Item 8, open the floor to public comments. What we're  
11 going to do is I'd like to ask Dr. Schroeder to explain to  
12 you the process of how we're going to take public  
13 testimony. We are going to be going immediately into Tab  
14 C, the Fisheries Information Service program, but we want  
15 to explain the process for giving testimony before the  
16 Council because it can take place at any time.

17

18 Dr. Schroeder.

19

20 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, we have a  
21 very open process with Regional Advisory Council. At the  
22 beginning of the meeting we schedule a time for open floor  
23 for public comments, which gives members of the public a  
24 chance to voice what's on their mind, even if it isn't  
25 directly or very closely related to regulatory proposals.  
26 So this is a time to come before the Council with something  
27 that may be of concern to you.

28

29 When we get into looking through proposals,  
30 you'll see in the book under Item 10, the procedure that we  
31 go through for dealing with our regulatory proposals. We  
32 go through Staff present the proposal and analysis, we hear  
33 comments from the State, from other Federal agencies, from  
34 tribes, and we summarize written public comments and then  
35 we hear from the public at that time. So you have an  
36 opportunity throughout the meeting to comment on a proposal  
37 that comes before the Council. And the Council also  
38 invites comment on other issues and would be receptive to  
39 that, time permitting, so long as we can keep our flow of  
40 work going.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Dr.  
45 Schroeder. At this time I have three public testimony  
46 forms and I'm going to give you the opportunity to testify  
47 if you want and cannot be here at some other time. We had  
48 Art Demmert, Jr., these are not going to go away, you're  
49 still on the board but if you wanted to claim your time on  
50 customary trade in rivers, you could do that now. Okay,

00082

1 Brandy Prefontaine on Proposal 04-05, I guess we'll bring  
2 that up under Proposal 04-05 unless she would want to say  
3 something -- oh, Art, is coming up, I'm sorry. Excuse me.

4

5 Art.

6

7 MR. DEMMERT: Art Demmert. I have a  
8 question with the customary trade in the rivers. And I had  
9 asked this here question last year at the BIA Conference  
10 and I didn't get a very good definition of where a river  
11 ends because on the estuaries, like, I can use our Klawock  
12 River as an example. Where the freshwater is separated  
13 from the saltwater, well, a lot of people would say our  
14 river ends at the falls, and in accordance with the  
15 definition, I think it ends further down with the  
16 fluctuating tide. So your definition of rivers and  
17 streams is vague and I think that if our people start  
18 utilizing this customary trade in our rivers, we could very  
19 well get them in trouble because you're leaving this up to  
20 interpretation of a law enforcement officer to come in who  
21 is not familiar with the area to decide whether or not  
22 these individuals will be cited, ticketed or not. So I  
23 think you people should probably give a better definition  
24 of where a river might end.

25

26 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Demmert.

27

28 MR. DEMMERT: I know that seems like it's  
29 a funny question, but I think it's a reality.

30

31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Demmert, I have  
32 my definition of headlands to headlands, and it's quite  
33 broad and there isn't anybody else in the Feds that agrees  
34 with it. But that's something that's outside of our  
35 jurisdiction. I understand what you're talking about, the  
36 headland to headland is one definition, as well as the high  
37 water mark. And maybe is there anyone -- I'm going to go  
38 first to Mr. Douville.

39

40 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
41 I've seen pictures that were signed by Mr. Caplin  
42 definitely drawing that line out so that information is  
43 available from the Forest Service, I believe.

44

45 Thank you.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes. I believe  
48 there are at least eight to my knowledge, drawings of  
49 various rivers, and one of them is the Stikine, two in  
50 Sitka area, and I don't know where the others are, that

00083

1 actually had a line drawn across them by the district  
2 ranger or the Forest supervisor, I cannot remember who  
3 right now. But they certainly haven't done that for every  
4 river and every stream.

5  
6 Any other comments from Staff on this.

7  
8 MR. CASIPIT: Yes,. Mr. Chair.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Casipit.

11  
12 MR. CASIPIT: You are right, we have those  
13 lines drawn for just a handful of streams. We did that  
14 early in the program when we implemented our program. We  
15 tried to pick out the systems that probably that the most  
16 interest, Klawock was one of them. I'd be happy to provide  
17 those maps again. But like you said, Mr. Chair, the  
18 majority of the streams have not had this done to them.

19  
20 We've been relying on this admittedly  
21 fairly vague definition in the Federal Register. The  
22 fiscal considerations, the money considerations, the people  
23 considerations of providing these lines for over 4,000  
24 streams in Southeast Alaska is a pretty big task. And I  
25 get to the point where I'm trying to balance off the money  
26 that we'd use to draw some lines versus money that we would  
27 use to invest into a -- for instance, the Fisheries  
28 Information Services program, and in my mind the choice  
29 becomes pretty clear. You know, I would prefer to spend  
30 money on information issues than drawing lines on maps.

31  
32 We'd be happy to draw lines on maps as the  
33 issues come up and as we need to draw the lines, but I  
34 would hesitate to consent to drawing the maps for 4,500  
35 streams before we really need to.

36  
37 That's all I have.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: First I have Mr.  
40 Kookesh and then Mr. Douville.

41  
42 MR. KOOKESH: I understand where Mac's  
43 coming from and I also see where Cal's coming from. But  
44 until that time, if we're leaving it open to  
45 interpretation, what does enforcement do? Do they cite  
46 until Cal gets what he wants or like Mac says -- or Arthur  
47 says, it's open to interpretation, what happens until we  
48 get those lines drawn?

49  
50 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Douville.

00084

1 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is  
2 this -- the streams that you do have the lines drawn on,  
3 have they been made available to the ADF&G protection? And  
4 the other thing is if you needed those other 4,000 lines in  
5 there, we could do it in just a few minutes ourselves and  
6 it wouldn't cost you anything.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 (Laughter)

11

12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Like I said, my  
13 definition of headland to headland is very simple and we  
14 can draw one line and encompass all of them from Cape  
15 Mouzon to Cape Fairweather, but that's not accepted.

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: So it is something  
20 that is outside of our hands. We're not the ones that draw  
21 those lines, okay, let me first explain that. We can make  
22 some recommendations on them but those are outside of our  
23 hands. The lines that were drawn that I saw I believe were  
24 done by the regional forester, or at least under his  
25 signature. So it's something that we can only make a  
26 recommendation on and I would make, again -- we're going to  
27 have so many items under Item 13, but we'll make sure that  
28 we have that on there.

29

30 Go ahead.

31

32 MR. DEMMERT: Well, maybe the regional  
33 forester should contact the tribal organizations and have  
34 some local input on how they might conclude that you can  
35 only fish between this point and that point.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Right. We are rural  
40 -- we deal with rural here, not tribal or non-tribal. But  
41 you are absolutely correct, in that, the tribes, under  
42 their trust responsibility that's due them by the Federal  
43 government and the consultation that's due them by the  
44 Federal government are entitled to that information. And  
45 I would ask them to produce that to you as a tribe.

46

47 Any other comments.

48

49 Mr. Casipit.

50

00085

1 MR. CASIPIT: To answer the question of  
2 whether or not the maps -- the maps that we do have have  
3 been provided to the State and they have been out, you  
4 know, I'd be more than happy if folks want copies of those  
5 maps. If you'll give me your name and address I'll get  
6 them mailed to you as soon as I get back to the office.  
7 That's anybody here in the room who needs them. But I have  
8 to warn you it's not a very big stack, it's only about 13  
9 streams.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other questions.

12  
13 (No comments)

14  
15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Comments.

16  
17 (No comments)

18  
19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, thank you for  
20 your testimony. I have -- are you all done, sir.

21  
22 MR. DEMMERT: I have one more.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: If you would like to  
25 give that testimony now, please proceed.

26  
27 MR. DEMMERT: Okay. I have my other  
28 concern, with the special forest products in rural areas.  
29 And I think the Council, upon getting recommendations about  
30 some of these products should take a very serious look at  
31 them and what direction they're going. I know that you're  
32 dealing with the rural, not the tribal, but a lot of that  
33 stuff came and derived from the Native people. And a lot  
34 of non-Native people at the present are starting to use  
35 these here products and selling them and there's very  
36 little protection for some of these products. I realize  
37 that the people in Sitka have addressed this here, but --  
38 and I also saw some of the material that Dale Kanen  
39 apparently had meetings with people and have come with some  
40 regulations. But I think we need to protect our special  
41 forest products in our rural areas.

42  
43 Thank you.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. This is  
46 an item that we put on Item 13. Dr. Garza has been  
47 following this very closely and we've taken a position on  
48 that in support of management of those and being careful of  
49 those resources. So we will be discussing that again,  
50 probably Wednesday afternoon.

00086

1 Any questions or comments from Council.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is that it?

6

7 MR. DEMMERT: Yes.

8

9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you very much.

10 I have three more forms here if anyone wants to testify

11 now. First, was Brandy Prefontaine, we'll put her over

12 here. And then Victor Burgess, would you like to testify

13 right now?

14

15 MR. BURGESS: Mr. Chairman, we thought we'd

16 come up as a group representing Hydaburg. If I miss

17 something, then they'll inform.....

18

19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Just a second, Mr.

20 McBride, are you going to have enough time to -- we've got

21 three hours, a couple hours to get you out of here, are you

22 going to have enough time to get this done?

23

24 MR. MCBRIDE: Depends on how many questions

25 you have.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Perhaps maybe

28 we should -- is it possible for these to come up in the

29 morning, to allow you time after Mr. McBride makes his

30 presentation? We can take you now if we have to, but if

31 you could wait until after -- he has to catch a plane,

32 that's all.

33

34 MS. LECORNU: We have customary trade

35 comments.....

36

37 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: And we're having

38 customary trade on that -- we're going to have discussions

39 on that later, too.

40

41 MS. LECORNU: Well, we have to drive all

42 the way to Hydaburg.

43

44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, well, please

45 come forward. Please come forward.

46

47 MR. BURGESS: I'm not very good with

48 computers, but I can work this computer. I'd like a brief

49 introduction.

50

00087

1                   In 1978 I was one of the first people to  
2 meet representing Hydaburg in the.....

3  
4                   MS. LECORNU: Say your name.

5  
6                   MR. BURGESS: .....in this subsistence  
7 issue.

8  
9                   MS. LECORNU: Give her your name.

10  
11                  MR. BURGESS: Victor Burgess. And I've  
12 been recognized as a representative because I basically  
13 just asked for the information so I'm still on the books.  
14 And when I first came up here I was elected by the  
15 community of Hydaburg to represent them. We had a  
16 committee, we tried to faithfully follow the state law but  
17 it doesn't work that way in the real world.

18  
19                  So now I'm a representative for the  
20 Committee but I'm the only representative here so what I'm  
21 going to talk basically about is I give a copy of this to  
22 Patricia, and I thank this -- and this is a marked up  
23 version done by Adrian here, who's knowledgeable about it,  
24 and a lot of footnote, read the footnotes, number 1. I  
25 think this is an educational process you should go through.  
26 And Patty's got a copy -- a copy of this article. This is  
27 the Senate Report on the Committee of Energy and Natural  
28 Resources in the United States Senate, and I've had this  
29 for 20 -- well, '79, so for 20 years, it's pretty well  
30 marked up. But this, if you want a definition of customary  
31 and traditional I can read it to you, it's quite clear.  
32 You could adopt it here, the language, it will sure solve  
33 a lot of problems, because what I'm basically saying is the  
34 State has misrepresented the term customary and  
35 traditional as the resource. And plants and animals,  
36 except humans, don't have custom and tradition, so  
37 customary and traditional really describes the individual.

38  
39                  It may sound complicated, am I right,  
40 Adrian, is that good enough or.....

41  
42                  MS. LECORNU: It's the user.

43  
44                  MR. BURGESS: It's the user that's subject  
45 to custom and tradition. Custom and tradition existed  
46 before law. See that's why the Natives are in on this.  
47 They're the only ones that have custom and tradition. If  
48 you're White you could have custom and tradition under the  
49 law, too, but they haven't defined the limits on it. Was  
50 it before statehood, it has to be before statehood because

00088

1 you're regulated now. Custom is self-regulation and this  
2 is government regulation. It's up to the Natives here, the  
3 communities, every Native community in Southeast that has  
4 custom and tradition should be sitting at this table.

5

6 How did they arrive at the figure 10.

7 Well, from what I figured there's 13, because even like  
8 Petersburg, you have a core group of individuals, Natives  
9 living there that here the rest of Petersburg is rich,  
10 rich, and the Natives are sitting there with nothing.  
11 Under the law, under the subsistence you have that right.  
12 I have to fill you in on, number 1, on what happened in the  
13 last three years, there was a Milax Case in Minnesota. I  
14 think it's the last hunting and fishing right, treaty right  
15 that was decided. And Minnesota is one of six states like  
16 Alaska. Alaska is just like Minnesota when it comes to  
17 this issue of hunting and fishing rights under the law. It  
18 hasn't happened yet but it will.

19

20 And what the Minnesota basically settled  
21 and it went to the Supreme Court, what it settled was they  
22 used the boat principle. And why did they use the boat  
23 principle, because the Ninth Circuit, the Eighth Circuit  
24 and I think the Seventh Circuit agreed that this was  
25 probably the right decision to use, a fair share but no  
26 less than a moderate living standard.

27

28 When the Federal Board asked us as a  
29 community for the standard, that's what we used, but it was  
30 turned down. And I've done this for -- we've testified for  
31 years and it goes nowhere. It will never go anywhere until  
32 you educate yourself to the law. And here's what we said,  
33 amount of commerce and the use of wild renewable resources  
34 to maintain the level of livelihood. This standard will be  
35 followed in all cases by all persons, that's White persons  
36 if they can prove customary and traditional in the same  
37 business and the same territory. And be no less than a  
38 moderate living standard for customary and traditional  
39 users. In other words, the standard is customary and  
40 traditional.

41

42 And I could go on and on, maybe I should  
43 read the committee report on customary and traditional, let  
44 me read it to you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Victor, let me  
47 interrupt here for a minute. I think we better allow about  
48 10 minutes, if you can, we're really under a -- trying to  
49 get.....

50

00089

1 MR. BURGESS: We'd like to sit on this  
2 committee if you do take up the issue.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: And you can  
5 certainly come back, too.

6  
7 MR. BURGESS: And I'll let someone else  
8 talk also.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Maybe another 10  
11 minutes, is that going to be okay with you Doug?

12  
13 MR. MCBRIDE: (Nods affirmatively)

14  
15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Maybe another  
16 10 or 15 minutes and then we'll try to get him on the  
17 agenda.

18  
19 Thank you.

20  
21 MR. LECORNU: Thank you for the opportunity  
22 to address you -- I'm not addressing you formally.....

23  
24 MS. LECORNU: Say your name.

25  
26 MR. LECORNU: .....as the representative of  
27 the Hydaburg Cooperative at this point.

28  
29 My name is Adrian LeCornu, and I am the  
30 tribal administrator, but I am not here in my official  
31 capacity. I'm here to raise some issues for the Council to  
32 consider in dealing with customary trade.

