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1                   SOUTHEAST FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE  
2                   REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

3  
4                   Mike's Place  
5                   Douglas, Alaska  
6                   March 14, 2000  
7                   9:00 o'clock a.m.

8  
9  
10 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

11  
12 William Thomas, Chairman  
13 Bert Adams  
14 Millie Stevens  
15 Michael Douville  
16 Butch Laiti  
17 Dolly Garza  
18 Mary Rudolph  
19 Floyd Kookesh  
20 Patricia Phillips  
21 Richard Stokes  
22 Vicki L. LeCornu  
23 Marilyn Wilson  
24  
25 Fred Clark, Regional Coordinator

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We'll call this meeting  
to order. Secretary, can you call the roll please.

MS. LeCORNNU: Bert Adams.

MR. ADAMS: Here.

MS. LeCORNNU: Floyd Kookesh.

MR. KOOKESH: Here.

MS. LeCORNNU: Bill Thomas.

CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Here.

MS. LeCORNNU: Clarence Laiti.

MR. LAITI: Here.

MS. LeCORNNU: Dick Stokes.

MR. STOKES: Here.

MS. LeCORNNU: Mary Rudolph. Absent. Patty  
Phillips.

MS. PHILLIPS: Here.

MS. LeCORNNU: Mike Douville.

MR. DOUVILLE: Here.

MS. LeCORNNU: Lonnie Anderson. Marilyn  
Wilson.

MS. WILSON: Here.

MS. LeCORNNU: Millie Stevens.

MS. STEVENS: Here.

MS. LeCORNNU: And Dolly Garza.

CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We have a quorum, right?

MS. LeCORNNU: There is a quorum present.

CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, thank you. Well,

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1 we're pleased to be in Douglas for our winter meeting.  
2 This is considered our winter meeting. And everybody was  
3 looking forward to being here and it's nice to see as many  
4 people here as we have. Normally, about this time, I don't  
5 see it in our agenda this time, but if there's anybody  
6 from Douglas or an association here or anything of the like  
7 who would like to make some welcome remarks are welcome to  
8 from the community. Okay, would you come forward please.  
9 Take the mic table there.

10  
11 MS. MEYERS: Thank you and good morning.  
12 I'd like to welcome all of you to Douglas. We have  
13 reactivated the Douglas Indian Association Tribal Council  
14 so that we now have a staff. We're very honored to have  
15 people in attendance in such close proximity to the old  
16 Douglas Indian Village. We are descendants of the Taku,  
17 Taku-Qwaan, our traditional territory goes throughout  
18 Southeast. It's ironic, however, that we are not included  
19 in the subsistence issue but it still is such a real part  
20 of our lives in Douglas and in Juneau. We will be having  
21 a, in honor of our traditional way of life, a dinner for  
22 the respected members of the Council and guests at the  
23 Juneau Tlingit-Haida Community Council on Wednesday the  
24 15th to pay tribute to those who are no longer with us who  
25 survived off the land, who have charged you with the task  
26 of dealing with issues with the land and the sea from the  
27 past and for the future generations to come before us. The  
28 president of the Douglas Indian Association is Dorothy  
29 Owen. She is not able to be here today, but on behalf of  
30 Dorothy, our president, Clarence "Butch" Laiti is a member  
31 of the DIA Tribal Council, Michael Dunlap is in the  
32 audience, he is a member of the Douglas Indian Association  
33 Tribal Council, Robert Willard known to many for all of his  
34 efforts in the subsistence survival fight, his wife Desa  
35 and the other Juneau women that made up the Juneau five, we  
36 have Andrea Cadianti Laiti, Harold Frank, Helen Dangle  
37 here; all welcoming you a very successful productive  
38 meeting as we continue as a people united in our efforts to  
39 see subsistence continue in our way of life for generations  
40 to come.

41  
42 Thank you very much.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you very much. I  
45 think that's the first applause we've ever heard. You're  
46 an inspiration. Okay, normally at every meeting we like  
47 for people to know who everybody is so we're going to take  
48 time for introductions and the way we have it listed is  
49 we'll do the guests first and then if you're a Staff person  
50 from any agencies, you folks will be next and then the

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1 Regional Council will introduce themselves afterwards. So  
2 any of you that are guests that aren't a member of the  
3 Council or a Staff person from an agency, if you would  
4 introduce yourself and tell us who you are. Tlingits are  
5 allowed 10 seconds, everybody else can get 10 minutes.  
6 Don't everybody jump at once. It's a one time offer.

7  
8 MR. BEDFORD: My name is David Bedford.  
9 I'm the executive director of Southeast Alaska Seiners. I  
10 welcome you folks to Douglas, Juneau/Douglas for this  
11 meeting. It's a pleasure to see you here and I look  
12 forward to observing the operations of the Council.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. I remember  
15 you from Angoon.

16  
17 MR. BEDFORD: Well, I remember you as well,  
18 Mr. Chairman.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Anybody else?

21  
22 MR. GEMMELL: I'm Tom Gemmell, executive  
23 director for United Fishermen of Alaska based here in  
24 Juneau. I'm here to observe a little more about the  
25 process.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

28  
29 MS. HANSON: Kathy Hanson. I'm the  
30 executive director for the United Southeast Alaska  
31 Gillnetters Association. And I'm just here to observe the  
32 process and welcome you to Juneau/Douglas.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you and welcome.

35  
36 MS. EVERSON: Selina Everson. ANS Grand  
37 Camp Subsistence Chair. I welcome you, (In Native).

38  
39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

40  
41 MS. MYASATO: Kitty Myasato. Council for  
42 Douglas Indian Association.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

45  
46 MS. MYASATO: You're welcome.

47  
48 MS. LAITI: I'm Andrea Cadianti Laiti. I'm  
49 the human services director for Douglas Indian Association  
50 and I also serve on the Board of Directors.

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1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

2

3 MS. MEYERS: Evelyn Meyers again. Tribal  
4 administrator for Douglas.

5

6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

7

8 MR. WILLARD: I'm Robert Willard with the  
9 Southeast Native Subsistence Commission.

10

11 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, Robert. Is  
12 there an Alfredo McKinley in the house?

13

14 MR. MCKINLEY: Thank you, sir. My name's  
15 Alfred McKinley, Sr. I'm executive committee member of  
16 Grand Camp ANB. I'm also a delegate to Central Council, et  
17 cetera, et cetera.

18

19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Et cetera, et cetera,  
20 boy.

21

22 MR. MCKINLEY: Hopefully I'm here to  
23 observe and make sure you do a better job than the State.  
24 Thank you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Et cetera, et cetera?  
27 Thank you, Alfredo. Any other guests back there?

28

29 MR. DUNLAP: I'm Michael Dunlap with  
30 Douglas Indian Association on the council and numerous  
31 committees. And I'm just here to ensure that our  
32 subsistence rights are understood as our human rights.

33

34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

35

36 MR. STEVENS: Henry Stevens. Member of  
37 Douglas Indian Association and researcher on Indian rights.

38

39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

40

41 MR. FRANK, JR.: I'm Harold Frank, Jr. I'm  
42 with Douglas Indian Association in the environmental  
43 planning.

44

45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you very much.

46

47 MS. DANGLE: Helen Dangle. I'm an  
48 environmental technician with the Douglas Indian  
49 Association.

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1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Okay,  
2 agency/staff. Any agencies, any Staff?

3  
4 MS. FOX: I'm Peggy Fox. I'm with the  
5 Office of Subsistence Management in Anchorage.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

8  
9 MR. BOS: Greg Bos from the Fish and  
10 Wildlife Service, regional subsistence coordinator in  
11 Anchorage.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you very much.

14  
15 MR. KNAUER: Bill Knauer. Subsistence,  
16 Fish and Wildlife Service in Anchorage.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

19  
20 MR. JENNINGS: Good morning. I'm Tim  
21 Jennings. I'm with the Federal Office of Subsistence  
22 Management Fish and Wildlife Service.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

25  
26 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand. BIA Staff  
27 Committee member to the Federal Board.

28  
29 MR. CESAR: I'm Niles Cesar, affectionately  
30 known as the head Native in charge. I'm the Regional  
31 Director of Bureau of Indian Affairs and one of the sitting  
32 Board members on the Federal Subsistence Board.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

35  
36 MR. KOEHLER: Greg Koehler with the Forest  
37 Service.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

40  
41 MR. CAPRA: Jim Capra with the Park  
42 Service.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, Jim.

45  
46 MR. SCHROEDER: Bob Schroeder with Juneau  
47 Forestry Sciences Lab.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

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1 MS. BRASE: Audra Brase with Alaska  
2 Department of Fish and Game, Commercial Fisheries.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

5  
6 MR. MEYERS: Marty Meyers. Special Agent  
7 with the U.S. Forest Service.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

10  
11 MR. SHIPLEY: Linn Shipley. Wildlife  
12 biologist, Forest Service out of Sitka.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

15  
16 MR. TUREK: I'm Mike Turek. Alaska  
17 Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence here  
18 in Douglas, Alaska.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, Mike.

21  
22 MR. HOLMES: Rocky Holmes. Division of  
23 Sportfish, Alaska Department of Fish and Game here in  
24 Juneau.

25  
26 MS. ANDREWS: Elizabeth Andrews. Alaska  
27 Department of Fish and Game, Juneau.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, Elizabeth.

30  
31 MR. MARTIN: Don Martin. I'm with the  
32 Forest Service in the Juneau Ranger District.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

35  
36 MR. PETERSON: Steve Peterson. Alaska  
37 Department of Fish and Game here in Juneau.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. How about the  
40 war criminals over there.

41  
42 MR. CASIPIT: I'm Cal Casipit. I'm the  
43 regional subsistence fisheries biologist, Forest Service in  
44 Juneau.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

47  
48 MR. JOHNSON: I'm David R.K. Johnson.  
49 Interim subsistence coordinator for the Tongass and also  
50 the Craig Ranger District, Fish and Wildlife Staff.

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1 MR. CLARK: I'm Fred Clark. I'm the  
2 coordinator for the Regional Advisory Council.

3  
4 MS. WILSON: I'm Marilyn Wilson, Haines,  
5 Alaska. And I've been associated with this Fish and Game,  
6 with the State system as well as this system.

7  
8 MS. LeCORNU: Vicki LeCornu, Hydaburg.  
9 I've been on this Council for nearly six years now.

10  
11 MR. STOKES: I'm Dick Stokes. I'm just a  
12 new member and I'm from Wrangell. Hi fella's.

13  
14 MS. PHILLIPS: Patty Phillips, Pelican.  
15 One of the original appointees.

16  
17 MR. KOOKESH: My name is Floyd Kookesh.  
18 Currently I'm the Mayor of Angoon, also Council member.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Bill Thomas from  
21 Ketchikan, Chairman of the Council.

22  
23 MR. LAITI: Butch Laiti, also new on the  
24 Council here from Douglas Indian Association.

25  
26 MR. DOUVILLE: Mike Douville from Craig.  
27 I'm newly appointed.

28  
29 MS. STEVENS: Good morning everyone, my  
30 name is Millie Stevens. And I sat on the original Board  
31 and then got off and then just recently got back on. I'm  
32 also the tribal chairman for the Craig Community  
33 Association.

34  
35 MR. ADAMS: Good morning everyone, my name  
36 is Bert Adams. My name is (In Native). This is my first  
37 term on the Council and I'm presently serving as the  
38 president of the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe, four or five terms  
39 of that. I'm also a commercial fisherman, subsistence user  
40 and a charter boat captain. So I'm happy to be here.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So what hat are you  
43 wearing today?

44  
45 MR. ADAMS: My hat.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, thank all of you  
48 for introducing yourselves. And personally, I'm honored to  
49 have met the -- the active members of the Douglas Indian  
50 Association. I've never had that opportunity before, I've

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1 always met you in other forums and it's encouraging to see  
2 who you are and how well you've done.

3  
4 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman, you forgot  
5 Salena, our recorder.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Will you introduce  
8 yourself, Salena.

9  
10 REPORTER: My name is Salena, I'm the  
11 recorder for the day -- or I mean the week.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Overview of  
14 the Council notebook, Fred.

15  
16 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd  
17 also just like to say, welcome to everybody it's nice to  
18 see so many familiar faces and a few faces that haven't  
19 been to the meetings before. I'm sure that we're all in  
20 for a very interesting few days here. I guess we can say  
21 anything about Lonnie, Mary and Dolly if we want to since  
22 they're not here, right. Okay.

23  
24 I thought maybe we could just go through the  
25 booklet quick so people will know beforehand what's in  
26 these little booklets that the Fish and Wildlife Service  
27 Staff in Anchorage put together so well for us. If you  
28 haven't found it already, the agenda is behind the first  
29 tab and this is recycling at its best, you'll notice that  
30 the tabs start with Q instead of A. We're on the latter  
31 half of the alphabet here. So after the list of Council  
32 members and their addresses is the agenda. So that's what  
33 we'll be looking at soon and probably adding or subtracting  
34 a few things.

35  
36 Following that, behind Tab R, are the draft minutes  
37 for the meeting that we had in Angoon in October.

38  
39 Behind Tab S is a very short progress report for  
40 implementing the Federal Subsistence Fisheries Management  
41 in Alaska. And my understanding is that Peggy Fox will be  
42 presenting that later, presenting the overview.

43  
44 After that we'll have an update behind Tab T on a  
45 presentation that was made at the Angoon meeting on moose  
46 sex parts.

47  
48 Behind Tab U are all of the proposal analysis.  
49 Dave Johnson, right here, will be doing the presentations  
50 on all of those proposals, all those analysis. And we'll

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1 be using the power-point presentations to go through those.

2

3

4 Behind Tab V is some information on trapping.

5

6 Tab W has proposal forms for filling out proposals  
7 to change regulations.

8

9 And then finally at the end is a calendar that we  
10 can use to select a date for our next meeting.

11

12 A couple of things, Mr. Chairman, if I might point  
13 out. The restrooms are over back this way. Coffee and  
14 things to eat are back behind us in this other room.  
15 There's a computer and printer set up here in case people  
16 need to draft things or if we want to work together on  
17 developing proposals, we have this computer and printer  
18 here to do that, if anybody wants. Any time, during the  
19 meeting, just get a hold of one of the Staff members here  
20 to help you do that. And if people happen to wander in  
21 that you know, we might be able to do reminders on a  
22 regular basis that that's available, but, please, if you  
23 know people, let them know that that service is available.  
24 We are also going to have lunch available for us here at  
25 the cost of \$10 per person. It will be a buffet lunch, the  
26 menu is noted on the board -- or there's a pole right here  
27 with the menu on it and there's another one on the counter  
28 and upstairs as well.

29

30 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

31

32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, Fred. Any  
33 questions regarding the notebook. Okay, any new items for  
34 the agenda. What's the wish of the Council regarding the  
35 agenda.

36

37 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I move we accept  
38 the agenda.

39

40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It's been moved we accept  
41 the agenda, is there a second?

42

43 MR. STOKES: Second it.

44

45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Moved and second,  
46 discussion. All those in favor say aye.

47

48 IN UNISON: Aye.

49

50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: All those opposed.

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1 (No opposing votes)

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, we have an agenda.

4

5 MR. CLARK: Now, that you've accepted it  
6 can we modify it?

7

8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah, you can.

9

10 MR. CLARK: I'm sorry, I was interrupted  
11 when you were in the middle of that. And it may not take a  
12 modification, just a notice that under old business, 8A,  
13 the update of Federal Subsistence Fisheries Management and  
14 progress report on Implementation Plan, along with that we  
15 could have kind of an introduction to the fisheries  
16 projects process and the projects that have been proposed  
17 for fiscal year 2000. We probably won't want to actually  
18 delve into those at that point, we'll probably want to do  
19 that later. But that would be a good time to have an  
20 initial presentation on that. Harold Martin has been  
21 identified as the person to do that presentation. I don't  
22 see Harold here yet but he'll be here later.

23

24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

25

26 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, if we were in an  
27 ANB meeting we would have fined him for not doing this in  
28 the discussion portion of the motion.

29

30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, he was interrupted.  
31 He's sitting over there by people that were not paying  
32 attention. He's innocent. He's the innocent party of  
33 there.

34

35 MR. ADAMS: Oh, I don't know.

36

37 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, the Council just  
38 needs to move slower.

39

40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Also we have a time for  
41 comments from anybody in the audience, for public comments.  
42 And are the sign up forms readily available for people  
43 wishing to speak?

44

45 MR. CLARK: Yes.

46

47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Do you have some that are  
48 filled?

49

50 MR. CLARK: We don't have any up here yet,

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1 Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, very much.

4

5 MR. CLARK: Those of you wishing to make  
6 comments to the Council to address the Council, you will  
7 need to fill out those little green forms that are on the  
8 front table.

9

10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. So we hold 8A  
11 until Harold gets here, is that the plan?

12

13 MR. CLARK: We could do that or we could  
14 just go ahead with this regular update and then have Harold  
15 later -- defer Harold to later.

16

17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Who is designated  
18 to do this presentation?

19

20 MR. CLARK: That would be Peggy Fox.

21

22 MR. FOX: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'd like  
23 to provide Niles Cesar an opportunity to address the  
24 Council before I begin my update.

25

26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: By all means.

27

28 MS. FOX: Thank you.

29

30 MR. CLARK: Because he's the head Indian in  
31 charge he doesn't need to fill out a green sheet.

32

33 MR. CESAR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,  
34 members of the Regional Advisory Council, Douglas Indian  
35 Association, fellow Injuns and folks. It's good to see you  
36 here in Douglas. It gives me an opportunity to come to  
37 Douglas, I only get to Douglas once every three or four  
38 months myself, it's a long way across the channel.

39

40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Uh-huh.

41

42 MR. CESAR: Especially when you live out  
43 the road. I just wanted to make a few comments and I have  
44 not been able to go to the Southeast Regional meetings. I  
45 think the last one I was at was in Sitka a year or two ago  
46 for a brief period of time. And of course, we see Bill and  
47 other members occasionally and particularly for, I think,  
48 the new members of the Council, it's important to kind of  
49 get a feel from where we've been and where we're at now.  
50 And I think a little bit of history is also often

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1 enlightening.

2

3           We've made a lot of progress. I mean if you look  
4 back in 1990 when we first assumed management on Federal  
5 lands and where we were at at that point and how many  
6 people were coming forward asking for some voice at the  
7 Federal level, some ability to change seasons and bag  
8 limits and to make some progress for Native people to where  
9 we're at today, and obviously the biggest step forward in  
10 my mind was the Regional Advisory Councils. And the Feds  
11 finally, after several years of struggling with the notion  
12 of Regional Advisory Councils, we began to move on that as  
13 an issue. And so once they were formed and once we got  
14 them staffed with folks like Fred Clark and Vince, from  
15 Fairbanks and, you know, there's a number of people, one  
16 for every 10 Regional Advisory Councils, the process began  
17 to unfold. And I think the Feds began to understand that  
18 there really was a bottom's up approach that we were trying  
19 to take with subsistence management. And the issue for  
20 many of us and like several members on the Regional  
21 Advisory Councils, I'm older than Methuzala, I was here  
22 when it started. I've been the Regional Director for about  
23 going on 10 years and ever since this process unfolded, so  
24 I've seen a lot of what's happened and I've seen the  
25 progress that has been made and I wanted you to know that  
26 what you're doing, not only here in Southeast but what's  
27 unfolding across this state is important business. It is a  
28 business that when you travel to the northern parts of this  
29 state or the more isolated areas and you see how our  
30 decisions, your recommendations and your advice ultimately  
31 goes to the Staff and then the Staff makes a recommendation  
32 to the Board and we act upon those has made a tremendous  
33 difference in the lives of people on the ground. So I want  
34 you to know that we appreciate that. And often times when  
35 you sit on Regional Advisory Committees, folks don't really  
36 understand that. They see you travel off to somewhere,  
37 come back and it may be months before a decision that you  
38 make here plays out on the ground. So sometimes that's  
39 frustrating and you often get in discussions with friends  
40 and family and acquaintances about what is it that you're  
41 done and is it really meaningful. I want to assure you  
42 that it has been a meaningful process.

43

44           It is so meaningful, I think, that in my  
45 discussions with the Alaska State Department of Fish and  
46 Game folks, the Commissioner and other folks of that level,  
47 they all realize that when the State comes back into  
48 compliance with ANILCA as we Feds are, in fact, in favor  
49 of, that they will never take back the subsistence program  
50 as it was run before; that is not going to happen. What it

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1 will be will be hopefully a clear understanding of the  
2 importance of the Regional Advisory Councils and how key  
3 they are to the role of subsistence management. Also it's  
4 our intent and, certainly my intent, to make sure that  
5 meaningful involvement of tribes and local Native people in  
6 co-management of the resources in the local areas is done.  
7 I think that's critical as we move forward in fisheries.  
8 As many of you know and have heard there has been some  
9 controversy about our approach to fisheries, whether we're,  
10 in fact, going to hire, you know, a whole bunch more Feds,  
11 stick them out there and so we'll have a duplication of  
12 effort by the Feds and the State in fisheries management;  
13 that's not our intent. Our intent is to work with the  
14 local folks, the local tribes to ensure that greatest  
15 preponderance of money is spent in the local communities.  
16 And that has significance beyond all of us sitting around  
17 this table. That will mean that people who actually exist  
18 off the land and will be there for generations to come have  
19 some role in what's happening on the ground out there.  
20 That's an important issue. That's an issue that I believe  
21 and have communicated that to numbers of people that we  
22 must leave in place also. I know that the Chairman of the  
23 Federal Subsistence Board, as well as I believe, a majority  
24 of the Board themselves believe in that as an issue, and we  
25 spend a lot of time discussing that. How are we going to  
26 put something in place which will have maximum benefit to  
27 local people. And that benefit will be in areas of  
28 subcontracting, co-management and hopefully, if we can ever  
29 -- we, as Feds, can ever get our act together, actually  
30 hiring Native people. I mean we spend a fair amount of  
31 time after each other about the low percentage of Native  
32 people who are hired on a permanent basis in resource  
33 management and that -- we have a responsibility as Native  
34 people to make sure that our folks, as they come forward,  
35 are getting the education and experience that's requisite  
36 to be in the work force but the Feds have a responsibility  
37 to mentor those people, provide opportunities and, in fact,  
38 hire them.

39  
40 So I think it's a huge interwoven matrix of events  
41 that goes on and your participation in that process and  
42 your role in that process is critical to the success of  
43 this process.

44  
45 I mean I honestly don't believe that we're going to  
46 be seeing the state of Alaska, in the next near term,  
47 managing fish and game on Federal lands and reserved  
48 waters, I don't believe that's going to happen. And so we  
49 have to put in place the best program so when they  
50 eventually do, that the program will be the maximum benefit

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1 for our people.

2

3 So I wanted you to know that we spend time thinking  
4 about these issues on a larger scale than just, well,  
5 there's going to be another Board meeting and we have to go  
6 to a Board meeting, a lot of time and effort is put into  
7 how will this be out there 10 years from now? Will it be  
8 for the benefit of our people? And again, when you're  
9 sitting there three days at a Council meeting in Douglas,  
10 Alaska, sometimes it's hard to really look out there and  
11 see where is this going to play out? I think you're going  
12 to be pleased.

13

14 I think history will tell us 50 years from now that  
15 what we are doing now is going to benefit the rule people,  
16 and that's our charge. I don't get a chance to speak to  
17 you and I wanted you to know my feelings on it, and I think  
18 the majority of the Federal Staff believe that's where we  
19 should head to, so thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Appreciate  
22 those words of wisdom and encouragement. Appreciate that.

23

24 One thing I overlooked was the minutes. You guys  
25 want to adopt the minutes from Angoon?

26

27 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman, I move we adopt  
28 the minutes of Angoon.

29

30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is there a second.

31

32 MS. LeCORNU: I'll second it.

33

34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Moved and second, we  
35 adopt the minutes of October 27th and 28th. All those in  
36 favor say aye.

37

38 IN UNISON: Aye.

39

40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Those opposed.

41

42 (No opposing votes)

43

44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, we adopted the  
45 minutes. We got one public comment. Dave, did you want to  
46 speak now?

47

48 MR. BEDFORD: I just wanted to make a brief  
49 statement.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You're welcome.

2

3 MR. BEDFORD: Mr. Chairman, members of the  
4 Advisory Council. My name is David Bedford. I'm with  
5 Southeast Alaska Seiners. Again, I welcome you here to  
6 Douglas and to Juneau and I look forward to seeing how  
7 things unfold here.

8

9 I wanted to say, again, as I did in Angoon, the  
10 Southeast Alaska Seiners remains committed to bringing the  
11 State into compliance with ANILCA and to resuming  
12 management. This is something that I raise with my board  
13 every time we have a meeting and, I say, once again, we  
14 need to deliberately determine that this is the course that  
15 we intend to follow. And every single time, without  
16 objection, that is the course that we choose.

17

18 Additionally, in my role with United Fishermen of  
19 Alaska, I serve as the Chair of the subsistence committee  
20 for that organization. Again, we have made that deliberate  
21 choice at our most recent Board meeting that that's what we  
22 intend to do.

23

24 And so I look forward to working with folks, urban  
25 and rural, Native and non-Native all across this state in  
26 our efforts to make sure that the State does the right  
27 thing.

28

29 In any event, thank you very much for the  
30 opportunity to make some brief comments.

31

32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, appreciate  
33 that. Okay, that's the only slip I had. If anybody else  
34 wants to give me the slip they're welcome to. Okay, with  
35 that, I guess, Peggy, you're on. And Mr. Kookesh is going  
36 to act as Chair for a minute.

37

38 MS. FOX: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For the  
39 record my name is Peggy Fox, and I am the Deputy Assistant  
40 Regional Director for Subsistence Management with the Fish  
41 and Wildlife Service in Anchorage. And I'm here to provide  
42 you an update on five topics relative to subsistence  
43 fisheries implementation.

44

45 And in the case of the first three which are in-  
46 season management, tribal involvement in the Federal  
47 Subsistence Program, and the sustainable salmon fisheries  
48 policy for the state of Alaska, I will be providing you  
49 some comments and asking for any questions or further  
50 comments from the Council. Then I will be inviting Ida

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1 Hildebrand to come up and address the Council relative to  
2 the latest draft of the Federal/State Memorandum of  
3 Agreement. Lastly, I will invite Cal Casipit to come  
4 forward and address the resource monitoring program, the  
5 status of the projects that are under consideration. And I  
6 guess at that point is probably the time when you'll hear  
7 about the meeting of last night.

8  
9 So let me begin with the first topic and, that is,  
10 in-season management. And my intent here is to give you  
11 the current status of our thinking on what's going to  
12 happen this fishing season. The Board is concerned that we  
13 make a smooth transition and provide for subsistence user  
14 participation in the in-season management process, even  
15 this first year. We intend to establish an interim in-  
16 season management decision-making process for the 2000  
17 fishing season that will involve Regional Advisory  
18 Councils.

19  
20 Since we were unable to move forward with any  
21 staffing plans or any hiring until October 1st of 1999  
22 we're simply not ready for full Federal involvement in the  
23 in-season management process this year. But we have taken  
24 a look at the situation, statewide, identified areas where  
25 we think there is the greatest potential for the need for  
26 Federal intervention in in-season management. And  
27 accordingly, categorized different areas of the state  
28 according to risk. The highest risk area is the Yukon  
29 River region, the medium risk areas are the Kuskokwim, the  
30 Gulf of Alaska and the Southeast regions, and the lower  
31 risk areas are the Arctic, Kotzebue, Norton Sound, Bristol  
32 Bay, Alaska Peninsula and Cook Inlet regions. Now, these  
33 categories were based on abundance of salmon, the amount of  
34 commercial fishing that is occurring within the boundaries  
35 of Federal jurisdiction, the number of villages in the  
36 region, and the number of emergency orders that have been  
37 issued in the past.