33  
34 I think the important part of our position  
35 on customary trade is there's a severe problem in rural  
36 Alaska, and the majority of rural Alaska is Alaska Native.  
37 The need for economic development in the rural communities  
38 is huge. And there's a lot of people who are desperate for  
39 some form of livelihood. What we say in our papers, and  
40 I'll have to admit to that I'm not a credentialed author,  
41 but I am someone who has been interested in this issue for  
42 about 20 years. And what we're trying to say is that in  
43 dealing with this issue of subsistence from a tribal or a  
44 Native point of view is very difficult. It's like we have  
45 a tar baby stuck on us and that's rural. And there's a  
46 distinction between Native and non-Native and the  
47 distinction is clearly in the law. But why is there a  
48 distinction if there is no difference in the handling of  
49 it. So you got to ask yourself, why is there this  
50 distinction, but, yet, we're not to concern ourselves with

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1 that distinction. We're all rural Alaskans.

2

3                   And I think that's an important error on  
4 the part of the Congress, to clear up this issue and to  
5 help these communities survive, and without this feeling of  
6 inferiority or without this feeling that we're dependent  
7 upon the State and the Federal government.

8

9                   There's a lot of potential in customary  
10 trade. And I think people are pretty hesitant to discuss  
11 it because we're not here to offend the non-Natives, that's  
12 not the point, we're not there to exclude them. What we're  
13 doing is trying to speak on behalf of our people who are  
14 entitled to some consideration in the future development of  
15 Alaska.

16

17                   So I think what we're trying to say in our  
18 little paper that there's been a number of issues that have  
19 come up for customary trade and at every point where  
20 somebody asserts their right, the State has prosecuted  
21 them, and they make no bones about it they will continue to  
22 prosecute them. But is that right? Is that the proper  
23 course, to make criminals out of our people. There's a  
24 current situation going on now in Hydaburg about customary  
25 trade, I feel it's our role as a tribe to advocate for our  
26 people and that we should speak out on this issue that's  
27 important to their very life and future.

28

29                   So I think when we come before this Board,  
30 it's a little awkward because, you know, there's a lot of  
31 different ways you can interpret this law, and for  
32 ourselves, it's just clearer to stay with the tribe. This  
33 is a tribal right and that the tribes should have an active  
34 role in implementing this act on behalf of our community.  
35 And just as the co-management issues, the tribes should be  
36 actively involved, via location and identification of  
37 resources, the tribes should be there. You know, I feel  
38 that the tribes should be more active in advocating. Look  
39 at all these customary trade cases that we list in here and  
40 every one of them was an individual who fought by  
41 themselves, they stood alone, whether they had a public  
42 defender, that's still by themselves. There was no  
43 organization, whether it was AFN, SeaAlaska, Tlingit-Haida,  
44 ANB, ANS, nobody stood up for this customary trade. I  
45 think that it is the most vital aspect of ANILCA for our  
46 people.

47

48                   You know, the argument is that it would  
49 take away from the commercial fishery, well, maybe that's  
50 so, but I think these communities throughout rural Alaska

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1 have demonstrated their continuing dependence on these  
2 resources, and I think if the State and the Congress is  
3 forthright and honest and has integrity they will take that  
4 into consideration and recognize that the Native people of  
5 Alaska have a right to harvest resources for their  
6 livelihood.

7

8                   So without, you know, I think we can go  
9 into details maybe at another time, but I think that it's  
10 important that, at least we get to the point that somebody  
11 needs to advocate for the rights, and whether that's the  
12 role of this Advisory Board, I'm not sure, how you deal  
13 with the divisiveness of rural versus non-rural or Native  
14 versus non-Native, that's a very sensitive issue. But I  
15 don't think it is the tribe's intent to start a war with  
16 the non-Natives on this issue. But I think the non-Natives  
17 should recognize that the only reason that they would have  
18 this law would be because there was Alaska Natives and  
19 there was a claims settlement.

20

21                   So that's all I have to say right now.

22

23                   Thanks.

24

25                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Vicki.

26

27                   MS. LECORNU: Thanks for giving us this  
28 opportunity, John, I really appreciate it.

29

30                   You remember last year I came before you  
31 and I gave Bob Schroeder a handout and I hope he gave it to  
32 you last year. I gave Floyd a copy. And I asked it to be  
33 made a part of the permanent record and I didn't see it in  
34 the minutes. It was Hydaburg's questions to your approach  
35 to customary trade and we felt that you, as a Board, had  
36 gutted the idea of customary trade primarily because you  
37 didn't understand some of the issues. We'd like to take  
38 some of the myths out of that customary trade for you.

39

40                   For instance, customary trade is  
41 commercial. It is commercial. So how can you say it  
42 cannot be commercial, it is commercial.

43

44                   And in that, it is significant. It can  
45 only be significant to those users. So when they say not  
46 of a significant amount, they're talking about our  
47 livelihoods. Like he said, a livelihood is not a  
48 lifestyle, there's another myth. A livelihood is you being  
49 able to go out there and catch your fish any way you want,  
50 no methods or means arguing. You can't, even as a Board

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1 question how we get a steelhead, and I've said that many  
2 times before, too.

3

4                   So I think you, as a Council, really need  
5 to ask yourself those hard questions where you've accepted  
6 the myth that some of these managers are telling you.

7

8                   And the biggest complaint I have is from  
9 United Fishermen and I really hope that this Council will  
10 put in a formal complaint on the misinformation that has  
11 come out of these people regarding our rights because it's  
12 chalk full of information.

13

14                   So, you know, I hope that what you come  
15 away with is some idea that you can question us on. What  
16 is customary trade? Why hasn't the Forest Service  
17 consulted us on customary trade? We asked the Forest  
18 Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service to come down and  
19 consult with the Hydaburg Tribe. Did they do that, no.  
20 They're supposed to be the lead agency. If they don't do  
21 that can we ask the Forest Service to do that?

22

23                   We need somebody to take us to your leader.

24

25                   (Laughter)

26

27                   MS. LECORNU: And another complaint we have  
28 is that FACA does not rule. It is not mentioned anywhere.  
29 And your annual report needs to say what we do need, not  
30 what we harvested.

31

32                   So I just hope we can take some of the  
33 myths and confusion out of this act. I think the main  
34 thing I heard these two gentlemen try to say is that the  
35 standard is not rural, the standard is rural with customary  
36 and traditional use. Is that right? Yes.

37

38                   So thank you.

39

40                   MR. BURGESS: Mr. Chairman, I might close  
41 by saying that we have a lot more information here. The  
42 Minnesota case I'm referring to you is one that basically  
43 said that the state no longer has the doctrine of  
44 regulating over Indians. And in the same case it says the  
45 Milax has the right to sell commercially. That's in the  
46 argument of the Eighth Circuit. So what I'm saying is  
47 basically on the horizon there's hope out there for the  
48 Indians. This is about the Settlement Act. And that's  
49 what you have to decide, the Settlement Act basically gives  
50 you the right to exist but now it's been, after 23 years,

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1 you still have nothing.

2

3

4 So educate yourself. Each rural community  
5 should be represented. Each Native community, and that's  
6 what basically this says and I'd like the opportunity to  
7 sit in on any meeting and I'll quote directly from all the  
8 material I've got so it won't be me saying something that  
9 isn't true. You'll judge for yourselves.

9

10 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

11

12

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Without  
13 getting any farther into it, I want to let you know that  
14 what I'm going to do with the Council's indulgence is  
15 schedule some time for this customary trade because we need  
16 to -- Mr. Probasco is leaving too and I'd like to get this  
17 done before Item 13, and we'd like to set a time so that  
18 you know that if you want to you can be here, so if the  
19 Council has no objection I would like to adjust the agenda  
20 so that at 1:00 o'clock tomorrow afternoon, immediately  
21 after lunch, we could set aside one hour, and I have to put  
22 that one hour, we've got to take care of our other  
23 business, one hour for the discussion of customary trade  
24 with the intent that somewhere in there the Council may or  
25 may not take action or make a recommendation to go forward.  
26 Because, again, we are an Advisory Council, we don't make  
27 the laws, okay, that's very important to understand, but we  
28 can advise and that's all we can do at this time because  
29 there's nothing on our agenda that has gone out to public  
30 comment. But I expect some statement out of the Council,  
31 so 1:00 o'clock tomorrow afternoon will be customary trade.

32

33 MR. BURGESS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. McBride. Let's  
36 take five minutes.

37

38 (Off record)

39

40 (On record)

41

42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Let's get back to  
43 order, please.

44

45 (Pause)

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Hello. Let's get  
48 back to order.

49

50 (Pause)

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1                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The next item on the  
2 agenda is Tab C, Fisheries Information Service Program, Mr.  
3 McBride.

4  
5                   MR. MCBRIDE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My  
6 name is Doug McBride. I work for the Office of Subsistence  
7 Management in the Fisheries Information Services. As I  
8 think you're all aware, the mission of the Fisheries  
9 Information Services is to administer the Federal  
10 investment and assessment programs needed for information  
11 needs for Federal Subsistence Management.

12  
13                   As the Chairman said, what I'm going to be  
14 doing, I think fairly briefly, is going through the  
15 information under Tab C. But in addition to that, there  
16 has been a recent update to the amount of money available  
17 to our program, and I believe Cal Casipit has already  
18 distributed a handout, it's entitled Update to the 2004  
19 Draft Fishery Resource Monitoring Plan for Southeast. You  
20 should already have that in your materials and I'll go  
21 through the stuff in the book and then we'll deal with this  
22 at the end because this updates everything given the amount  
23 of money that is now available.

24  
25                   Tab C starts on Page 41. And I just want  
26 to make it clear before I start, when I talk about the 2004  
27 monitoring plan, what that means. These are going to be  
28 projects that are initiated in 2004 or they can be  
29 continuations of what we've done for which prior funding  
30 obligations have expired. If you'll remember for this  
31 program you're allowed up to three years of funding  
32 commitment. So basically in Southeast, every project that  
33 we've ever funded except for the Red Fish Bay Sockeye  
34 Project and the Neva Pavlof Project up by Hoonah, all of  
35 those projects, the funding commitments have expired,  
36 except for those two projects. So that's why we have the  
37 amount of money on the table that we do and also the number  
38 of proposals in front of us for funding that we do.

39  
40                   So I just want to make clear what we're  
41 talking about. So for the Red Fish project and for the  
42 Neva Pavlof project, they have one more year of funding  
43 commitment so we don't need to discuss those here today.

44  
45                   The other thing I want to discuss before we  
46 get through is just a little bit of what's in this handout.  
47 What we've had in the past is just the money through this  
48 program, through the Fishery Resource Monitoring Program,  
49 except, if you'll remember, in 2002 and 2003, we were able  
50 to financially partner with the Southeast Sustainable

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1 Salmon Fund for several of our projects. And we were  
2 attempting to do that as we've been developing the 2004  
3 monitoring plan and just last week we did get a letter from  
4 the Commissioner's office with the Alaska Department of  
5 Fish and Game and they are making about \$320,000 available  
6 to co-fund some of the sockeye projects under consideration  
7 here. So that's what I'm going to go through here.

8

9 But everything in the book is relevant  
10 except we have a little bit more money available and so  
11 I'll cover that at the end.

12

13 So, Mr. Chairman, I'm just going to really  
14 briefly go through the introductory material here so that  
15 we can get into the meat of what needs to be discussed. I  
16 think you're all familiar with how we evaluate projects for  
17 consideration under this program. But just to refresh real  
18 quickly, we had a call for proposals last November, we  
19 received those proposals last winter, the Technical Review  
20 Committee screened those proposals and forwarded the ones  
21 that best fit the purposes of this program for what we call  
22 full investigation plans, and it's those projects that are  
23 before you today for your advice and comments.

24

25 If you look at, just real briefly, at the  
26 material on Page 42 and 43, when we evaluate a project  
27 there are four ranking factors for evaluation and they are  
28 the strategic priorities, in other words, how important are  
29 they for informational needs for subsistence management.  
30 We also look at the technical and scientific merits so  
31 we're judging a project on whether it's technically  
32 competent or not. We also look at the past performance of  
33 the investigators in terms of how well they've done in the  
34 past, in terms of reporting and meeting their project  
35 objectives and then we also look at the partnership and  
36 capacity aspect of the project. So when we look at a  
37 project and say, well, this project is a better project  
38 than that project, we're looking at these ranking factors.

39

40 At the bottom of Page 43 and the top of  
41 Page 44 there's some other policy guidelines that this  
42 program operates under. None of those are really driving  
43 the train, if you will, for what we have to do here today.

44

45 I think the next thing that I would just  
46 call your attention to is Table 1, which is at the bottom  
47 of Page 45. And what that lays out is how much money is  
48 available through the monitoring program for 2004. And  
49 there's a total of \$6.1 million available that comes  
50 through both the Departments of Interior and the Department

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1 of Agriculture, the Forest Service. Obviously for  
2 Southeast it's the Forest Service or the Agriculture money  
3 that's available for here. So the amount of money  
4 available for Southeast for 2004, if you look at the far  
5 right column in that second to the bottom number above the  
6 line there, \$851,000, is available for projects in 2004 in  
7 Southeast.

8

9                   The rest of the introductory material gets  
10 at the process for determining issues and information needs  
11 which is obviously done by region. We've been through that  
12 so I don't really think I need to go through the process of  
13 that. The last material that I'd call your attention to in  
14 the introduction really gets into then the number of  
15 investigation plans or projects that are under  
16 consideration. If you look at Table 2 which is at the top  
17 of Page 49, you look at the Southeast row, we had eight  
18 Committee stock, status and trends investigation plans, two  
19 investigation plans for the harvest monitoring and TEK  
20 category for a total of 10, and then you can see just by  
21 the number of projects what the TRC is recommending. I'll  
22 get into that in a lot more detail. And then Table 3 lays  
23 out statewide from a money standpoint what was on the table  
24 and what the TRC is recommending for each region and for  
25 each data type.

26

27                   Mr. Chairman, I'm going to get into this,  
28 right after this then the Southeast part of the plan but  
29 I'll stop here and ask if there's any questions or comments  
30 on just the overview of the entire program.

31

32                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any questions or  
33 comments Council.

34

35                   Ms. Phillips.

36

37                   MS. PHILLIPS: Chairman Thomas. Or excuse  
38 me, Chairman Littlefield.

39

40                   (Laughter)

41

42                   MS. PHILLIPS: On Page 43, under past  
43 performance expertise, does that go to a peer review in the  
44 final -- in the end or is there peer review, number 3 on  
45 Page 43?

46

47                   MR. MCBRIDE: Mr. Chairman. Ms. Phillips.  
48 A lot of the projects do undergo peer review. The primary  
49 things that we see, almost every project has a final  
50 report, okay, and that's reviewed and evaluated before it's

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1 accepted as final. So that's one of the things that we  
2 look at. But we're also just looking at the performance in  
3 terms of, you know, did they meet their objectives, were  
4 they able to manage their budgets within what they said  
5 they were going to, you know, basically did they do what  
6 they said they were going to do on any previous projects,  
7 whether we funded them or not. It's just our -- what we  
8 have to look at is whether they can administratively do  
9 what they said they were going to do in their proposal.

10

11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other questions.

12

13 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Patty, go ahead.

16

17 MS. PHILLIPS: Chairman Littlefield. So do  
18 we have projects that there are those sort of reports  
19 available?

20

21 MR. MCBRIDE: Absolutely. We get -- well,  
22 for most of these projects, both annual reports and final  
23 reports. One of the things we're in the process of doing  
24 is trying to get all those reports up on our web site so  
25 they are available but that's a work in progress if you  
26 will. I can certainly make -- you know, if you've got a  
27 particular project that you want to see a report for, if  
28 you let me know, and until we get them up on the web site,  
29 I can make those available, that's basically where we're at  
30 on that right now.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Go ahead.

33

34 MS. PHILLIPS: Which web site are you  
35 talking about?

36

37 MR. MCBRIDE: Yeah, the Office of  
38 Subsistence Management has its own web site and we're in  
39 the process of trying to get those products up on that  
40 report so that anybody can download them.

41

42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Go ahead.

47

48 MR. MCBRIDE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The  
49 actual.....

50

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1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Excuse me, Mr.  
2 Kookesh.

3  
4 MR. KOOKESH: I'd like to know who the  
5 Technical Review Committee is?

6  
7 MR. MCBRIDE: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Kookesh.  
8 Yeah, there's an Inter-Agency Technical Review Committee,  
9 and each of the five Federal agencies has a representative  
10 on that committee. In addition, there are three  
11 representatives from the Alaska Department of Fish and  
12 Game, basically one from each of their divisions,  
13 Sportfish, Commercial fish and Subsistence Division. And  
14 then in addition to that, just starting in 2004, we've also  
15 had two of the Partners for Fishery Monitoring Program  
16 positions and there are none of those positions in  
17 Southeast. We've discussed that before. But there are  
18 none of those positions in Southeast, but there are, I  
19 think, a total of seven positions with Alaska Native  
20 Organizations up in, basically north of Southeast. And two  
21 of those positions are on the Technical Review Committee,  
22 and the plan is to rotate through those positions annually,  
23 to put two new ones on there. Then the Technical Review  
24 Committee is Chaired by the head of the Fisheries  
25 Information Services, who is my boss, Mr. Steve Klein, and  
26 then the FIS Staff is their support Staff.

27  
28 And really the way it works is when we get  
29 proposals and investigation plans and the FIS Staff take  
30 the first stab at doing the evaluation, we write that up,  
31 but then all that is reviewed through the Technical Review  
32 Committee, so when you get a product like this plan in this  
33 book it is the product of the Inter-Agency Technical Review  
34 Committee.

35  
36 MR. KOOKESH: My next question is, in  
37 looking at the last sentence on Page 49 it states that we  
38 look forward to gaining input from the Regional Advisory  
39 Councils and the public. How much weight does that carry?

40  
41 MR. MCBRIDE: Well, I don't have an exact  
42 formula for how much weight it carries, but I feel very  
43 safe in saying that the Regional Advisory Council  
44 recommendations carry a tremendous amount of weight  
45 ultimately with the Staff Committee and the Board. In  
46 fact, what happens after this -- after what goes on here,  
47 is then we will summarize the Council review comments, we  
48 already have the TRC review comments -- we also get other  
49 comments from the public that may not come through this  
50 meeting, those are all presented to the Staff Committee and

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1 then the Staff Committee and then the Staff Committee, a  
2 lot of what they do is look at whether there's any real  
3 differences between what the Council may have said and the  
4 Technical Review Committee may have said, and then they  
5 make recommendations, and all of that is ultimately  
6 forwarded to the Board.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I'd like to let Dr.  
13 Schroeder introduce a few guests that are here.

14

15 DR. SCHROEDER: Please, could the new  
16 people who just came in identify themselves and their  
17 organizations.

18

19 MR. HUGHES: Art Hughes with Fish and Game.

20

21 MR. KOOKESH: We can't hear you back there.

22

23 DR. SCHROEDER: That would be Art Hughes  
24 from Fish and Game.

25

26 MR. KOOKESH: From where, Washington State?

27

28 DR. SCHROEDER: And Mr. Diedrickson.....

29

30 MR. KOOKESH: From where, Washington State?

31

32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Art, there's a  
33 request that you come forward and identify yourself, and if  
34 you could do that for the record, please.

35

36 MR. HUGHES: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman,  
37 Members of the Board. I'm Art Hughes, I'm with the  
38 Department of Fish and Game, Board Support Section. Just  
39 here to observe the process and answer any questions  
40 anybody else might have.

41

42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you.

43

44 MR. KOOKESH: Where?

45

46 MR. HUGHES: I'm out of the Juneau office.

47

48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Art.

49

50 MR. HUGHES: Thank you.

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1                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Did we miss anybody  
2 else. Did we get Herb Didrickson? Herbert Didrickson,  
3 Sitka Tribe Council, I'd like to welcome you to our  
4 meeting, too, you're just a guest in town but we appreciate  
5 your presence. Would you like to have the minute. Just  
6 bear with me for a minute, here, Doug.

7  
8                   MR. DIDRICKSON: Thank you. I'm not here  
9 in any capacity for the Sitka Tribe, just a visit to family  
10 here. Just heard about the meeting this morning so I  
11 thought I better attend and see what's happening.  
12 Appreciate the sit in, thank you.

13  
14                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. We're  
15 glad you've attended. Did we miss anybody.

16  
17                   (No comments)

18  
19                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, Mr. McBride.

20  
21                   MR. MCBRIDE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The  
22 actual Southeast plan starts on Page 58 and the place we  
23 have to start is what has been prioritized up front as  
24 issues and informational needs. And if you'll remember,  
25 the past discussions we've had a year ago in Hoonah, and  
26 then six months ago in Ketchikan, if I remember correctly,  
27 we went through a series of questions posed by Staff and  
28 collectively came up with answers to those questions,  
29 that's what's presented on Page 53 and 54. I don't think  
30 I need to go through these in a lot of detail. I would  
31 point out at the bottom of Page 53 that, again, we have  
32 received funding in the past from the Southeast Sustainable  
33 Salmon Fund, and that's really been a significant reason  
34 why we've been able to maintain the number and level of  
35 sockeye projects that we have in the past.

36  
37                   And then at our last meeting in Ketchikan,  
38 the subject of that meeting from this program's perspective  
39 was we gave you an update of the projects to date. We did  
40 a performance report six months ago. You also heard from  
41 a lot of the investigators, like Jack Lorrigan from the  
42 Sitka Tribe. And so, again, I won't repeat that, but as  
43 part of the ongoing process for 2004 we tried to give you  
44 an update of where we were with the projects.

45  
46                   When it was all said and done a year ago in  
47 Hoonah, then based on this input, the Council rearranged  
48 the issues and information needs. And that's what's  
49 presented at the bottom of Page 54, and so this is what we  
50 used, largely to evaluate strategic priorities which is

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1 really the -- probably if I had to pick one of those  
2 ranking criteria out, that would be the number 1 thing. So  
3 what we look at in terms of order of priority was looking  
4 at projects that addressed traditional ecological  
5 knowledge, harvest monitoring and then salmon assessment,  
6 particularly for sockeye and coho, and then assessment of  
7 fish species, other than salmon, important subsistence use,  
8 particularly Prince of Wales steelhead and Behm Canal  
9 eulachon.

10

11                   So that's where we ended up for issues and  
12 information needs, going into the 2004 request for  
13 proposals.

14

15                   Getting into the actual proposals  
16 themselves, the information on Table 1 and Table 2 is  
17 really reference information for you and stuff that we've  
18 obviously already looked at as we were evaluating  
19 proposals. Table 1 lays out how the funding goes, and this  
20 is on Page 55 of the Council book. How the funding would  
21 be spent for each project by, either Alaska Natives, State,  
22 Federal or other organization, so that just simply lays out  
23 the -- on how the funding would work. My recommendation on  
24 that table is to pay no attention to the totals column.  
25 I've already found plenty of errors in the totals so just  
26 forget the totals in that column.

27

28                   Then the information on Table 2, one of the  
29 -- it shows whether any matching funds were identified by  
30 the proposers for that project. And we try to make a real  
31 big deal about matching funds. For instance the money  
32 we've gotten in the past from the Southeast Sustainable  
33 Salmon Fund, those were matching funds, and that just  
34 simply lays out whether any matching funds were identified  
35 for that project and also how much local hire was  
36 identified with that project.

37

38                   So again, the information on Tables 1 and  
39 2 is really just reference material.

40

41                   For Southeast, if you'd look at the bottom  
42 of Page 57, that gets into how much money is available,  
43 we've already identified that, there's \$851,000. If you  
44 turn the page, on the top of Page 58, you also remember  
45 that our program tries to spend two-thirds of the available  
46 money in a region for stock, status and trends and one-  
47 third for harvest monitoring and TEK. In 2004 we only  
48 received two harvest monitoring and TEK proposals. And  
49 when the investigation plans were done they totaled  
50 \$162,000, roughly, which is less than the one-third of

00102

1 available money. So that's why we did that little bit of  
2 math at the top of Page 58. Because it takes that \$851,000  
3 and realistically adjusts it for what we're looking at. So  
4 we don't need a third of the money, at least this year, for  
5 the harvest monitoring TEK if both projects are funded,  
6 they total \$162,200, and then the remaining money, the 688  
7 would then be available for stock, status and trends money.  
8 So that's how much money is available.

9

10 Okay, now to get into the recommendations  
11 in terms of what's available, and I'm going to start with  
12 the stock, status and trends projects. Those projects are  
13 summarized on Table 3 and what you have there, which is at  
14 the bottom of Page 58, you have the project number and  
15 title and then what the TRC recommended, that's what that  
16 middle column is, and then the far right is the requested  
17 budget by year. And then the written information on Pages  
18 59, 60 and the top of 61 then provide the rationale for  
19 what the TRC recommended. So I'm just going to very  
20 briefly go through that so you can get a feel for why we  
21 were recommending either yes or no for these projects.

22

23 When you look at the projects we had in  
24 front of us, basically all but one of the SST projects  
25 dealt with assessment of salmon, particularly sockeye  
26 salmon. Only one project, the Salmon Lake project also  
27 dealt with coho. So when you look at, particularly the  
28 sockeye salmon escapement projects there's several things  
29 that I think are really important to point out. First of  
30 all, when these proposals were forwarded for development of  
31 investigation plan we knew back basically in February and  
32 March that money was going to be very, very tight for this  
33 year, so we instructed the investigators to basically turn  
34 in the leanest budgets that they possibly could and also to  
35 filter out any objectives or systems to monitor that were  
36 of less priority. As an example, earlier you heard from  
37 the workers, the people actually doing the projects in  
38 Hydaburg about they're mostly working on Hetta Lake, but  
39 they've also worked on Eek Lake, and we had money through  
40 this past year to do Eek Lake, but one of the things that  
41 we recommended and the comments that went back to them is  
42 focus on the place that makes the biggest difference.  
43 What's the most important system, which clearly there I  
44 think is Hetta Lake. I don't think there'd be any argument  
45 about that. But we tried to filter out the lower priority  
46 areas to monitor and then also the lower priority  
47 objectives. And the whole idea was to try to bring the  
48 money in as close as we could to what was available,  
49 because we knew we had -- we were going to be real tight  
50 for money for what was on the table.

00103

1 I'd say in general, all these projects in  
2 front of you certainly merit consideration for funding.  
3 There's nothing here that we would just dismiss out of hand  
4 as being unimportant or not technically correct or having  
5 poor capacity building or having an investigator that had  
6 poor administrative expertise. All these projects merit  
7 consideration of funding, which I guess you could look at  
8 that one of two ways. Either we can't make a bad decision  
9 or some good work is going to get left undone. And we  
10 prefer to think of it as the latter.

11  
12 I think a couple of things about these  
13 projects. In terms of the technical information, if you  
14 look at sort of that, one, two, three, four -- the fourth  
15 paragraph down on Page 59, one of the projects, the Klawock  
16 Project, we would rate very, very high from a strategic  
17 standpoint. From a technical standpoint, we had some  
18 issues with that in terms of the amount of the cost of the  
19 project versus how it's being done and you'll see in our  
20 recommendations that we're only recommending Klawock be  
21 funded for one year. And the reason for that is what we  
22 want them to do is to address the Technical Review  
23 Committee's comments and come back with a proposal in 2005,  
24 this coming winter. And the whole idea that is basically  
25 to try to get the cost of that project down -- basically  
26 get the cost of the project down is where we're coming  
27 from. And I can get into more detail on that if you have  
28 questions about that. But from a technical standpoint,  
29 that would be the only project that I think I would point  
30 out, at least, amongst the sockeye projects that we had  
31 some technical comments about.

32  
33 When you look at, particularly the  
34 strategic priorities and then we also thought that the fact  
35 that the Klag Lake Project, the principal investigator is  
36 the Sitka Tribe, and you look at that from the standpoint  
37 of capacity building, we thought that was a very important  
38 consideration. The projects are listed -- the sockeye  
39 projects are listed at the bottom of Page 59 in the order  
40 of priority that we think they're in. So in other words,  
41 if you look at that listing at the bottom of Page 59, we  
42 thought that Klawock project, even though it had some  
43 technical concerns, strategically if we had to pick one  
44 project as being very, very, very, very important, it would  
45 be that one. The next in importance would be Falls, Klag,  
46 Hetta, Kanalku and Sitkoh, which are the ones by Angoon,  
47 and then Salmon Lake, then the Wrangell projects which are  
48 the Thoms, Salmon Bay and Luck Lakes. And when I say that,  
49 we think we're looking at fairly minor differences, but we  
50 still need to look at these in terms of what we think is

00104

1 the most important thing to do, again, from an  
2 informational standpoint for Federal Subsistence  
3 management.

4

5                   And a lot of what drives this is whether  
6 the subsistence fisheries are measurably exploiting the  
7 stocks in question. In other words, if you look at places  
8 like Klawock and Falls, relatively speaking there's a large  
9 subsistence fishery in relation to the resource size as  
10 opposed to maybe some of the systems, say, like Thoms and  
11 Salmon Bay where the subsistence fishery or the harvest is  
12 small in relation to what we've measured for abundance.  
13 That would be a real prime consideration. And then also  
14 whether these systems had been the subject of regulatory or  
15 management action. And there's been regulatory and  
16 management action basically -- at virtually all of the top  
17 -- the systems more towards the top of the list.

18

19                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Just a second. Dr.  
20 Garza.

21

22                   DR. GARZA: I just have a point of  
23 clarification. So on the Page 59 you have them in order of  
24 priority but not all of them were recommended for funding.

25

26                   MR. MCBRIDE: Dr. Garza. That is correct.  
27 What we tried to do is just get them in order of priority.  
28 And then I'm going to talk about the steelhead here in a  
29 second, and then, you know, once we get them listed out and  
30 at least in terms of our view of what would be most  
31 important, then you fund as many of them as you can. I  
32 mean that's the process we went through.

33

34                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Go ahead.

35

36                   MR. MCBRIDE: The information then if you  
37 go at the top of Page 60 again, that completes the  
38 rationale for how we viewed the sockeye projects. And then  
39 the other project that we clearly needed to assess was the  
40 steelhead project. And if you'll remember, again, a year  
41 ago when we met in Hoonah, at Staff's urging and  
42 recommendation you added Prince of Wales steelhead to the  
43 list of issues and information needs which we obviously  
44 still very much agree with. We did receive a proposal for  
45 steelhead, it was submitted by BIA, Dr. Glenn Chen, who's  
46 here. In fact, Dr. Chen's also on the Technical Review  
47 Committee. And then that was done in cooperation with the  
48 Hydaburg Cooperative Association.