38  
39 So as we've taken a look at this on a statewide  
40 basis and actually we did this a while back knowing that we  
41 may need to get into in-season -- we will be getting into  
42 in-season management as soon as we assume fisheries, the  
43 Board, in the current regulations, did provide for  
44 delegation of their authority to local managers to become  
45 directly involved in this process. So right now we have a  
46 committee working on identifying whether or not, for this  
47 season, the Board will actually do that delegation or  
48 whether we are simply not ready and what is our plan. And  
49 we have looked at the need to, particularly, in the high  
50 risk areas along the Yukon, provide for some of that direct

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1 involvement in in-season management. So we have gotten  
2 that far. In other areas of the state we're still looking  
3 at that and considering it. Nevertheless, at a minimum, we  
4 will be opening communication channels with those that are  
5 involved in the State decision-making process and we have  
6 already begun to invite and, with their agreement, send  
7 Council members to the preseason meetings that are  
8 occurring right now.

9  
10 During those preseason meetings the Councils have  
11 an opportunity to participate in the discussions on the  
12 projections for the runs, the allocations and whatever  
13 other number of issues come up at these meetings. For  
14 example, this week, relative to the Yukon we do have  
15 representatives of the Eastern and the Western Interior  
16 Councils there. And it is our intention that as these  
17 meetings become -- we become noticed about these meetings  
18 that we will contact Councils and invite them to send  
19 participants.

20  
21 Now, as we consider delegation we're also looking  
22 at what specific guidelines would we give those field  
23 managers in terms of what would be the boundaries of their  
24 decision. How far can they go in representing the Board or  
25 when does the need for the Federal Board to intervene  
26 involve something that the Board directly needs to  
27 participate in. That's been the past practice for those of  
28 you that have been involved in this Council, that as the  
29 need for some sort of emergency action arises, that  
30 proposal goes directly to the Board. So we're talking  
31 about a change in decision making for fisheries starting  
32 this year.

33  
34 As we've done that, we've also been very aware of  
35 the need to try to prevent direct involvement in in-season  
36 management as much as possible. We're very, very concerned  
37 that discussions and issues and problems occur prior to  
38 this season to try to avoid Federal intervention. Should  
39 the Federal Board or the delegated decision-maker decide to  
40 countermand, if you will, I'm not sure even what the right  
41 term is right now, an emergency order issued by the  
42 State, that can create serious disruption to fisheries, to  
43 other users and we would like to avoid that if at all  
44 possible. We recognize that in some cases that may not be  
45 possible but our efforts are definitely focused on getting  
46 people to talk before the season.

47  
48 We're also looking at, probably starting next year,  
49 having Councils involved in fishery management plan  
50 reviews. As I understand it, around the state, these plans

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1 are reviewed periodically and come before the Board of  
2 Fisheries for changes. So that's another opportunity for  
3 Council involvement and prevention of problems to try to  
4 get things worked out before we get in the middle of the  
5 fishing season.

6  
7 We're also making an effort to find out what the  
8 issues are on a regional basis. What are the concerns.  
9 And we're looking towards the Councils to help us to  
10 understand what the specific issues are relative to  
11 fisheries in each region, and that's going to be a learning  
12 process for all of us that will start this year but we  
13 expect to continue over a number of years.

14  
15 Lastly, we've also thought about restricting the  
16 types of emergency actions that will be accepted, if you  
17 will, by the Board or by these in-season decision-makers,  
18 at least for this first year. For example, we would  
19 probably try to focus only on issue or problems around  
20 conservation, if there's a problem with getting the actual  
21 numbers of fish to meet escapement goals. Or, secondly, if  
22 there is a serious issue around subsistence harvest. In  
23 other words, if there are other issues that come up, people  
24 want to object to gear size limitations, other types of  
25 methods of taking fish, we would probably be asking that  
26 those be put into the regulatory process, annual regulatory  
27 process, for consideration at a later point. They don't  
28 seem to be of a significant enough magnitude, given what we  
29 know right now and we're all in this learning process, to  
30 really justify intervention during the fishing season.

31  
32 So those are some things we're thinking about and  
33 I'm certainly looking forward to comments from the Council  
34 on those.

35  
36 And I think I'll conclude my remarks right there.  
37 And I don't want to move on to another topic until I've  
38 answered your questions or maybe heard what your comments  
39 are relative to this subject.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. I think that  
42 was an excellent report. You answered many of my questions  
43 in your remarks. I have to reflect back on the documentary  
44 I saw on television that was put together by the  
45 Department, it's over several years now. It's an  
46 outstanding documentary I thought. It really showed the  
47 plight of the Yukon River. And it was showing where there  
48 was no more escapement to -- the headwaters, way up a long  
49 ways up the Yukon. And when that happens, and if it  
50 doesn't improve it's going to start working its way down

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1 and pretty soon -- until there's no more fish in the river.

2

3

4 So, you know, with the Federal involvement in  
5 subsistence management and the language Title VIII, is the  
6 language in Title VIII clear enough to where radical  
7 intervention can occur for the purpose of satisfying the  
8 provisions in Title VIII and making sure that resources are  
9 available?

10

11 MS. FOX: I guess that's a very big  
12 question. I think we're learning. It's interesting how  
13 many times you can read Title VIII.....

14

15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Sure.

16

17 MS. FOX: .....and see something new in  
18 there or a different twist on something. At this time we  
19 feel we do have the basis for moving forward with Federal  
20 intervention. But like I say, we're all learning, and if  
21 you have any insights with regard to that we'd certainly  
22 appreciate hearing them.

23

24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. I probably do. I  
25 don't know if it's appropriate in this forum, however,  
26 because if it's not then I'm just wasting the forum's time.  
27 But I would like to offer some insights when the time  
28 presents itself. So questions from any of the Council.

29

30 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman.

31

32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Bert.

33

34 MR. ADAMS: I'm kind of curious, you know,  
35 you mentioned something about.....

36

37 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Would you talk in your  
38 mic.

39

40 MR. ADAMS: I thought I had a loud voice  
41 already.

42

43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You do have one but  
44 you're not using it.

45

46 MR. ADAMS: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
47 You made mention of the Federal Subsistence Board's regs  
48 may clash with the State emergency orders. Could you give  
49 us some example of how that might happen and how that might  
50 be resolved, you know, if anything like that does occur?

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1 MS. FOX: Well, first, obviously we haven't  
2 done this yet. So I will give you a general answer to the  
3 question. What a scenario might be that as the fish are  
4 moving up the Yukon and they're considering whether or not  
5 to open a certain season, a commercial season, let's say,  
6 and there's some question about the run strength. The  
7 decision about whether or not to open that commercial  
8 season, we're hoping will be influenced by discussions with  
9 a recognition for what the needs are upstream. And if  
10 there's some concern about not meeting the numbers that are  
11 needed by the villages upstream, then, you know, and that  
12 discussion is not productive with the State and they go  
13 ahead and issue an emergency opening that is not well  
14 supported, you know, in terms of subsistence users and  
15 there's enough evidence to the effect that they probably  
16 will not be able to get the numbers that they need and that  
17 if they take them, that it will take away from escapement  
18 need, then the Federal government has to make a decision  
19 about whether or not intervene and actually close that  
20 commercial season.

21  
22 MR. ADAMS: Thank you. So the Federal  
23 policies would override any State policy then?

24  
25 MS. FOX: Where we have -- yes, where we  
26 have jurisdiction.

27  
28 MR. ADAMS: Okay, thanks.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Further questions. Thank  
31 you, you may leave the witness stand.

32  
33 MS. FOX: Well, I have two other topics.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Do you?

36  
37 MS. FOX: Yes. I was talking to this  
38 Chair, I informed him I have three topics to cover, Ida  
39 will cover a fourth topic and then Cal's going to talk  
40 about projects.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That'd be great.

43  
44 MS. FOX: So I have two more and they're  
45 quicker.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That'd be great.

48  
49 MS. FOX: The next one is tribal  
50 involvement in the Federal Subsistence Management Program.

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1 And for those of you that attended the training session  
2 that we held at the end of January, you will remember that  
3 we distributed letters on the subject of tribal involvement  
4 and we discussed those in Regional Council caucuses and  
5 basically got our thoughts together on what we thought  
6 tribal involvement should be.

7  
8 Now, some of the comments -- well, the comments  
9 were summarized and sent out to all of the Council members  
10 so that you could see what other Councils said. But some  
11 Councils also asked that this issue be brought up again at  
12 these Council meetings so that's my purpose today, is to  
13 surface that issue again and see if there are further  
14 thoughts based on what we've learned and what we've  
15 discussed since the end of January. The Board has not yet  
16 responded to those letters and so the Board is still  
17 interested in hearing if there are further thoughts and  
18 we're inviting you to provide those and I will relay those  
19 back to the Board.

20  
21 I just also wanted to touch on the Board meeting  
22 that was held on February 3rd where we met with  
23 representatives of AVCP, AFN, AITC and RuralCap, and Willie  
24 Goodwin joined the Board on behalf of the Councils during  
25 those discussions. So he was there and emphasized the role  
26 of the Councils and their great contribution to the success  
27 of the program. Other Board members, as well, recognized  
28 the success of the Councils and wanted to make sure that  
29 that was well communicated.

30  
31 The Board also reiterated the ways in which the  
32 tribes are involved in the program certainly in terms of  
33 the membership of the Councils but also in terms of  
34 receiving notifications among our many, numerous mailings  
35 of events that are occurring such as these meetings of  
36 regulatory changes. All the things that we send out  
37 general mailings to. Now, the funding that we have  
38 received to do fisheries resource monitoring projects is  
39 another type of opportunity for tribal involvement in the  
40 program that we've never been able to provide before. This  
41 funding is kind of unheard of compared to anything we've  
42 done in subsistence in the last eight or nine years. So  
43 this is a -- and we are very focused on tribal involvement  
44 and tribal consultation in this process and have begun that  
45 type of work if you have been provided, I'm not sure if you  
46 have, but the summary sheets for each one of the projects  
47 that we're looking at for fisheries this coming year and  
48 future years. You'll see a big effort to work with other  
49 Alaska Native organizations as well as tribes.

50

00023

1           So, you know, we've been communicating that and we  
2 think that that has kind of helped settle things down. I  
3 think there's a broader understanding within these  
4 organizations of how this program works, what the role of  
5 the Councils is and how we are connected, very closely with  
6 the Native communities. So we're all kind of ready to move  
7 on.

8  
9           But we do need to finalize the letter, so, again,  
10 I'll close my comments at this point and see if there is  
11 anything else you would like me to convey to the Board on  
12 this subject.

13  
14                   CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Questions.

15  
16                   MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman.

17  
18                   CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Bert.

19  
20                   MR. ADAMS: Sorry, I'm dominating here but  
21 I just have to share something with you.

22  
23                   CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, you're a dominate  
24 male anyway.

25  
26                   MR. ADAMS: Yeah. After the training in  
27 Anchorage, I think it was the latter part of January,  
28 during those meetings I realized, you know, a lot of us  
29 did, that someone was always popping up and saying that we  
30 need to use local and traditional knowledge when we start  
31 developing our management programs in the various areas and  
32 stuff. And that, to me, was probably the biggest or  
33 important message that I got out of that. There was a lot  
34 of other things but that, to me, was pretty dominate.

35  
36                   So when I returned back home to Yakutat, you know,  
37 we already had two proposals, you know, working with the  
38 Forest Service there that we were ready to submit and as I  
39 sat down with the people in Yakutat there, I said, well,  
40 what about using some traditional knowledge and how can we  
41 develop a proposal, you know, to reflect that, so we  
42 brainstormed around there a little bit. And I remember  
43 when I was a little boy how my father and people in his age  
44 group used to, around this time of the year, in April or  
45 May, would begin shoveling the railroad tracks snow. The  
46 snow used to be, I remember, deep in those days, and they  
47 would start shoveling the railroad track off all the way  
48 down to the Situk River. It's a 10 mile, you know,  
49 railroad track. And they would clear that railroad track  
50 out so the train could get back and forth and allow time,

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1 you know, for the fishermen to get their camp set up and  
2 prepare it for the coming fishing season. But I also  
3 realized that afterwards, after they cleared the railroad  
4 track from the snow, that they would also go up and down  
5 the Situk River there and they would clear out any trees  
6 that had fallen, you know, over during the winter storms,  
7 particularly in the middle part of the river all the way up  
8 and down. And this allowed the salmon, you know, to make  
9 it all the way up into their spawning beds.

10  
11 I used that as an example, and then some other  
12 examples, you know, the Ahrnklin River, you know, connects  
13 on to some small streams and some of the lakes that go all  
14 the way from Yakutat down to the Lost and the Situk River,  
15 you know, Summit Lake, Ahrnklin Lake are connected with  
16 small little streams. And I know that from listening to  
17 the elders, you know, that they used to spend a lot of time  
18 clearing those little streams up there, they're very narrow  
19 streams, shallow but they would sometimes, you know, get  
20 locked off with debris and trees and logs and stuff like  
21 that, and those were always cleared out by the people so  
22 that the salmon could make it up into those lakes and then  
23 a certain clan had, you know, their subsistence camps on  
24 those lakes and that they would catch the salmon there and  
25 dry it and preserve them for the winter.

26  
27 So that was an ongoing thing. And to me, you know,  
28 that was a pretty significant part of their way of managing  
29 the resources in the earlier days. And so we talked about  
30 other things, too. But after, you know, a couple hours of  
31 discussing these things, we decided -- we were able to come  
32 up with a proposal on how traditional knowledge can be  
33 used, you know, to supplement the management ideas that  
34 will coincide with Western science as well. So I think  
35 it's really important. We don't have too many elders in  
36 the community anymore, but, you know, there are some people  
37 in my age group who can remember, you know, what their  
38 fathers and grandfathers did and I think there's a lot of  
39 information out there that we can use.

40  
41 I think another good example.....

42  
43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Do you have a question  
44 Bert?

45  
46 MR. ADAMS: I was just sharing this with  
47 her. You know, is how can we, you know, implement the  
48 traditional knowledge and Western science so that we can  
49 develop good strong management schemes, you know, for our  
50 areas. That would probably be the question.

00025

1 MS. FOX: Well, I did want to indicate that  
2 when Cal covers the projects, we do have projects in there  
3 that we are funding for the gathering of traditional  
4 knowledge. So you know, we're totally committed to the  
5 effort to capture what is known out there and then, you  
6 know, as you indicate, integrate that with Western science  
7 and we'll probably be able to make better decisions,  
8 certainly have a broader base of knowledge about what's  
9 happening with the resource.

10  
11 MR. ADAMS: Thanks.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: With regard to the budget  
14 for these projects, there has been some concern expressed  
15 to me in the last couple of weeks that the amount left for  
16 budgeting didn't seem adequate to the people that were  
17 concerned. And I'm wondering how those projected numbers  
18 were arrived at, do you have any idea?

19  
20 MS. FOX: The projected numbers for?

21  
22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: For the cost of  
23 monitoring.....

24  
25 MS. FOX: Any of the individual projects?

26  
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: .....on some of those  
28 projects, yes.

29  
30 MS. FOX: Well, there is an estimate  
31 developed based on past practices. We have issued  
32 cooperative agreements through the wildlife program and,  
33 you know, so there is some idea of what the cost should be.  
34 We've worked with Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments,  
35 we've worked with AVCP, a number of the organizations in a  
36 modest way over the last eight years and developed some  
37 idea of costs relative to doing this kind of work. Not  
38 directly related to fisheries because, of course, we  
39 weren't doing that then.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Uh-huh.

42  
43 MS. FOX: We also have -- our contracting  
44 people have experience with the types of projects that  
45 we're doing and how much those have cost, and all of that  
46 is is a place you might start when you sit down and talk  
47 about it with the people that are doing the proposal. And  
48 you kind of compare notes on how much you think it should  
49 cost and how much they think it should cost and then you go  
50 from there and try to sort out, you know, what makes sense

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1 and what doesn't and come to some bottom line agreement on  
2 what the amount of funding should be. So it's done working  
3 with the proponent, it isn't an arbitrary or hard line that  
4 is drawn.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Any other  
7 questions.

8  
9 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chair.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Patty.

12  
13 MS. PHILLIPS: Peggy, when I was in  
14 Anchorage I had a Native staff person come up to me from a  
15 village, from a remote rural village, and tell me that a  
16 government agency, I can't remember if it was Federal or  
17 State had chartered a plane in with two young college women  
18 to do stock assessment on caribous. Well, the government's  
19 money would have been better spent had they gone into the  
20 village and hired, you know, someone from the village to do  
21 a stock assessment. So how are you going to make the  
22 determination of which way to spend your money, whether to  
23 have the government do it or whether to have someone from  
24 the village do it?

25  
26 MS. FOX: Well, we've already considered  
27 and been actually guided very, very strongly by the  
28 Secretary that we will emphasize local hires. And we have  
29 a commitment to that and that's the way -- I mean I think  
30 we've been pretty rigorous in looking at these project  
31 proposals and trying to see where that type of hiring is  
32 going to occur, you know, who is going to be hired to do  
33 this type of work. We've made it very clear that our  
34 expectation is that any seasonal hiring that is done for  
35 that type of work or any other is, you have to find  
36 qualified people first, but the emphasis is on local hires.

37  
38 Some of the qualifications are going to be a little  
39 higher than others. And in many cases, however, we do  
40 believe that we should be able to successfully find people  
41 in villages or communities where this work will occur. And  
42 that's a mandate that we have that we're working with as  
43 much as possible.

44  
45 MS. PHILLIPS: I had another question. The  
46 letter that we got from the Association of Village Councils  
47 Presidents, was there a response given to them?

48  
49 MS. FOX: Not yet.

50

00027

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, Marilyn and then  
4 Dolly.

5

6 MS. WILSON: Yes. I wanted to know about  
7 the system that we use, the regulatory bodies. Like we're  
8 already existing and to work with the State under this MOU,  
9 what committees do we work with, the State Fish and Game  
10 committee in each community or -- and are they -- also is  
11 the State going to have a separate regional council or are  
12 they going to use this Council? I wanted to know exactly  
13 how it's going to work with the regulatory systems that are  
14 either in place or are they going to add new ones?

15

16 MS. FOX: I'll address that in terms of  
17 what we envision right now and that is, is that, the  
18 advisory committees and the Councils, for example, in this  
19 region would work together. We have already provided  
20 funding for advisory committee Chairs to come to Council  
21 meetings in other parts of the state and we will do that.  
22 We do want to promote communications.

23

24 In many cases, and I don't know if that's true here  
25 or not but it usually is, is that, there are advisory  
26 committee members or chairs sitting on this Council  
27 already, and that's true in many cases of the rest of the  
28 state. So, you know, that's one of the primary changes  
29 that you'll see as a result of this Memorandum of  
30 Agreement, that we will be focusing on enhancing that  
31 communication and working things out at this level before  
32 they get to the Federal Subsistence Board or the Board of  
33 Fisheries or the Board of Game.

34

35 Secondly, we are also providing opportunities for  
36 Council Chairs or the Chairs representative to attend Board  
37 of Fisheries or Board of Game meetings -- and State Board  
38 of Game meetings to testify on proposals that are of  
39 concern to the Council. So our primary emphasis at this  
40 point in time is to enhance communications and involvement  
41 in the different processes.

42

43 Some time later we might see something more  
44 structured but at this point that's what we're doing right  
45 now.

46

47 MS. WILSON: I have another question. What  
48 about the tribal governments like in each community like  
49 the Douglas Indian Association or the tribal entities, do  
50 they have -- can they come to the meetings and have a say?

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1 Their letter wasn't even answered, how are we going to work  
2 with them?

3  
4 MS. FOX: Well, as I indicated, the Board  
5 hasn't responded to that letter as of yet, so I don't know  
6 what the policy is going to be. I can just tell you right  
7 now what they have said, to-date, in meetings is that the  
8 tribes are invited to work closely with the Regional  
9 Advisory Councils and that's the appropriate role that we  
10 see. The Councils are the public forum in the regions,  
11 they're also the body that the Board relies upon for  
12 recommendations on subsistence. So our position at this  
13 point, I said the letter hasn't been written, and I see  
14 this thing evolving over time, but right now the tribes are  
15 invited to attend and also on occasion, we've made funding  
16 available if that was necessary on particular issues for  
17 tribes to be represented at the Councils.

18  
19 MS. WILSON: Would their way be paid?

20  
21 MS. FOX: If there is -- it needs to be  
22 justified on a case by case basis. We can't be paying for  
23 tribes to attend all of the Council meetings. But where  
24 there is a particular issue, for example, a regulatory  
25 proposal change or the Council is involved in a management  
26 plan, a fisheries or wildlife management plan and the  
27 committee includes tribal members and they want to present  
28 something to the Council, you know, those particular  
29 situations are ones in which we would consider funding.  
30 But as I indicated, that's a case by case decision.

31  
32 MS. WILSON: Thank you.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

35  
36 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman and Council, I  
37 apologize for being late this morning. Fish and Wildlife  
38 Service Conservation Group has a conference going on to  
39 come up with their priorities for resource conservation  
40 projects for the next few years and Harold Martin and I  
41 both sat on the panel along with Jackie Martin and Ron  
42 Wolfe to talk from the Native perspective, what we see as  
43 some of the conservation issues and projects. So hopefully  
44 I represented some of our interests at that panel this  
45 morning. Sort of jumping into the fisheries work, also  
46 that's why Harold's late is because he was at it and then  
47 he was my driver over here. Thanks, Harold.

48  
49 You know, the deal with fisheries is how do we get  
50 involved meaningfully and that seemed to be the big issue

00029

1 up at the Anchorage conference. In terms of AVCP letter,  
2 the one thing that I found interesting was at the  
3 conference itself, people from AVCP, from the region, got  
4 up and said, hey, we're the tribal representative, we're  
5 coming from the communities, we've been appointed and we  
6 want to do our work. And so I think that part of that  
7 issue has to be resolved within that region because there  
8 were people from the communities that said that we are  
9 doing exactly that. And so we don't want to undermine  
10 other Regional Advisory Council members representation and  
11 their meaning of their representation by jumping into that  
12 argument.

13  
14 In terms of how we go forward with fisheries  
15 monitoring projects, it seemed like at that Anchorage  
16 conference, people were quite set back, you know, at least  
17 I was because I thought we were going to go through this  
18 process of trying to figure out what we want to focus on  
19 and all of a sudden there was this whole package of 19  
20 projects that we would do that we, as a Regional Advisory  
21 Council really had no input to and we thought that's what  
22 we would be doing as a Regional Advisory Council.  
23 Southeast met with Southcentral and talked about some of  
24 the approaches that we might take. One of the things that  
25 I had mentioned was the Denali Commission, which is  
26 Federally funded, has a policy in there that says, future  
27 projects -- because they didn't start that way but they  
28 have changed, must have local tribal endorsement and  
29 involvement that those projects will receive priority  
30 consideration. That I had heard from other people so I did  
31 pull it down from the Web and I've got a copy of it for  
32 you, Mr. Chair, or to get it out, but it does say in here  
33 that projects should have broad public involvement and  
34 support. Evidence of support might include endorsement by  
35 affected local government councils. And that includes  
36 municipal, tribal, IRA, et cetera. Participants by local  
37 governments and planning and overseeing work and local cost  
38 sharing on an ability to pay basis. And it's my  
39 understanding that that one sentence that they've added or  
40 those two sentences, has really changed the structure of  
41 how those projects are submitted to Denali that the  
42 communities get together, they duke it out, they decide  
43 what is the priority and they submit them jointly, and the  
44 ones that have submitted them jointly have gotten funded.

45  
46 And maybe that's a process we need to work on here,  
47 is what do we, as a Regional Advisory Council, or as  
48 communities think are our priorities, how can we work with  
49 whoever we need to work with to submit projects so that  
50 they have enough support to get funded.

00030

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, Dolly. Vicki.

4

5 MS. LeCORNU: Mr. Chair, I have no problem  
6 also, also as Peggy said, we have our local boards and our  
7 regional boards, that allows for correct representation.  
8 But I think what the other people were talking about was  
9 public participation. You know, you say that there were  
10 letters sent out about what was happening but the public  
11 really didn't know. And so they were caught off guard,  
12 they need to have that public participation at a local and  
13 regional level that wasn't maybe given enough time and  
14 maybe we were caught off guard, you know. But I think  
15 there could be a lot more public participation.

16

17 And I'll also agree with Dolly that there was no  
18 input on those projects so I was kind of dumbfounded that  
19 here we are, I mean we don't have any dissent on this. I  
20 can't record any dissent on these projects, they're already  
21 in place. So I felt left out as a Regional Council  
22 representative.

23

24 MS. FOX: We recognize that that was a cost  
25 of doing business this first year. We, however, at a  
26 minimum I want you to know that all of these projects that  
27 were eventually approved in February and the ones that are  
28 coming before you today for approval in April, as a part of  
29 this abbreviated process to get things going this year,  
30 were well supported projects on a local basis. These are  
31 the types of projects that people have been wanting and  
32 wanting but lack of funding has been the only problem.

33

34 Our goal was to try to take projects that were well  
35 supported on a local basis and to move forward with those  
36 as long as they were well planned and there was good  
37 documentation that they were filling a need, and that was  
38 the strategy that we moved forward with this initial set  
39 and that's what we hope to achieve. I think you'll see  
40 when we are initiating the 2001 process this year, that  
41 that is a process that takes over a year in terms of  
42 involving people, it will come before the Councils a couple  
43 of times, it will go before the public as well to get a lot  
44 more involvement on what the issues are and the concerns  
45 and look at other types of projects that people have that  
46 they feel are needed.

47

48 MS. LeCORNU: Well, one more comment, I  
49 guess, the problem I did have with those projects is that  
50 they should meet a criteria that I've been voicing loud and

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1 clear on this Council for a long time; they are gathering  
2 the correct information. For instance, we feel that in our  
3 region around Hydaburg, that there has never been any way  
4 to find the need, what is your need for your subsistence  
5 uses for the year? And so when I see these monitoring  
6 projects, counting things, I mean we've had experience with  
7 the deer pellet count. To me that was against the grain of  
8 going out and finding out what people need. I mean you can  
9 go out and count as many deer poop pellets as you want but  
10 you're not going to find out how many deer those people  
11 need. So you could be duplicating that same kind of  
12 process again, but what I'm saying is that they need  
13 criteria. Are they finding out what the uses and needs  
14 are, both, and not just the past uses -- or just the  
15 numbers?

16

17 MS. FOX: Yes.

18

19 MS. LeCORNU: Getting real information?

20

21 MS. FOX: Yes, and I don't think we could  
22 take the time right now but I'd be more than willing to go  
23 through those projects, Cal can do it this evening and show  
24 you, project by project, how we feel we have. I mean when  
25 you see -- I don't know if you've had an opportunity to see  
26 the April set of projects yet but a lot of those are -- the  
27 first set was very focused on doing analysis on fish stocks  
28 and getting some weirs in rivers and, you know, these types  
29 of things, like I say, things that have been sitting on the  
30 shelf. We need to know about the resource as much as we  
31 need to know about what the needs are because the two are  
32 so integrated. I mean you can have all the need you want  
33 but if the resource isn't there, you know, you don't have  
34 anybody satisfied. So we're going to have to keep track as  
35 to what the fish are doing and so paying money to put a  
36 weir in the river to count them is going to be absolutely  
37 necessary.

38

39 On the other hand we also, equally, need to focus  
40 on where the subsistence needs are and how to better  
41 provide in some areas. And I don't think there's that many  
42 areas across the state where there are big issues around  
43 subsistence needs. But in those areas where there are, we  
44 need to spend money to find out what the needs are and why  
45 they aren't getting what they need. And we're working  
46 towards being very balanced in that and I think you'll see  
47 with the new set of projects more emphasis in that area.  
48 Those types of projects took a bit longer to develop.

49

50 I'm also troubled, though, by the indication that

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1 we don't do enough in terms of public participation so I  
2 would like to find out more specifically what you have in  
3 mind and what else we might do. And it's up to the Council  
4 whether you want to do that now or Vicki and I could talk  
5 at a later time. But if we're lacking there, I need to  
6 know specifically what you mean.

7  
8 MS. LeCORNU: Well, the reason I said that  
9 was it came across loud and clear in Anchorage from vast  
10 areas of Alaska, that there was no public involvement and  
11 that it was from the top down and so it needs to be  
12 inspired from the locals up. That's what I heard.