49

50                   And what we were originally looking for and

00105

1 I think what we are still looking for is to try to do some  
2 research and development on what we hope to be a cost  
3 effective way of assessing steelhead. I think getting  
4 information on steelhead is still a very important thing to  
5 do but I think we need to be cost conscious given the  
6 amount of money available. And the investigation plan that  
7 we ultimately got was to install some weirs on some of the  
8 Prince of Wales systems. And while a weir undoubtedly  
9 would give us our most definitive information it's also  
10 going to be the most expensive information by a long shot.  
11 So for that reason and because we actually had a spring  
12 fishery this year and the documented harvest, at least on  
13 the Federal permits, I believe, was 26 steelhead, we feel  
14 at this time that our best bet on steelhead is to do two  
15 things. Is to continue to investigate what the subsistence  
16 harvest is. And there's certainly reasons to think that 26  
17 may not be the right number but we're not quite sure yet  
18 what the right number is. And there is ongoing research on  
19 the subsistence harvest of steelhead. If you'll remember  
20 Subsistence Division, Mike Turek, is looking at harvest use  
21 patterns of steelhead. That was a project that was part of  
22 the 2003 monitoring plan, that work is ongoing. We think  
23 we need to pursue that and then we also, again, similar to  
24 the Klawock project, want the investigators to come back  
25 with a new proposal for this coming year and address at  
26 least some of the concerns that the TRC had with their  
27 existing investigation plan.

28

29                   When you take all of that information then  
30 we put steelhead then in where we thought it rated in terms  
31 of priority with what's on the table and that's the  
32 projects at the top of Page 61. And in our view, our  
33 recommendation would be to try to fully fund to the extent  
34 possible sockeye projects in the 2004 monitoring plan, and  
35 then deal with steelhead with a new proposal in 2005. And  
36 so that's why you see the sockeye projects listed in the  
37 same order priority that they were on the previous and then  
38 Prince of Wales steelhead at the bottom. So our  
39 recommendation would be do sockeye first and then deal with  
40 steelhead.

41

42                   Mr. Chairman, I'm going to stop for just a  
43 second, take any questions about the stock, status and  
44 trends, and then I'll get into the harvest monitoring and  
45 TEK, and then get into the Sustainable Salmon Fund money.

46

47                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Did you  
48 want to address this right now, where that line would be  
49 drawn, on Page 61 with the input of the Sustainable Salmon  
50 Fund?

00106

1                   MR. MCBRIDE: Okay. Mr. Chairman, I can  
2 certainly do that. What the Chairman's referring to is  
3 this handout I talked about a little bit ago. And what has  
4 happened is this is good news for you, we've got more money  
5 than we thought. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
6 and the Governor's office received a request from us  
7 several months ago to try to coordinate efforts between the  
8 Fisheries Monitoring Program, this program and the  
9 Sustainable Salmon Fund to try to up front decide how we  
10 might co-fund some of these projects that are important to  
11 both systems.

12  
13                   And the letter we received, we just  
14 received it a week ago, that's Pages 2 and 3 of this  
15 packet, we did receive a letter from the Commissioner's  
16 office and what they have done is they have made available  
17 \$321,000 and the second page of that letter is this table,  
18 it'd be \$331,000 -- well, almost \$322,000 spread out over  
19 three years, which makes sense to us, we understand why  
20 they're doing that and that makes sense to us for the Falls  
21 Lake Project and for the Klawock Project. So in terms of  
22 recommendations that we can make here today, really the  
23 operative number is that total for 2004, 91,500. That adds  
24 \$91,500 to what we have for the 2004 years. So when it's  
25 all said and done, if you go to -- well, if you go to those  
26 tables at the back part of that packet, the first table,  
27 Table 2, that just adds in that \$91,000 as matching funds  
28 to the appropriate project. And then if you go to the very  
29 last table, the table in the packet, that changes the cost  
30 of these projects to us.

31  
32                   So what that means is we actually have the,  
33 whatever it was, \$688,000 for the SST plus the 91,000,  
34 that's what is available to us. And so if you look then at  
35 that line on those projects at the top of Page 61, \$91,000  
36 could do, in our view, one of two things, obviously our  
37 money would fund everything down to where the existing line  
38 is and then the 91,000 we would recommend putting toward  
39 Salmon Lake, which would be the next project on the  
40 priority list, but 91,000 is not even quite half of the  
41 cost of that project which is \$221,000. If some additional  
42 matching funds can be found, I have talked with the Alaska  
43 Department of Fish and Game Staff about that, and there's  
44 at least a possibility that Sportfish Division with the  
45 Alaska Department of Fish and Game would pick up the coho  
46 part of that project for about \$60,000. But that's under  
47 consideration and I really couldn't, at this point, tell  
48 you whether I thought that was a high degree or a low  
49 degree, I'm not sure they could either. Let's see, I  
50 talked to them about that at the end of last week. And

00107

1 then failing any additional matching funds, our  
2 recommendation would then be to fund the next project in  
3 order of priority which would be the Wrangell area  
4 projects, which would be the Thoms, Salmon Bay and Luck  
5 Lake subsistence projects. And even though the 91,000 is  
6 less than the 131, this is government work, it's close  
7 enough, we could make that work when you look at the  
8 totality of the program across the state.

9

10 So if you look at the very first page of  
11 that handout that I gave you, those two bulleted items,  
12 that would be our recommendation for your recommendation to  
13 how to spend that money, would be to fund Salmon Lake, if  
14 we can work with the investigators to find some additional  
15 matching funds and then if that doesn't prove to be the  
16 case, to fund the Project 603, which is the Thoms, Salmon  
17 Bay and Luck Lake projects.

18

19 Mr. Chairman.

20

21 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Council, questions.

22

23 (No comments)

24

25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Comments.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: So if I interpret  
30 what you said correctly, on the top of Page 61, where the  
31 line is drawn we would fund everything above that plus  
32 91,500 of one of the three projects below that, and the  
33 Alaska Department of Fish and Game, I guess we should ask  
34 them to comment, has agreed to provide 60,000 to the coho  
35 assessment on 608; is that your interpretation?

36

37 MR. MCBRIDE: Mr. Chairman, I would portray  
38 that that is under consideration. Again, I mean you can  
39 look at the date of this letter, this is all a very, very  
40 recent development, and that's under consideration. Their  
41 funding process is not on the same timeline as ours. And  
42 in fact, I feel very safe to say they're very early in  
43 their funding process, but there may be other people here  
44 with their division that want to comment on that. But I  
45 wouldn't say that they've committed to it, I'd say it's  
46 under consideration.

47

48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: What would be the  
49 last date for them to make that decision? In other words,  
50 were we decided to fund either Salmon Bay or the other

00108

1 Salmon Bay, Salmon Bay 1 or Salmon Bay 2, when would you  
2 have to have that information available to you, say the  
3 State decided they needed two months, would that be okay,  
4 or one month?

5  
6 MR. MCBRIDE: Mr. Chairman, from a process  
7 standpoint, we can basically wait until the Federal  
8 Subsistence Board meets in December. At that point they  
9 will deliberate and approve a final monitoring plan and  
10 immediately following that meeting then we'll start cutting  
11 contracts, cooperative agreements, financial documents to  
12 actually implement the program. So we actually have time.  
13 If those commitments were made prior to the December Board  
14 meeting we could deal with that.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council. Ms.  
17 Phillips.

18  
19 MS. PHILLIPS: Chairman Littlefield. Are  
20 these projects ongoing, are they carry-ons of previous  
21 projects?

22  
23 MR. MCBRIDE: So thank you, I should have  
24 mentioned that. Yes, they all are. These are all projects  
25 that are currently being implemented through this program.

26  
27 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair. Mr. McBride, on  
28 Page 54, the middle of the page, what are the results of  
29 projects to date, and the last sentence in that big  
30 paragraph it says, the largest harvest monitoring and  
31 traditional ecological project, 00045 was not successfully  
32 completed due to staffing changes and has been  
33 discontinued. Could you remind me which project that was?

34  
35 MR. MCBRIDE: Without my cheat sheet in  
36 front of me, that was the customary and -- Bob, help me  
37 with this.

38  
39 DR. SCHROEDER: Doug, there was a project  
40 early on which was funded for three years to do traditional  
41 territory mapping, and that project was initiated in the  
42 first year in three communities, the second year in three  
43 communities, and those are ongoing and getting wound up at  
44 the present time. At the time when FIS was considering  
45 funding the third year portion of that, there basically  
46 wasn't staff in place to ensure that that project would  
47 happen in three new places. And so for that reason three  
48 new places were not funded.

49  
50 MS. PHILLIPS: Did that funding get put

00109

1 into this big pool of funding then for that third year of  
2 the mapping project? What happened to the funding of the  
3 third year funding for that?

4

5 MR. MCBRIDE: Ms. Phillips. It's my  
6 understanding that that funding basically got -- no, it did  
7 not. Cal, you can correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe  
8 that when that funding -- if it's not spent within a  
9 certain timeframe, basically lapses back to the general  
10 coffers of the United States Government.

11

12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other questions  
13 on sockeye or stock assessment.

14

15 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Phillips. And  
18 then Ms. Garza.

19

20 MS. PHILLIPS: I have a comment and that is  
21 that, you know, I do want to support programs that will  
22 extend ongoing projects so we can get a better  
23 understanding of a full life cycle of the stocks that are  
24 being discussed. But it has the appearance to me that  
25 we're selecting projects that are economic based, that are  
26 directly linked to commercial fishing, and I'm not trying  
27 to say that disparagingly. But as far as the steelhead  
28 project goes, is that, on Page 60 it states that management  
29 of subsistence fisheries for steelhead on Prince of Wales  
30 Island is one of the largest issues before the Federal  
31 Subsistence Board. So I'm glad to see it was on the  
32 priority list, I wish it could have been funded, but -- and  
33 it is going to be issues that we're going to be dealing  
34 with in years to come -- you know, in the past, currently  
35 and in years to come.

36

37 I just wanted to make that comment.

38

39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

40

41 DR. GARZA: I guess the one question I have  
42 is whether or not we will hear from the other projects.  
43 There are some people in the audience that represent other  
44 projects and we have heard from Klawock and from Hetta. And  
45 just to respond to you, Patty, I do agree that steelhead is  
46 one of the important issues, it's coming up in the very  
47 near, near future, like the day after tomorrow, I think.  
48 But the Hetta and the Klawock Lake, are both at this point  
49 pure subsistence. There is no commercial. I mean and  
50 relative to commercial it would be avoiding by-catch. But

00110

1 the value is all subsistence in my mind.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: What I'd like to do  
4 is schedule some time tomorrow at 4:00 o'clock, make  
5 another special order, 4:00 o'clock tomorrow to allow all  
6 of the participants or principals that are involved in  
7 these projects, steelhead to the -- from the top one all  
8 the way to the bottom to come here and make a presentation  
9 before us tomorrow at 4:00 o'clock, and then we will make  
10 our decisions after that. That gives everybody time to,  
11 that are in the audience, I know there's several here and  
12 we need to invite the people from Klawock and Hetta Lake  
13 back to make their presentation. So my intent was to ask  
14 the Council's indulgence to have a special order for 4:00  
15 o'clock tomorrow, that way everybody knows when they have  
16 to be here.

17

18 Any objection to that.

19

20 (No objections)

21

22 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, that's what  
23 we'll do. Dr. Garza.

24

25 DR. GARZA: I guess just one more comment.  
26 So in your report, Doug, the concluding feeling I got was  
27 that any of these could be funded and it would be great and  
28 so it was somewhat of a tough decision to figure out which  
29 ones to fund given the limited funding?

30

31 MR. MCBRIDE: Mr. Chairman. Dr. Garza.  
32 Yeah, as a general statement I would say, yes. I would --  
33 but even given that, I think some of these projects are  
34 either better or more important than others, and the degree  
35 of that is represented in this list of priorities. Even  
36 given some of the technical concerns, we had the Klawock,  
37 we would recommend that that be funded for 2004 and invite  
38 the investigators to address our comments, come back with  
39 a proposal this winter. Because we're fairly confident  
40 that we're going to want to continue with the assessment at  
41 Klawock Lake.

42

43 I think Falls Lake speaks for itself. I  
44 mean it's been the subject of both, in-season management  
45 action and regulatory restrictions through the Federal  
46 Board, having continued assessment there seems, to us, a  
47 very important thing to do. Klag Lake between Redoubt and  
48 Klag, I mean those two systems are supporting the lion's  
49 share of subsistence harvest out of Sitka which is the  
50 largest community in -- rural community in Southeast. That

00111

1 seems like a very high priority for informational needs.

2

3                   You heard about Hetta this morning, we  
4 completely concur with that. And there's been conservation  
5 issues in the Angoon area, and continuing assessment at  
6 Kanalku and Sitkoh seem very appropriate.

7

8                   Salmon Lake, technically is a very good  
9 project. The reality is that it's a very, very small  
10 system that is very, very close to Sitka. And we would  
11 recommend funding that if additional matching funds can be  
12 found, but we had a hard time ranking that higher than the  
13 other projects and systems that I just spoke about. Thoms  
14 and Salmon Bay and Luck we think are important to do. But  
15 we don't think as important as the systems above them.

16

17                   The steelhead, I guess, just to recount  
18 where we ended up, there's really two things driving our  
19 recommendation. First is we went into the fishery this  
20 year thinking that the harvest was going to be at least  
21 close to what had been documented in the late '90s through  
22 Subsistence Division, the 600, that's what that harvest cap  
23 was based on. We implemented the permits this year and we  
24 had a documented harvest of 26. If the harvest  
25 realistically is closer to 26 than it is to 600, the need  
26 to spend a six-figure project to assess steelhead is not  
27 that great. In addition to that, we would like to have  
28 more time with the investigators to see if we can't come up  
29 with a more cost effective proposal to get at a broader  
30 cross-section of the systems for less money. As it stands  
31 this Option A for Prince of Wales steelhead would fund one  
32 weir for about \$140,000 a year. And in our view, given how  
33 low the documented harvest is we can afford to wait a year,  
34 continue to investigate the harvest and try to come up with  
35 a better proposal for assessing steelhead.

36

37                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council  
38 comments on stock assessment.

39

40                   (No comments)

41

42                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I have one question  
43 on Salmon Bay -- or Salmon Lake, how much of the coho  
44 assessment is attributed to that \$220,800? I know you  
45 mentioned 60,000 from the State, is that accurately what  
46 that cost?

47

48                   MR. MCBRIDE: Without getting into -- the  
49 short answer is, yes, I think it is. When I -- I don't  
50 have the detailed budget stuff in front of me but when I

00112

1 spoke with Sportfish Division, that was what they were  
2 talking about and so I'm sure that's basically the cost of  
3 the coho part of that project.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other questions.

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Harvest monitoring

10 and TEK.

11

12 MR. MCBRIDE: Mr. Chairman.

13

14 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Douville.