13  
14 MS. FOX: So maybe we need to do -- I mean  
15 our expectation is the Council meetings are the public  
16 forum within this region so if we need to do something  
17 different in terms of advertising and getting the word out,  
18 I certainly would like to hear what else you think we need  
19 to do because we will follow up.

20  
21 MS. LeCORNU: Thank you.

22  
23 MS. FOX: Okay, all right.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

26  
27 MS. GARZA: I guess part of that, I think  
28 that loud voice was because of the fisheries projects. And  
29 I'm not sure how we got the large public support for them  
30 because I went from region to region, I went to Kotzebue  
31 region and I said, I can't believe you guys are supporting  
32 \$80,000 for a sheefish project when your chum salmon stocks  
33 are in the slumps. And they said, well, we didn't hear  
34 about that. And I said, well, go look at your proposals,  
35 that's what you guys are funding. You're funding an ADF&G  
36 person to do work when you guys should be funneling that  
37 money through Maniilaq and doing some work on fisheries  
38 that are important to you. And they said that they hadn't  
39 heard it.

40  
41 I went and I talked to the Interior people, same  
42 thing. There were some regions that said, yes, they had  
43 gotten together, they had worked. I think that it was  
44 interesting because the AVCP was one of those regions where  
45 they had worked well but some of those others hadn't. And  
46 we hadn't seen ours. What was slated for Southeast.

47  
48 And so I think that was a lot of that, just from  
49 AFN, from AVCP, from AITC, was like, you're taking these  
50 projects, you're putting them on the table, you're saying

00033

1 this is what we need to do because it's necessary and we  
2 won't have time to do anymore when the Regional Advisory  
3 Councils have been sitting here year after year saying we  
4 want to do fish, give us the work, we'll do it. I mean if  
5 you said, sit down and do it tonight, we've done that  
6 before, we did that in Kake, we went through all of the  
7 management plans tried to figure out what should be changed  
8 and we want to continue to do that but we're not being  
9 asked.

10  
11 MS. FOX: Ida would like -- she's on the  
12 committee that reviews the projects and she'd like to offer  
13 a couple of comments if that's all right, Mr. Chair.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: By all means.

16  
17 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff  
18 Committee member. With particular emphasis to the comment  
19 on Kotzebue, I don't challenge your statement and whoever  
20 you spoke to, however, that sheefish project in the Arctic  
21 area was run through Maniilaq and they signed off on and  
22 agreed that it was an important project to the region.

23  
24 As far as the expedited or abbreviated process for  
25 this year, the first thing the Office of Subsistence  
26 Management did and the Staff Committee, was to go through  
27 every region and contact tribes and say what were the  
28 projects that have been ongoing in your area, where are the  
29 projects that you have worked on in the past or tried to  
30 work on in the past and didn't have money for, and the  
31 office came up with 50 some projects. And the majority of  
32 the projects that are approved in this first cut came from  
33 that 50. So it wasn't like we just pulled them out of the  
34 air.

35  
36 The projects for Southeast, I understand there was  
37 a meeting last night that looked specifically at Southeast  
38 and I was in a meeting in Ketchikan last week with Harold  
39 Martin and other people and there seemed to have been a lot  
40 of tribal contact to say what are the priorities in this  
41 region and perhaps that material hasn't come before this  
42 Council yet. There is an effort that is ongoing and Harold  
43 Martin and his people have been very involved with Forest  
44 Service in determining that. And because Forest Service is  
45 separate from DOI, they have approached it a little bit  
46 different than the other projects under DOI.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Questions anybody.

49  
50 MS. GARZA: I guess I have to take some

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1 issue there. Going to Maniilaq and getting their rubber  
2 stamp is not the same as going to the Regional Advisory  
3 Council, that's what we're here for. I mean you talk to  
4 Regional Advisory Council members and they didn't know. It  
5 would be like going to T&H and Harold's going to say I'm  
6 not on the Regional Advisory Council, it should go to us,  
7 we should know what's going on before the paper's in front  
8 of us saying this is what it's going to look like.

9  
10 MS. HILDEBRAND: Excuse me, this is Ida  
11 Hildebrand again, Staff Committee member. Willie Goodwin  
12 is the Chairman of their Regional Council in the Arctic  
13 area, he was very involved with this issue and he agreed  
14 that the Council was behind it. It wasn't done in the dark  
15 and it wasn't a surprise to their Council members. They're  
16 the ones who raised the sheefish issue as a Council  
17 priority.

18  
19 MS. FOX: I'd also like to add to the  
20 response to Dolly's concerns is that, last May, the Chairs  
21 indicated that they wanted to have representatives of the  
22 Council sit with the Board every time we talked about how  
23 we were going to implement fisheries. Since that time  
24 Willie and Dan or Ron Sam have sat with the Board to hear  
25 the progress and the strategies and the plans for how we  
26 were going to approach what we're doing right now for that  
27 many months. Now, I understand that there have been  
28 concerns about maybe the communications from Willie and Dan  
29 to the other Councils and the other members, but they have  
30 been a part of those meetings and at least one of them has  
31 always been there. Hearing some of those concerns, I told  
32 Willie at the last meeting in Kotzebue a week or so ago,  
33 that we will help with the communications and summarize  
34 what is discussed relative to fisheries implementation and  
35 get that out to the coordinators who will then get it to  
36 the Council members. But I do want to say that the  
37 Councils have been involved in this decision-making process  
38 and what we're doing with the abbreviated process and how  
39 we went step by step through participation by Willie and  
40 Dan. That was what everyone agreed to and that's what we  
41 had hoped. Nothing's perfect but I think we can help with  
42 the communications from here on out.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, the reason those  
45 guys were selected to serve in that particular function was  
46 because they are representatives of the affected area so  
47 that's how that was determined.

48  
49 Mary.

50

00035

1 MS. RUDOLPH: Hello, I'm Mary Rudolph from  
2 Hoonah. I didn't come in last night because I had a  
3 meeting with the natural resources and they gave me some of  
4 their concerns and finally got to talk with some of the  
5 board members and mentioned again about Fred Clark was  
6 ready to come out any time they could set up a time with  
7 him. They wanted to know what kind of -- what actual two  
8 words I could use on what our role is, and the transition  
9 and they gave their opposition on some of the things that I  
10 came in with. But I think the sad part was realizing we  
11 were having a lack of communication there in our village.  
12 And when I talked to the board members they all agreed that  
13 they would start calling some of the local tribal members  
14 trying to get them to the meetings. Some of the things I  
15 was calling the office about was just left there, so they  
16 didn't know I had been calling the office about some of the  
17 things we had.

18  
19 But what I wanted to ask you, I know when we talked  
20 about the Federal takeover, one of the things they were  
21 concerned about was with the State -- how the State was  
22 going to respond to the takeover. Is your transition  
23 easier than our transition into working with what's going  
24 on right now?

25  
26 MS. FOX: Well, we've been meeting with the  
27 State for over a year in anticipation of this need to work  
28 closely together around fisheries because the State does  
29 remain the primary fishery manager. We have limited  
30 jurisdiction by comparison. And we have had our ups and  
31 downs thinking we're going one direction and then having to  
32 retreat and head off in another direction. But it has  
33 continually been constructive.

34  
35 We continue to get closer and closer to a  
36 memorandum of agreement that you've seen the first version  
37 of it at the end of January and you've got a second draft  
38 before you today to consider. And I think things are going  
39 very well, we're making -- we're doing an awful lot of  
40 discussion around key points, making a lot of progress. As  
41 you see in the new version of the draft, the Regional  
42 Advisory Council's role is recognized and obviously if it's  
43 in there, seriously being considered by the State and  
44 supported, I think, in the end.

45  
46 And then we're starting to work on detail protocol.  
47 So I'm seeing progress, constructive developments, and I'm  
48 also getting a lot of direct communication with Fish and  
49 Game supervisors inviting Council members to their  
50 meetings, these preseason meetings that I mentioned before.

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1 So I think people are planning on this being something  
2 that's going to be here for the long-term, starting to  
3 recognize that that's where we're at, this is a long-term  
4 relationship and, you know, seriously detailing and  
5 designing how that's going to work effectively for  
6 everybody. And reaching out and trying to get  
7 communications going at a very local level to try to make  
8 this work as effectively as possible. But we're sure in a  
9 steep learning curve.

10  
11 MS. RUDOLPH: There isn't going to be that  
12 much change then?

13  
14 MS. FOX: We're not anticipating that.

15  
16 MS. RUDOLPH: In the regulations with the  
17 State or the Federal then?

18  
19 MS. FOX: The only change I would say, and  
20 this is a general statement, but the only change we're  
21 going to see is what the Council's provide to us, I mean,  
22 and other public when they submit proposals. We aren't  
23 going to be making changes to the regulations, it's what  
24 comes from users in the regions and from the Councils. And  
25 then we will look at those changes and go from there. So  
26 it's, you know, this Council will weigh very heavily in any  
27 recommendation that comes out of this region as far as  
28 changes go.

29  
30 MS. RUDOLPH: Well, I know that any time  
31 you read any items in the newspapers, they talk about  
32 working with the tribes and whether it will be the Federal  
33 or the State, and the tribe still doesn't seem to get a  
34 foothold on what their real role is going to be in this  
35 whole thing. And this is what we talked about last night  
36 and wanted to find out how they felt about things and they  
37 were kind of confused about what actual role they play in  
38 all this because the Federal is saying one thing and the  
39 State is saying one thing. So they wanted to know where do  
40 they fit into the whole thing?

41  
42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, that's going to be  
43 a tribal issue, we're not functioning as a tribe, we're  
44 functioning as a Council so the tribes are going to have to  
45 deal with their own issues.

46  
47 MS. RUDOLPH: Yeah, well, I was just  
48 bringing that up because, you know, she was talking about  
49 getting knowledge from the -- not just the tribe but the  
50 village of Hoonah, so I was just, you know, the concern is

00037

1 where do you go and who do you address?

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You go to the Council.

4 Vicki.

5

6 MS. LeCORNU: I don't know if it's  
7 appropriate to make a comment on the MOU now, is it?

8

9 MS. FOX: Ida's going to cover that topic  
10 with you as soon as I'm done up here.

11

12 MS. LeCORNU: Oh, okay.

13

14 MS. FOX: If that's all right.

15

16 MS. LeCORNU: It's all right.

17

18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Patty.

19

20 MS. PHILLIPS: I've heard reference to a  
21 meeting last night, what meeting was that?

22

23 MS. FOX: Well, I wasn't involved so I  
24 don't know.

25

26 MS. PHILLIPS: Oh.

27

28 MS. FOX: I just heard that there was a  
29 meeting. Somebody else will have to answer that question.

30

31 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

32

33 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It's not on the agenda

34 so.....

35

36 MS. PHILLIPS: Well, two presenters  
37 mentioned it so I was just curious.

38

39 MR. CLARK: Patty, would you like some  
40 information on the meeting?

41

42 MS. PHILLIPS: First I want to talk to her.  
43 If it's determined that an emergency action is needed on  
44 fisheries and that, I, as a Council member, individually  
45 would -- you know, my stance is that we err on the side of  
46 conservation. But if there is an emergency action needed,  
47 that there needs to be public outreach on the facts of why  
48 that emergency action is needed. I'm concerned about the  
49 mudslinging that subsistence could get if fisheries are  
50 shut down. My lifestyle includes subsistence but my

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1 livelihood is commercial fishing. But I don't want  
2 mudslinging occurring to the detriment of subsistence and  
3 so when emergency actions are needed, if the appropriate  
4 agencies could find a way to present it to the public so  
5 that there's no bad guys. That we're here to protect the  
6 resource.

7  
8 MS. FOX: Yeah, we're very concerned about  
9 that, too, and if you're in commercial fishing you know  
10 better than I do that those are extremely short time frames  
11 within which people have to make decisions about an  
12 emergency order and it does not allow for broad public  
13 participation. It will involve, in the future, Council  
14 representation, subsistence user representation, hopefully  
15 to a greater degree.

16  
17 And honestly, I don't know exactly what the process  
18 is right now. So all I'm saying is that we are going --  
19 we are here to assure that subsistence users are  
20 represented during those discussions and that we will  
21 hopefully be able to make good decisions that everyone can  
22 support and won't be necessarily weighing on one side or  
23 another of an issue but will be very much focused on what  
24 is right for the resource.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Marilyn.

27  
28 MS. WILSON: While this is in my head, I  
29 was wondering if this would be appropriate to ask you, but  
30 if it isn't maybe we could find out later. I was wondering  
31 if the Regional Council could have a listing of all the  
32 funding that is funded, like how much funding goes to the  
33 State from the Federal government to help take care of  
34 subsistence and all that information. Because I, as a  
35 Council member, don't really know. And if I should I'm at  
36 fault then.

37  
38 MS. FOX: Okay. Actually I've had that  
39 request at one of the other Council meetings this year,  
40 too, so I'm certain we can provide something. It's very  
41 detailed already in terms of the projects that we're doing,  
42 you'll see that. But the program part of it is something  
43 that we hadn't been asked to provide before this year,  
44 so.....

45  
46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Any further questions.

47  
48 MS. STEVENS: Mr. Chairman.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Millie.

00039

1 MS. STEVENS: I, too, am curious about the  
2 meeting last night.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, if she wasn't there  
5 we can't get it from her. We'll have to wait until  
6 somebody comes up that was there.

7  
8 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, could I comment  
9 on the meeting last night?

10  
11 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Sure.

12  
13 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. The meeting last night  
14 was a continuation of several meetings that have been held  
15 as part of the Southeast proposal process for data  
16 information gathering. We had a meeting last week in  
17 Ketchikan that involved State, Commfish, tribal members,  
18 Forest Service, and basically as a result of that meeting  
19 we met again last night with the tribes as well, Harold  
20 Martin, Tlingit-Haida Central Council. In fact one of your  
21 members was at that meeting last night, Dick Stokes.

22  
23 Basically we are at a point in the process where  
24 later this morning or tomorrow the Council will be  
25 presented with what we've come up with in terms of the  
26 process. I guess the thing I want to emphasize is that we  
27 were more concerned about establishing a dialogue with the  
28 tribes and communities and villages more than actually  
29 coming up with a firm list of proposals of things that  
30 we're definitely going to do and that's why some of the  
31 proposals look pretty thin on the technical side, but they  
32 look pretty fat on the involvement side.

33  
34 So in response to Patty's question and also to  
35 Dolly's question, no, the Council has not been formally  
36 involved in that process but I've also kept various members  
37 of the Council informed informally and there will be  
38 additional training provided for the tribes back on POW  
39 when we return next week.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That had to do with  
42 preparation proposals?

43  
44 MR. JOHNSON: It deals with two things.  
45 One, is the actual proposals for data gathering that's  
46 needed for proposal analysis later but it also involves  
47 proposal submissions for proposed regulatory changes. So  
48 the two are kind of.....

49  
50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So are you saying that

00040

1 there's going to be an improvement now with the data  
2 information?

3

4 MR. JOHNSON: I'm not sure I understand the  
5 question, Mr. Chairman.

6

7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, in the past, my  
8 experience has been that the data submitted wasn't really  
9 the data they wanted to submit and whenever that data was  
10 questioned there was changes around it. And so I'm just  
11 wondering if that's going to change?

12

13 MR. JOHNSON: It would be my hope that it  
14 would change, Mr. Chairman. The first question is, what  
15 are the issues that relate to fisheries subsistence in the  
16 villages and communities and then until you know what the  
17 issue is, then you form the methodology and protocol to get  
18 that information to respond to that issue that will come in  
19 the form of a proposed regulatory change or in discussions  
20 at this Council table. So on the one hand, we're a little  
21 bit cart before the horse because we don't know what the  
22 Councils and rural users are going to submit for proposed  
23 regulatory changes but yet we also know, based on recent  
24 Board of Fish decisions and other issues in the communities  
25 of what have historically been issues around specific  
26 creeks and systems, so without going into further detail on  
27 that, others will be commenting in more detail about the  
28 actual fishery data gathering proposal process that Peggy's  
29 been commenting on.

30

31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

32

33 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, if I may add a  
34 little bit?

35

36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Fred.

37

38 MR. CLARK: The reason for the series of  
39 meetings and it's not just the two meetings, actually  
40 there's been at least five and perhaps more meetings that  
41 have occurred over the last six weeks or so, the two-fold  
42 reasons for that are, one to develop a good working  
43 relationship from the ground up between tribal  
44 representatives, representatives from the Federal  
45 government, and in this case, mostly the Forest Service,  
46 and State people from ADF&G to be able to identify and  
47 evaluate local concerns.

48

49 Another main reason is to develop a coherent way to  
50 present the information to the Regional Advisory Council,

00041

1 always having in mind that all the work that's been done up  
2 to this point is prework for the Council, so we can present  
3 the information to the Council in a reasonable logical way  
4 so you'll be able to deal with it more efficiently and  
5 effectively in your roles as Council members. There's  
6 always kind of a tug of war about whether to involve the  
7 Council fully from the very beginning or try to put things  
8 in a more thoughtful way to allow you to do deal with it  
9 without taking a lot of your time up. That's where we're  
10 at right now.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I guess I'll have to wait  
13 for the fruition because I'm not so sure that I fully  
14 understand what's happening. But are you suggesting that  
15 we're not efficient or effective?

16  
17 MR. CLARK: You'll have to decide that for  
18 yourself, Bill.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We aren't. Anybody else.

21  
22 MS. FOX: Mr. Chair, I just have another  
23 brief topic and then I'd like to ask Ida to come up and  
24 address the questions about the MOA.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

27  
28 MS. FOX: And that is I mailed out the  
29 sustainable salmon policy that the State of Alaska is  
30 considering about a month ago. And I provided it to  
31 Council members for comments, any that you might like to  
32 provide me. I am going to be testifying before the Board  
33 of Fisheries on Friday night, there's a committee meeting  
34 and a Board meeting to take testimony on the subject as  
35 well as four other Council Chairs have volunteered to  
36 attend and offer their comments to the Board. So I'm going  
37 to be pulling comments together on behalf of the Board, the  
38 Council Chairs will be providing their own Council  
39 comments. But I would like to know if this Council would  
40 like to provide me comments that they would like to see  
41 included in the Board response.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, we'll probably do  
44 some caucusing on that.

45  
46 MS. FOX: Right. Okay, fine thank you.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

49  
50 MS. FOX: Then that concludes my

00042

1 presentations. I'll be here the rest of the day if  
2 something else comes up.

3

4 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Are you going to be here  
5 for the whole session or do you have to go back?

6

7 MS. FOX: Just today. Yeah, I have to go  
8 back.

9

10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

11

12 MS. FOX: So I'll be here today.

13

14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you very much.

15

16 MS. FOX: Thank you.

17

18 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, while Ida's  
19 coming up, I'd just like to let people know that Douglas  
20 Indian Association has graciously offered the use of their  
21 copy machine for people who wish to make copies of papers  
22 or other things. I know I've received requests already  
23 from a couple people on the Council, so Helen, can you  
24 stand up please so people will see you, Helen has  
25 graciously offered to run stuff over, maybe a couple of  
26 times during the day to make copies for the Council. Thank  
27 you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: A couple of times, about  
30 every 20 minutes. Ms. Hildebrand, the owner of the BIA.

31

32 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you. I hope Niles  
33 is still in the room.

34

35 MR. CESAR: I didn't hear it.

36

37 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff  
38 Committee member. The MOA, I thought was in your package  
39 but I just rechecked mine and it isn't and Fred is handing  
40 them out. I think they were mailed to you previously. The  
41 main thing to note that the underlined language is the  
42 suggested changes -- excuse me, the bracketed language is  
43 the language that's being changed and the bolded language  
44 helps you to focus on what pages were -- I mean the what  
45 areas -- the review by the Regional Councils during the  
46 January session at the request of, I think this Council,  
47 the Memorandum of Agreement was changed to Memorandum of  
48 Understanding?

49

50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I thought it was the

00043

1 other way around.

2

3 MS. HILDEBRAND: Excuse me. Then the  
4 comments that are underlined is the language that is being  
5 changed and the bracketed is the language it's being  
6 changed to.

7

8 And there were a range of comments from all the  
9 Councils. Some Councils felt very strongly about adding  
10 tribes to the document and others felt very strongly about  
11 not adding tribes to the document, on the face of the  
12 document. The main changes are that there is specific  
13 reference to the involvement of the Regional Advisory  
14 Council and on the State side, to their advisory councils.  
15 That's the majority of the language, it refers to that.

16

17 And the other thing that's changed, MOA and MOU, it  
18 goes throughout the document. Again, the emphasis on the  
19 Councils. The other point that was made was that some  
20 Councils felt very strongly about deleting the language  
21 that said the State's sustainable yield and the Federal  
22 Title VIII conservation were compatible, some wanted it  
23 completely deleted, others just wanted it rephrased. And  
24 the section I just referred to is on Page 4, Section number  
25 12.

26

27 So over all the Councils supported the focus of the  
28 MOA and on Page 5 they wanted specific acknowledgement or  
29 recognition that traditional knowledge would be included in  
30 the process. That's Page 5, Section 1.

31

32 Another section that many Councils referred to was  
33 on Page 6 under 6E, it's not highlighted in this document  
34 but it's adding Regional Advisory -- specifically stating  
35 Regional Advisory Council but changing the word to include  
36 tribes, tribes isn't highlighted but that was a request  
37 responding to the Councils.

38

39 MS. WILSON: Is that in here?

40

41 MS. HILDEBRAND: Yes, it's on Page 6 under  
42 Section 6E.

43

44 MS. WILSON: Oh.

45

46 MS. HILDEBRAND: So unless you have  
47 specific comments or questions, most of the recommendations  
48 were addressed or the changes recommended were made.

49

50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I have maybe a couple of

00044

1 questions. So this is going to be recognized as a  
2 Memorandum of Agreement throughout, right?

3  
4 MS. HILDEBRAND: Uh-huh.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Another thing is  
7 that I like some of what I see. The thing here is if we  
8 can remove as much language that results in a grey area of  
9 understanding. It should be specific and it shouldn't be  
10 left up to interpretation. You know, other than that I  
11 think it's a pretty good document. But those are my only  
12 two comments. Thank you very much.

13  
14 Vicki.

15  
16 MS. LeCORNU: Ida, I was at the Anchorage  
17 meeting but I was kind of disappointed, I mean when it  
18 first came out, that they wanted to change it to agreement,  
19 that there wasn't anybody there to explain that there's a  
20 legal difference between an understanding and agreement.  
21 And as such, I'm more supportive of understanding because  
22 it's not as -- not such a big legal requirement on us to  
23 give up things. And so I think it needs to be explained to  
24 people, the differences between understanding and an  
25 agreement. But what I don't understand is how -- that it  
26 seems incompatible in the preamble that you have a  
27 sustained yield principle, it just won't comport with the  
28 conservation and subsistence policies and purposes. And  
29 also in the purposes, the purpose is for sustained yield,  
30 that's not our purpose. Our purposes need to be foremost  
31 in here.

32  
33 MS. GARZA: What page is that on Vicki?

34  
35 MS. LeCORNU: The purposes and the  
36 preamble. The preamble is on Page 1 and the sustained  
37 yield principle. And it does not necessary comport with  
38 our purposes, and I want to know how that's going to be  
39 handled. It's also stated in the purposes and our  
40 purposes, as I said, should be in there first because it  
41 relates to the strategy of how we manage. So I think there  
42 needs to be criteria as mentioned in other agreements, that  
43 the criteria has to be there for our benefit.

44  
45 MS. GARZA: I'm sorry, Vicki, I still don't  
46 see it in purposes, so where am I?

47  
48 MS. LeCORNU: It's on Page 2.

49  
50 MS. GARZA: Yeah.

00045

1 MS. LeCORNU: Section 2, it's the purposes  
2 of this MOA is to provide foundation.

3  
4 MS. GARZA: Right.

5  
6 MS. LeCORNU: And to promote sustained  
7 health and -- well, it doesn't say well -- ensure  
8 conservation.

9  
10 MS. GARZA: Okay.

11  
12 MS. LeCORNU: But there's no subsistence in  
13 there. The purpose of our goal is not sustained health of  
14 fisheries, but the conservation and subsistence needs.

15  
16 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Marilyn.

19  
20 MS. WILSON: In the whereas, right on the  
21 first page of the preamble.....

22  
23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah.

24  
25 MS. WILSON: .....there's a -- it has  
26 everything that we were asking.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah, it does.

29  
30 MS. WILSON: Yeah.

31  
32 MS. LeCORNU: No, what I.....

33  
34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Also in the title.

35  
36 MS. LeCORNU: My point is that a sustained  
37 yield principle does not comport with our principle of  
38 subsistence and conservation and I want to know how that's  
39 going to work out.

40  
41 MS. GARZA: Okay, I see sustained health  
42 and I think sustained health is different than sustained  
43 yield so I still don't see sustained yield. Because I  
44 agree with you, if sustained yield is in there, that  
45 assumes that you're trying to maximize the economic  
46 opportunities for commercial fisheries, blah, blah, blah,  
47 that's not the intent but I don't see it in here.

48  
49 MS. LeCORNU: Right. But it adds another  
50 dimension to it that is not in our management scheme and it

00046

1 will cause a problem down the road. It says sustained  
2 yield principle on the preamble.

3  
4 MS. HILDEBRAND: Excuse me, this is Ida  
5 again. The first part is because it's a memorandum between  
6 the State and the Feds, this part is addressing the State's  
7 concern, the beginning of the preamble. There's also a  
8 section that addresses the Federal concern.

9  
10 MS. LeCORNU: Right.

11  
12 MS. HILDEBRAND: And there has been a  
13 meeting since this draft was revised of the working group  
14 and Peggy's here to read you that new language.

15  
16 MS. FOX: And that specifically has to do  
17 with the provision that has been a subject of a lot of  
18 discussion, Page 4, at the top, number 5. This is the one  
19 that has, you know, for some Councils has been a point of  
20 contention, and so what we've done is revise it since this  
21 draft was prepared and I have some suggested language and  
22 see if the Council feels this is better.

23  
24 What it's proposed to now say is that the State and  
25 Federal standards for conservation of fish and.....

26  
27 MS. GARZA: It's number 5?

28  
29 MS. FOX: It's a substitute for....

30  
31 MS. GARZA: What page?

32  
33 MS. FOX: Page 4.

34  
35 MS. GARZA: Okay.

36  
37 MS. FOX: Top of the page, which is number  
38 5.

39  
40 MS. GARZA: Okay.

41  
42 MS. FOX: It should be on everybody's.

43  
44 MS. GARZA: Okay.

45  
46 MS. FOX: It should be the same.

47  
48 MS. GARZA: Okay.

49  
50 MS. FOX: Okay. We're proposing to remove

00047

1 this language and replace it with the following, that State  
2 and Federal standards for conservation of fish and wildlife  
3 populations are generally compatible. And that removes the  
4 specifics of whether or not we agree to a sustained yield  
5 principle or for that matter, ANILCA standards, but it says  
6 that our conservation -- our standards for conservation are  
7 generally compatible.

8  
9 MS. LeCORNU: Can you read that again,  
10 Peggy, I'm sorry.

11  
12 MS. FOX: That's fine. That State and  
13 Federal standards for conservation of fish and wildlife  
14 populations are generally compatible.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So you scratched from and  
17 through practice?

18  
19 MS. LeCORNU: I disagree, Peggy, because  
20 like I said earlier, they are not compatible, they do not  
21 comport, they are different strategies and I want to know  
22 how that's going to shake-down in the end. So I disagree  
23 with that even being mentioned as being generally, that's  
24 not true. That's not true at all.

25  
26 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman, Marilyn Wilson.  
27 Couldn't this be straightened out in the protocols?  
28 Because you just put the basic down that ANILCA standards  
29 for conservation of fish and wildlife populations, and what  
30 you did was you struck out the sustained yield that the  
31 State uses.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: One thing I'd like to ask  
34 the Council to do, if you have a disagreement or an  
35 objection, would you please offer something that you feel  
36 would be a better replacement.

37  
38 MS. LeCORNU: Okay. I would just say that  
39 the standards are different and that they must be  
40 recognized as such. That we have different goals and  
41 they're trying to make like we have the same goals.  
42 They're not generally compatible because the State does not  
43 have as its goal, conservation and subsistence at the  
44 forefront, they have sustained yield. However, if you  
45 strike it out of this, it's not going to change the facts.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That part has been  
48 scratched.

49  
50 MS. LeCORNU: Right.

00048

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: If you scratch -- now,  
2 the way it reads now is that the ANILCA standards for  
3 conservation of fish and wildlife populations are generally  
4 compatible. It doesn't say with whom.

5  
6 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Floyd.

9  
10 MR. KOOKESH: Vicki, I just thought we  
11 could take out the word, are generally compatible and  
12 strike must be met, I mean if we're all agreeing to this  
13 that the State and Federal standards for conservation of  
14 wildlife, conservations.....

15  
16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Talk into your mic.

17  
18 MS. LeCORNU: I can agree with that.

19  
20 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah, I was just telling  
21 Vicki that the way I look at this document, this is a  
22 document where you go back to the page that says, the  
23 signatories mutually agree and then what I concluded on  
24 number 5 was that the State and Federal standards for  
25 conservation of fish and wildlife population must be met.  
26 I just thought that would cover that area since we don't  
27 agree -- or you don't agree, and I agree with you, too,  
28 that we don't follow the same philosophy.

29  
30 MS. LeCORNU: Right.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Everybody happy with  
33 that?

34  
35 MS. WILSON: Yes.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Made a note.

38  
39 MS. FOX: I certainly did, thank you.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

42  
43 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman.

44  
45 MS. GARZA: Good catch, Vicki.

46  
47 MR. ADAMS: I have a question. It's been  
48 kind of a concern to me but if the State, you know, does  
49 come in compliance with ANILCA, what's going to happen with  
50 this MOU or MOA and how are the Regional Council's

00049

1 principles and concepts going to fit into the State scheme?

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I don't know but I would  
4 imagine it would stay in tact. Do you have an answer for  
5 that, Ida?

6

7 MS. HILDEBRAND: I don't have an answer.  
8 But I think there's pretty much consensus all over the  
9 Board, including what Niles said to you this morning, that  
10 the State -- if and when the State does come back into  
11 compliance its not going to be business as usual as in the  
12 past, that the roles of the Councils have impacted the  
13 system too greatly to totally ignore them. And the State  
14 has, on numerous occasions, acknowledged some of the things  
15 they would have done different were to deal with the  
16 Councils. How exactly they would do that I have no idea.  
17 And I don't think any State person would either because  
18 it's something that's evolving.

19

20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I thought you brought a  
21 crystal ball. Further questions.

22

23 MS. LeCORNU: Bill.

24

25 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Vicki, was quicker Patty.

26

27 MS. LeCORNU: I just wanted her to maybe  
28 get an opinion on what the difference is between an  
29 understanding and agreement, legally.

30

31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: An understanding is  
32 nebulous, an agreement is a commitment.

33

34 MS. HILDEBRAND: I think, and for lots of  
35 people it's a matter of semantics, some people favor one  
36 over the other. The focus or purpose of this document is to  
37 agree to work together and realize that there will be times  
38 that we'll disagree but in spite of our disagreement, that  
39 the focus is to work together for the best of the resource  
40 and the best of the users and that's the intent of the  
41 document. And whether we call it understanding or  
42 agreement, that's the intent.

43

44 MS. LeCORNU: Well, I'd like a legal  
45 opinion on which is more rigorous.

46

47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I just gave you one.  
48 Patty.

49

50 MS. PHILLIPS: I have a comment on this

00050

1 guidance received on this MOU during the Council caucuses,  
2 there was general comments and then there were specific  
3 suggestions and concerns by Regional Council members. And  
4 I noticed that none of my suggestions or concerns were  
5 listed and I know they were posted and so I was curious to  
6 know why they weren't listed.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Get to the bottom of  
9 that, would you?

10  
11 MS. HILDEBRAND: I don't know what your  
12 comments weren't there, unfortunately I wasn't in your  
13 caucuses, but these were taken like the main focus of all  
14 the comments or the comments that were hit more often than  
15 not. And I would have to go back to the office and ask  
16 specifically why your comments were omitted and if you give  
17 me your comments I will certainly do that.

18  
19 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you. One of my  
20 comments was that I wanted enforcement included as  
21 signatories.

22  
23 MS. HILDEBRAND: Law enforcement.

24  
25 MS. PHILLIPS: Brown shirts or.....

26  
27 MS. HILDEBRAND: I could probably answer  
28 that one. Lots of Councils opposed that.

29  
30 MS. PHILLIPS: Well, actually I got my  
31 original, Section 4, the signatories mutually agreed --  
32 number 7 -- oh, no, on number 3 -- wait, excuse me, number  
33 2. To the extent possible, Federal research programs  
34 should supplement and compliment State programs or supplant  
35 where existing programs do not adequately recognize  
36 subsistence uses.

37  
38 MS. WILSON: What page is that Patty?

39  
40 MS. LeCORNU: Three.

41  
42 MS. PHILLIPS: Yeah, it's my original -- it  
43 was the first draft, it was the discussion draft. And  
44 Peggy addressed my other concern, is that, I wanted  
45 summarized outcomes of technical committees to go out to  
46 the Regional Councils. And it's not going to be in the MOA  
47 but.....

48  
49 MS. HILDEBRAND: I'll have to take your  
50 specific language when we're on break or something.

00051

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

2

3 MS. HILDEBRAND: But in regards to the  
4 working committees, are you asking for a summary of the  
5 work or a summary of who's on the committee or.....

6

7 MS. PHILLIPS: A summary of outcome.

8

9 MS. HILDEBRAND: There isn't -- I mean you  
10 probably can get a progress report but there isn't a  
11 summary of it because it's not over, it's continuous. It's  
12 getting more furious and there are being more people --  
13 Council people added to -- going to be added to them so  
14 there is no end product, so to speak. I don't know exactly  
15 how to answer you other than it's an ongoing process.

16

17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That's okay.

18

19 MS. PHILLIPS: I just wanted to voice my  
20 concerns that my, individual comments, were not listed.

21

22 MS. HILDEBRAND: Okay.

23

24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, we won't let that  
25 happen again. Anybody else.

26

27 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman. I'd like to go  
28 back to this idea if the State comes in compliance with  
29 ANILCA again and ask Ida a question; if there's any  
30 language that can be inserted in here somewhere that, you  
31 know, if the State does come in compliance with ANILCA,  
32 that they would agree, since this is a Memorandum of  
33 Agreement, that they would agree to recognize Regional  
34 Councils.

35

36 MS. HILDEBRAND: All I can say to that  
37 comment is I will bring that back to the State/Federal work  
38 group and I cannot decide on that and I don't know if any  
39 State person can comment on that when they're making their  
40 comments to you later in the meeting.

41

42 MR. ADAMS: Okay.

43

44 MS. HILDEBRAND: But I will definitely make  
45 sure that it gets back to the work group.

46

47 MR. ADAMS: Thank you.

48

49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, the whole thing of  
50 the agreement was between the State and the Feds anyway.

00052

1 MS. HILDEBRAND: Yeah, right.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So to try to add all  
4 affected people in here isn't, doesn't make a lot of sense.

5

6 MS. HILDEBRAND: Right.

7

8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Any other questions.

9

10 MS. LeCORNU: I just had one more comment  
11 on the -- I'm sorry, I lost my place, on Page 3, current  
12 harvest population data and information is a critical  
13 component of; I have to say that the State has historically  
14 kept our level below our needs so we have to qualify this  
15 somehow to say, you know, to the extent possible they  
16 should be supplemented by the local advisory committees  
17 request for more harvest.

18

19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, the agreement is  
20 not going to overshadow the provisions of ANILCA. Title  
21 VIII has those provisions in place. And in order to be  
22 in compliance you have to satisfy that language in ANILCA.

23

24 MS. LeCORNU: So does ANILCA say that we  
25 use historical and current harvest population data? No.  
26 It says, you shall find out what these people need. So I  
27 object -- that this should be inclusive of future needs.  
28 So somewhere in there include future needs somehow.

29

30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

31

32 MS. HILDEBRAND: I, again, will bring those  
33 comments back to the working group, however, there is an  
34 ongoing project, all information that's brought before this  
35 Council, the recommendations of this Council, the studies  
36 that are going to be forward are incorporated under that  
37 section to be inclusive. For instance, there is a  
38 statewide harvest monitoring project that's going to set  
39 the methods to do harvest monitoring and many of the TEK  
40 projects will fall under that. And some of them have been  
41 put on hold trying to get that methodology down so we'll  
42 all be using the same kinds of methods to gather this  
43 information. But the traditional knowledge projects and  
44 all the local projects are a part of what this program  
45 weigh in making its decisions. It's not just what has been  
46 written or what has been stated in the past, it's a very  
47 dynamic, ongoing program.

48

49 MS. LeCORNU: I want to see in here, Ida,  
50 that it is not just in the past, that it will be future

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1 needs; that's all.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah, she made a note of  
4 that. Are you going to be here for the whole session?

5

6 MS. HILDEBRAND: Yes.

7

8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So is it safe for me to  
9 say that as we review this in our spare time during the  
10 course of the time we're here, that we might revisit this  
11 with you and offer you some more comments?

12

13 MS. HILDEBRAND: You can either revisit on  
14 the record or give me a writing that I will take back.

15

16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. So is that  
17 acceptable with the Council? Okay, does that conclude  
18 yours?

19

20 MS. HILDEBRAND: Yes.

21

22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you very much.

23

24 MS. HILDEBRAND: You're welcome.

25

26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is Cal going to give us  
27 an elaboration on what Roadkill gave us. Now, we're going  
28 to hear the real story.

29

30 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

31

32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: How long do you think  
33 this report is going to take?

34

35 MR. CASIPIT: It could take us to the lunch  
36 hour pretty easily.

37

38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, we're going to take  
39 a break before that.

40

41 MR. CASIPIT: Okay. I'd also like to  
42 ask.....

43

44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Let's take a break, I see  
45 all the smoker's fidgeting, I see all the coffee drinker's  
46 wiggling and I got to go find me a pastry.

47

48 MR. CASIPIT: When we come back I'd also  
49 like to ask Harold Martin to join me at the table as well.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. We're going to  
2 take a 10 minute break.

3  
4 (Off record)  
5 (On record)  
6

7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, we'll come back to  
8 order. We will give our presenters our utmost attention  
9 and respect, support, acknowledgement and greetings. What  
10 did I leave out? Okay, Cal, it's all yours.

11  
12 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
13 wanted to focus on the Unified Fisheries Resource  
14 Monitoring Program here for Southeast Alaska and basically  
15 the proposals that were kind of put together to gather  
16 information on fisheries stock status use and.....

17  
18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Could you bring the mic a  
19 little bit closer. You don't have to lean down.

20  
21 MR. CASIPIT: Oh, okay. How do I do that  
22 -- I'm technically challenged here.

23  
24 MR. KOOKESH: You can also attach it to  
25 your shirt.

26  
27 MR. CASIPIT: Oh, okay, that might work  
28 better.

29  
30 REPORTER: I'll attach it.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I put mine on my lower  
33 lip.

34  
35 MR. CASIPIT: Okay. That works better,  
36 thanks.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, Salena.

39  
40 MR. CASIPIT: Before you are two  
41 information packets, one is entitled Unified Fisheries  
42 Resource Monitoring Program Status Report, Southeast  
43 Alaska. It's a real thin packet. The other packet before  
44 you is a little bit thicker and it's entitled FY2000  
45 Subsistence Fisheries Information Proposals for Southeast  
46 Alaska dated 2/16/2000. I'll be talking from both of these  
47 packages today.

48  
49 First I just wanted to cover a little bit projects  
50 for spring of 2000. The Federal Subsistence Board is

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1 committed to new resource monitoring in the spring of 2000  
2 and we've adopted, the Board adopted an abbreviated  
3 selection process, this is called the abbreviated selection  
4 process. We'll talk about this a little bit more when  
5 Harold -- I'll ask Harold to talk a little bit more about  
6 that process as well. The emphasis was to build on  
7 existing plans that had local support and local  
8 partnerships.

9  
10 Regional Council members have reviewed the earlier  
11 packet of 17 proposals back at the end of January. They  
12 were approved by the Board on February 3rd. The three  
13 proposals that apply to Southeast Alaska, it's on the first  
14 page of that smaller packet, Project No. 14, which is  
15 getting an escapement data base for Southeast Alaska --  
16 salmon escapement data base. Project No. 15, which was  
17 basically developing a GIS, a geographical information  
18 system with subsistence use information, basically Mike  
19 Turek's office would be doing that work. That was  
20 approved, again, February 3rd. The last project, Project  
21 17 is a statewide project but it has application here to  
22 Southeast and that's developing a better subsistence  
23 fisheries harvest monitoring strategy. For Project 17,  
24 that statewide monitoring strategy, it involves both  
25 Federal subsistence personnel, Fish and Game personnel as  
26 well as tribal representatives of which Harold has been  
27 asked to represent Southeast.

28  
29 Unless there's specific questions on Project 14,  
30 15, or 17, I'm going to move on here and talk about the new  
31 projects before you.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, let's take a five  
34 second break to make sure everybody's keeping up. They're  
35 pretty quick but we can come back to it if we forgot  
36 anything.

37  
38 MR. CASIPIT: Yeah, if there is questions  
39 regarding those earlier proposals I can answer them.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, I won't interrupt  
42 you, you can proceed.

43  
44 MR. CASIPIT: Okay. What I wanted to talk  
45 about now was this thicker package. In it are 41 proposals  
46 developed by tribal governments, other organizations such  
47 as Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association,  
48 Prince of Wales Hatchery Association, Sitka Conservation  
49 Society as well as offices of the Forest Services.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I have one question.  
2 Now, these proposals, what do you anticipate for a document  
3 when this is all done?

4  
5 MR. CASIPIT: Maybe Harold can probably  
6 help me on this because.....

7  
8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Maybe you haven't  
9 finalized that process yet, is that.....

10  
11 MR. CASIPIT: Well, this is kind of a --  
12 this here is kind of a laundry list of.....

13  
14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Right. Right.

15  
16 MR. CASIPIT: .....it's anticipated that  
17 we're going to hone this down based on Regional Council  
18 input.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

21  
22 MR. CASIPIT: And we'll develop the  
23 technical aspects of the proposals a little bit more  
24 based.....

25  
26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Sure.

27  
28 MR. CASIPIT: .....on some input.....

29  
30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Sure.

31  
32 MR. CASIPIT: .....from Fish and Game. But  
33 eventually we will have a more honed down packet that will  
34 be available and will be presented to the Federal  
35 Subsistence Board for approval. Right now we're looking at  
36 a -- instead of an April approval for Southeast, looking at  
37 a May approval for Southeast, just to make sure that the  
38 proposals that do go forward have some really good  
39 technical background to them.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Before I forget, when you  
42 do that, we had a session in Ketchikan last week to where  
43 we were just inundated with technical jargon throughout,  
44 and I was wondering if you folks would be so kind as to  
45 alert whoever's going to be transcribing the final document  
46 to put it in a language that is used every day by everybody  
47 and not just make it difficult because they're working from  
48 8:00 to 5:00, you know.

49  
50 MR. CASIPIT: Well, I will probably be the

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1 person that will be charged with finalizing the packet and  
2 I will commit to you today that I will try to do that.....

3  
4 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We appreciate that.

5  
6 MR. CASIPIT: .....and keep the technical  
7 jargon simple.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Don't keep it too simple  
10 because we like to be challenged with be words. Thank you.

11  
12 MR. CASIPIT: Like I said, for this April  
13 package, or in our case, Southeast, the May package, we're  
14 trying to ensure that all the agencies work together and  
15 that we have effective local communication and consultation  
16 with tribal governments.

17  
18 The decision-making process for this next package  
19 is similar to the earlier set of proposals that we did in  
20 February that was brought before the Councils at the end of  
21 January. Again, like I said, this packet here kind of  
22 covers what I presented orally and what I'd like to do now  
23 is turn the floor over to Harold to talk about how this  
24 process worked in developing these proposals so that you  
25 guys have a real good understanding of how projects were  
26 developed and then we'll open that up to questions.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

29  
30 MR. CASIPIT: And then after that I'll talk  
31 a little bit about the process for projects in 2001 and  
32 then talk about how management issues and information needs  
33 were developed.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Harold.

36  
37 MR. MARTIN: Thank you, Cal. Many of you  
38 know that during the special Legislative session last fall  
39 the Legislature failed to put the subsistence issue on the  
40 ballot so consequently the Feds took over and they took  
41 over on October 1st, 1999.

42  
43 From October 1st until January we were in the dark,  
44 we thought somebody would contact us, we didn't know what  
45 the process would be, we knew Natives were supposed to be  
46 involved on the Federal takeover and we also knew that the  
47 Feds had appropriated \$11 million and we weren't sure how  
48 these monies were supposed to be used. In January we  
49 started to ask around, I got through to Bob Schroeder's  
50 office and I asked him some questions and through Bob

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1 Schroeder's office we managed to have a meeting with the  
2 Forest Service with Cal Casipit and Fred Clark and Dave  
3 Johnson. I sometimes forget his name, I know him by  
4 Roadkill. But then since then we've had a series of  
5 meeting and teleconferences. We've notified all tribal  
6 governments in Southeast. We've put the project on the  
7 fast track. In fact, I think we're pretty much ahead of  
8 ourselves right now, in that, a lot of information on the  
9 process is still coming in from the Federal government.

10  
11 I have been chairing these meetings. I don't know  
12 how I got into -- I guess I appointed myself to chair these  
13 meetings.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That a boy.

16  
17 MR. MARTIN: But we've had good responses  
18 from the communities, good participation. I believe we've  
19 developed a good working relationship with the Forest  
20 Service. They've been very accommodating and  
21 understanding. We've worked with Cal, Fred Clark, Dave  
22 Johnson. We've asked the communities to submit their  
23 proposals. We've gotten proposals from all -- not all  
24 communities but we did receive a sizeable number of  
25 proposals from the tribes.

26  
27 We've developed criteria for prioritizing these  
28 proposals and we had a meeting in Ketchikan last week on  
29 the 6th. And we had a good discussion but did not get  
30 around to prioritizing. It's kind of difficult to start  
31 prioritizing these projects. You have to understand that  
32 there's 21, at least, 21 proposals just in relation to  
33 sockeye, so you have to know that sockeye is a high  
34 priority for Native people. The Feds and State already  
35 have some preapproved projects. At this point we're  
36 concentrating on tribal proposals. We came to the  
37 conclusion last night that these projects were meant for  
38 information gathering, data gathering, and not necessarily  
39 getting into management. Last night was kind of a last  
40 minute meeting. What we're trying to do is trying to meet  
41 the deadline of this meeting, we'd like to get some of the  
42 proposals to the meeting. At noon we're going to be going  
43 over -- instead of trying to prioritize these projects what  
44 we decided to do last night was to categorize these  
45 projects and we'll be working on this this afternoon, and  
46 Mr. Chairman, we'd like to present these proposals to you  
47 sometime tomorrow.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

50

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1 MR. CASIPIT: We were just -- we would have  
2 liked to have this group's recommendation before the  
3 Council here today but we just kind of ran out of time and  
4 we're -- we beg for your indulgence for a little bit to get  
5 some recommendations on what this group thinks about each  
6 of these proposals.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: What's your group called?

9  
10 MR. CASIPIT: I'm not sure what we call  
11 ourselves, it's been a fairly informal ad hoc group that we  
12 try to get together and have been developing and developing  
13 the projects and try to come to a priority setting process.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: A self-appointed advocacy  
16 group.

17  
18 MR. CASIPIT: I guess if the Council has  
19 any questions regarding these projects for 2000 I'd be  
20 willing to answer them right now.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, we'll probably have  
23 some more intelligent questions after we get to see some of  
24 your suggestions from when you come back later on.

25  
26 MR. CASIPIT: Okay.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: If that's okay with you.

29  
30 MR. CASIPIT: That's fine.

31  
32 MS. GARZA: Project 14, it doesn't say who  
33 the investigating agency is.

34  
35 MR. CASIPIT: Well, basically it would be  
36 the Forest Service contracting to Fish and Game to procure  
37 parts of the Southeast Alaska escapement data base for  
38 salmon that would be available to Federal agencies to  
39 basically work with proposals that we would get from the  
40 current open -- proposal open season right now. Basically  
41 getting all the escapement data that has been collected  
42 into a unified computer data base that would be accessible  
43 to everybody.

44  
45 MS. GARZA: So that's something that ADF&G  
46 just doesn't have?

47  
48 MR. CASIPIT: Well, they do have a data  
49 based that they -- it's a new data base they just  
50 constructed over the past couple of years. What we need to

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1 do is pull off the pieces that are within Federal  
2 jurisdiction and then have that available on a computer  
3 system for Federal Staff and even Regional Council members  
4 if they're interested.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: What will those look  
7 like? Is there going to be a comparison to what Federal  
8 jurisdiction, and include some that isn't in Federal  
9 jurisdiction or is this just strictly going to be Federal  
10 jurisdiction?

11  
12 MR. CASIPIT: We're just looking at Federal  
13 jurisdiction at this point.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Further questions.  
16 Vicki.

17  
18 MS. LeCORNU: I have a problem, I don't  
19 understand why you say under Federal jurisdiction by  
20 species. I guess you all know I've had a problem with this  
21 for years, that our mandate is not to manage by species but  
22 for all uses in the area.

23  
24 MR. CASIPIT: It's just that the escapement  
25 data base is by species.

26  
27 MS. LeCORNU: Right, I understand that.

28  
29 MR. CASIPIT: And we're trying to get all  
30 available information that's out there into one place.

31  
32 MS. LeCORNU: So I would add, not one  
33 species but all species.

34  
35 MR. CASIPIT: Well -- okay.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Any more comments,  
38 questions. Dolly.

39  
40 MR. MARTIN: Mr. Chairman, the projects  
41 call for working with natural stock and not necessarily  
42 hatchery fish.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, Dolly.

45  
46 MS. GARZA: So I heard you say that this  
47 list was going to go to ADF&G and get their comments?

48  
49 MR. CASIPIT: Well, we're currently working  
50 with Fish and Game to basically beef up each of these

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1 proposals to ensure that the technical side of the projects  
2 are well thought out and well crafted.

3  
4 MS. GARZA: And do we know how much money  
5 will be available? It was my understanding that there's  
6 issues of we're not going to be able to fund everything and  
7 how do we figure out what should be funded. And so  
8 following that, should this Regional Advisory Council be  
9 helping to come up with criteria for making decisions.  
10 Because it just seems like everything is going around this  
11 Council and nothing is going through that, and if that's  
12 the case, I'm not sure why in the heck I'm sitting at this  
13 table at all.

14  
15 MR. CASIPIT: Well, what we would like to  
16 present to you tomorrow is a recommendation from this group  
17 that Harold is charging -- is chairing, basically lays out  
18 to you what they think should be the first projects to be  
19 done, you guys can take that information and either accept  
20 it or change it or do something totally different. But we  
21 would -- you know, we would take your recommendations as to  
22 which projects should move forward as part of the funding,  
23 deciding which projects to be funded.

24  
25 MR. MARTIN: My understanding is that there  
26 was approximately \$3 million appropriated for Southeast but  
27 that three million has to be split between Chugach and  
28 Tongass National Forest. I understand the Forest Service  
29 has 1.2 million and out of that there was supposed to be  
30 about \$720,000 left for projects.

31  
32 MR. CASIPIT: And this.....

33  
34 MR. MARTIN: Is that right?

35  
36 MR. CASIPIT: Yeah. Roughly 700,000 is  
37 available for fiscal year 2000. We expect that our  
38 appropriation would be increased in 2001 and in subsequent  
39 years. So what I want to point out here is that just  
40 because we only have \$700,000 to spend in 2000, we would  
41 hope that in future years we would have significantly more  
42 to spend on additional projects. So this is only the -- in  
43 a sense this is only just the beginning, that there is much  
44 more to be done and many more projects to come.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Something I'd like to see  
47 is when this all shakes out with government-to-government,  
48 is that going to change the image with respect to the  
49 advisory council? Is it going to be inclusive, is it going  
50 to be a supplemental, is it going to be supplanting? You

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1 know, it looks like there's a shift here and I think we  
2 need to know that. Dolly.

3  
4 MS. GARZA: Yeah, I guess in terms of the  
5 process, maybe we, as the Council, should be talking about  
6 the criteria to offer some assistance. My personal opinion  
7 is that it's not the intent of this process to fund all the  
8 projects that ADF&G has had and exists and needs to be  
9 done. And I think some of that assessment projects is  
10 exactly that, and, you know, I said that in Anchorage and  
11 I'll be glad to say it again, we are not here to fund those  
12 types of projects. And so I would go through and first ax  
13 those out, and the second criteria that I would use is that  
14 is what I had stated from the Denali Commission, is that  
15 projects that have clear community support are ones that  
16 should surface up. So you would have these screens and as  
17 these projects don't fit into these criteria, they would  
18 fall out and then we would be looking at a smaller bunch  
19 and maybe they all would go forward for consideration  
20 because as a whole region we're going to have difficulty  
21 saying, well, gee, Hydaburg, do you think you can only do  
22 one project or, gee, how come -- I didn't see anything from  
23 Juneau-Douglas or from Douglas Tribe; how come they don't  
24 have something here? And so some of the communities might  
25 have done a better job at getting proposals in but I don't  
26 want to be the one that says what tribes who have put some  
27 good energy into putting these proposals together should be  
28 axed. And so I'd rather go around axing ones that didn't  
29 have community support.

30  
31 HAROLD: My understanding is that we will make our  
32 recommendation to you and you have the final decision on  
33 which projects will be funded.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Anybody else. Did you  
36 have more presentation?

37  
38 MR. CASIPIT: Yes, I wanted to talk a  
39 little bit about the process for 2001.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

42  
43 MR. CASIPIT: Like I said for 2000 we're  
44 used what we called an abbreviated process. For 2001 there  
45 will definitely be a more formalized process. A flier is  
46 available that talks about how that process is going to  
47 work. But Councils, the Regional Advisory Councils,  
48 subsistence users, tribes, State and Federal agencies will  
49 work together to develop projects for next spring. There  
50 will be a more complete job of regional consultations and

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1 working together with local and regional organizations to  
2 develop projects. The steps outlined represent our best  
3 effort to organize the resource monitoring program and we  
4 will still have to learn as we go and we are learning from  
5 bumps in the road that we have had this, you know, here,  
6 this year, 2000, but hopefully that we'll learn from our  
7 mistakes and do a better job.

8  
9 Basically the Councils are going to have a major  
10 role in the winter and fall meetings. At the beginning  
11 anyway, at these winter meetings, the Councils discuss --  
12 make recommendations about management issues and  
13 information needs priorities and in the fall the Councils  
14 will review and offer recommendations on the animal  
15 resource monitoring plan before the Board makes a decision  
16 in December. After the Board adopts priorities then we  
17 will work with tribes, Fish and Game, Federal field  
18 stations and other partners to develop the projects and we  
19 will start with a brief proposal to ensure that all  
20 projects are focused on the right priorities and employ the  
21 best research methods.

22  
23 Basically there is just one page summaries of what  
24 is proposed, they'll come before the Regional Council, the  
25 Council will select ones to proceed further for development  
26 of full-blown study plans.

27  
28 We have published -- or we have talked about the  
29 priorities for selection and again, those are in the flier.  
30 I'll call your attention -- again, in this thin paper go  
31 back one, two, three, yeah, it's entitled Resource  
32 Monitoring Project Selection Process for 2001. On the back  
33 side of that is the flier that I talked about that talks  
34 about the schedule for 2001. Basically developing project  
35 proposals for 2001 will begin in April, brief proposals  
36 both submitted by tribal organizations, Fish and Game and  
37 other local organizations and Federal field stations.