15

16 MR. DOUVILLE: Just as a comment on  
17 steelhead, we have not even had the opportunity to see a  
18 cycle where everybody was aware they could catch steelhead,  
19 and it seems to make sense to me to watch a cycle or two  
20 before we start putting a lot of money into these projects  
21 when they could be better spent somewhere else. We  
22 certainly don't see the numbers yet, but, again, I would  
23 expect it will go higher this coming year.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council.

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: TEK, harvest

32 monitoring.

33

34 MR. MCBRIDE: Mr. Chairman, at the bottom  
35 of Page 61 and then Table 4 on Page 62, in fact, my  
36 suggestion would be just to turn to Table 4. There were  
37 two projects that we received in the harvest monitoring,  
38 TEK category. And we're recommending both of these  
39 projects be funded. The first project, the traditional  
40 ecological knowledge and subsistence salmon monitoring in  
41 Southeast Alaska, that's a project by the Sitka Tribe and  
42 Alaska Department of Fish and Game. And what they're  
43 striving to do is really two things, is to do interviews of  
44 elders in the Sitka area looking at the TEK aspect of  
45 harvest monitoring for that area. But then in addition to  
46 that, do post-season surveys to get a more accurate picture  
47 of what is really being harvested by subsistence users in  
48 Sitka.

49

50 And as a very general statement, our

00113

1 questions about actual subsistence harvest throughout  
2 Southeast is -- that's a theme we find almost everywhere,  
3 that the existing systems to document subsistence harvest  
4 don't appear to be accurate, and what this project is  
5 striving to do is to get an accurate picture of what's  
6 going on with subsistence harvest in the Sitka area, which,  
7 to us, would be a very high priority for what -- for  
8 informational needs.

9

10                   Then the second project is, again, a  
11 cooperative project between the Alaska Department of Fish  
12 and Game and the Sitka Tribe, then to look at the existing  
13 traditional ecological knowledge information, get that  
14 throughout Southeast, not just the Sitka area and then  
15 collate that into a useable database so that we can  
16 actually access that information.

17

18                   And in our view, both of these projects are  
19 very high priority and we would recommend that both of them  
20 be funded.

21

22                   So if you look at the totality of the TRC  
23 recommendation, with the available money we can afford --  
24 well, we can afford basically both the harvest monitoring,  
25 TEK projects, all of the sockeye projects down to where  
26 that line is drawn on the list on Page 61, and then if we  
27 can find additional matching funds pick up Salmon Lake, if  
28 we can't find additional matching funds then pick up the  
29 Wrangell projects. That would be our recommendation.

30

31                   I'd also comment that the remainder of the  
32 material under Tab C has for each project then an executive  
33 summary of what that project is about, and then a summary  
34 of the TRC comments, our recommendation of whether it  
35 should be funded or not funded and then the justification  
36 and comments as to why that's the case.

37

38                   Mr. Chairman.

39

40                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any questions from  
41 Council on the TEK part.

42

43                   DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman.

44

45                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

46

47                   DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So  
48 just a philosophical question. If we did not have a  
49 Council policy, if you will, that said that so much had to  
50 be spent on TEK, would you guys recommend both of the TEK

00114

1 proposals?

2

3

4 MR. MCBRIDE: That's a good question. I  
5 think the answer is yes in this case. If you go back to --  
6 well, I won't go in the book. When you look at those  
7 questions that we posed and then answered in terms of  
8 trying to develop issues and information needs and then we  
9 looked at -- I believe there was one question about what  
10 projects make sense to fund in the long-term, the Staff  
11 recommendation is in order of priority, make sure that we  
12 have accurate harvest reporting for the major stocks, and  
13 then get contextual information to explain any trends in  
14 harvest which is how we would largely view the TEK  
15 information, and then do your most important stock status  
16 information. And those really are in order of priority.  
17 So given that, yeah, I'm confident we would recommend both  
18 those projects without the policy call to spend a third of  
19 the money on the harvest monitoring, TEK for those two  
20 projects.

20

21

22 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Just as a matter of  
23 record, I believe you said Council, and actually that  
24 guideline one-third, two-thirds come from the Federal  
25 Subsistence Board; is that correct?

25

26 MR. MCBRIDE: Yes.

27

28

29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. We need to  
30 make sure that we have all the questions to Mr. McBride  
31 that you can think about because he's leaving on a plane  
32 tonight. We are not going to debate these until tomorrow  
33 afternoon. And maybe we should -- you're going to stick  
34 around, right, to the bitter end, right, and we can call  
35 you back up if we need to?

35

36

37 MR. MCBRIDE: Yes. Mr. Chairman, and just  
38 so the Council is aware, it's not just me wanting to go  
39 home, I also do the same -- go through the same  
40 presentation for the Southcentral region and you guys  
41 overlapped your meetings again and so I'm catching the  
42 first day of this meeting and the last day of the  
43 Southcentral meeting, so that's what's going on. But, yes,  
44 I will be here basically to a little bit after 5:00  
45 o'clock.

45

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. You could ask  
48 them not to do that anymore.

48

49

(Laughter)

50

00115

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Do we have any  
2 questions for Mr. McBride, on either this TEK or stock  
3 assessment.

4  
5 Ms. Wilson.

6  
7 MS. WILSON: I was looking at Page 54, we  
8 got our report on the monitoring -- Resource Monitoring  
9 Program in March, but it says here, many of monitoring  
10 projects and traditional harvest monitoring and traditional  
11 ecological knowledge projects have experienced scheduling  
12 problems and so there was fewer results. And also the TEK  
13 project 00045 was not successfully completed because of  
14 staffing changes. And what staffing changes was that? And  
15 it has been discontinued.

16  
17 MR. MCBRIDE: Right. That was the project  
18 that Dr. Schroeder was just talking about.

19  
20 MS. WILSON: Oh.

21  
22 MR. MCBRIDE: The primary staffing change  
23 was that Dr. Schroeder took a different job.

24  
25 MS. WILSON: Okay.

26  
27 MR. MCBRIDE: And is sitting up there  
28 instead of running this project.

29  
30 MS. WILSON: Oh, okay.

31  
32 (Laughter)

33  
34 MR. MCBRIDE: But I would also comment that  
35 that is not really playing into what we have in front of  
36 us.

37  
38 MS. WILSON: Okay.

39  
40 MR. MCBRIDE: We're confident -- we've been  
41 talking with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game here,  
42 we're comfortable with the pace and the schedule that  
43 they've been proceeding at with their existing programs  
44 here in Southeast, and we're confident that they can  
45 successfully complete these two projects that they are  
46 either the lead or co-investigator on that are under  
47 consideration now.

48  
49 So at least in terms of some of the past  
50 difficulties that we've had, we don't think that those are

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1 going to play in any large way into what's in front of us  
2 for the harvest monitoring, TEK projects that are in front  
3 of us for 2004.

4

5 MS. WILSON: Okay, thanks.

6

7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council. Mr.  
8 Stokes.

9

10 MR. STOKES: On the same subject, Amy was  
11 down a couple of weeks ago taking information down. And I  
12 had given her several names and she did not have the time  
13 to interview these people. I've asked them and they said,  
14 no, they never heard a word. So I think they should spend  
15 more time in a community and get everyone that has some  
16 knowledge.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: You want to respond  
21 to that?

22

23 MR. MCBRIDE: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Stokes.  
24 I think what you're talking about is a specific project in  
25 terms of doing interviews, and I just don't have anything  
26 meaningful to add right now. I know that some of the  
27 investigators doing these projects are here in the audience  
28 and could probably better speak to that than I could. But  
29 I'll leave it at that.

30

31 MR. STOKES: Well, she was talking about  
32 Thoms Lake and those are the projects that she was talking  
33 about.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Turek.

36

37 MR. TUREK: Chair. Mr. Stokes. That's Amy  
38 Paige that works with me that you're talking about. And  
39 she was down.....

40

41 MR. KOOKESH: Your name.

42

43 MR. TUREK: Oh, excuse me, my name is Mike  
44 Turek, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of  
45 Subsistence. And Amy Paige has been working in Wrangell  
46 conducting surveys and part of the problem is just running  
47 out of time on field work, expenses of field work in  
48 Southeast. I'm sure she tried to contact people and while  
49 she was in the village, she just ran out of time. So it  
50 will either require another trip or we may have Sandy, the

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1 local hire, who's been doing interviews, we may have her do  
2 those interviews. So it's just one of those problems with  
3 scheduling the interviews with people in the village.  
4 Sometimes when you're there you miss connections and then  
5 you have to leave and you're not scheduled to go back, but  
6 having the local hires conduct the interviews really helps  
7 in that respect.

8

9 Thank you for bringing that up.

10

11 MR. TUREK: Okay, thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I have a question  
14 maybe for both of you. If you could summarize for us the  
15 local hire and the Alaska Native partnership that the  
16 Council has taken a position on that previously, that those  
17 rated very highly with them, high partnership. If you  
18 could summarize the partnership of these projects, all of  
19 them, just summarize them for us because we're not going to  
20 get another chance at you, and I'm sure Mike will be here  
21 but you might sit there with him.

22

23 MR. MCBRIDE: Mr. Chairman, you're  
24 referring to the information in Tables 1 and Table 2, which  
25 is on Page 55 and 57. All of these projects have a very  
26 significant capacity building component as part of them,  
27 and all of them have multiple partners, including an Alaska  
28 Native partner, with one exception, the database project.

29

30 The way we view that is that for Southeast,  
31 I mean that's part of what makes this a good suite of  
32 proposals, if you will. As I say, every one of these  
33 either has rural organization as either the PI or a co-  
34 investigator. You know, for instance, the Klag project,  
35 the Sitka Tribe is the principal investigator doing a major  
36 assessment project. The same for the traditional  
37 ecological knowledge and subsistence salmon monitoring in  
38 Southeast Alaska, the Sitka Tribe is the principal  
39 investigator. I believe the Angoon, the Kanalku and Sitkoh  
40 subsistence project. I mean if you look at the Alaska  
41 Native component on Table 1 on Page 55, they're in 2004  
42 going to be running the majority of this project, that's a  
43 change from the way it's been done in the past. Well, the  
44 project leader was up here a little earlier Meg Cartwright  
45 and her staff, they've been working with this group and  
46 ADF&G is taking more of a lesser role in this project, and  
47 Angoon's part of this is increasing. So as I say, I'd say  
48 in general, Mr. Chairman, you've got this particular  
49 component built into every one of these projects and it's  
50 just a matter of degree as to how much it is.

00118

1                   And the local hire reflects basically the  
2 same thing I just talked about, that's the information on  
3 Table 2.

4  
5                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I was curious why  
6 the Project 652 had no local hire and no Alaska Natives,  
7 yet, it was a partnership with the Sitka Tribe, it appears  
8 to be anyway.

9  
10                  MR. TUREK: Mr. Chair, the way we're going  
11 to do that one is that we'll do a contract, the Alaska  
12 Department of Fish and Game will do a contract with the  
13 Sitka Tribe of Alaska for them to hire staff for the  
14 project. And we're getting away from the way we started  
15 all these projects, was a local hire, by hiring them as a  
16 fish and wildlife tech for several reasons. One of which  
17 is it's easier to hire some of these people if we do a  
18 contract with the tribe and they're hired as a tribal  
19 employee due to the type of work that we're having them do.  
20 Flexible schedules, and intermittent work sometimes. For  
21 us to do that through our process, it's much more red tape.  
22 Plus, I think it's better to have them actually -- and most  
23 of the people we talked to would rather actually work for  
24 the IRA than work for Fish and Game, which I can't  
25 understand.

26  
27                                 (Laughter)

28  
29                  MR. TUREK: No, seriously, I think it's  
30 better to have the tribe actually hiring the people. So  
31 that's how we'll probably structure most of these in the  
32 future, in that, the local hire will actually be Staff  
33 hired by the tribe and the funding will go to the tribe  
34 through a contract with Fish and Game.

35  
36                  CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, thank you.  
37 Other Council.

38  
39                  Ms. Phillips.

40  
41                  MS. PHILLIPS: Chairman Littlefield, I have  
42 a couple of questions. Most of these proposals state that  
43 there's no process by which to coordinate funding with  
44 other programs. Is there a way that we could try to seek  
45 additional funding or this body could write resolutions in  
46 support of additional funding?

47  
48                  MR. MCBRIDE: Mr. Chairman. Ms. Phillips.  
49 This document was drafted, basically the end of July, and  
50 the most significant development that's happened since this

00119

1 happened, happened last week, that's the now infusion of  
2 Southeast Sustainable Salmon Fund money. So certainly  
3 that's the primary place that I'm aware of where we've  
4 certainly been successful, you know, financially partnering  
5 with somebody in the past. And the fact that the State has  
6 stepped forward and done what they've done, I think is very  
7 significant.

8

9 I think really about the only other  
10 possibility is whether any additional matching funds might  
11 be available for the Salmon Lake project. Beyond that, I  
12 just don't know what else we would do, at least, right now  
13 for 2004. We're going to continue to deal with this and,  
14 you know, try to build financial partnerships as we march  
15 on into the future. But for what we've got right now in  
16 front of us, the primary thing we were looking for was  
17 coordinating with the Southeast Sustainable Salmon Fund,  
18 and we got that.

19

20 So I think we got that, hopefully we can  
21 get a little bit more because our recommendation would be  
22 to fund Salmon Lake but we've got a little bit more money  
23 to do that.

24

25 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you. On Page 75 it  
26 states that the Klawock Lake subsistence sockeye salmon  
27 project, it states and further assessment focused on in-  
28 lake estimation of escapement at presumably lower cost.  
29 The investigation plan should explicitly address the  
30 criteria for making this determination. I mean, do you  
31 work with the proposer on trying to address that issue?

32

33 MR. MCBRIDE: Mr. Chairman. Ms. Phillips.  
34 The short answer is yes I do. And this has been a  
35 difficult issue to get at and it's really unfortunate that  
36 we didn't stop at the hatchery yesterday and take a look at  
37 the weir and talk to some of the staff there. But I guess  
38 in a nutshell, what's going on is there's a weir at the  
39 hatchery, and what we're funding is a crew that helps to  
40 operate the weir but in large part what they do is then  
41 they mark a significant part of the fish that go through  
42 the weir and then later they go up into the lake and do the  
43 recapture part of the experiment to estimate abundance, and  
44 then that tagging estimate of abundance gets compared to  
45 what went through the weir. And the weir has, I think a  
46 long history of -- it's basically been under various stages  
47 of construction, is probably the best way to put it, but  
48 they've had problems in the past with basically leaking a  
49 lot of fish through the weir. And in 2001, which was the  
50 first year we ran this project, the tagging estimate of

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1 abundance was about double what the weir count was, and we  
2 spent a lot of time trying to figure out if we had problems  
3 with the tagging experiment and if we had problems with the  
4 weir, and I think it's safe to say we probably had problems  
5 with both aspects of the program. But when it was all said  
6 and done, at least, in my assessment, I think the tagging  
7 estimate of abundance was probably closer to reality than  
8 the weir was. And the reason I would say that is that when  
9 we went through the review, that the hatchery needed to do  
10 a more complete job of securing the bottom of the weir,  
11 diving on the weir every day to make sure it was fish tight  
12 and those kinds of things.

13

14                   So we went into 2002 and I think we made  
15 some significant improvements to the tagging study and some  
16 significant improvements to how the weir was operated. We  
17 did the same program and the tagging estimate and the weir  
18 estimate were virtually identical. And so at that point I  
19 thought, all right we got it. Because if we're going to  
20 spend this amount of money, basically to have a weir there,  
21 we want the weir count. I mean we're paying top dollar for  
22 day to day information.

23

24                   Then we go into this year and even though  
25 the project is still ongoing, I mean they're still  
26 recovering fish, basically as we speak up in the lake at  
27 Klawock, but the same thing happened, you know, we had the  
28 weir, we were tagging fish and they basically marked about  
29 20 percent of the sockeyes that went through the weir, so  
30 basically one out of five, and they did their first  
31 recovery effort up in the lake and they looked at three  
32 different places up in the lake and instead of 20 percent  
33 marks they only found six percent marks, which leads me to  
34 believe that unless there's something wrong with the  
35 tagging experiment, the weir has leaked a significant  
36 number of fish.

37

38                   And so where we're coming from is, if we're  
39 going to pay this amount of money for this project then we  
40 want a weir with a weir count that we can deal with every  
41 day, without a big question as to whether a lot of fish got  
42 leaked. And if we can't get that then our recommendation  
43 is to make this project look more like the Salmon Bay Lake,  
44 Thoms Lake, Hetta Lake projects, where you don't even deal  
45 with the weir and you just simply go up in the lake, you do  
46 your marking, you do your recapturing and you get your  
47 estimate of abundance. Now, it's done completely at the  
48 end of the season but you document what kind of escapement  
49 went into that system after the fact and, again, at  
50 presumably less cost because that project -- or doing all

00121

1 the marking and all the recapturing hasn't been costly at  
2 all for that project. But that -- that's what we want them  
3 to deal with, either bring us a project with a weir is the  
4 weir and we're confident that we're getting a weir count or  
5 move it up into the lake, but that's why we're recommending  
6 one year to come back with a new investigation plan.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other questions.

9

10 Mr. Douville.

11

12 MR. DOUVILLE: You've successfully confused  
13 me as to what you're trying to do. I don't understand, why  
14 is it your count up in the lake does not match what the  
15 weir is doing, are you saying they're going back out  
16 through the weir? If they're going through the weir you're  
17 counting them, I mean how could you be mistaken, they're  
18 going up into the system.

19

20 MR. MCBRIDE: Mr. Douville, what -- leakage  
21 of fish through a weir is not only -- doesn't only happen  
22 at the Klawock project, it happens in a lot of places,  
23 primarily because of flooding. But basically what is very  
24 potentially going on is they're counting fish through the  
25 weir, there's no question about that, but if they're not  
26 very, very careful and check that weir every day you can  
27 get pickets splaying, they've had flooding events where the  
28 weir has been topped over, and in those situations you can  
29 be passing fish right through the weir that you never  
30 count. Because the way the count is conducted is the fish  
31 go up through a fish ladder into a raceway in the hatchery  
32 and then they're counted through there, but if the weir has  
33 leaks in it, the fish will actually squirt through the body  
34 of the weir without being counted.

35

36 So that's what we think happened in 2001.  
37 It doesn't appear that that happened in 2002. But the  
38 preliminary indications are that it may have happened again  
39 in 2003.

40

41 MR. DOUVILLE: I did talk to those hatchery  
42 people that administered it and they dispute that. They  
43 feel that their hatchery was in good working order and they  
44 don't feel that there was any leakage, what -- you know,  
45 that's just what they say.

46

47 MR. MCBRIDE: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Douville.  
48 I spoke with him yesterday, we were on a bus together for  
49 a very long day and I understand that. I know that there  
50 has been disagreement about what the potential problems are

00122

1 at Klawock, and that's why I said it's been difficult to  
2 get at this but what I'm giving you is my assessment of  
3 what I think is going on. I mean I've dealt with, not only  
4 with the people doing the tagging, which is primarily the  
5 Alaska Department of Fish and Game, but I've also dealt  
6 with the hatchery staff. And like I say, I think,  
7 initially there were problems with both parts of the  
8 program but I think, as it stands today if we're getting  
9 answers that look like 20 percent of the fish at the weir  
10 were marked but they can only find six percent recoveries  
11 in the lake, I would attribute that primarily to leakage at  
12 the weir at this point.

13

14 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council  
15 questions for Mr. McBride.

16

17 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chairman.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Follow up, go head.

20

21 MR. DOUVILLE: I don't know how you could  
22 possibly expect to catch all those fish back in the lake  
23 because you really don't know which stream they're going to  
24 and, you know, fish are hard to catch anyway, particularly  
25 the sockeyes because they're very quick and elusive fish.  
26 So I mean I don't know if you know the nature of the  
27 sockeye but they are very difficult to catch in a place  
28 like that.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Stokes.

33

34 MR. STOKES: I don't know the ins and outs  
35 of getting these projects going but when I introduced the  
36 proposal on 603 a few years ago, I had Virginia Lake down,  
37 and why has this been dropped because it's a wonderful  
38 sockeye stream?

39

40 MR. MCBRIDE: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Stokes.  
41 Yeah, Virginia Lake is one of the projects that we started  
42 doing assessment on and that is in -- it's in its final  
43 year right now. So 2004 was the last year of funding  
44 commitment. And basically what happened there is the  
45 original proposal was to estimate escapement into the lake  
46 and that was going to be done through the fish pass that  
47 was constructed at the lower most falls of Virginia Lake,  
48 and so they did that, but then when they were doing in-lake  
49 surveys later on, they could only account for a tiny  
50 fraction of the fish that actually moved into the lake.

00123

1 And I mean the Staff was constantly left with this  
2 question, you know, how come they don't see more fish. And  
3 then the other question was, is the fish pass really even  
4 assessing all the fish that are moving into the lake. And  
5 so I, and several others went there last year, we looked at  
6 the system, we met with the Forest Service Staff there in  
7 Wrangell and talked about it and the general -- our  
8 collective assessment is that that fish pass probably is  
9 not giving us a consistent fraction of the fish that are  
10 moving into the system. It's so water level dependent  
11 that, you know, you count so many fish through this year  
12 and so many fish through next year and the fraction of the  
13 fish that go through that fish pass is likely to change as  
14 you go from year to year.

15

16 In addition to that, there's like a  
17 tremendous amount of question whether the fish that get  
18 past the fish pass ever actually make it into the lake  
19 because that river -- I'm sure you know, there's some very  
20 significant falls, you know, I think there's about three or  
21 four more sets of falls between there and the lake. And so  
22 to get at that question, what they're doing this year is  
23 they're actually doing a radio-tagging experiment and  
24 they're trying to determine of the fish that get past the  
25 fish pass, the first set of falls, how many actually  
26 successfully get into the lake. And then at that point,  
27 the other thing about Virginia Lake is that lake has been  
28 heavily enhanced in the past, well, it's had fish stocked  
29 into it and it's been fertilized very heavily and so at  
30 that point then I think the Forest Service is going to have  
31 to make a determination of what do they think needs to  
32 happen at Virginia Lake next.

33

34 So what we're doing is we're trying to  
35 bring to conclusion the radio-tagging experiment at  
36 Virginia Lake and then if the Forest Service feels that  
37 there's more assessment work that needs to be done that  
38 relates specifically to subsistence management, then they  
39 would most likely give us a new proposal in the future.  
40 But if it's going to be estimating escapement into that  
41 system it's probably going to have to be something  
42 different than counting fish through the fish pass, and I  
43 don't know what that would be at this point.

44

45 MR. STOKES: Thank you. But it's my  
46 opinion that when the gillnetters were fertilizing the  
47 lake, that they developed a healthy trout population and  
48 they, in turn, became the predators to all the sockeye, and  
49 that's the same as the dog salmon. When they -- they  
50 turned loose several hundred thousand right in Anita Bay,

00124

1 and when they're fed they're larger than their natural  
2 native stock, they, in turn, become predators and I think  
3 that's where a lot of our fish are going.

4

5 Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council  
8 questions.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I guess that's it.  
13 If you'll stick around for a little bit, we're going to  
14 take a five, 10 minute break, we're going to come back into  
15 order. Dr. Schroeder will run through the proposals of how  
16 we're going to handle the proposals and we'll attempt to  
17 get through the customary and traditional tonight for you.  
18 So we'll take five, 10 minutes.

19

20 Thank you, very much for your presentation.

21

22 (Off record)

23

24 (On record)

25

26 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The meeting will  
27 please come back to order, please take your seat.

28

29 (Pause)

30

31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We're on Agenda Item  
32 No. 10, Fisheries Proposal Review, Regional Advisory  
33 Council recommendations under Tab D.

34

35 Dr. Schroeder.

36

37 DR. SCHROEDER: This begins the part of our  
38 meeting when we deal with regulatory proposals. I think  
39 the Regional Advisory Council is well familiar with the  
40 process that we go through. First Staff members present  
41 the proposal material as written in the proposal book. We  
42 then hear Alaska Department of Fish and Game comments. If  
43 there are other State or Federal agency comments. If there  
44 are any comments from Fish and Game Advisory Committees.  
45 We then review public comments, hear any public testimony  
46 that may be presented and then the Regional Advisory  
47 Council goes into its deliberation, justification and  
48 recommendation stage of things.

49

50 I'll be presenting the first two analyses

00125

1 in our series of proposals. The proposals are listed on  
2 Page 6 in your book so you have an idea of what's coming  
3 your way.

4

5                   Proposals 23 through 27 concern customary  
6 and traditional use of fish on Prince of Wales Island.  
7 Proposals 28 and 29 concern customary and traditional use  
8 of fish species in Districts 6, 7 and 8, the Stikine River  
9 is a primary interest in those proposals.

10

11                   By way of introduction, I'm not sure the  
12 Regional Advisory Council has done C&Ts in the last round  
13 or two of meetings. We have a pretty well established  
14 track record and procedure for doing customary and  
15 traditional use determinations. Doing such determinations  
16 involve consideration of eight criteria. Of the eight  
17 criteria, it's turned out, in our experience, over the  
18 years, that a few of those criteria turn out to be ones  
19 that the discussion focuses on, and those tend to be the  
20 ones that relate to the long-term consistent pattern of use  
21 of a species and the intensity of the use of particular  
22 species in the area under concern. However, we do provide  
23 information on each criteria so that the record is  
24 complete.

25

26                   Your analysis for these proposals begins on  
27 Page 121 in your book and it goes on for many pages. I  
28 think Council members have diligently read through these  
29 proposals after we got back from our field trip yesterday  
30 evening at 10:30 p.m., while they were cooking their frozen  
31 TV dinners, which is all anyone got to eat.

32

33                   (Laughter)

34

35                   DR. SCHROEDER: But jokes aside, I know  
36 people really do do their homework. We lumped these five  
37 proposals together because they all deal with Prince of  
38 Wales Island areas. Each proposal had a slightly different  
39 slant on the type of C&T that the proponent was requesting.  
40 Proposal FP04-23 was submitted by Lewis Hiatt of Hollis.  
41 And Mr. Hiatt requested that there be a customary and  
42 traditional use determination for fish species for Hollis  
43 residents and that the use area would be the one that's  
44 already listed for Kasaan. So what his change would be to  
45 take the area where C&T was recognized for Kasaan and say  
46 this area has Kasaan and Hollis have customary and  
47 traditional use of that area.

48

49                   Proposal FP04-24 was submitted by Don  
50 Hernandez of Point Baker with the encouragement of the

00126

1 Regional Advisory Council, and it requests a positive and  
2 customary and traditional use determinations for fish  
3 species for residents of Prince of Wales Island and Edna  
4 Bay. For those areas that have not already been covered by  
5 C&Ts in Districts 2, Section 3B, Section B, Section 3C,  
6 District 5 and District 6.

7

8                   Proposal FP04-25 which was submitted by  
9 Brandy Prefontaine of Kalukati is similar to 24. It  
10 requests a positive customary and traditional use  
11 determinations for fish species for the residents of  
12 Coffman Cove, Lab Bay Edna Bay, Naukati, Point Baker, Port  
13 Protection and Wale Pass. And the determination would  
14 include slightly different areas than in FP-24. IT would  
15 include waters draining into Section 3B, Section 3C,  
16 District 5 and District 6.

17

18                   Proposals 26 and 27 were submitted by Gary  
19 Sousa of Ketchikan. They request positive customary and  
20 traditional use determinations for species and then  
21 basically delineate particular areas for each community so  
22 there's an area very -- a very discreet area identified  
23 that would be this customary and traditional use area for  
24 residents of Wale Pass. A different area would be the  
25 customary and traditional use area for Point Baker and Port  
26 Protection. Similarly for Naukati. And then under  
27 Proposal 27 areas would be delineated for Thorne Bay and  
28 for Coffman Cove. We also clarified with the proponent his  
29 proposal as written appeared to suggest that these areas  
30 would be closed to non-Federally-qualified fishers and we  
31 clarified that that wasn't the case with Mr. Sousa's  
32 proposal.

33

34                   The maps on Page 128 and 129 show the  
35 divisions of this area. So the map on 128 shows the  
36 districts by number, 2, 3, 4, 5, et cetera. The map on 129  
37 shows the subdistricts. There's a pattern to this. So  
38 subdistrict 103-90 for example is District 3, it's within  
39 District 3. And these maps also show you the location of  
40 the communities under consideration.

41

42                   The waters that we're dealing with in this  
43 area are the Federal waters. Now, most of the two million  
44 acres of land on Prince of Wales and the adjacent islands  
45 are managed by Forest Service, Tongass National Forest. You  
46 visited our district office here and met with some of the  
47 staff from Thorne Bay. There's a relatively small amount,  
48 10 percent, 15 percent, 280,000 acres are owned by Native  
49 Corporations or city land or State right-of-ways, Native  
50 allotments, homestead land, mining, cannery sites and other

00127

1 small in-holdings. Our management authority extends over  
2 waters on Federal land. The easiest way to describe these  
3 is to talk about waters draining into the fishing district  
4 so that's why the lingo is that way.

5

6                   As in the rest of Southeast Alaska, the  
7 marine waters in the Prince of Wales Island area are  
8 generally under State of Alaska jurisdiction for  
9 subsistence management purposes. We will note, however,  
10 that subsistence fishing takes place in freshwater streams  
11 as well as in saltwater estuaries and salchucks that may be  
12 under Federal management.

13

14                   The existing customary and traditional  
15 determinations for fish species for Prince of Wales Island  
16 communities including Edna Bay were adopted primarily from  
17 determinations made by the Alaska Board of Fisheries at  
18 meetings held in Petersburg and Juneau in 1989 and 1990.  
19 And I think Marilyn Wilson was at these meetings and  
20 possibly Dolly Garza was there, and let's see Patty  
21 Phillips was probably at those meetings as well, showing  
22 the longevity of our Subsistence Regional Advisory Council  
23 members. The Board of Fisheries at that time recognized  
24 customary and traditional uses of fish and marine and  
25 vertebrate species in somewhat limited geographic areas for  
26 the communities of Craig, Kasaan, Klawock and Hydaburg. At  
27 the time it made its determinations, the Board of Fisheries  
28 didn't include all of the areas that were shown to be used  
29 by those communities. But stated that the areas that were  
30 delineated should be sufficient to allow subsistence  
31 harvesting to take place.