38  
39 So there is a real quick and handy one page of how  
40 the process will work and the time line for 2001.

41  
42 As far as prioritizing or the criteria for  
43 selecting projects, under the question and answers: what  
44 are the criteria for setting priority, number 1, the answer  
45 there lists, you know, five overall criteria that were  
46 approved by the Federal Subsistence Board for directing us  
47 to develop proposals. There's also additional questions  
48 there with answers that you may have.

49  
50 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, if I may

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1 interrupt just a moment.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Fred.

4

5 MR. CLARK: In respect to the criteria  
6 question. One of the main tasks that this collaborative  
7 body that they're talking about did was to develop a list  
8 of criteria by which to approach the proposals. So one  
9 task I took on was comparing that list of criteria with  
10 this list of criteria that Cal just pointed out. And in  
11 that process it was my recommendation to the group that it  
12 will be used -- and the Council use those criteria that  
13 were developed by the Federal Information Staff because  
14 they encompass the other ones. There are just a few  
15 outside that that I could talk about at another time that  
16 we'd want to keep in mind as we go through those as well.  
17 Things like how much bang for the buck do you get out of  
18 it. Well, there are several, but I just wanted to add  
19 that, thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

22

23 MR. CASIPIT: That basically concludes my  
24 formal presentation on the 2001 process. I'd be happy to  
25 answer any questions from the Council regarding 2001.

26

27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Patty.

28

29 MS. PHILLIPS: I was wondering if like, for  
30 example, No. 15 -- Project 15.....

31

32 MR. CASIPIT: Okay.

33

34 MS. PHILLIPS: .....is that going to be  
35 like a share sort of a process?

36

37 MR. CASIPIT: Right. Basically let me talk  
38 about 15 a little bit here. What we anticipate is going to  
39 happen is that subsistence division here in Southeast will  
40 construct a layer on the Forest Service GIS system that  
41 talks about harvest and use patterns, needs information,  
42 basically everything that Subsistence Division has in  
43 paper files would be put on a GIS system, electronic system  
44 that can be accessed by Forest Service personnel or folks  
45 in Forest Services offices if they have a specific question  
46 about where a community may harvest or where their specific  
47 use areas are. That would be on an electronic format that  
48 can be displayed on maps and help us to, for instance,  
49 modify customary and traditional use determinations, to  
50 respond to proposals to change regulations in terms of

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1 seasons, bags, what have you.

2

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Well, I like the idea of  
4 overlaying information where you can be interactive. For  
5 instance, if there's a problem with a stock and the stock  
6 comes from a certain river system, that we could go to this  
7 EIS information and find out the ownership of the land  
8 around it, the type of harvest that has occurred around it,  
9 the type of road system near it.

10

11 MR. CASIPIT: Right.

12

13 MS. PHILLIPS: Is that the kind of.....

14

15 MR. CASIPIT: That would all be available,  
16 you know, in a computerized format that you can look at in  
17 the mapping capabilities of our GIS system, would be able  
18 to come to bear to some of these questions.

19

20 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

21

22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Vicki.

23

24 MS. LeCORNU: Mr. Chairman, Cal, I wonder,  
25 is this issue addressed, where is subsistence and personal  
26 use fishing occurring, would that include information about  
27 -- for instance, around Hydaburg the sockeye's been  
28 overdepleted by commercial fishing where we normally go,  
29 right south of Hydaburg to fish but that's been depleted so  
30 badly that they're now going to other places which are not  
31 necessarily endorsed by the Fish and Game as a subsistence  
32 fishery; but will that be allowed as information also?

33

34 MR. CASIPIT: Yeah. In fact.....

35

36 MS. LeCORNU: I don't see it.

37

38 MR. CASIPIT: .....Hydaburg did come in  
39 with two proposals here for 2000 that I think helped to  
40 deal with the issue that you're talking about as far as --  
41 well, two of them there, the Southwest Prince of Wales  
42 sockeye escapement studies that they proposed where there  
43 would be basically tribal monitoring of escapements around  
44 Hydaburg and Hydaburg's traditional use areas as well as  
45 the more in-depth study of Hetta Lake sockeye stocks.  
46 That's covered in this bigger, thicker packet.

47

48 MS. LeCORNU: I guess what I'm asking about  
49 is, you know, we know that we fish there and there's  
50 records to prove that.

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1 MR. CASIPIT: Uh-huh.

2

3 MS. LeCORNU: But what I'm saying is that  
4 people are moving to other areas, will those areas be  
5 included as -- you say, where personal use fish occurring,  
6 and that's future places like if they have to go to Kasook  
7 to fish.

8

9 MR. CASIPIT: Right.

10

11 MS. LeCORNU: Which is not listed on here.

12

13 MR. CASIPIT: Right. Well, let me flip to  
14 that one proposal from.....

15

16 MS. LeCORNU: I don't want to see that it's  
17 limited to past use is what my concern is as I've stated  
18 many times.

19

20 MR. CASIPIT: Okay. For Project No. 15,  
21 specifically Project No. 15, it is historical information  
22 being installed on a GIS layer and basically taking  
23 everything under -- that Subsistence Division has collected  
24 and putting into a GIS layer. Now, this GIS layer can be  
25 updated in the future with new information as it comes out,  
26 as it's developed, as we find new information. This layer  
27 is going to be designed to be able to incorporate new  
28 information and be able to generate new maps based on new  
29 information. So the data base that we will construct will  
30 be able to be updated and add additional information. And  
31 that's -- and that ties in pretty well with Hydaburg's  
32 Southwest Prince of Wales sockeye escapement counts in  
33 which basically in a partnership between the Forest Service  
34 and Hydaburg Cooperative Association they would go out and  
35 continue to and collect additional sockeye escapement  
36 information for Kasook and Hetta Lakes and basically that  
37 would be able to be input into a data base and have  
38 additional escapement information in the future.

39

40 One of the things that I wanted to briefly touch on  
41 was -- and I talked about it briefly was this Project No.  
42 17, which tries to -- which is designed to develop a better  
43 subsistence harvest monitoring methodology. Basically the  
44 Federal Subsistence Board has asked the agencies to not go  
45 forward with any new harvest monitoring strategies, at  
46 least, in 2000 until this group has had a chance to work  
47 and develop a statewide approach to harvest monitoring.  
48 Again, whatever is developed from this statewide harvest  
49 monitoring strategy would be able to be input into, again,  
50 our GIS systems, our computer systems so that that

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1 information is available and basically inputting future  
2 harvest information and needs into a computerized data base  
3 that's readily accessible.

4

5 Again, like I said, Harold has been asked to  
6 represent Southeast on that statewide working group.

7

8 MS. LeCORNU: It still doesn't address the  
9 future needs, for instance, like Kasook Lake hasn't been  
10 used previously because there's a closer place. But what  
11 I'm saying is that in the future, if they want to go to  
12 Kasook Lake, is that going to be allowed in their  
13 information?

14

15 MR. CASIPIT: Right. In fact, we already  
16 have, you know, there is that project that does talk about  
17 collecting escapement information for Kasook Lake.

18

19 MS. LeCORNU: Right.

20

21 MR. CASIPIT: We don't have use information  
22 for Kasook Lake in 2000 just because the Board has asked us  
23 not to pursue new harvest information gathering for 2000,  
24 to wait until this statewide group has had a chance to  
25 develop a statewide strategy before we start  
26 developing.....

27

28 MS. LeCORNU: Can you tell me more about  
29 that statewide group so I can be more informed?

30

31 MR. CASIPIT: It's just in the early stages  
32 of being formed. They're trying to get team members  
33 together to work on that. I don't know, perhaps somebody  
34 from the Office of Subsistence Management may have more  
35 information on how that -- on where they are with that  
36 project.

37

38 MS. LeCORNU: So it's State inspired?

39

40 MR. CASIPIT: Pardon?

41

42 MS. LeCORNU: Is it State inspired?

43

44 MR. CASIPIT: Probably the State developed  
45 the proposal in the beginning but it was modified based on  
46 Council input at the end of January as well as Federal  
47 program.....

48

49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Cal, I think Ida has some  
50 help for you.

00068

1 MR. CASIPIT: Okay, Ida, do you want  
2 to.....

3  
4 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You got to pick him up by  
5 the neck.

6  
7 MS. HILDEBRAND: This is Ida Hildebrand,  
8 BIA Staff Committee member. In regards to Project 17, it  
9 isn't a State initiative. Although the State was  
10 interested in doing something, that's their normal run of  
11 business. It was program initiated that if we want to get  
12 into this program and do something that's meaningful to  
13 everybody, let's get information that users and all parties  
14 can access that will be relevant to the program so that  
15 when you develop something this year, it will be meaningful  
16 that everybody is gathering in the same manner, the same  
17 methods, and you won't have all kinds of pieces of  
18 information that will be meaningless to other users. So it  
19 was more program initiated, I wouldn't say it was State  
20 initiated.

21  
22 MS. LeCORNU: All right.

23  
24 MS. HILDEBRAND: And there's two pieces to  
25 it. There's an .809 agreement with the State to look at  
26 the stuff they've done in the past and the second piece --  
27 the second .809 agreement is with AITC and AITC is going to  
28 identify who are the Native representatives that will talk  
29 about whether this material is relevant or irrelevant or  
30 what are the methods and the criteria we should consider.  
31 And together they would come up with a design that said  
32 this is the methodology we all agreed to use.

33  
34 MS. LeCORNU: Thanks, Ida.

35  
36 MS. HILDEBRAND: You're welcome.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Well, we've  
39 got resources all over. Peggy.

40  
41 MS. FOX: Yes, Mr. Chair, I need to go back  
42 a minute and address a couple of points that were made that  
43 I need to modify about the Council's role and the decision-  
44 making process.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Sure.

47  
48 MS. FOX: If you'll look at the process  
49 that's outlined here for 2001, it's very similar to what  
50 we're doing in 2000 except that it's shortened. And it

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1 talks about the Regional Council role in helping us to  
2 identify where the issues are and the needs are for  
3 projects. Then it talks about the oversight technical  
4 committee who is a committee made up of the agencies as  
5 well as a number of division representatives from the  
6 Department of Fish and Game, and that committee then  
7 reviews all project proposals that come forward and they  
8 make recommendations based on whether or not they meet the  
9 criteria that have been established and approved by Board.  
10 Then those are going to come back to Council as they are in  
11 this abbreviated process during this meeting, they're going  
12 to come back to the Council and say these are the ones that  
13 the technical committee has reviewed and is supporting  
14 pending further comment. Once those are brought to the  
15 Councils, we're looking for a recommendation from the  
16 Councils. The Councils do not make decisions on these  
17 projects, the Board makes decisions on the projects. I  
18 wanted to clarify that. This Council does not have the  
19 final say on these projects, rather you make a  
20 recommendation as in all other cases when we bring  
21 subsistence issues before you and then they will go to the  
22 Board.

23  
24 So I just wanted to make sure that was understood.  
25 But you have two opportunities to weigh in in this process.  
26 One is at the ground floor when we're doing and gathering  
27 information on what the issues are and what the needs are,  
28 and this regional team as other regional teams and other  
29 agency representatives are working directly with people  
30 within the region to get those proposals pulled forward,  
31 turned into proposals that are submitted to the technical  
32 committee, the technical committee makes sure that they  
33 meet certain standards, certain criteria, again, that the  
34 Board has approved in the past and then they're brought --  
35 once they've been thoroughly investigated they're brought  
36 back to the Councils and say, do these -- do you agree with  
37 these as priorities, do you agree with these as proposals  
38 and we get further comments.

39  
40 You'll get more proposals than there's actually  
41 money for. That's why we need your help in sorting through  
42 those. And then.....

43  
44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So we have a  
45 criteria.....

46  
47 MS. FOX: .....it eventually gets back to  
48 the Board.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Do we have a list of the

00070

1 criteria provided for us, right?

2

3 MS. FOX: Yes.

4

5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

6

7 MS. FOX: And that's also in your handout,  
8 it's the first question in the handout.

9

10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

11

12 MS. FOX: What are the criteria for setting  
13 priorities.

14

15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Now, do they want  
16 recommendations for criteria?

17

18 MS. FOX: No. They don't want.....

19

20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: They got them in place?

21

22 MS. FOX: Yes.

23

24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

25

26 MS. FOX: Criteria are in place.

27

28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

29

30 MS. FOX: Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Patty.

33

34 MS. PHILLIPS: Since this is ground-  
35 breaking gathering information, I'd like to make comment on  
36 Project 15 that I would like to see included on your GIS  
37 mappings, permian corridors, color coded land ownership,  
38 color coded age of timber harvest, identify critical  
39 habitat areas, identify fish streams, mark log camp sites,  
40 mark log dump sites, mark landslide areas, include  
41 satellite imagery and what plants and -- where plants and  
42 animals live, where storm drains are and who owns the land.

43

44 MR. CASIPIT: In fact, everything thing you  
45 mentioned there is already in our GIS system and can be  
46 displayed on GIS maps. So basically that's there already.

47

48 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

49

50 MR. CASIPIT: Land ownership and where the

00071

1 log dumps are, where our land slide prone areas are.

2

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Those are the kind of  
4 information that we, as a Council, need in this decision-  
5 making.

6

7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Further questions,  
8 comments.

9

10 MS. WILSON: I have a question, Mr.  
11 Chairman. Marilyn Wilson, what is the time line on this?  
12 Do we have to take care of it at this time, at this  
13 meeting?

14

15 MR. CASIPIT: For the year 2001 projects  
16 you will have this meeting and the fall meeting to talk  
17 about 2001 projects. For the year 200 projects this is the  
18 meeting.

19

20 MS. WILSON: Okay.

21

22 MR. CASIPIT: Okay.

23

24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, it is lunch time.  
25 Do you want to continue after lunch or are you about done?

26

27 MR. CASIPIT: We're pretty much done if I  
28 could just mention one more thing.

29

30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

31

32 MR. CASIPIT: Prioritizing management  
33 issues and information needs, I just wanted to call your  
34 attention to this third packet and the third item in the  
35 thin packet, basically it has a spreadsheet type chart that  
36 basically shows the priority information needs that the  
37 Forest Service thought needed to be done in terms of stock  
38 status, subsistence harvest patterns and traditional  
39 environmental knowledge. But that gives you an idea of  
40 what, at least, the priorities that the Forest Service  
41 thought needed to be worked on, at least, in the short-  
42 term.

43

44 If the Council members have any additional things  
45 that we should be thinking about or that you believe we  
46 should be thinking about, this is the time to tell us.

47

48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: How about we take a lunch  
49 break and you guys come back later after lunch and then  
50 that will give us time to come up with some good ones for

00072

1 you guys.

2  
3 MR. CASIPIT: Okay.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You're trying to stump  
6 the band.

7  
8 MR. CASIPIT: And, again, Mr. Chairman, I'd  
9 like to reserve some time tomorrow for Harold and the work  
10 group to come back and let you guys know what they think  
11 about this big thick packet of proposals.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Set it up with Fred.

14  
15 MR. CASIPIT: Okay.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: And then Fred will keep  
18 my organized.

19  
20 MR. CASIPIT: Okay, thank you.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. We're going to  
23 take an hour's lunch. I know some people, locally, have  
24 offices they need to check with and this type of thing so  
25 is an hour enough time? Two hours. Okay, we're reconvene  
26 at a quarter to 5:00 to 5:00, 1:00 o'clock -- 1:15.

27  
28 (Off record)

29 (On record)

30  
31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Cal's got a proposition  
32 for the Council and he wants to see what you think about  
33 it.

34  
35 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
36 basically was done with the formal part of my presentation  
37 before lunch but some discussions right after the break and  
38 during lunch, I thought it might be helpful if the Council  
39 wished to identify priority issues to be addressed for the  
40 year 2001 fisheries information proposals. If you notice  
41 on that one page time line that was in that thin packet, it  
42 mentioned that this is the time for Regional Advisory  
43 Councils to identify issues to be addressed for the year  
44 2001 program and I thought if the Council was interested in  
45 doing that right now we could -- I could act as a recorder  
46 with a flip chart and start recording priority issues that  
47 the Council wishes to address at this time or you know, if  
48 the Council wants to do that later, maybe in the evening --  
49 an evening caucus we could do that as well. But I just  
50 wanted to offer that opportunity.

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1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Do you folks have a  
2 preference, do you want to do some now or do you want to  
3 give it more time or what do you think? You're available  
4 while we're here, right?

5  
6 MR. CASIPIT: Yeah, I'm going to be at this  
7 meeting the whole time. So I -- I just wanted to make that  
8 offer if you want to do that now or if you guys want to  
9 think about it some more we can do it later, it's up to --  
10 it's the wish of the Council.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: What's the wish of the  
13 Council?

14  
15 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Marilyn.

18  
19 MS. WILSON: It seems like it would be  
20 easier if we could look through this and then make more  
21 comments and suggestions and whatever later. That would be  
22 my thought.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Everybody else agree with  
25 that. Later.

26  
27 MR. CASIPIT: Okay.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

30  
31 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, sir.

32  
33 MS. STEVENS: Cal, I thought you was going  
34 to keep us awake.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: He was. So are we  
37 through with 8A now? I guess we are. Okay, a report on  
38 the subsistence fisheries training in Anchorage. I think  
39 most everybody here was there so I'll just share with you  
40 whatever observations I can remember. The one that stood  
41 out with me the most for that being the first attempt, I  
42 thought it was really well done by the people that put it  
43 together. We couldn't expect perfection on a meeting of  
44 that magnitude the first time around but I thought it well.  
45 I thought all the participants did a good job. We  
46 identified some areas that we didn't embrace and we were  
47 close to doing so but wasn't quite exactly what we wanted  
48 and so that's what we're using some of this time for to  
49 kind of offer our ideas of objections around some of those  
50 -- some of the language that's being drafted.

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1           That's all I could remember. I don't remember any  
2 specifics. I didn't make a written report of that meeting.  
3 So Staff, you guys got -- Ida.

4  
5           MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff  
6 Committee member. All the caucuses gave critique on ways  
7 to improve and things that could be done differently and  
8 ideas for the next go around, and those were all written  
9 down and taken seriously by the Office. And the training  
10 process began last summer with a Federal Board tour of the  
11 major rivers in the Interior and that was called Phase I,  
12 orientation for the Federal Board of the Federal waters.  
13 Phase II was the training session that was supposed to have  
14 originally been held in November but was postponed to  
15 January. Phase III was if the meeting had been held in  
16 November, Phase III would have been in March or around this  
17 time of the year when we would have gone into the Phase III  
18 of more regional training or regional focus and that was  
19 pretty much what all the Councils recommended after the  
20 training session. They wanted greater participation, they  
21 wanted greater involvement in the development and in the  
22 whole process of how Phase III would go and that is still  
23 on the drawing board, and the plan is to continue to  
24 deliver that Phase III regional, more technical process and  
25 the time hasn't been set. But it is relying heavily upon  
26 the critique from the Councils.

27  
28           CHAIRMAN THOMAS: With those reactions from  
29 the Councils is consistent with what the Staff Committee  
30 anticipated, isn't it?

31  
32           MS. HILDEBRAND: Right. In fact, the  
33 critique was you were just way ahead of us. But it was  
34 very much along the lines that the Councils were  
35 recommending. They wanted more involvement, they wanted  
36 more involvement in the agenda and more time to caucuses  
37 with each other and compare notes and all that sort of  
38 thing.

39  
40           CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Good. Thank you. Was  
41 there any other Staff that had any comments on this? Okay.  
42 Annual report update. Fred Clark.

43  
44           MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I  
45 could back up for just a moment, if I may, back to the  
46 subsistence fisheries training. The Regional Advisory  
47 Council here met with the Southcentral Council and a bunch  
48 of flip charts were filled out and that sort of stuff.  
49 They did put together a summary of those flip charts so we  
50 have the bullet statements but I haven't printed those off

00075

1 yet. I just received them. So I'll print those off this  
2 evening and make sure that everybody has copies of those.  
3 It just captures all the comments.

4  
5 And then on to the annual report. What I would  
6 request of the Council is that we convene a subcommittee of  
7 the Council, perhaps this evening, to do some brainstorming  
8 on items to put in the annual report. There have only been  
9 a few items that have been forwarded to me, a few ideas to  
10 put into the annual report. It's not really much to go on.  
11 So what I would request is some information on what the  
12 Council would like to see go into the annual report, how  
13 the Council would like to see it organized, and I could  
14 probably put that together within the next week, you know,  
15 if we could do - if the Council agrees on the content and  
16 concept of the annual report, I could have that put  
17 together on short order. But as of now, there really isn't  
18 an annual report put together which makes a report to the  
19 Council on the annual report fairly easy.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. I need volunteers  
22 now, now is not the time to be silent. Vicki, you're on.  
23 Patty's on. How about my vice chair? No.

24  
25 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman. In terms of  
26 timing, I guess I have a question on if we're also going to  
27 have a meeting to look at the fishery proposals and  
28 establishing criteria and trying to figure out how we're  
29 going to go forward, that was mentioned for tonight also,  
30 so we would need to figure out how to balance the two  
31 because I want to go to both.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You want to go to both.

34  
35 MS. GARZA: So maybe we just need to figure  
36 out what we're going to do with fish first because I  
37 thought it was set aside, I don't think we're done with it  
38 at least not in my mind. We were supposed to hear from  
39 Harold Martin and figure out what they've done as a sort of  
40 ad hoc committee and I know he's working on that now and  
41 that Cal wants to hear from us on priorities. But where  
42 we're going to fit that into also an annual report. Time.

43  
44 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, Dolly. If I  
45 understand it correctly, Harold and the group were going to  
46 come back to the Council in the morning.

47  
48 MR. CASIPIT: Tomorrow.

49  
50 MR. CLARK: Tomorrow morning.

00076

1 MR. CASIPIT: Mr. Chairman.

2  
3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Go ahead, Cal.

4  
5 MR. CASIPIT: And I'm pretty flexible as  
6 far as, you know, doing the priority setting for 2001. You  
7 know, I'm willing to do it whenever the Council wants to.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, can somebody make a  
10 recommendation to accommodate as much as we can today and  
11 then we'll see if we can't come to agreement on it. Fred.

12  
13 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, I really don't  
14 think it will take very long for a subgroup to look at some  
15 issues and organization for the annual report. Several  
16 people on the Council have been through it many, many  
17 times. They have a feeling for what needs to go in and how  
18 it needs to be presented. I would suspect it will take a  
19 half hour, 45 minutes.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah.

22  
23 MR. CLARK: And we could do that right  
24 after we convene, we break for the day, today. Just take a  
25 few minutes to do it then and get it over with.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

28  
29 MR. CLARK: And then should we wish to  
30 readdress those issues or bring it forward later in the  
31 evening, that would give us the opportunity to do that.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. I see two out of  
34 three, I see two-thirds.

35  
36 MS. STEVENS: Here.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: What?

39  
40 MS. STEVENS: I'll be on the subcommittee.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You're on the  
43 subcommittee, okay, that's one, two, three, four on the  
44 committee with Fred. Okay, then is there another issue?  
45 Oh, the priorities.

46  
47 MS. LeCORNU: When will that happen?

48  
49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: At the convenience of the  
50 Council, whenever the Council feels comfortable with

00077

1 addressing -- we can even do it in more than one part. If  
2 we have some issues identified today we could address those  
3 today and if more surface during the course of the meeting,  
4 well, we'll deal with them as they come along. And we'll  
5 do it in the same format, we'll do it when we're not in  
6 session, necessarily, we'll do it as a different part of  
7 the agenda. Okay, so that's what we'll do.

8  
9 So we'll all be disorganized but we want to look  
10 organized while we're at it.

11  
12 So is that it for the annual report up to now?

13  
14 MR. CLARK: That's it.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. 8D, update on  
17 Migratory Bird Management. Do we have migratory boards or  
18 just migratory birds? How do you catch a unique fish?

19  
20 MR. KNAUER: Tame way.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Boy.

23  
24 MR. KNAUER: As you're all aware, the  
25 Migratory Bird office has been, over the past years,  
26 talking to folks around the state, they made presentations  
27 to all the Councils and listing input relative to the  
28 structure of the Migratory Bird Management Program and  
29 Migratory Bird Advisory bodies in the state. They have  
30 presently developed a recommendation that has gone to  
31 Washington for approval. The recommendation is to use a  
32 single statewide management body with representatives from  
33 the State, Federal and Native interests on it. They would  
34 not use the Regional Councils as the Migratory Bird  
35 Management bodies but there would be very close  
36 coordination with the Regional Councils. They're also  
37 recommending that one or two subsistence users be appointed  
38 to the Pacific Flyaway Management Council to convey  
39 management concerns relative to subsistence to that body.  
40 And although this recommendation has not yet been approved  
41 in Washington, D.C., as soon as it is, if it is, all of the  
42 Regional Councils will be notified by mail.

43  
44 And currently the spring closures will still apply.  
45 Because until this management body is in place and  
46 regulations can be developed they must continue with the  
47 current regulations. So that's the correct status there.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is there anything we need  
50 -- any movement we need to do on the Council with regards

00078

1 to that?

2

3 MR. KNAUER: No, Mr. Chairman, there isn't.

4

5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Okay, does that

6 complete your update?

7

8 MR. KNAUER: That does.

9

10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Any questions for Mr.

11 Knauer.

12

13 MS. STEVENS: I have a question.

14

15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Millie.

16

17 MS. STEVENS: On this migratory bird thing

18 you're talking about.....

19

20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You want to use your mic.

21

22 MS. STEVENS: No, it's Berts. Do you have

23 any councils or bodies or groups of people in Southeast

24 that have already got going on this?

25

26 MR. KNAUER: That I don't know.

27

28 MS. STEVENS: Okay. So this is something

29 new?

30

31 MR. KNAUER: Well, it's something that has

32 been going on as a result of the treaty protocol that was

33 signed which would provide for a spring harvest of

34 migratory birds that has not been allowed because the

35 treaties didn't mesh and provide for it. So after a very,

36 very long period they were finally able to get the

37 protocols signed which allowed for that but then there had

38 to be some structure set so that they could -- so there

39 could be a development of regulations to provide for to

40 assure conservation. And so the first step was the

41 establishment of a management body or bodies that would

42 work to develop the regulations. And so this is the first

43 step.

44

45 MS. STEVENS: Thank you.

46

47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

48

49 MS. GARZA: It's my understanding Harold

50 Martin has been involved with this process.

00079

1 MS. STEVENS: Thanks.

2  
3 MS. GARZA: So.....

4  
5 MR. KNAUER: I think so but I don't know.

6  
7 MS. GARZA: Yeah, so we've had some  
8 Southeast input, Millie.

9  
10 MS. STEVENS: Thank you.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Marilyn.

13  
14 MS. WILSON: I think Harold had something  
15 to do with it. It was about the seagull eggs that was part  
16 of the migratory bird.....

17  
18 MR. KNAUER: I think that's part of it,  
19 yes.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: What does he have to do  
22 with seagull eggs?

23  
24 MS. WILSON: We don't get to eat them  
25 anymore.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Any more comments,  
28 corrections, relevance. Enjoy yourselves now because look  
29 at the next topic. Thank you, Bill.

30  
31 MR. KNAUER: You're welcome.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Are you going to handle  
34 the next one, too?

35  
36 MR. KNAUER: Yes, I am.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You are. Okay, we're now  
39 to 8E.

40  
41 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman, Council members.  
42 In 1999 there was a proposal, as you're aware, from the  
43 Copper River Native Association which requested  
44 modification of the regulations regarding identification of  
45 sex on harvested animals. And the current regulation  
46 requires the attachment of enough of an external sex organ  
47 to be able to determine the sex of the animal harvested.

48  
49 The proposal was deferred based on comments that  
50 were generated both at their Council meeting and at the

00080

1 Board meeting to allow the topic to be presented to all of  
2 the Regional Councils. In general, the Councils  
3 recommended that the proposal not be expanded statewide,  
4 that it be considered only as written which would have  
5 applied it only to Unit 11 and 13 for this current cycle.