32

33                   The customary and traditional use of fish  
34 by other Prince of Wales communities was not recognized at  
35 that time. So that means that Point Baker, Port  
36 Protection, Coffman Cove, Edna Bay, Whale Pass, Hollis and  
37 Thorne Bay had no customary and traditional use of fish at  
38 that time. Now in contrast, the Board of Game had  
39 recognized the subsistence use of deer throughout Unit 2  
40 for all residents of Prince of Wales Island including Edna  
41 Bay. The Board of Fisheries at that time stated that it  
42 intended to review its customary and traditional use  
43 determinations for all Southeast Alaska communities at  
44 future meetings to modify the boundaries and possibly to  
45 make other determinations based on information that might  
46 come in. So the idea was that communities could come back  
47 before the Board and there would be subsequent reviews and  
48 these would be modified.

49

50                   Intervening, however, was the 1989 McDowell

00128

1 Decision which made it difficult for the Board of Fisheries  
2 to make additional community based customary and  
3 traditional use determinations and the initial  
4 determinations weren't subject to a general review by the  
5 State Board of Fisheries. We did have some changes later  
6 on subsequently the Board of Fisheries did recognize the  
7 use of salmon in areas near Point Baker and Port Protection  
8 and it authorized a subsistence interception fishery in  
9 these areas. That took a number of years of effort on the  
10 part of those communities and I know Mr. Hernandez attended  
11 a number of Board of Fisheries meetings to make the case  
12 that Point Baker and Port Protection did use subsistence  
13 fish.

14

15           If you look through our regulations for  
16 subsistence fish on Prince of Wales you'll see this  
17 patchwork from 1989/90 in our regulations and this reflects  
18 the administrative history that I've described. And so far  
19 the Federal Subsistence Board has not reviewed customary  
20 and traditional use determinations for fish for Prince of  
21 Wales communities, so what we're sitting with are the  
22 legacy C&Ts that were brought into the Federal program when  
23 we took over management of fish on Federal waters.

24

25           This analysis will consider subsistence use  
26 of Prince of Wales fish by Prince of Wales Island  
27 communities and that's a set of communities that would be  
28 Coffman Cove, Craig, Edna Bay, Hollis, Hydaburg, Kasaan,  
29 Klawock, Naukati, Point Baker, Port Protection, Thorne Bay  
30 and Whale Pass. We also looked at the nearby rural  
31 communities of Hyda, Metlakatla, Meyers Chuck, Petersburg,  
32 Saxman and Wrangell, which could be affected by the  
33 proposed customary and traditional use determinations.

34

35           The way they would be affected is that  
36 under Federal regulation if we do not have a specific --  
37 community specific C&T for an area, we presume -- so these  
38 are areas where no determination has been made, the Federal  
39 program presumes that subsistence use is open for all rural  
40 residents, so that if, in your actions, you make  
41 recommendations and the Federal Subsistence Board adopts  
42 your recommendations or does something else that makes  
43 specific customary and traditional use determinations for  
44 an area, that means that only those communities that  
45 receive the customary and traditional use recognition will  
46 be able to do any subsistence fishing there. Other  
47 communities would be out in terms of subsistence fishing.

48

49           Provide a table showing just a little bit  
50 of the demography of the communities under consideration.

00129

1 That's Table 1 on Page 136. Overall we're talking about  
2 approximately 4,000 people as resident on Prince of Wales  
3 Island. And this is the 2000 census data, and the percent  
4 Native varies quite a bit from a community like Hydaburg,  
5 which is Hydaburg and Klawock which have a majority of  
6 residents who indicated that they were Alaska Natives in  
7 the census to communities with a small number of Native  
8 households, or persons. The bottom part of the table  
9 presents population information for the other communities  
10 that were considered.

11

12 I provided some thumbnails for some of the  
13 communities here. I think I'll go through key communities  
14 that may be the focus of your C&T discussion. We visited  
15 Coffman Cove yesterday. As we heard from Elaine there, that  
16 Coffman Cove began as a logging camp in about 1953. It's  
17 literally on an archeological site. Land was made  
18 available through Alaska Land Disposal programs in the 70s  
19 and 80s. Coffman Cove incorporated in 1989 and the  
20 community was a major log transfer facility. As we heard  
21 yesterday, Coffman Cove will be the terminus of the new  
22 ferry service system connecting Prince of Wales with  
23 Petersburg and Wrangell. There's some aquaculture sights  
24 in that area and I think we got a pretty good impression of  
25 that community yesterday.

26

27 Edna Bay, it was settled as a logging camp  
28 in 1943. Had a peak population of perhaps 150 people when  
29 Kosciusko Island logging was underway. There was a state  
30 land disposal there in the 1980s and that made it possible  
31 for a community to develop there. A lot of the people who  
32 lived there fished or lived in other parts of Prince of  
33 Wales before Edna Bay was founded. It's unincorporated.

34

35 Hollis is an older place. It was a mining  
36 community. Dave Johnson gave you a little bit of the  
37 mining history of Prince of Wales yesterday on our field  
38 trip. It was a large logging camp in the 1950s. Some of  
39 the early clear-cut logging took place in the Maybeso  
40 Valley. Again, there was a land disposal in this community  
41 and that encouraged the development of the community. The  
42 main logging activity then switched to Thorne Bay. And we  
43 arrived on the ferry at that place.

44

45 I'd like to consider primarily the places  
46 at the present time have no customary and traditional use.

47

48 Lab Bay is mentioned in a proposal. At the  
49 present time really there isn't anyone there. The camp is  
50 closed down and pretty much the buildings have been

00130

1 removed. It was a census community for a number of years.  
2 It had a school and was quite active in fish and wildlife  
3 harvesting.

4

5                   We've heard a bit about Point Baker from  
6 Don Hernandez. Point Baker was developed around commercial  
7 fishing in the early 1900s. Forest Service had some  
8 homestead land available there in the 1930s according to my  
9 information. Most current Point Baker residents are  
10 commercial fishermen who participate in troll, gillnet, IFQ  
11 fisheries. Point Baker is unincorporated and it's residents  
12 have a history of being actively concerned with timber  
13 management and other resource management issues.

14

15                   It's sister or brother community of Point  
16 Baker [sic] also developed around commercial fishing,  
17 particularly around the troller fleet at the turn of the  
18 century. There were State of Alaska land disposals there  
19 in 1970 allowing a more stable community to develop. It's  
20 unincorporated but has an active community organization.

21

22                   Thorne Bay became the hub of Prince of  
23 Wales Island logging activities after -- in '62 after main  
24 logging activities were shifted from Hollis. It's been a  
25 district administrative center for Forest Service and the  
26 islands main log sorting log has been at Thorne Bay.  
27 Again, there were State of Alaska land disposals there in  
28 the '80s. The community was incorporated in 1982. And  
29 there's some development of tourism infrastructure there  
30 for sportfishing.

31

32                   Whale Pass is yet another Prince of Wales  
33 Island community with -- it started with a strong logging  
34 history with logging camps and road building camps at that  
35 site beginning in '64. A large floating camp was moved  
36 from the area in '82, some of the timber workers stayed on  
37 and the land disposal there attracted other people to the  
38 area. It's unincorporated.

39

40                   I'd like to look through the eight factors  
41 that we need to consider for customary and traditional use.  
42 The first is a long-term consistent pattern of use  
43 excluding interruptions beyond the control of the community  
44 or area. In thinking about the communities I see them in  
45 basically three groupings. The Native populations of the  
46 communities of Craig, Kasaan, Klawock and Hydaburg have, of  
47 course, an extremely long-term consistent pattern of  
48 subsistence use. We heard from Terry Fifield yesterday  
49 something about the length of Tlingit-Haida habitation  
50 here. The current sites represent the coalition of people

00131

1 who were living at other settlements around the Prince of  
2 Wales Island area and basically date, certainly, well,  
3 before 1800 from not untold thousands of years ago. The  
4 interesting archeology that we heard something about points  
5 to a really long human habitation of Prince of Wales  
6 Island. I had to put something in about BendYourKnees cave  
7 with one of the oldest human remains found in North America  
8 which is in the north part of -- the remains are on the  
9 north part of the island.

10

11                   The Division of Subsistence did an in depth  
12 ethnographic study of Klawock in the mid-80s and it  
13 provided a pretty thorough description of subsistence use  
14 pattern for that community.

15

16                   Both Point Baker and Port Protection have  
17 community longevity that's approaching a hundred years.  
18 These places have been continuously settled since about the  
19 turn of the last century and community residents lifestyles  
20 have centered around the use of fish and wildlife. Until  
21 very recently, these communities were very remote,  
22 accessible only by boat and plane and residents of both  
23 communities rely heavily on subsistence harvesting for the  
24 majority of the meat and fish they use.

25

26                   The communities of Coffman Cove, Edna Bay,  
27 Hollis, Naukati, Thorne Bay and Whale Pass are more  
28 recently established. Edna Bay with timber development  
29 beginning in the 40s may be the oldest inhabited place in  
30 that set. Naukati is the most recently settled of the  
31 communities with people living at the sites since the late  
32 70s or early 80s. Residents of these communities have high  
33 participation of fish and wildlife harvest activities.  
34 Their harvest levels as described by Mike Turek yesterday  
35 in his brief presentation on our trip, he noted that their  
36 harvest levels are as high or higher than residents living  
37 in communities with more historic depth.

38

39                   As Elaine told us yesterday, the ability to  
40 live a -- I don't know if she used the word, subsistence  
41 lifestyle, but a lifestyle that involved a lot of hunting  
42 and fishing may be an important reason why people choose to  
43 live in these Prince of Wales Island communities.

44

45                   I think you can make a case that in some  
46 sense the residents of these newer communities have very  
47 much adopted the fish and wildlife use patterns that were  
48 common to the other island communities that have been  
49 around for quite awhile longer.

50

00132

1                   The Klawock field study developed a  
2 seasonal round of harvest activities. That's shown in  
3 Figure 1. Similar studies were conducted by Division of  
4 Subsistence in Hydaburg in the 1990s and the seasonal round  
5 was pretty similar to this one, but we consider this to be  
6 basically typical of the pattern of use that takes place --  
7 the seasonal pattern of use that takes place.

8  
9                   Criteria three -- let's see, I digress a  
10 little bit, the Office of Subsistence Management, the  
11 anthropologists for the program are reviewing customary and  
12 traditional use findings and we basically are finding that  
13 criteria three doesn't help us too much because the way  
14 people harvest fish and wildlife seems to be pretty  
15 uniform. They use the methods and means that are really  
16 common to an area. So we don't have a whole lot that's  
17 different say about different communities there. Obviously  
18 people are taking fish with gillnet, beach seines, rod and  
19 reel, gaffs, spears and short skates for bottom fish. They  
20 use boats, motorized vehicles and travel on foot to get  
21 places.

22  
23                   Criteria four is pretty important. It  
24 talks about where people get subsistence foods and for  
25 Prince of Wales Island we have really quite good sets of  
26 data. And these same sets of data or types of data will be  
27 used for the C&T for the Stikine area as well. So we  
28 should spend a little bit of time thinking about them. The  
29 sets of data that I consider here are first the really  
30 special work that was done in Native communities in 1947/48  
31 by Walter Goldschmidt and Theodore Haas, and this was set  
32 out to document traditional territories by Native  
33 communities in Alaska.

34  
35                   Second, are a series of intensity use maps  
36 that were developed by the Division of Subsistence Alaska  
37 Department of Fish and Game in 1992 using data from the  
38 Tongass Resource Use Cooperative Survey, the infamous TRUC  
39 study. And three, another set of maps also developed by  
40 the Division of Subsistence, the subsistence sensitivity to  
41 disturbance maps which were done in '96 mainly as a way of  
42 looking at the effects of the Tongass Land Management  
43 revision.

44  
45                   I've looked through approximately 100 maps  
46 to make some sense and to be able to present these to you.  
47 I did a number of things. First, I looked at -- I divided  
48 the Prince of Wales Islands into five analytical units, so  
49 if you look at Table 2 you'll see Northern Prince of Wales,  
50 Central Prince of Wales, South Prince of Wales, West Island

00133

1 and East Islands as being just ways of lumping the data  
2 that are found on these maps.

3

4                   Then I went through and I tried to see how  
5 I could categorize the information in these maps series.

6

7                   Table 2 gives you what we see in  
8 Goldschmidt and Haas for the use of the Prince of Wales  
9 area. So then I looked in Goldschmidt and Haas and I tried  
10 to see whether Goldschmidt and Haas thought that the  
11 communities, the Native communities of Craig, Hydaburg,  
12 Kasaan, Klawock, Metlakatla, Petersburg, Saxman or Wrangell  
13 had some traditional territory within these different  
14 chunks of Prince of Wales. The results of that examination  
15 are shown in Table 2.

16

17                   These maps were found to show that the  
18 traditional territory of the Tlingit-Haida tribes of Craig,  
19 Hydaburg, Kasaan and Klawock extended throughout the area  
20 under consideration -- under the area that we have under  
21 consideration for customary and traditional use  
22 determinations. The Eastern Islands were found to be  
23 within the traditional territory of the Haida tribes.  
24 Northern Prince of Wales Island was found to be within the  
25 traditional territory of the Tlingit tribes. The analysis  
26 documents some of the previous village and campsites of  
27 these tribal groups throughout the tribal traditional  
28 territories.

29

30                   This map search doesn't show that the  
31 traditional territory of other tribes extended into the  
32 Prince of Wales area. So according to Goldschmidt and  
33 Haas, the other Native communities did not have traditional  
34 territory in Prince of Wales.

35

36                   Table 3 presents data from a second map  
37 source, the Division of Subsistence, subsistence intensity  
38 use maps. These maps were prepared for community studied  
39 in the TRUCs cooperative study in 1988. As part of this big  
40 study map biographies were elicited from about 1,450  
41 respondents in 31 Southeast Alaska communities.  
42 Respondents were asked to draw on mylar maps showing areas  
43 where they had personally used for different resource  
44 harvesting activities. At great time and expense, these  
45 1,450 multi-sheet map biographies were overlaid and  
46 compiled and the resulting maps show intensity of use for  
47 the geographic areas under consideration. Table 3 presents  
48 these data for salmon and non-salmon fish.

49

50                   Now, what I did to make sense out of this

00134

1 set of data was I categorized the data into low and high  
2 intensity from -- there's quite a bit more shown on the  
3 whole map series there. So summing up, these data show  
4 that residents of island communities use at least --  
5 residents of at least some island communities use all of  
6 Prince of Wales Island areas. At least one community from  
7 Prince of Wales shows high intensity of use of each area.

8

9 Now, these maps, this series does show some  
10 low intensity of use of some areas by residents of Meyers  
11 Chuck, Petersburg, Saxman and Wrangell. And note that the  
12 map data for Klawock, Naukati and Thorne Bay, just we  
13 didn't have available, that wasn't done.