6  
7 There is, I believe, in your booklet, if not in  
8 your booklet on the table up there, an update that does  
9 state the position of each Regional Council and so the  
10 proposal this year then will be considered only as  
11 affecting Units 11 and 13. It will not be applied  
12 statewide, so it is not something that this Council has to  
13 be concerned about anymore.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is this applicable to  
16 both sexes? Okay, does that conclude that report?

17  
18 MR. KNAUER: It does, Mr. Chairman.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, thank you so much.  
21 Thank goodness.

22  
23 MS. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Patty.

26  
27 MS. PHILLIPS: I asked at the last meeting  
28 if the Wrangell-St. Elias had a recommendation on it, I  
29 don't see it in the booklet. Did they get a chance to  
30 discuss it, does anyone know?

31  
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Wrangell-St. Elias, are  
33 you on that Bert?

34  
35 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, yeah, they did  
36 pass a regulation at a recent meeting and it was either or  
37 in a nutshell.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Is Harold Frank in  
40 the house? Harold.

41  
42 MR. FRANK: I've been asked to speak to the  
43 issue of urban and rural as it applies to tribes. My  
44 name's Harold Frank, Jr., I am the environmental planner  
45 for the Douglas Indian Association. A while back one of my  
46 friends told me I dwell too much on my past but I told her  
47 that I didn't want to forget who I was or what I am so I'm  
48 going to address a little bit of history. I'll try and  
49 keep it short.

50

00081

1           On December 14th, 1898, Chief Shoo-we-kah of Juneau  
2 took part in an audience with the then Governor Brady of  
3 the Territory of Alaska. In the audience with Governor  
4 Brady, Shoo-we-kah expressed concern over the changing  
5 political environment the Natives of Alaska were  
6 experiencing. The land all people of Alaska lived on was  
7 going through changes and Shoo-we-kah said to Governor  
8 Brady, now, we do not know what we are to do because we are  
9 like a certain man in a canoe. The canoe rocks, we do not  
10 know what will become of us. And the metaphor he was  
11 referring to is that as all Tlingit people we were  
12 concerned about would we have the right to subsist.

13  
14           Just recently the state of Alaska appealed the  
15 Katie John decision by the Ninth Circuit affirming her  
16 right to subsistence fish on the Copper River to the U.S.  
17 Supreme Court. On a local level the subsistence five, I  
18 think we're all familiar, the people that live in Juneau  
19 are familiar with that, which was subsequently reduced to  
20 the subsistence four, were found guilty of a misdemeanor  
21 for asserting their right to subsistence fish in the Juneau  
22 area. The gestures made by these ladies goes to the heart  
23 of the subsistence dilemma facing the Federal government  
24 and the state of Alaska. Hopefully the efforts put forth  
25 during these important meetings will help the people of  
26 Alaska find a solution to what all Natives call a  
27 traditional way of life.

28  
29           When the subsistence four made their gesture with  
30 civil disobedience, the Fish and Wildlife Office here  
31 informed the ladies that subsistence opportunities were  
32 available elsewhere. The nearest area is about an hour by  
33 boat for sockeye, which is what they were after, there is  
34 another creek that is called Sweetheart Creek that is two  
35 hours away. That was one of the reasons the people stepped  
36 forth and said, you know, we deserve the right to do this.

37  
38           Through no fault of their own the Taku-Qwaan have  
39 been designated as urban. And I think there are other  
40 Natives in the Juneau area that feel the same. When I was  
41 a Federal employee I commented to my supervisors, most of  
42 the historical village sites ended up being what we call  
43 urban centers.

44  
45           This is a little bit of my commentary, when I was a  
46 boy growing up in Angoon, I was taught by my dad the  
47 traditional ways I needed to learn to feed myself. It was  
48 not called subsistence then, it was called feeding your  
49 family. It is the traditional life that makes me what I  
50 am, a Tlingit. Now because I live in Juneau the

00082

1 traditional life that I grew up with is not allowed, at  
2 least, according to the rules.

3

4 Yash-noosh of the Taku tribe, Douglas, told  
5 Governor Brady, we ask you to give the Tlingit the places  
6 that brought us food. Creeks where they fish and places  
7 where people go hunting. It is obvious over 100 years  
8 later that the canoe still rocks.

9

10 I guess one of the things that we would like the  
11 Council to recommend or consider recommending is that  
12 perhaps recognizing tribes as rural is a solution to some  
13 of the dilemma we face today.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Bill, do you  
18 have any guidance for the Council with regard to response  
19 to a presentation like that in addressing urban -- eligible  
20 or non-eligible areas as rural or urban? If you don't,  
21 that's okay.

22

23 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman, I think everyone  
24 in the room recognizes that there are both lifestyles and  
25 cultures that Congress has omitted from being able to  
26 participate in this Federal priority. Congress  
27 specifically said that their effort was to provide the  
28 continued opportunity for subsistence and to provide the  
29 priority for rural residents. Now, that's not something  
30 that I can change because that's something that Congress  
31 did. And so I empathize with Mr. Frank and many of the  
32 other folks in the Juneau area, in the Anchorage area,  
33 Fairbanks and elsewhere, but I'm sorry it's not something  
34 that we have any control over in that regard.

35

36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. We appreciate  
37 those comments coming forth. And we like to be a forum in  
38 which you could be heard realizing that these opportunities  
39 are very limited. Like Bill said, there isn't anything  
40 that we can do as a Council to make those changes. But we  
41 want to share with you that we don't have any disagreement  
42 with what you bring forward, it's just that we haven't got  
43 a format in which to address them.

44

45 MS. GARZA: I had a comment.

46

47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly, go ahead.

48

49 MS. GARZA: This is certainly a new twist  
50 on a request that we have heard during my tenure here from

00083

1 Juneau and from Ketchikan and now from Douglas, that we  
2 need to find a way to include our Native people who, for no  
3 fault of their own, have -- are now living in an  
4 environment that has been redefined. And I feel quite bad  
5 that we have taken no action because we know it will fall  
6 on deaf ears. And I think that we need to do something, a  
7 resolution, annual report, however we can, we need to get  
8 the message up to Anchorage and if the Federal Subsistence  
9 Board does nothing about it, then we can say they have done  
10 nothing about it. But we need to do more than that. And I  
11 have talked to both Ketchikan and Douglas and said, please  
12 submit it as a resolution that we can support and take  
13 forward and for me that would be the easiest to do as a  
14 Regional Advisory Council person. It's my understanding  
15 that the Federal Subsistence Board has to, on occasion, I  
16 think every 10 years or something, look at the definitions  
17 of communities as rural and urban and this may be a time,  
18 if it's coming up, that we can assert these requests, and  
19 if we get slapped in the face then at least we can tell our  
20 brothers that we got slapped in the face for them.

21  
22 But if we don't do anything I'm going to go away  
23 feeling really, really bad, and I'm already crabby.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is this something you  
26 want to then consider in your discussion with regards to  
27 the annual report?

28  
29 MS. GARZA: I would like to consider it in  
30 the discussion on annual reports but I would also like to  
31 receive Mr. Frank's request or Douglas IRA's request in  
32 resolution form so that we can support it, the same with  
33 Juneau, if that's Juneau's intent and the same with  
34 Ketchikan if that's their intent, so that we have something  
35 that says, yes, we support it. We send our Chairman off --  
36 well, actually you would be the one who would get slapped  
37 in the face, to the meeting in May, and you'll just come  
38 back wounded.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That's why I look like I  
41 do now.

42  
43 MS. FOX: Mr. Chair, with your  
44 permission.....

45  
46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Peggy.

47  
48 MS. FOX: .....I'd like to address this  
49 topic.

50

00084

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

2

3 MS. FOX: As Dolly has indicated, we are  
4 beginning to embark on finding -- or looking at statewide  
5 rural determinations again. The census is being conducted  
6 this year and we expect to have the results of that census  
7 in about two years, at which time we will be looking at the  
8 state, again, as we did in 1990 and making those calls on  
9 rural and non-rural. Part of that process is to find a  
10 methodology that we feel is going to be perhaps more  
11 objective than what we've used in the past. But setting  
12 that aside, I guess, what I wanted to say is the Council as  
13 part of the regulations does have an opportunity to make  
14 recommendations on rural determinations. And so I do want  
15 to encourage you, if the Council wants to go in that  
16 direction, to go ahead and have a recommendation that will  
17 be forwarded to the Board and let the Board respond to that  
18 and probably will probably do that during the statewide  
19 rural determination process unless there is some urgent  
20 need to do it sooner such as what they've done with the  
21 Kenai.

22

23 As you well know, that Council has weighed in for  
24 the last several years asking for another look at the rural  
25 determinations for the Kenai and the Board did grant that  
26 last year and we've been doing an analysis and developing  
27 recommendations for them to make a decision in advance of  
28 the statewide process this May.

29

30 So those opportunities are there, it can be  
31 justified but the Board could also say, we'll take a look  
32 at it during the statewide process. But if the Council  
33 feels that way I encourage you to go ahead and articulate,  
34 you know, what you want from the Board.

35

36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you very much.

37

38 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, before she  
39 leaves.

40

41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Bert. Before Peggy  
42 leaves.

43

44 MS. FOX: I'm sorry.

45

46 MR. ADAMS: Peggy, I really appreciate your  
47 comment there in regards to the Council being able to make  
48 recommendations on rural determination. But if we do go  
49 that route, how would this conflict with anything that the  
50 State might have jurisdiction over and will there be any

00085

1 opportunity of clashing there?

2

3 MS. FOX: This is a separate process from  
4 -- the State right now, everybody is considered a  
5 subsistence user. They don't need to do rural and non-  
6 rural determinations.

7

8 MR. ADAMS: Well, that's what I'm confused  
9 about. There seems to be a clash there or a.....

10

11 MS. FOX: There's definitely a different  
12 approach and the effect of heir regulations relative to  
13 subsistence includes everybody whereas ours are different.  
14 They do focus on a few communities where there is no  
15 subsistence and the bulk of them we do recognize as rural  
16 and therefore eligible for subsistence.

17

18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: She's not trying to  
19 unconfuse you, she's trying to tell you.

20

21 MS. FOX: No, I'm trying to tell you  
22 they're totally separate, but one does -- I mean the State  
23 system impacts Federally qualified subsistence users. But  
24 I don't know if that's what you were asking.

25

26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yes, I think that's all  
27 you can say.

28

29 MS. FOX: Yeah.

30

31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Thank you,  
32 Bert.

33

34 MR. ADAMS: Thank you.

35

36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Patty.

37

38 MS. PHILLIPS: I believe that this Regional  
39 Advisory Council did show support for Juneau's request for  
40 subsistence priority this fellow here, Robert Willard  
41 presented to us before and wrote us a letter and I believe  
42 we acted on that letter. But it would be good, you know,  
43 if we continued to support the recognition of their right  
44 to subsist.

45

46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Dolly.

47

48 MS. GARZA: I guess where I was uncertain  
49 is that in requests that we have submitted to the Federal  
50 Subsistence Board, it seems like we have always gotten

00086

1 responses back as to why they did or didn't do something,  
2 and I don't remember getting a letter back from Mitch, at  
3 all, telling us why they couldn't support Juneau. So I  
4 wasn't sure if our letter of request made it through that  
5 formal process. Now, we know who's boss.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Katie.

8  
9 MS. MYASATO: Kitty.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Kitty.

12  
13 MS. MYASATO: Hi, my name is Katherine  
14 Stevens Myasato. I was born here at Mike's Place in  
15 Douglas on New Year's Day 72 years ago. My Tlingit is (In  
16 Native). I'm on the Council for Douglas Indian  
17 Association.

18  
19 And I was looking at Project 17. I haven't had  
20 much chance to study this, however, what I've gone through,  
21 bits and pieces, it seems we're always being regulated.  
22 And the title, Statewide Subsistence Fisheries Harvest  
23 Monitoring Strategy and so forth. And it's in the first  
24 paragraph, the fourth line to the end, statewide summaries  
25 subsistence fisheries for all data sources is compiled  
26 annually. I have a lot of questions. I have not studied  
27 the rest of this. But when you're going to be monitoring,  
28 and I understand you people do put recommendations forward,  
29 I'm not too familiar with the whole Council or anything,  
30 but I ran across a sports trout fishermen -- I'll probably  
31 go away wounded not you, but I was looking up something at  
32 the library and I ran across some papers, I didn't read all  
33 the articles but these were papers submitted to the library  
34 by Kinky Byers who used to live on Willoughby Avenue years  
35 ago. And some of the things in his papers read like this;  
36 these are just the headings and then it gives you the pages  
37 you can refer to.

38  
39 It says Juneau Fish and Game Club will stock trout  
40 hatchery on Front Street, 1917. Page 90 and Page 122, 1918  
41 Alaska Fish and Game Club plants 20,000 Colorado brook  
42 trout raised in local hatchery in Boston Basin off Gold  
43 Creek, 1919. 25,000 at Auke Bay, 1927 Page 127. These are  
44 just some of the things that I had a chance to look at.

45  
46 And when you stop and think how far back this trout  
47 transplanting was in our fish creeks where our fish  
48 spawned, we're looking at -- I don't believe the trout were  
49 indigenous to our areas but they were transplanted in our  
50 salmon spawning areas back as far as 1917, is what he had.

00087

1 I did not look in the regular histories. But when you come  
2 and talk about the subsistence fisheries monitoring, and  
3 nothing's included regarding the trout because the trout  
4 are the ones that eat your salmon eggs that go up the  
5 stream to spawn and that's how you catch your trout is you  
6 get that little jar of salmon eggs and you catch your  
7 trout. But they go up these streams and where they were  
8 transplanted.

9  
10 So I would like to know when -- the people are  
11 going and doing all these monitoring and regulatory and so  
12 forth, does this include the trout since they're actually  
13 right there where your salmon are spawning? I wish I had  
14 time to go through the whole thing but I just picked it up  
15 and went through just a bit of it. But if anybody wants to  
16 look up these transplantings way back then, that sounds  
17 like what the people did to the Southside Indians with the  
18 buffalo because that's what the trout are doing. And one  
19 of our subsistence ladies brought that up at the hearing.  
20 She said that the Fish and Game, not this club, but the  
21 regular Fish and Game were counting the fish and were not  
22 paying attention to the trout. And when the subsistence  
23 ladies went to catch their fish, they used the proper net  
24 to let the small fish through, which also meant your trout  
25 was not going to be caught and the Fish and Game were real  
26 concerned about the trout. And the gals did not stretch  
27 their net, they showed a little video, they did not stretch  
28 the net clear across that area, they left escapement on  
29 both sides.

30  
31 So I'd like to know if -- since you people are -- I  
32 know you sound like you got a lot to do but if anyone could  
33 check into the trout as related to our fish streams, our  
34 salmon streams, I'd appreciate it.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Do you want the trout to  
37 be counted or no? What's your.....

38  
39 MS. MYASATO: I don't like trout.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Oh, you don't like trout?

42  
43 MS. MYASATO: No.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, how come you want  
46 to keep track of them? No, I'm just teasing you.

47  
48 MS. MYASATO: I'd like to know who does.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: But do you want to know

00088

1 if the trout are being monitored as well?

2

3 MS. MYASATO: Well, it sounds like Fish and  
4 Game are concerned about the trout, they didn't want our  
5 subsistence people to be killing them off but that is -- I  
6 want to know how they are regulated, how the trout is  
7 regulated as to our subsistence?

8

9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Let me poll the audience.  
10 Is there anybody here that can answer that question? Final  
11 answer.

12

13 MS. MYASATO: Final answer.

14

15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No takers. That's too  
16 tough for everybody. So we'll take that under advisement.  
17 Ida. Ida Katashan (ph).

18

19 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff  
20 Committee member. Project 17 is just to develop the system  
21 of monitoring. It's to set up the methodology and say,  
22 this is who we're going to monitor whatever we monitor,  
23 whether we monitor trout or salmon or seal head or whatever  
24 species we're going to use the same method to ask the same  
25 kinds of questions, use the same kind of measure to be  
26 consistent in how we do it. If this Council wants to  
27 recommend at some future date that they count the trout or  
28 see how they're impacting subsistence, that's the  
29 prerogative of this Council.

30

31 MS. MYASATO: That was it, thank you, how  
32 they would impact it.

33

34 MS. HILDEBRAND: Right.

35

36 MS. MYASATO: Thank you.

37

38 MS. GARZA: Thank you. Well, if I'm in  
39 charge I'm ready for a break. Mr. Robert Willard and then  
40 Al McKinley following.

41

42 MR. WILLARD: The Regional Advisory  
43 Council, my name is Robert Willard, Jr. I live here in  
44 Juneau. I'm from Angoon. All total I've lived here for  
45 about 40 years. Just by way of numbers, the latest council  
46 count of the Tlingit-Haida enrollment in Juneau is 4,478  
47 when you add the other tribal members from the northern  
48 groups as well as those from the United States of America  
49 it's probably about 4,700 people that live here. Ketchikan,  
50 they're listing 1,287 as of this month.

00089

1 We have addressed the issue of Juneau and Ketchikan  
2 having been left out of subsistence opportunity and we will  
3 again. I will be traveling to Anchorage for the Federal  
4 Subsistence Board when they meet on May 2, 3 and 4.

5  
6 With the closure on the basis of the Federal  
7 Subsistence Board in 1980, that -- when they ruled that in  
8 order to be eligible for subsistence that community had to  
9 be classed as being a rural status, that effectively closed  
10 Juneau and also in Ketchikan. And since then, what is  
11 happening here in Juneau is that the knowledge that kept  
12 the culture alive is being systematically destroyed by  
13 laws, Federal and State, and regulations, policy and it's  
14 having devastating effects on this current generation that  
15 is growing up. It's been a whole generation that have been  
16 left out. And our concern is that we do have the tribal  
17 obligation to pass the knowledge of our cultural existence  
18 on to the next generation. So when that child asks, how am  
19 I going to teach my children, that's the problem.

20  
21 And so we have been addressing this issue and we  
22 will continue to do so. It is our hope that the Regional  
23 Council would Support our petition to the Federal  
24 Subsistence Board to reconsider it's 1980 ruling. When  
25 they met in '90, they indicated that the rural  
26 determinations could be made every five years or within  
27 that time frame. And we do hope that the Federal Board  
28 will address the issue. We disagree with the Federal  
29 Subsistence Board's determination of 1980. We believe that  
30 the rural preference in Title VIII was for when the  
31 resource declines in population and that's written into  
32 Section .801, subsection 3 of Title VIII of ANILCA.

33  
34 And they refer to Section .803 and this was  
35 addressed by William P. Horn in 1986 when he testified  
36 before the State Senate hearing when the State was trying  
37 to come back into compliance with Title VIII. And he  
38 indicates that as long as the management addresses the  
39 needs of the .803 group, which is the rural, how they  
40 character urban subsistence, non-rural subsistence,  
41 commercial, sport is immaterial to the Federal government,  
42 it's all in these documents put forth by the Senate  
43 Resources Committee May 5th, 1986.

44  
45 And we probably are more concerned, though, I think  
46 with what is happening to the cultures here in Juneau. And  
47 it's sad to see, particularly when you come from a little  
48 community where we just took it for granted and we grew up  
49 in the cultural lifestyle, and here when you watch it, you  
50 ask -- a child asks you, what's subsistence? It's sad.

00090

1 It's difficult to respond to.

2

3 In 1984 I spoke to the Native students of  
4 University of Alaska-Southeast and described the  
5 subsistence lifestyle. I ran into them -- some of those  
6 students later and they said that they went to their mom  
7 and dad and their uncle and asked them to teach them the  
8 subsistence fishing, subsistence hunting and they were told  
9 that it is against the law. So that is where things are at  
10 in the Juneau area.

11

12 The Tlingit-Haida Central Council had addressed  
13 this earlier in this past session, the Alaska Native  
14 Brotherhood convention, Alaska Native Sisterhood Convention  
15 supported the resolution by Juneau asking them to get the  
16 Federal Subsistence Board to overturn or reconsider it's  
17 1980 decision. It is our hope and dream that it will  
18 happen for the sake of those children that are growing up  
19 here in Juneau, and most likely in Ketchikan.

20

21 We can't speak for the Anchorage and other  
22 communities that are excluded. Southeast is Southeast  
23 region unto itself and we can address only as relates to  
24 Southeast. And we did submit documents to the State  
25 Legislators requesting that they repeal the 1992 non-  
26 subsistence law. That was based on the 1980 Federal  
27 Subsistence Board determination rural. So far we haven't  
28 seen any action on the part of the Legislature and likely  
29 we won't see any action for this coming year mostly because  
30 the Federal Board determinations still exist. And as I  
31 indicated we will be addressing the Federal Board when they  
32 meet in May.

33

34 That concludes my presentation.

35

36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, Mr. Willard.  
37 Marilyn.

38

39 MS. WILSON: Yeah, Robert, I wanted to  
40 know, you're addressing the Federal Board this May, is that  
41 from the tribal standpoint or what entity are you doing  
42 this?

43

44 MR. WILLARD: From the Southeast Native  
45 Subsistence position.

46

47 MS. WILSON: Okay.

48

49 MR. WILLARD: And we do have support from  
50 the different organizations throughout the region.

00091

1 MS. WILSON: Are we going to get a copy of  
2 that resolution?

3  
4 MR. WILLARD: Yes.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, Robert.

7  
8 MR. WILLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You were too thorough  
11 with your presentation.

12  
13 MS. GARZA: I guess my question would be,  
14 whether or not we would get a copy of that resolution  
15 before we adjourn so that we can support it as you go  
16 forward to the Federal Subsistence Board. In other words,  
17 you're going to go to them in May and they're going to ask  
18 you whether or not Southeast Regional Advisory Council  
19 supported it. So if we could get something before we  
20 adjourn and also from Douglas.

21  
22 MR. WILLARD: Yes.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Not to worry, Robert.  
25 Not to worry, okay.

26  
27 MS. WILSON: I have a question, Mr.  
28 Chairman. Mr. Frank mentioned that they would like to see  
29 tribes recognized as a subsistence priority, is that what  
30 he meant.

31  
32 MR. WILLARD: Rural.

33  
34 MS. WILSON: A rural priority or recognized  
35 in the rural.

36  
37 MR. WILLARD: Mr. Chairman, Marilyn, I'm  
38 glad you brought that up. I neglected to mention that what  
39 we're asking is not the subsistence preference. All we're  
40 asking is the subsistence opportunity when the fish and  
41 wildlife are at a healthy level. They allow personal use,  
42 sport, charter vessel fishery but they don't allow  
43 subsistence. And so when there's plenty of salmon and  
44 plenty of deer and other wildlife, we're asking, at least,  
45 for the opportunity. If it's closed in favor of the rural  
46 we support that, the rural preference. We do support it.  
47 We're just asking for the opportunity.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: All you're asking is  
50 consistency with Title VIII. What you're asking for is

00092

1 consistent with Title VIII.

2  
3 MR. WILLARD: Yeah.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah. As long as there's  
6 lots to go around, what's the problem? But if it gets in  
7 trouble, then we look at it again.

8  
9 MR. WILLARD: Yeah.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. I think we ought  
12 to make a note of that, besides the record, so that we can  
13 discuss it as a Council during this session. I think we've  
14 got it clear enough to where we could take something  
15 forward. Any problem with that anybody? Sound like a  
16 plan. Dolly.

17  
18 MS. GARZA: (Nods affirmatively)

19  
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

21  
22 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Mr. Bert.

25  
26 MR. ADAMS: Am I correct in understanding  
27 that Mr. Willard's statement is not asking for a  
28 subsistence priority, he wants the opportunity to engage in  
29 subsistence hunting and fishing when there is an abundance  
30 of fish and game?

31  
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yes, that's what he said.

33  
34 MR. ADAMS: Thank you. That brings up  
35 another concern, Mr. Chairman. Again, you know, I try to  
36 figure out what the State's, you know, response to this  
37 would be, you know, as far as commercial and sport. I  
38 think I would address a concern here that subsistence  
39 should remain a priority, you know, when there are  
40 shortages. Is that still going to be, you know, the  
41 feeling here?

42  
43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Uh-huh.

44  
45 MR. ADAMS: Okay.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah, .804 in ANILCA says  
48 if there's a shortage then the priority has to be  
49 considered.

50

00093

1 MR. ADAMS: I am enlightened, thank you.

2  
3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

4  
5 MS. GARZA: I'm confused.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

8  
9 MS. GARZA: So I think I may need some  
10 differentiation between Douglas and Juneau's request. It's  
11 my understanding that the Douglas request was to designate  
12 tribes as rural for the purposes of qualifying Douglas  
13 tribe as a rural community that would qualify for  
14 subsistence. What I heard from Juneau was different, in  
15 that, what you're looking for is not to duke it out with  
16 them again because you think you may lose, but to provide  
17 another avenue of opportunity such as through the  
18 educational process so that you would have opportunities  
19 for these young people who otherwise will not grow up  
20 learning these traditional skills. So I'm not sure what  
21 level you're looking at, Robert. And I'm kind of looking  
22 at Helen because she wasn't here when Mr. Frank presented  
23 and I'm not sure if you guys are unified in what you're  
24 requesting.

25  
26 MR. WILLARD: I think that Douglas may be  
27 misunderstanding in this regard. We're not asking a  
28 preference. The State, as far as educational, the State  
29 has used that educational permit system. We're asking the  
30 opportunity period for the children so they can learn  
31 through their parents, their uncles, however we learned in  
32 the villages. And so maybe Mr. Frank can clarify his  
33 position.

34  
35 MR. FRANK: One of the considerations that  
36 we had was a new approach to the dilemma that's faced and  
37 we haven't ever heard of a tribe requesting recognition as  
38 rural. Our tribe is very small, we have right now 404  
39 members and we just thought perhaps, you know, that we  
40 would express that as a solution to what all Natives in the  
41 urban setting experience, that is, not having the same  
42 privileges just by virtue of where they live as the rest of  
43 the Natives in Alaska.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is it possible for you to  
46 get a resolution put together this week?

47  
48 MR. FRANK: Yes, we were going to address that  
49 tonight and tomorrow.

50

00094

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That would help us a  
2 great deal.

3  
4 MR. FRANK: Okay.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So if you would do that,  
7 that'd be good. Robert, we understand, you, we don't  
8 understand.

9  
10 MR. FRANK: Okay.

11  
12 MS. GARZA: So you're going to submit a  
13 resolution, Robert?

14  
15 MR. WILLARD: Yes.

16  
17 MS. GARZA: Okay. Then I will understand  
18 that.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Go get your resolutions  
21 for us. Vicki.

22  
23 MS. LeCORNU: So that would mostly be  
24 regarding the fisheries or other renewable resources and  
25 other uses?

26  
27 MR. WILLARD: Wild renewable resources in  
28 Title VIII.

29  
30 MS. LeCORNU: So it would be deer and other  
31 animals and.....

32  
33 MR. WILLARD: That are customarily used.

34  
35 MS. LeCORNU: All right. I can understand  
36 the difference between them then, now, because he's not  
37 asking for a preference. I can understand and support the  
38 Douglas issue because the Hydaburg Advisory Committee, in  
39 our letter here you'll see, we support the criteria for  
40 communities that meet the following criteria that -- and  
41 can show a long history of customary and traditional use  
42 and should be limited to tribal villages not of a modern  
43 and urban character, where a majority of the residents are  
44 Natives and/or a rural community with a real recognized  
45 subcommunity or group of Natives with a history of  
46 customary and traditional and subsistence uses. So you  
47 know, I think we could support both.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Well, we'll know  
50 when we see them.

00095

1 MR. WILLARD: Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Executive  
4 Committee McKinley.

5

6 MR. MCKINLEY: Thank you very much Mr.  
7 Chairman and members of the Committee. My name is Alfred  
8 McKinley, Sr., and my Tlingit name is (In Native). I was  
9 born and raised in Hoonah, Excursion Inlet and my ancestors  
10 come from Angoon. We have our tribal house over there in  
11 Angoon, it's called (In Native). And actually my tribe  
12 which is the Woosh-ke-tan actually occupied Glacier Bay and  
13 mostly Excursion Inlet, Burtis Bay and Juneau. Juneau is  
14 actually our village.

15

16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Harris Harbor.

17

18 MR. MCKINLEY: No. And when I listened to  
19 Mr. Frank give his presentation, and I agree with what he  
20 has stated. Most of our people actually migrated from our  
21 villages to the big city, not that we want to, but we had  
22 to because there were no jobs available in the small  
23 communities. That's the reason I left Hoonah. And that's  
24 the problem that we have.

25

26 Growing up in Excursion Inlet, we lived on king  
27 salmon, grouse, and I don't know if grouse is a migratory  
28 bird, but mountain goat, porcupine, halibut, deer,  
29 dungeness crab, and all my family did was they bought two  
30 sacks of rice, five to 10 cases of milk, one case of  
31 coffee, flour, it was out of survival, we got by through  
32 the winter. And then after that we moved to Hoonah because  
33 the Federal government came in and said, as soon as we turn  
34 five years of age, if you don't take these kids to school  
35 we'll take them away so we had no alternative but to move  
36 to Hoonah.

37

38 And most of our people that are speaking here, like  
39 right now I'm staying in Juneau, of course, traveled around  
40 in the Federal government in finance. And while I listen  
41 to everybody talk, we actually mention our culture, our  
42 traditional use, what is our traditional use? I know what  
43 our traditional use is or are, and perhaps we need to  
44 explain this to the Federal government, to the State  
45 government, that way they'll know and understand our way of  
46 life. I'll give you an example the way we were raised by  
47 my grandmother and my uncle, Gilbert Mills, for example,  
48 any time our people die, like when my mother died, before  
49 she dies, and then you actually repeat them while they're  
50 alive and then after that, but before the person goes into

00096

1 a coma, that's -- then the person goes into a coma after  
2 what they have last fed them, that's what we will serve at  
3 the four day party, we just touch on it, four day party.  
4 And at the pay-off party, that's when we'll serve the food  
5 that that person actually enjoyed while that person was  
6 alive. These are some of the things that we'll have to  
7 start explaining to our people, not our people, but the  
8 Federal government, the State government, so that they will  
9 understand what we are talking about.

10  
11 In my culture my grandmother and my uncle used to  
12 tell me (In Native): Know where you come from. Know who  
13 you are. That's what that means. And that's where I'm  
14 coming from right now. When you start explaining  
15 everything, like, for example, during the -- when a family  
16 member dies we are not allowed to eat any seaweed for  
17 example, any slippery food. In Tlingit we call this (In  
18 Native), I guess we all know that. I know Mary Rudolph  
19 knows that.

20  
21 MS. RUDOLPH: (Nods affirmatively)

22  
23 MR. MCKINLEY: And that's part of our  
24 culture, it's only part of it. And this is some of the  
25 reasons what we have to serve and notify our people, not  
26 our people, but the Federal government and State  
27 government. And most of our people in Juneau are dying.  
28 You know why, we are not eating the food that we used to  
29 eat. Cancer, other diseases that we have accumulated while  
30 we eat mostly steak and pork loaded up with penicillin.  
31 The resolutions that we've been talking about, our people  
32 know what ANILCA is, I know it frontwards and backwards,  
33 and you don't have to tell me what is written. When the  
34 food is plentiful, why should we be treated like other  
35 villages or communities, but when there is a shortage, then  
36 we know that it will have to go into priority and we'll be  
37 excluded. We understand that.

38  
39 So that's where I'm coming from.

40  
41 For example, our five women that actually got five  
42 sockeye's up the river over here, and then went and asked  
43 some of our State government employees, they asked -- I  
44 asked them, isn't this owned by the public land, they says,  
45 yes, and what I was told was that, well, it's not us that's  
46 doing it it's the State government that's doing it. We're  
47 not involved in this situation. And I said, why don't you  
48 come out and tell them. They were all fined \$25. And then  
49 I mentioned this to them, what about that 3.2 million  
50 pounds of salmon that was dumped into the river by

00097

1 Excursion Inlet, how come they don't do anything about  
2 those people? Let's come out, look at that and evaluate  
3 that, that's a waste of our salmon. And I went up to the  
4 AFN convention, there were five resolutions that were  
5 submitted and our Tlingit-Haida was actually up there and  
6 supported that and I was up there as an executive committee  
7 member and I supported that, also as a delegate Tlingit-  
8 Haida, I supported that. And that's what I recommend. And  
9 also even though it's wrong for our people, the law is not  
10 written for us and there are only a few people that went to  
11 Washington, D.C., to negotiate this land claims without our  
12 input. So if we had got involved, my concept idea on this  
13 before the law was made final they should have went to all  
14 the village communities to see if they agree with that law  
15 or not but that didn't happen. I was in Albuquerque, New  
16 Mexico and I came back, I transferred back, nobody knew who  
17 I was, and I was trying to get involved in the politics and  
18 I couldn't get nowhere and I finally joined the ANB and I  
19 got elected as the treasurer but I tried to do my best to  
20 get involved.

21  
22 But that's where I'm coming from. We're only a few  
23 members. We all know that the Board makes the final  
24 decision, but it should also lesson to you, and the public,  
25 us, not just them making the decision for us.

26  
27 That's all I'm going to say. Sometimes I get  
28 carried away but it's for my people I'm fighting.

29  
30 (In Native - thank you)

31  
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: (In Native)

33  
34 MR. McKINLEY: Any questions, I'll answer.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No, since you're so smart  
37 on Title VIII I got no questions.

38  
39 MR. McKINLEY: Good. It needs to be  
40 rewritten.

41  
42 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I want to thank  
43 Mr. McKinley for his comments. But I'd like to make a  
44 comment back, when he went down to Alburquerque, you know,  
45 he went down as Alfred McKinley.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Uh-huh.

48  
49 MR. ADAMS: And when he came back he came  
50 back as Alfredo.

00098

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Chicken Alfredo.

2  
3 MR. ADAMS: Uh-huh.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, five minute smoke  
6 break.

7  
8 (Off record)  
9 (On record)

10  
11 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, we'll come back to  
12 order. We're at the part of the agenda now that generally  
13 draws the most interest and this has to do with proposals  
14 to change Federal subsistence regulations on the taking of  
15 wildlife on Federal public lands. Our procedure is the  
16 introduction of proposal and analysis by an analysis,  
17 Department of Fish and Game comments, other agency  
18 comments, summary of written public comments and then  
19 public comments. After the public comments then it becomes  
20 the property of the Council, in which, case only the  
21 Council is involved in deliberation. So if you have  
22 anything to offer to any of these proposals, you have to do  
23 it before it becomes the property of the Council.

24  
25 Fred.

26  
27 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, Dave Johnson will  
28 be doing the presentations on the proposals.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

31  
32 MR. CLARK: I'd just like to point out at  
33 the very beginning that two proposals have been withdrawn.  
34 Proposal 1 and, 11?

35  
36 MR. JOHNSON: That's correct.

37  
38 MR. CLARK: Proposal 11 have both been  
39 withdrawn. Dave will go into more detail on those. And  
40 with that, I yield.

41  
42 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Fred  
43 and Council. On Page 77 in your booklets you can see the  
44 Proposal 1 that related to a statewide proposal  
45 establishing a primitive hunt, it was by Ralph Lohse of  
46 Chitna. And basically the proposal with withdrawn. If you  
47 want further discussion on the proposal we can sure do that  
48 but the proposal was withdrawn.

49  
50 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman.

00099

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Fred.

2

3 MR. CLARK: Along with that proposal in the  
4 booklet, there is a letter that Mr. Lohse wrote explaining  
5 his rationale for the proposal and why he withdrew it.  
6 It's a very well written letter, I advise the Council  
7 members to read it even though the proposal itself has been  
8 withdrawn.

9

10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, guys, we're in  
11 order. What is recommended that even though Proposal No. 1  
12 was withdrawn, but it had a letter of explanation around it  
13 and you were advised to read that letter although we're not  
14 going to take any action on the proposal, it was withdrawn  
15 but it's got good information.

16

17 Next.

18

19 MR. JOHNSON: We'll proceed, Mr. Chairman,  
20 to Proposal 3 which relates to Unit 3 black bear. Let's  
21 see if we can get this machine to work here.

22

23 MR. CLARK: Are you doing Proposal 2?

24

25 MR. JOHNSON: I'm sorry. Mr. Chairman,  
26 Proposal 2 relates to change or clarification of the  
27 description of the subunit to match the State's  
28 description, Chichigof Island east of Idaho Inlet north of  
29 Trail River and Tenakee Inlet and north of the line from  
30 the headwaters of Trail River to the head of Tenakee Inlet.  
31 It's on Page 84 in your booklets, this is also a statewide  
32 regulation.

33

34 You'll see under discussion that there are numerous  
35 differences between the State and the Fed booklets, reg  
36 booklets, in terms of the wording and so the current  
37 Federal seasons are more limiting than the current State  
38 seasons and they suggested that the State changes would  
39 align with Federal and State trapping seasons. Again, on  
40 Page 84 you can see those proposed changes from April 15th  
41 to April 30th, February 28th to February -- or to April  
42 30th; November 1 to June 30th, and again, this is also on  
43 the previous page, on Page 83, going through all the units  
44 statewide.

45

46 The conclusion of the analysis is to support the  
47 proposal. And the justification was to, first of all that  
48 it would not adversely impact the affected wildlife  
49 populations that had been identified in those season  
50 changes and it would match the State season and also would

00100

1 not result in any additional harvest and also would be less  
2 confusing. Now, there's a novel idea. Less confusing for  
3 the rural user between the State and Fed system and also  
4 would eliminate the need to determine the jurisdictional  
5 boundaries in the local areas. And also that it would not  
6 restrict access for anyone hunting under State regs so it  
7 would not restrict the non-rural user as well.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I have a question. If  
10 you're extending it by a month in most cases, how can you  
11 say it won't increase the harvest? Ida, you got some help  
12 on that one.

13  
14 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff  
15 Committee member. The answer to that, Mr. Chairman, is  
16 that that's already open under State regulations so the  
17 hunters that are out there can already access those  
18 populations through the State regulations. And it just  
19 would align the Federal and State regulations where the  
20 Federal regulations were more restrictive than the State  
21 regulations.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly go ahead.

24  
25 MS. GARZA: Yeah, I understand the logic  
26 but I still understand Bill's concern. And the question I  
27 have is in looking at our maps, there isn't that much State  
28 land that you would have us aligning to. I mean logically  
29 you would think that they would align with us since the  
30 majority of Southeast is actually Federal land, although I  
31 have no objection to the proposal because it does expand  
32 opportunity and you would only hope that the increased  
33 effort would not -- because I think there would be  
34 increased effort, that the increased effort would not  
35 jeopardize the resource.

36  
37 MS. HILDEBRAND: Mr. Chairman, the analysis  
38 suggests that the reason we're aligning with the State is  
39 because our regulations are more restrictive. And that if  
40 there is increased effort they didn't expect it to be  
41 detrimental to the populations or resource.

42  
43 MR. JOHNSON: Dolly, you're correct in that  
44 the -- in terms of the land ownership, is more heavy to  
45 Federal, particularly the Tongass, but in terms of the  
46 State database and State wildlife management  
47 responsibilities for those species involved in the trapping  
48 regulations, it's been determined that that would not  
49 result in an overharvest or a problem to those species. Or  
50 to say it another way, the State had jurisdiction on Fed

00101

1 lands prior to the 1990, and in that context basically we  
2 adopted their regulations for the management of those  
3 species. So we're still relying on their research data,  
4 management data to include harvest and other wildlife data  
5 for management purposes.

6  
7 MS. GARZA: Move to support Proposal 2.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, wait a minute, are  
10 we going to hear from other people on this?

11  
12 MS. GARZA: Oh, sorry.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah. So was that the  
15 gist of your analysis on that proposal?

16  
17 MR. JOHNSON: (Nods affirmatively)

18  
19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Does the  
20 Department have any comments.

21  
22 MR. CLARK: The Alaska Department of Fish  
23 and Game supports this proposal with modifications. You'll  
24 notice in your notebook that there's a list of units that  
25 they see some different things that they would like to see  
26 happen. They suggest several changes to the proposal in  
27 Unit 10, Unit 13(D), Unit 17 and so on. I don't see any in  
28 this list that affect Southeast. And it's also my  
29 understanding that the Councils who have dealt with this  
30 elsewhere in Interior that do cover some of those units  
31 found that they were more restrictive so they did not  
32 support the State's modifications.

33  
34 There are no written public comments that were  
35 submitted.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: How about other agency  
38 comments. Hearing none, anybody from the public want to  
39 comment. Is there any public left out there? Okay,  
40 Council. It was moved that we support, did I hear a  
41 second?

42  
43 MS. WILSON: Second.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Moved and second,  
46 discussion.

47  
48 MS. RUDOLPH: Question.

49  
50 MR. ADAMS: Question.

00102

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Question's been called.  
2 All those in favor say aye.

3  
4 (No votes)

5  
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: All those opposed.

7  
8 Let's try that again. All those in favor of  
9 supporting Dolly's motion to approve say aye.

10  
11 IN UNISON: Aye.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Those that don't approve  
14 Dolly's proposal to approve, same sign.

15  
16 (No opposing votes)

17  
18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The ayes have it. Okay,  
19 next.

20  
21 MR. JOHNSON: Proposal 3 on Page 3 in your  
22 booklets, Unit 3 black bear. By the way Mr. Chairman, we  
23 miss Robert Willis today.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I haven't.

26  
27 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Well, I do.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: He can't say Wrangell.  
30 Proposal 3, is this going to be a technical presentation?  
31 Oh, boy. And.....

32  
33 MR. JOHNSON: Okay, Proposal 3, Mr.  
34 Chairman, Unit 3, black bear is to close Kuiu Island to  
35 motor vehicle use for black bear hunting. The current  
36 regulation does not restrict wheeled vehicles in harvesting  
37 of black bears in Unit 3.

38  
39 The Staff recommendation is to oppose the  
40 regulation and the justification is there would be no  
41 change of date or limit but it would restrict the use of  
42 wheeled vehicles. Current success rate and harvest ratio  
43 is based on ADF&G data indicates that only three percent of  
44 the successful hunters use vehicles. Most of the Kuiu  
45 bears that are harvested, 84 percent are taken by boat  
46 access. There are also more black bears taken by non-  
47 resident hunters than by residents of Unit 3. And, again,  
48 skulls, and that's an indicator of healthy population or  
49 the older -- trying to keep them -- try to keep your skull  
50 dimensions within a certain size range which is an

00103

1 indicator of the population of your -- your bear population  
2 in Unit 3 is being met and males taken average 79 percent  
3 of the above management goal of 75 percent.

4  
5 The black bear population of Kuiu Island appears to  
6 be healthy and able to sustain, at least, the current  
7 harvest level. A closure to wheeled vehicle access is  
8 unlikely to address the concerns brought up by the  
9 proposal. Reports of illegal hunting or overharvest have  
10 not been corroborated which was part of the basis for the  
11 proposal.

12  
13 And the preliminary conclusion is to not support  
14 the proposal based on the fact that there is no biological  
15 reason to close the road system on Kuiu Island to wheeled  
16 vehicles for hunting black bears or to prohibit hunters  
17 other than those from Kake.

18  
19 I also might add, Mr. Chairman, that to close the  
20 road or to close the road in question would also raise  
21 questions about Section .811 of Title VIII that we are to  
22 provide access for rural users.

23  
24 That concludes my analysis of Proposal 3.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I have a question here.  
27 The reason for changing regulations on Page 4 it says, the  
28 Kake area finally had a deer hunting open season in the  
29 past five years, it was closed to all hunting of deer for  
30 17 years. Deer hunting should be open to Kake residents  
31 only. Kake people have feelings of potential increase in  
32 out of town, out of state and out of mind hunters. So has  
33 any credence been given to the consideration of the out of  
34 mind hunters?

35  
36 MR. JOHNSON: No, Mr. Chairman.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

39  
40 MR. JOHNSON: By the way that also is part  
41 of Proposal 7 that is a similar proposal for restricting  
42 deer harvest via wheeled vehicles on Kuiu Island. So the  
43 two proposals are different species but similar in nature.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Does the Council have any  
46 objection to combining those two proposals?

47  
48 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Marilyn.

00104

1 MS. WILSON: It seems like in this proposal  
2 for the black bear with no vehicles to be used on Kuiu  
3 Island, it must impact the deer hunting season also so I  
4 think we should combine them.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Any objection to  
7 combining them? Okay no objections, so we'll deal with  
8 these as two -- and we'll use the same analysis.  
9 Department comments. Department. Mr. Department.

10  
11 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, the Alaska  
12 Department of Fish and Game is opposed to this proposal.  
13 The percentage of successful black bear hunters on Kuiu  
14 Island using motorized vehicles has averaged five percent  
15 and range from zero to 15 percent since the '88/89  
16 regulatory year. They also point out that most hunters  
17 have used boat access as opposed to road access.  
18 Successful black bear hunters on other islands in Unit 3  
19 use motorized land vehicles much more frequently. For  
20 these reasons and in the absence of a biological need to  
21 reduce black bear harvest on Kuiu Island, the Department  
22 does not see a need to impose the proposed access  
23 restrictions at this time.

24  
25 And I might also ask if there are any Alaska  
26 Department of Fish and Game representatives here who wish  
27 to add to their comments, that they should do that for this  
28 proposals, and other ones that follow.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Other agency comments.

31  
32 MR. DINNEFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,  
33 I'm Bruce Dinneford with Department of Fish and Game. And  
34 when I listened to Dave's presentation he gave an accurate  
35 portrayal of the comments that we had provided and I just  
36 wanted to reiterate that this proposal or a very similar  
37 proposal came in front of the State Board of Game at the  
38 last Southeast Board meeting in the fall of 1998 down in  
39 Ketchikan and our rationale was the same. That only about  
40 three percent of the harvest on Kuiu is taken by hunters  
41 using motorized land vehicles. And if we really wanted to  
42 impact the harvest of black bears and reduce the take, then  
43 we'd have to address people who are using boats or other  
44 means of access.

45  
46 That being said, I would like to point out that  
47 Kuiu Island is one of the more popular locations for black  
48 bear hunting in Southeast and we are about to embark on a  
49 new research direction and we hope by this late summer to  
50 be starting a -- it won't necessarily be an islandwide

00105

1 study but we hope to get a good handle on the black bear  
2 population in Kuiu and it will be the first research effort  
3 of that type in Southeast so we're looking forward to that.  
4 I'll be happy to answer any questions you or members of the  
5 Council might have.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: How do you propose to  
8 address the out of mind hunters?

9  
10 MR. DINNEFORD: Well, there's a lot of them  
11 out there.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Questions from the  
14 Council. Vicki.

15  
16 MS. LeCORNU: Would this change the dates?

17  
18 MS. DINNEFORD: No, ma'am.

19  
20 MS. LeCORNU: Dave.

21  
22 MR. JOHNSON: No change in the season.  
23 There's only a change in the access with the proposal.

24  
25 MS. GARZA: Was there change from Proposal  
26 2, did that change these dates?

27  
28 MR. JOHNSON: I think Proposal 2 was  
29 strictly trapping.

30  
31 MR. DINNEFORD: Of furbearers.

32  
33 MS. GARZA: Three.

34  
35 MS. LeCORNU: Proposal 3, would that change  
36 the dates?

37  
38 MR. JOHNSON: No, no changes.

39  
40 MS. LeCORNU: My comment then is that,  
41 although you said there's no biological reasons for closing  
42 the roads, I think according to their testimony there is  
43 and so what I'm saying is that there's no preference given  
44 to customary and traditional users. And I think maybe  
45 that's what they're trying to say but they weren't very  
46 clear about that fact that they are not getting a  
47 preference. So I would support this proposal on the fact  
48 that they feel that they are not getting a preference which  
49 is our role to provide a preference for the continued  
50 opportunity for those rural residents that have a customary

00106

1 and traditional use of that resource.

2

3 So I -- you know, although Dave says there's no  
4 biological reason, I think if you found out their  
5 reasoning, there would be a biological or a conservation  
6 reason for restricting other users. And maybe they didn't  
7 articulate as well as they should have. But I think they  
8 need some help here.

9

10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, that remains to be  
11 seen. Dave.

12

13 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, Vicki. A  
14 couple comments. First of all the allegation is that  
15 people in the Rowland Bay Logging Camp are having an affect  
16 on the bear harvest as well as the deer harvest. I'd like  
17 to point out that folks living in the Rowland Bay Camp are  
18 also rural residents as well as folks that have submitted  
19 this proposal number 1. Number 2, if you look on Page 45  
20 and I'm going to speak to deer now, during portions of this  
21 period of this time when there were concerns about harvest  
22 occurring, there was no one living at the Rowland Bay Camp.  
23 Also from 1994, based on harvest data submitted to ADF&G  
24 Wildlife Conservation Division, there were only eight deer  
25 taken, three seasons in a row as compared to deer harvested  
26 by other hunters on Kuiu Island.

27

28 So in terms of the total number of deer taken,  
29 total amount of hunter use from folks from the Rowland Bay  
30 Camp or other rural users, it does not appear to have a  
31 significant affect on the rural opportunity or subsistence  
32 opportunity for folks in Kake as compared to folks in  
33 Rowland Bay.

34

35 MS. LeCORNU: I have a problem with that.  
36 I think your description of them being a rural area is  
37 correct. But ANILCA says that they have a customary and  
38 traditional qualification to pass, that is the standard.  
39 The standard is not rural. So what I'm saying is that  
40 these people want a preference and, although, this is a  
41 little way to address it, it is a start for those customary  
42 and traditional users to be provided a preference. Because  
43 rural residents do not have a preference until they are  
44 customary and traditional users. That is in ANILCA.

45

46 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, my  
47 understanding is that the folks in Rowland Bay also have a  
48 positive C&T determination.

49

50 MS. LeCORNU: How? How? How did that

00107

1 happen?

2

3 MR. STOKES: They'd be rural residents.

4

5 MS. LeCORNU: They're rural residents but  
6 here's what ANILCA says, it says, customary and traditional  
7 uses and is only qualified by rural residency. The  
8 standard is customary and traditional. So you might say  
9 they have C&T but, in fact, the Kake residents do not feel  
10 they have C&T.

11

12 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, Vicki, on Page  
13 30 of the Federal wildlife subsistence regs for the current  
14 regulatory year, July '99 to June of 2000, a positive C&T  
15 determination has been made for rural residents of Unit  
16 1(B) and 3 and residents of Port Alexander, Port  
17 Protection, Point Baker and Myers Chuck. And then also  
18 black bear, again, that was for deer, for black bear, all  
19 rural residents.

20

21 MS. LeCORNU: Customary and traditional to  
22 me means a long history of the use and these people are  
23 moving in from Oregon, they don't have a long history.  
24 They do not have C&T, whatever we give them does not make  
25 it right. If those people in Kake feel like they're being  
26 pressured we need to find out who the preference goes to.  
27 And I don't care what the Federal Board says about who has  
28 C&T, it's really not a fact. What you say is not  
29 necessarily a fact.

30

31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Does that finish  
32 your analysis?

33

34 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, it does, Mr. Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Any written public  
37 comments.

38

39 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman.

40

41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We're into written public  
42 comments now.

43

44 MS. WILSON: Okay. I'm kind of confused on  
45 Proposal 3 for the black bear. In the second paragraph,  
46 for the reasons for changing the regulation, it says the  
47 Kake area finally had a deer hunting season in the past  
48 five years and it was closed to all hunting of deer for 17  
49 years. So is that under State regs that it was closed in  
50 their own area?

00108

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah.

2

3 MR. JOHNSON: That's correct.

4

5 MS. WILSON: Okay. I guess they put that  
6 in there for a reason. It must be because the use of  
7 vehicles must impact the deer hunting also on Kuiu Island.

8

9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You're using up Council  
10 discussion time now. He's just making a report and we'll  
11 decide that when it comes to the Council.

12

13 MS. WILSON: Okay.

14

15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Do we have written  
16 comments. Public comments.

17

18 MR. CLARK: We do on Page 10. The Edna Bay  
19 Fish and Game Advisory Committee supports the Kake  
20 community on this issue. Michael Quinn of Klawock writes  
21 in opposition. He says, I could not disagree more with the  
22 proposed Southeast Federal Subsistence resource region  
23 regulation proposals numbers 3 and 7 regarding the use of  
24 wheeled vehicles for both deer and black bear hunting on  
25 Kuiu Island near Kake. The real problem is the use of Kake  
26 tribal corporation logging roads on Kupreanof Island where  
27 Kake is located. I would change the proposals to read, "no  
28 wheeled vehicles may be used for hunting black bear on  
29 Kupreanof Island at any time during the open season."

30

31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

32

33 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, with the other  
34 proposal, let me check -- in addition, Mr. Chairman, there  
35 are notes of opposition from Richard Stough in Wrangell to  
36 Proposal 7, since logging roads have improved our access,  
37 it would be stupid to deny the use of wheeled vehicles. We  
38 firmly believe that we should be able to continue to hunt  
39 the road systems on Kuiu with wheeled vehicles as well as  
40 anywhere else.

41

42 And the other two notes are the same as for deer  
43 and for black bear.

44

45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Thank you. Is  
46 there any public comment.

47

48 MR. MARTIN: Mr. Chairman.

49

50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Harold.

00109

1 MR. MARTIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm  
2 not sure where this guy gets his information about Kake  
3 people hunting black bear and deer on the Kake tribal  
4 roads. In the first place, Kake people -- very few Kake  
5 people use black bear. And for your information, the deer  
6 have been gone, like they've said, for 17 years. I went  
7 logging -- Clear Creek logging in Kake in 1968. And in  
8 those years, the deer somehow disappeared off Kuiu Island,  
9 Mitkof Island and Kupreanof Island. These deer are just  
10 coming back. They have a limited opening and Kake people  
11 believe in fair chase. I don't believe in chasing deer on  
12 motorized vehicles.

13  
14 Most of these people, when I was logging, came from  
15 out of state, they came from Oregon and Washington state.  
16 They stalked them under our subsistence, crab, salmon,  
17 deer, and went south for the winter. They did not  
18 contribute to the economy. Now, I'm not sure how they  
19 obtained their customary and traditional use. How long  
20 does it take to obtain customary and traditional use of any  
21 species. These people haven't been there that long. I  
22 remember when they moved in.

23  
24 So I think you're looking at these harvest data as  
25 gospel. How many are not reported? A lot of these things  
26 are not reported. When Sotterburg started logging in  
27 Hamilton Bay, we had to stop these people from shooting  
28 deer in the spring time. They thought they were doing us a  
29 favor by shooting deer off their vehicles and bringing it  
30 into town. Like we were supposed to be starving Natives in  
31 the village. We told them we have seasons for deer. We  
32 don't kill deer when they have fawns, we just don't bother  
33 them at all. So I don't look at these harvest data as  
34 gospel.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So are you speaking in  
37 favor of the proposal?

38  
39 MR. MARTIN: Yes, I am.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

42  
43 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

46  
47 MS. GARZA: Before we start deliberations,  
48 I have a question of clarification. Looking at either of  
49 the Unit 3 maps, I don't see where the road systems are so  
50 I don't understand the magnitude of problems for someone to

00110

1 be driving around on a truck, which I understood was part  
2 of that insane hunter concern.

3

4 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Out of mind.

5

6 MS. GARZA: Out of mind.

7

8 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chairman, can I make a  
9 comment.

10

11 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Mike.

12

13 MR. DOUVILLE: I don't really -- I'm not  
14 really sure we should be taking these both at the same time  
15 because your bear counts are much more accurate than the  
16 deer, if the deer is a mail-in survey. I consider them the  
17 most inaccurate pieces of data you can get. Meanwhile the  
18 bears must be sealed and tagged to legally own, so I think  
19 that is relatively accurate.

20

21 That's my comment.

22

23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. So based on the  
24 merit we just got we'll treat them as separate proposals.  
25 We're now dealing with bear.

26

27 Patty.

28

29 MS. PHILLIPS: I was wondering why there  
30 was no harvest data for the black bear. We got percentages  
31 but no real numbers.