14

15 So that's the second source of map data.

16

17 The third source was a set of subsistence  
18 sensitivity to disturbance maps and that results are shown  
19 in Table 4. Again, these were prepared by Division of  
20 Subsistence through a look at ADF&G harvest records,  
21 subsistence field data and staff experience. Draft maps  
22 were reviewed in the study communities for this map series.  
23 Data were -- do you have a question?

24

25 MS. WILSON: Yes. Do I have to turn this  
26 on?

27

28 DR. SCHROEDER: Sure. You're still awake  
29 so I haven't gotten to you that much.

30

31 MS. WILSON: What is sensitivity to  
32 disturbance map series, what does that mean?

33

34 DR. SCHROEDER: Okay, Marilyn, what the  
35 division was up to at that time is it was trying to show in  
36 relationship to the forest management plan which areas  
37 were, if you disturbed them, meaning if you had timbering  
38 harvesting activities there, which areas would be more  
39 sensitive for a community and which would be less. So the  
40 original work was done by first finding the total area used  
41 by a community and then dividing it into five equal chunks.  
42 So it got rated then from one to five on sensitivity.

43

44 MS. WILSON: Okay.

45

46 DR. SCHROEDER: And what I did here was I  
47 tried to make that into a -- so that I could fit it onto a  
48 table, I tried to make that into a major and some use of  
49 this -- let's see, excuse me, I abstracted this to major  
50 use and some use so I realize this is a little confusing

00135

1 but that's the problem when you have good data, there's  
2 quite a bit of stuff to look through here.

3

4                   The bottom line on this is that these maps  
5 show use of all of the districts covered by these proposals  
6 by Prince of Wales Island communities that at least one  
7 community on the island makes major use of all sections  
8 except for the Eastern Islands which just aren't used a  
9 whole lot.

10

11                   Again, these data show similar to the  
12 previous set, they show that there is some use of portions  
13 of the area by residents of Hyda, Metlakatla, Meyers Chuck,  
14 Petersburg and Wrangell. And if that isn't enough, the  
15 notes on the bottom of these explain in greater confusing  
16 detail exactly what these tables mean.

17

18                   In summing up in looking through these map,  
19 these map data depict the subsistence use of all of Prince  
20 of Wales Islands and nearby islands by Prince of Wales  
21 Island communities, including Edna Bay. So that seems to  
22 be really firm. If you go through and look at what these  
23 map data show.

24

25                   These three map sources which are the  
26 traditional territory maps, the intensity of use maps and  
27 the sensitivity maps really point to a long-term consistent  
28 pattern of use. So that seems really strong. In my  
29 evaluation, the three map sources do not show this pattern  
30 of use for other Southeast Alaska communities.

31

32                   According to the maps of traditional  
33 territory, only Prince of Wales Island tribes presently  
34 living in Craig, Hydaburg, Kasaan, Klawock made traditional  
35 use of the areas resources, so that's our tribal source.

36

37                   The intensity of use maps show a low  
38 intensity of use of portions of the area by Meyers Chuck,  
39 Petersburg and Wrangell, so they do show some use, we find  
40 it to be low intensity of use.

41

42                   The sensitivity to disturbance maps, now,  
43 if I haven't confused everyone yet, perhaps I'll get there,  
44 they also show some use of portions of the area by Meyers  
45 Chuck, Petersburg and Wrangell. The data source does show  
46 that Meyers Chuck makes major use of Central Prince of  
47 Wales.

48

49                   Taken together in my evaluation these three  
50 data sources of map data do not show strong documented of

00136

1 pattern of use for residents of these communities in the  
2 Prince of Wales Island area. So the bottom line for  
3 looking at this whole map series and going through what I  
4 realize is a somewhat confusing set of difficult to present  
5 set of maps is that we see very strong use of all Prince of  
6 Wales Island by Prince of Wales Island communities and a  
7 little bit of use in some of these data sources by some of  
8 the other communities.

9

10                   Criteria five, and we will get there in a  
11 few minutes, John, criteria five talks about the means of  
12 handling, preparing, preserving and storing. Again, the  
13 consensus among the anthropologists is that while this is  
14 an important characteristic of subsistence use, we don't  
15 find a great deal of difference across communities in this  
16 respect. Quite clearly there may be some traditional ways  
17 of preparing fish in this case or using fish, but we choose  
18 not to emphasize these differences as being definitive for  
19 customary and traditional use.

20

21                   Likewise, in looking at criteria six, the  
22 handing down of knowledge of fishing, hunting, skills,  
23 values and lore from generation to generation. We clearly  
24 note that there are differences between the Native and non-  
25 Native community and the way knowledge may be transmitted  
26 from generation to generation. But we feel these are  
27 cultural rather than community specific. We definitely  
28 acknowledge the importance of traditional learning in  
29 Native society and the way that learning proceeds through  
30 matrilineal succession. However, we also note that non-  
31 Natives sometimes participate in subsistence practices and  
32 Native learning through their friendship, through adoption,  
33 through attendance of Native celebrations, et cetera, and  
34 that non-Natives also learn their fishing skills, values,  
35 and lore from relatives and friends as they participate in  
36 harvesting activities.

37

38                   Seven talks about pattern of use in which  
39 harvest is shared or distributed within the definable  
40 community of persons. I provide about 200 numbers on Table  
41 5 that gives you rates of distribution and exchange of  
42 resources. The way to read this table, if we will just be  
43 looking at the percent of households columns here, the  
44 headings on those columns, using, trying, harvesting,  
45 receiving, giving, indicate the number of surveyed  
46 households that used the particular resource, that tried to  
47 harvest it, that actually harvested it, that received it  
48 from others and they gave it to others. So for example,  
49 looking at Coffman Cove, 100 percent of the households  
50 interviewed in Coffman Cove made some use of fish and

00137

1 wildlife; 98 percent made some attempt at harvested  
2 something; 98 percent harvested something; 86 percent  
3 received something from someone else; and 78 percent gave  
4 some subsistence food to someone else. Hopefully it wasn't  
5 customary trade, Pete.

6

7 (Laughter)

8

9 DR. SCHROEDER: If it was processed, that  
10 is.

11

12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Processed.

13

14 DR. SCHROEDER: Yes, they only gave raw  
15 fish.

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 DR. SCHROEDER: But this table has a good  
20 deal of detail on this. A bottom line here would be that  
21 in all island communities, a large portion of respondents  
22 said that they had received and given subsistence foods in  
23 the previous year. There is a good deal of variability of  
24 rates across communities. In general we may have a  
25 slightly higher rate of giving and receiving in Native  
26 communities than non-Native communities, reflecting the  
27 kinship that people are fortunate to live in. And there  
28 may be other factors that influence giving and receiving.

29

30 Factor eight, which is the final factor,  
31 we're getting there, talks about a pattern of use which  
32 shows a wide reliance on fish and wildlife resources and  
33 use of diversity of resources. These data are  
34 quantitatively presented in Table 5 so we have quite a bit  
35 of harvest data there which gives you pounds per capita for  
36 all resources, fish, for salmon, and for non-salmon fish  
37 and these would be the right most column. To make that a  
38 little bit easier to see, I have presented a couple of  
39 figures, Figure 2 and Figure 3. Figure 2 gives you the per  
40 capita harvest of fish and wildlife as converted by  
41 Division of Subsistence into food weight for the Prince of  
42 Wales Island communities. This is, as Mike noted  
43 yesterday, these are the same data he was talking about.  
44 We have some of the highest rates of harvest are in the  
45 communities that are least well-connected by road to other  
46 places, however, even our lower harvesting communities  
47 harvest very substantial amounts of fish and wildlife. The  
48 lowest per capita harvest estimate is 169 pounds per capita  
49 in Hollis in 1998. The highest is -- we'll give Kasaan and  
50 Port Protection a near tie for 1996 and '98 at

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1 approximately 450 pounds per capita per year. Figure 3  
2 breaks out salmon and other finfish and gives you an  
3 indication of which communities were found to harvest what  
4 levels of salmon in the cross-hatched and other finfish in  
5 the shaded area. The bottom line here would be that these  
6 data show significant harvest of salmon and other finfish  
7 for all Prince of Wales Island communities.

8

9 Okay, the proposals would have different  
10 effects.

11

12 Proposal 23 would simply add Hollis onto  
13 the Kasaan, the current Kasaan C&T use area.

14

15 Proposal 24 would deal with recognizing  
16 customary and traditional use for all of the Prince of  
17 Wales Island and Edna Bay residents in waters flowing into  
18 certain districts.

19

20 Proposal 25 would be talking about  
21 providing C&T recognition exclusively for the residents of  
22 Naukati, Whale Pass, Coffman Cove, Lab Bay, Edna Bay and  
23 Port Protection in waters going into certain districts.

24

25 And 26 and 27 have very specific areas for  
26 the same named communities, Whale Pass, Point Baker, Port  
27 Protection, Naukati, Thorne Bay and Coffman Cove.

28

29 Now, again, the -- also the effect of these  
30 proposals would be such that if passed residents of other  
31 Southeast Alaska communities would no longer be able to  
32 fish for salmon in these areas because at the present time  
33 there's no C&T for those areas, and rural residents of  
34 Alaska would no longer be able to subsistence fish for  
35 other fish species in those areas.

36

37 Let's see where we are here. The strikeout  
38 version of the preliminary conclusion is presented on Page  
39 149, and the intent would be that this new customary and  
40 traditional use determination would replace the existing  
41 C&T determinations that exist right now for portions of the  
42 named districts for the communities of Craig, Kasaan,  
43 Klawock and Hydaburg.

44

45 Our preliminary conclusion would result in  
46 a positive customary and traditional use determination for  
47 the listed fish species for all rural residents in Game  
48 Management Unit 2 and Districts 2, 3, 5 and 6 and in waters  
49 flowing into these districts. If passed, residents of  
50 other Southeast Alaska communities would no longer be able

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1 to subsistence fish for dolly varden, trout, smelt and  
2 eulachon in these areas under Federal Subsistence  
3 regulations and rural residents of Alaska would no longer  
4 be able to subsistence fish for salmon in these areas under  
5 Federal Subsistence regulations.

6  
7           Looking at the justification, this  
8 recommendation would basically expand, if you're thinking  
9 of the effect on Craig, Kasaan, Klawock and Hydaburg, their  
10 traditional use determinations would essentially be  
11 expanded. I presented data that show residents of these  
12 communities use larger areas than those delineated in the  
13 existing customary and traditional use determinations. I  
14 would point out that the residents of these communities  
15 historically used boats and presently also use the improved  
16 road system on Prince of Wales Island to access harvesting  
17 locations throughout the area. The nearby islands are also  
18 accessible by small boat or fishing boats for residents of  
19 these communities.

20  
21           The communities of Point Baker and Port  
22 Protection likewise appear to meet the eight criteria  
23 guidelines established to guide customary and traditional  
24 use determinations. Both communities were settled more  
25 than 50 years ago and the life voice in both places center  
26 on the use of fish and wildlife. Recent household survey  
27 data show strong dependence on subsistence resources.

28  
29           That leaves the communities of Coffman  
30 Cove, Edna Bay, Hollis, Naukati, Thorne Bay and Whale Pass.  
31 These began as logging communities. Their growth and  
32 permanence was stimulated by the State of Alaska programs  
33 aimed very specifically at encouraging long-term settlement  
34 in new areas on Prince of Wales Island. Over time these  
35 communities are changing into more stable and diversified  
36 places. Residents of these communities have chosen to make  
37 their homes on the island, at least, in part because of the  
38 hunting and fishing opportunities that are available and  
39 the ability to adopt a subsistence-oriented way of life.  
40 Residents of these communities have, in a sense, adopted  
41 much of the subsistence use patterns of Native residents  
42 whose cultural and historical ties to the land and  
43 resources of Prince of Wales Island have a much greater  
44 time depth. Although they're new, very new compared to the  
45 Tlingit-Haida settlements on the island, they've been  
46 established long enough to acquire the characteristics  
47 needed to justify customary and traditional use  
48 determinations.

49  
50           And then I sum up talking about examining

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1 the map data and my evaluation of the map data found that,  
2 although there may be some use of -- that residents of  
3 these other communities may occasionally use these  
4 districts, that their use wasn't -- didn't meet the -- did  
5 not support a customary and traditional use determination  
6 at this time.

7

8 I point out that there is variability  
9 across the island, however, all communities have a high  
10 level of use of salmon and other finfish. Let's see what  
11 else we have here, we note that this new customary and  
12 traditional use determination would replace what's on the  
13 books. It would create a determination that was much more  
14 clear to understand and would have much more enforceable  
15 geographic boundaries and eliminate unnecessary complexity  
16 that we have in the current regulations.

17

18 Finally, since the data are the same, I  
19 believe that the preliminary conclusion supports a positive  
20 customary and traditional use determination for a range of  
21 fish species. We note that most species are taken under  
22 waters that are in the State of Alaska jurisdiction  
23 although some fishing of marine species may take place in  
24 waters that are under our jurisdiction. And I suggest that  
25 we make a complete determination at this time.

26

27 Mr. Chairman, that concludes my lengthy  
28 presentation, and I'd be open for questions at this time.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Dr.  
31 Schroeder. That certainly fulfills one of the requirements  
32 for the kinds and types of information I believe that we  
33 shouldn't get any debate from the Board on that.

34

35 Mr. Stokes.

36

37 MR. STOKES: Yeah, I haven't seen or heard  
38 anything about Cape Pole. When I was a boy and up until  
39 not too long ago it used to be a community, is it no longer  
40 existing?

41

42 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Stokes. I'd like to  
43 turn that over to Don Hernandez. I had the occasion to  
44 interview the residents of Cape Pole in 1988, and there  
45 were five men living with five dogs at that time.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 DR. SCHROEDER: But perhaps Mr. Hernandez  
50 could give us an update.

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1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Hernandez.

2

3 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 As far as I know right now I think there is one individual  
5 living in Cape Pole and I don't know how many dogs.

6

7 (Laughter)

8

9 MR. STOKES: Thank you.

10

11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other questions  
12 for Dr. Schroeder. Staff.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. I guess we're  
17 going to leave it there. We'll start off in the morning  
18 with ADF&G comments.

19

20 Marianne. You're not going to give it now.

21

22 MS. SEE: No, I'm not. Mr. Chairman, I  
23 just wanted to note that the State has revised comments to  
24 this set of proposals and some others. And we wanted -- as  
25 we do, periodically throughout the processes, Staff  
26 Committee revises the analyses and then we respond by  
27 revising our comments and updating any of the concerns or  
28 comments. And so I will pass those out before you leave so  
29 you'll have them and then we'll start with those in the  
30 morning.

31

32 Thanks.

33

34 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I just note that we  
35 don't pass out here. I think we were reminded about that  
36 earlier.

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 MS. SEE: That's right. I'll distribute  
41 them.

42

43 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: With that, we'll  
44 recess until tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m.

45

46 MR. STOKES: May we leave our stuff here?

47

48 DR. SCHROEDER: Yes.

49

50 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I believe so, you

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1 may leave your stuff here. 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning.

2

3

(PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 2 through 142 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the VOLUME I, SOUTHEAST FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically by Salena Hile on the 6th day of October 2003, beginning at the hour of 9:00 o'clock a.m. in Craig, Alaska;

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

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 21st day of October 2003.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph P. Kolasinski  
Notary Public in and for Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 4/17/04 □