32

33 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Mr. Willis, is it among  
34 your stuff there?

35

36 MR. JOHNSON: In response to Patty's  
37 question. This is black bear data from 1999, ADF&G harvest  
38 data, I believe it is referenced in the analysis. If  
39 you'll look at -- by the way the references on Page 9 all  
40 relate to wildlife data and I apologize to the Council that  
41 numbers are not in your booklet to reference the harvest  
42 data that's being used to calculate this analysis or to  
43 conduct this analysis.

44

45 In Unit 3, 83 percent of the harvested bears were  
46 males. The average male skull size was 18.6 inches which  
47 exceeded the project objective. Kuiu Island had a harvest  
48 of 155 bears and Kupreanof Island had a harvest of 109  
49 bears. The average age for harvested black bears in the  
50 previous season was 7.2 years. Again, the point that I

00111

1 want to make on the total number of bears harvested, via  
2 the road system, on Page 6, road hunters were only  
3 successful 16 percent of the time. And again, based on the  
4 analysis utilizing the State's data, there's no biological  
5 reason to close the road system. Again, I want to  
6 emphasize the biological part of that.

7  
8 Closure of the road system for use in black bear  
9 hunting is unlikely to substantially improve the bear  
10 population and would decrease the subsistence opportunity  
11 for eligible subsistence users. Again, back to Section  
12 .811.

13  
14 That concludes my comments, Mr. Chairman.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Were you speaking as  
17 public, agency or Staff?

18  
19 MR. JOHNSON: I'm speaking as Staff.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Patty.

22  
23 MS. PHILLIPS: What percentage do they  
24 allow for take, I mean the wildlife managers of the  
25 estimated total population?

26  
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I want to remind the  
28 Council, this is Dave's first stab as doing this  
29 responsibility.

30  
31 MR. JOHNSON: It could be my last one, too,  
32 Mr. Chairman.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So if you really want to  
35 make a guy look terrible now's your chance.

36  
37 MR. JOHNSON: I think those are fair  
38 questions, though, Mr. Chairman. I guess I would defer to  
39 the State, if Bruce Dinneford or anyone would like to  
40 comment on that because that's the data that was used for  
41 the analysis. Thank you.

42  
43 MR. DINNEFORD: Mr. Chairman, Patty. I'm  
44 not going to be able to give you much more than what Dave  
45 has. We don't have a population estimate, that's with the  
46 research that I mentioned, is going to be getting at. But  
47 generally speaking with black bears, allowable harvest is  
48 over five percent but something less than 10 percent.  
49 Different parts of the Western United States aim their  
50 target percentage at around seven percent when they have a

00112

1 known population. And that's the reason why we're going  
2 through a research project there.

3  
4           You asked about harvest and if you'll bear with me,  
5 I can run you off, just tick off the last 10 years of  
6 harvest from '88 through '97, and you'll see that it is  
7 increasing. But it started back in '88/89 at 118, 109, 78,  
8 77, 88, 120, 114, 124, 129, and 151. This is for Kuiu  
9 Island, and I believe Dave said 155 for '98/99 so we had  
10 another slight bump this last year. So the harvest is  
11 increasing. Like all other black bear hunts in Southeast  
12 Alaska hunters don't need a permit so we don't have an idea  
13 of effort. We don't know how many hunters go hunting to  
14 harvest so many bears. So we don't have a take per unit  
15 effort figure.

16  
17           But other aspects, you know, the average age, the  
18 skull size, looks healthy. But there, again, I could real  
19 quick tick off the number of bears in that same 10 year  
20 period taken by people using motorized land vehicles,  
21 three, two, one, zero, one, four, then there was one year  
22 that bumped up to 16, then back down, one, four, nine. So  
23 it's a pretty minuscule part of the total harvest.

24  
25           MS. PHILLIPS: What is the estimated  
26 unreported kills?

27  
28           MR. DINNEFORD: I don't know. That's a  
29 very good question. And it's something that wounding loss  
30 or natural mortality from other bears or old age is  
31 something that is very difficult to get. We have asked at  
32 times, not on Kuiu necessarily, but we have asked hunters  
33 to keep track of how many bears they think they struck but  
34 did not retrieve, by the time they got to it it was gone or  
35 what not. And those percentages vary. I would be real  
36 surprised if it was, you know, in some places we speculate  
37 that illegal deer harvest primarily by spotlighting, that  
38 type of activity might be as high as the legal harvest but  
39 with black bear we don't have any feelings that it's near  
40 that high. I'd hate to try to guess a percentage for you.

41  
42           MS. PHILLIPS: And do you factor in any  
43 percentage?

44  
45           MR. DINNEFORD: Well, when we have an  
46 estimated percent of a population that we don't know, we  
47 try to make it conservative enough it allows for there to  
48 be, you know, death beyond harvest, which there -- or  
49 mortality beyond harvest, which, of course, there always  
50 is, but not a firm number, no.

00113

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Now, that we're so  
2 informed, what's the wish of the Council? Vicki.

3  
4 MS. LeCORNU: I move that we support this  
5 proposal.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is there a second.

8  
9 MS. STEVENS: Second.

10  
11 MR. KOOKESH: Second.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It's been moved and  
14 seconded to support Proposal 3. Discussion. Dolly.

15  
16 MS. GARZA: I still didn't get any  
17 information on where the roads are.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Where in the heck are the  
20 roads?

21  
22 MS. PHILLIPS: Where's that CD-Rom.

23  
24 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, I've been looking  
25 for a map that shows the road but it doesn't -- I don't  
26 think we have one. One more source to look at while you're  
27 under discussion.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You got road information  
30 for us?

31  
32 MR. MEYERS: Sort of. My name is Marty  
33 Meyers. I'm a special agent with the Forest Service. I  
34 had a technical thing, I guess, on the wording on that  
35 particular rules change you're looking at as far as wheeled  
36 vehicles. Forest Service is probably one of the agencies  
37 involved with the responding to law enforcement action on  
38 any violations of this. And one of the concerns I have and  
39 want to make sure that everybody understands what they want  
40 to say here. Because wheeled vehicles include bicycles,  
41 horse and cart, things like that and I'm not sure that's  
42 really what you want to restrict, if you want to go ahead  
43 and do this. So you might want to consider the wording,  
44 whether or not you want wheeled vehicles or for what  
45 motorized vehicles, wheeled motorized vehicles for this  
46 consideration.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, we can only respond  
49 to what we see.

50

00114

1 MR. MEYERS: Right. Well, I just wanted to  
2 give that food for thought. Because if you enact this as  
3 wheeled vehicles, it restricts more things that I think you  
4 don't want to restrict if you go through with that. That's  
5 all I had.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Dolly, you  
8 still don't know where the roads are.

9  
10 MS. GARZA: No. I don't know where the  
11 roads are and, yeah, I am still confused because  
12 technically, although this proposal is submitted by,  
13 certainly a well respected Native from the community, it is  
14 not submitted as a community, nor has the community  
15 supported it. There's nothing from Kake Tribe or Kake ANB  
16 or Kake ANS, and technically it is true, that if we  
17 supported this then we would be reducing the opportunity to  
18 any subsistence bear hunter who uses a motorized vehicle so  
19 we would reduce opportunity.

20  
21 Now, the fact that we may have some yahoos out  
22 there that's making life miserable for other people, I'm  
23 not sure that the way to overcome it is to reduce the  
24 opportunity for people who do take their cars out or trucks  
25 out and still respect the land and do a good hunt.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Maybe we could amend it  
28 to restrict yahoos.

29  
30 MS. GARZA: Just the insane ones.

31  
32 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Fred.

35  
36 MR. CLARK: Just looking down the road as  
37 this goes before the Board, one thing that they will  
38 consider is Section .815, which is not unnecessarily  
39 restricting non-subsistence harvesters or hunters. So  
40 you'll want to keep that in mind in your deliberations as  
41 well.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I'm not going to sweat  
44 it. Dave.

45  
46 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, I guess I just  
47 want to point out again, biologically, the road issue  
48 notwithstanding  
49 comments from ADF&G in their formal report states that,  
50 again, based on skull size and based on the numbers of

00115

1 bears harvested and based on the male/female sex ratio of  
2 the harvest. "The population is probably capable of  
3 supporting a larger harvest." So again, I would defer to  
4 the biologist who are in the bear business as to what the  
5 status is of the population.

6  
7 MR. MARTIN: Mr. Chairman.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Harold.

10  
11 MR. MARTIN: On Dolly's question, there's a  
12 road that goes from Saginaw Bay into Security Bay and then  
13 from Rowland Bay into Security Bay. Security Bay, it goes  
14 right behind the lake. The lake is a very important  
15 subsistence area for Kake people. And when we're talking  
16 about population of black bear or take of black bear, I'm  
17 not sure whether we're talking about subsistence take. I  
18 know for a fact that a lot of guided hunters go to this  
19 Kuiu Island to take their black bear.

20  
21 Just for your information.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you.

24  
25 MS. GARZA: Can you come show me on my map?  
26 I don't know where the lake is or where anything is.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Where's your big map?  
29 We're taking an official time out here.

30  
31 (Looking at Maps)

32  
33 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, we have a motion on  
34 the floor, it's been seconded. Further discussion. Patty.

35  
36 MS. PHILLIPS: A friendly amendment.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We have an amendment or  
39 no amendment.

40  
41 MS. PHILLIPS: I'd like to amend it.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

44  
45 MS. PHILLIPS: To motorized land vehicles  
46 -- no motorized land vehicles may be used. It's consistent  
47 with other.....

48  
49 MR. KOOKESH: I'll second that.

50

00116

1 MS. PHILLIPS: .....language.

2

3 MS. LeCORNU: I'll concur also.

4

5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The amendment's been  
6 seconded. Discussion on the amendment.

7

8 MR. KOOKESH: Question.

9

10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: All those in favor of the  
11 amendment say aye.

12

13 IN UNISON: Aye.

14

15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Those in favor of saying  
16 not aye.

17

18 (No opposing votes)

19

20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The ayes have it. We  
21 have an amendment. Further discussion on the main motion  
22 as amended. Are we ready for the question?

23

24 MR. KOOKESH: Question.

25

26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Question's been called  
27 for. All those in favor say aye.

28

29 IN UNISON: Aye.

30

31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Opposed.

32

33 IN UNISON: Aye.

34

35 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The motion was to  
36 support, right? I think the first ayes have it. Okay,  
37 next.

38

39 MS. GARZA: Could I request a count on  
40 that?

41

42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You want a show of hands?

43

44 MS. GARZA: Yes.

45

46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So granted. All those in  
47 favor say aye.

48

49 MS. STEVENS: Aye.

50

00117

1 MR. LAITI: Aye.

2  
3 MS. RUDOLPH: Aye.

4  
5 MR. KOOKESH: Aye.

6  
7 MS. PHILLIPS: Aye.

8  
9 MR. STOKES: Aye.

10  
11 MS. LeCORNU: Aye.

12  
13 MR. ADAMS: Aye.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Opposed same sign.

16  
17 MR. DOUVILLE: Aye.

18  
19 MS. GARZA: Aye.

20  
21 MS. WILSON: Aye.

22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, the Aye's have it,  
23 doggone it, I hate majorities. Next.

24  
25 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, do you want to  
26 go through Proposal 7 then so we stay on Kuiu Island.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Stay on track, yeah.

29  
30 MR. JOHNSON: Yep. Again, Proposal 7 that

31 has to do with Unit 3 deer would restrict -- I believe that

32 should -- well, no wheeled vehicles, Mr. Chairman, again.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Okay, so this is

35 essentially the same language, different species. We

36 separated them because the different merits warranted that.

37 What's the wish of the Council.

38  
39 MS. LeCORNU: Move that we support this

40 with the change that we made on the first one for motorized

41 vehicles.

42  
43 MR. KOOKESH: That would come under

44 remarks; is that correct?

45  
46 MS. LeCORNU: So I couldn't just make a

47 motion to -- well, I'll make a motion to accept this

48 proposal.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is there a second.

00118

1 MS. RUDOLPH: Second.

2  
3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Moved and second,  
4 discussion.

5  
6 MR. KOOKESH: Move to change it to  
7 read.....

8  
9 MS. LeCORNU: No motorized vehicles, is  
10 that.....

11  
12 MR. KOOKESH: .....no motorized land  
13 vehicles.

14  
15 MS. LeCORNU: Is that what we're after?

16  
17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No motorized land  
18 vehicles?

19  
20 MR. KOOKESH: Right. Under remarks.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, so it's been  
23 amended to no motorized land vehicles. Bikes are okay, uh,  
24 if you can pack a black bear out on a bike.

25  
26 MS. LeCORNU: Horse and cart.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Horse and buggy.

29  
30 MR. JOHNSON: Sure.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, there's an  
33 amendment offered. Was there a second to the amendment?

34  
35 MR. STOKES: I'll second it.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Moved and seconded,  
38 discussion. All those that like the amendment say aye.

39  
40 IN UNISON: Aye.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Those that don't like it  
43 say no.

44  
45 (No opposing votes)

46  
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, we have an  
48 amendment. Discussion on the main motion as amended.

49 Patty.

50

00119

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Under his reason for  
2 changing the regulation, one of the sentences he adds is  
3 deer hunting should be open to Kake residents only, that's  
4 a C&T -- that would be a customary and traditional.....

5  
6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That's correct.

7  
8 MS. PHILLIPS: .....request. Right. So is  
9 it appropriate that he be contacted and told that that has  
10 to go through a separate.....

11  
12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Sure is.

13  
14 MS. PHILLIPS: .....process?

15  
16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: And you get a star for  
17 being alert.

18  
19 MS. PHILLIPS: But it seems to me that's  
20 more the issue than.....

21  
22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That's true, yes. That's  
23 true, that's a good point. You got a note of that Fred?

24  
25 MR. CLARK: (Nods affirmatively)

26  
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Is there any other  
28 discussion or anything else you folks want to note? Dave.

29  
30 MR. JOHNSON: Just a couple comments, Mr.  
31 Chairman. If you'll note on the bottom of Page 43, getting  
32 back to the biology here, the total harvest for deer in  
33 Unit 3 during the '98/99 hunting season was 1,085 animals.  
34 And based on that data, only 2.6 percent of the total  
35 harvest in Unit 3 occurred on Kuiu. Kake hunters reported  
36 that they did not harvest from Kuiu Island that year and no  
37 hunters came from the Rowland Bay Camp. So in terms of,  
38 again, the total number of deer harvested for '98/99, on  
39 Kuiu was only 2.6 percent of the total harvest. And again,  
40 harvest data for Rowland Bay Hunters, from '94 through '98  
41 only accounted for 28 deer. Again, getting back to what  
42 was reported.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So there's an element of  
45 insignificance here.

46  
47 MR. JOHNSON: I didn't say that Mr.  
48 Chairman.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I heard you.

00120

1 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Further discussion.

4 Patty.

5

6 MS. PHILLIPS: It says it was closed for 17  
7 years so it reopened in '94/95?

8

9 MR. JOHNSON: That's correct. My  
10 understanding is, Mr. Chairman, based on the severity of  
11 the winters and the drop in population as a result of that  
12 winter severity is what created the closure on the part of  
13 the State and it took that long for the deer to rebuilt --  
14 population to rebuild.

15

16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Further discussion.

17

18 MR. STOKES: Mr. Chairman, we have other  
19 hunters besides Kake that go there, people from Wrangell,  
20 and people from Petersburg and Point Baker. They go in  
21 there and I don't see how we could justify just Kake  
22 people.

23

24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That's why you vote the  
25 way you vote.

26

27 MR. STOKES: Well, I'm just.....

28

29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yeah, that's a good  
30 point. Marilyn did you have discussion.

31

32 MS. WILSON: I did, something to comment on  
33 the population of the deer. When was the logging was done  
34 on Kuiu Island? Was there any logging done?

35

36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I have no idea.

37

38 MS. WILSON: Maybe that impacted the deer  
39 population. It's just an idea.

40

41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, we're voting on the  
42 merits of the motion, up or down. Vicki.

43

44 MS. LeCORNU: Yeah, to answer Dick's  
45 question, they would take a boat, right?

46

47 MR. STOKES: Yeah.

48

49 MS. LeCORNU: This is only regarding  
50 motorized land vehicles.

00121

1 MR. STOKES: Okay. But it said,  
2 restricting the hunters, I mean that would.....

3  
4 MS. LeCORNU: Yeah, we're not to that part.

5  
6 MR. STOKES: We're not?

7  
8 MS. LeCORNU: No.

9  
10 MR. STOKES: Okay.

11  
12 MS. LeCORNU: That's what they want to do  
13 in the future, I think.

14  
15 MS. PHILLIPS: How do you feel about  
16 motorized land vehicles in that area?

17  
18 MR. STOKES: Well, I don't know, I've never  
19 been there on it. I've been in other areas that have it  
20 and.....

21  
22 MS. GARZA: Where's Lonnie Kake?

23  
24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Further discussion.

25  
26 MS. LeCORNU: Mr. Chairman, I am in support  
27 of this because the Kake residents feel that it would give  
28 them more of an opportunity for more culturally  
29 appropriated; is that.....

30  
31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is that a motion?

32  
33 MS. LeCORNU: Yes. I mean I -- I already  
34 made the motion, right?

35  
36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yep. Okay. Do we have  
37 any new discussion. We've rehashed the same discussion  
38 about four different ways. All those in favor say aye.

39  
40 IN UNISON: Aye.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Those opposed.

43  
44 IN UNISON: Aye.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Whoa, a division in the  
47 camp. All the ayes raise your right hand.

48  
49 MS. LeCORNU: Aye.

50

00122

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Aye.

2  
3 MR. KOOKESH: Aye.

4  
5 MS. RUDOLPH: Aye.

6  
7 MS. STEVENS: Aye.

8  
9 MR. ADAMS: Aye.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: All the nos raise your  
12 hand.

13  
14 MS. GARZA: Aye.

15  
16 MS. WILSON: Aye.

17  
18 MR. STOKES: Aye.

19  
20 MR. LAITI: Aye.

21  
22 MR. DOUVILLE: Aye.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The majority again.

25 Okay, next.

26  
27 MR. JOHNSON: Let's go back to the bears,  
28 Mr. Chairman. Unit 4 brown bear on Page 11. Based on the  
29 population of brown bears, the -- I'm sorry, based on the  
30 proposal, the proponent would like to change the harvest of  
31 brown bears from every two years to every other year.

32  
33 MS. GARZA: Every four years.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Every four years to every  
36 other year.

37  
38 MR. JOHNSON: I'm sorry, every four years  
39 to every other year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. And what is the  
42 wisdom of the Staff?

43  
44 MR. JOHNSON: The reason for changing the  
45 regulation is that the brown bear population is presently  
46 healthy, again, based on the biological and harvest data.  
47 There's currently indications that brown bears are becoming  
48 a nuisance to the community.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: That's a switch.

00123

1 MR. JOHNSON: Also based on the biology,  
2 it's believed that brown bear population could withstand at  
3 least a doubling in subsistence harvest rate while  
4 maintaining a sustainable population and it increases the  
5 opportunity for subsistence harvesting and it does so  
6 without restricting the other uses.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So this would be -- this  
9 would double the existing reg, right, by moving to every  
10 other year instead of every four years?

11  
12 MR. JOHNSON: That's correct.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Does the State  
15 have any comments on this?

16  
17 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, the State does  
18 have comments and Jack will present those -- or Bruce,  
19 excuse me.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Bruce.

22  
23 MR. DINNEFORD: Bruce Dinneford, again,  
24 Department of Fish and Game and thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
25 We are not in favor of this proposal. And as written it,  
26 doubling of the existing subsistence or customary and  
27 traditional harvest, we don't see as a problem. Basically  
28 the potential problem comes down to one community in Unit 4  
29 and that's Sitka. There's a lot of residents in Sitka who  
30 would be able to harvest a bear every second year under  
31 this proposal, that the harvest would be more in line of a  
32 -- of the State harvest or a sport harvest if you will, and  
33 could greatly exceed what we are led to believe is the  
34 long-term customary and traditional use of bears by people  
35 in Southeast Alaska.

36  
37 Sitka has a real diverse population with the Coast  
38 Guard base there. A lot of young people who might be  
39 interested in hunting more frequently and that gives us  
40 pause. With the other communities in the unit, other  
41 customary and traditionally -- or I should say, people who  
42 have the ability to harvest bears under Federal regulations  
43 in Unit 4, we don't see near the potential issue. But at  
44 the current time we're looking at a bear harvest throughout  
45 Unit 4 in several locations approaching what we feel to be  
46 the flashing yellow light if you will of four percent of  
47 the estimated population and that population estimate is  
48 about -- it's not quite 10 years old yet but it's getting a  
49 little bit old. We're going to be doing another population  
50 estimate probably on Northeast Chichagof again starting

00124

1 this summer.

2

3 Another point, paragraph two of the Forest Service  
4 Staff analysis implies that the Unit 4 bear population is  
5 too large and we don't believe that to be the case. Brown  
6 bears have very low recruitment rates and while there is a  
7 dense population of brown bears on Admiralty, Baranof and  
8 Chichagof Islands, we feel that there are not necessarily  
9 too many bears for the good of the population or the whole  
10 ecosystem.

11

12 We disagree with the statement under the  
13 justification section that the proposal would increase  
14 subsistence opportunity without restricting other uses.  
15 Current harvest is at or near the goal of four percent. So  
16 again, any increase in subsistence take would have to be  
17 compensated for by reduction in non-subsistence take.

18

19 Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So are you arguing with  
22 the people that proposed it?

23

24 MR. DINNEFORD: Basically the point

25 I'm.....

26

27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Just kidding.

28

29 MR. DINNEFORD: Okay, thank you Bill.

30

31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Just kidding.

32

33 MS. LeCORNU: I have a question.

34

35 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Vicki.

36

37 MS. LeCORNU: What percent of non-  
38 subsistence hunt is taken?

39

40 MR. DINNEFORD: A very large percent. Mike  
41 Turek can correct me if I'm wrong but I believe the number  
42 of bears taken by subsistence or more customary and  
43 traditional use, is probably, if it's four or five per  
44 year, that's probably high.

45

46 MS. LeCORNU: I'm talking about the non-  
47 subsistence hunt?

48

49 MR. DINNEFORD: Right. Of the total  
50 harvest, so maybe out of 120 bears, 115 -- 110 to 115.....

000125

1 MS. LeCORNU: Are non-subsistence.

2

3 MR. DINNEFORD: .....but some of those are  
4 taken by Southeast Alaska residents, some of which live in  
5 Sitka, Angoon and Hoonah, but those are not necessarily  
6 used in ceremonial purposes or for regalia, so it's kind of  
7 hard to tease that out.

8

9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dave.

10

11 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, from 1960 to  
12 1998 rural residents of Unit 4 in Kake harvested 16.3  
13 percent of the total harvest of animals taken in Unit 4,  
14 which is 592 animals. That means 83.7 percent of those  
15 animals were taken by non-rural residents.

16

17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: 87?

18

19 MR. JOHNSON: 83.7.

20

21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: 83.7.

22

23 MR. JOHNSON: I believe that adds up to 100  
24 percent, I think.

25

26 MS. LeCORNU: So it would be restricting  
27 those 115 hunters?

28

29 MR. DINNEFORD: Well, not necessarily. The  
30 point I was trying to make, Vicki, is that of the 16  
31 percent that Dave commented on taken by rural residents, I  
32 would speculate and again, Mike or Dave can correct me if  
33 I'm wrong, but probably not all of those are used in a  
34 customary and traditional fashion. I would estimate that  
35 some percentage of those are used as -- for trophy value,  
36 if you will, by residents who live in Southeast who do  
37 qualify for rural privileges but don't necessarily use them  
38 in the more customary and traditional fashion.

39

40 MS. LeCORNU: Uh-huh.

41

42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, thank you. We'll  
43 probably revisit some of these same questions before we  
44 move on. But right now, that concludes your analysis,  
45 Dave?

46

47 MR. JOHNSON: The conclusion is to support  
48 the proposal, again, the justification is that  
49 biologically, Unit 4 can withstand at least the doubling,  
50 based on the data that we have and the proposal increases

00126

1 opportunity for rural users without restricting other  
2 users.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So you folks have  
5 different viewpoints on this?

6  
7 MR. JOHNSON: We looked at the same data  
8 and came to different conclusions, yes, Mr. Chairman.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, thank you. That  
11 will all be taken into consideration. Other agency  
12 comments. Is there any agencies that don't know anything  
13 about this and want to comment on it? Okay, summary of  
14 written public comments.

15  
16 MR. JOHNSON: There were none, Mr.  
17 Chairman.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Public comments.

20  
21 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Chairman.....

22  
23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yes.

24  
25 MR. CLARK: There were no written public  
26 comments in the booklet but there were some that arrived  
27 after the booklet was printed. Bill Paydon from the Sitka  
28 Fish and Game Advisory Committee wrote that the Sitka Fish  
29 and Game Advisory Committee reviewed and discussed Proposal  
30 4 in the Federal subsistence management regulations at our  
31 meeting of March 1st, 2000. While perhaps laudable in  
32 concept, this committee is not in favor of the proposal as  
33 written. The advisory committee voted unanimously to  
34 support the conclusions of the Unit 4 brown bear management  
35 team and prefer the Council consider adopting or modifying  
36 one of the existing regulations as outlined by the Unit 4  
37 brown bear management team.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is there more?

40  
41 MR. CLARK: There was a comment from Ben  
42 Mitchell in Sitka -- oh, excuse me, that's Proposal 8.

43  
44 Here is Ben Mitchell's comments on -- too many late  
45 comments, that's all for Proposal 4.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. We're now into  
48 public comments and I have one request. The honorable Ray  
49 Nielsen from Sitka, our write-in president for President of  
50 the United States.

000127

1 MR. NIELSEN: Don't call me President  
2 Clinton. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Board members. I'm a  
3 little bit late here but I made it here.

4  
5 On Proposal 4, Sitka ANB, we opposed harvest of  
6 additional bear. We just anticipate that every gunslinger  
7 is going to come to town and going to -- we anticipate more  
8 gunslingers, and we don't like that. Even though there are  
9 a lot of bears, we don't support a bear every other year.  
10 Too many people will come to town looking to satisfy their  
11 ego in shooting bears with whatever guns they have  
12 possible.

13  
14 And I'm on the Fish and Game Advisory Committee and  
15 I did not support the taking of the brown bear as our  
16 advisory committee did, and we don't -- the Native people  
17 in Sitka do not eat the brown bear, and the way we do it,  
18 if we don't eat it, we don't shoot it and that's my  
19 philosophy on it, too.

20  
21 So on behalf of Sitka ANB, you know, we urge you  
22 not to adopt this proposal.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So you want to keep it to  
25 a bare minimum, uh?

26  
27 MR. NIELSEN: That's it.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Further comments  
30 from the public. Uninformed agencies. Disinterested  
31 parties. Harold. He's probably going to support it just  
32 to be awnry.

33  
34 MR. MARTIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm  
35 not sure how these data came about, but Kake people are  
36 afraid of brown bear, they don't use it. And the  
37 allegation that perhaps some of these were used for  
38 trophies, well, Natives aren't involved in trophy taking.  
39 We don't kill anything for nothing. I have no use for brown  
40 bear so I don't hunt them, I won't shoot them. I have no  
41 use for black bear so I won't hunt them, I won't shoot  
42 them. I have no use for wolves, I don't bother them. I  
43 have no use for sea otters, I don't bother them. This is  
44 the Native way, we don't bother things that we can't use.  
45 This is the way we were brought up. This is the way that  
46 the protocol still exists in the communities. So I'm not  
47 sure where this data comes from on the brown bear used by  
48 Kake people.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Well, I don't

00128

1 use them either because I can't hit them.

2

3 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chairman.

4

5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Mike.

6

7 MR. DOUVILLE: This was proposed by the  
8 Regional Advisory Council. What does that mean exactly  
9 here?

10

11 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I don't know who in the  
12 heck they are, those are the out of mind hunters. Dolly.

13

14 MS. GARZA: I am out of my mind for trying  
15 to bring things from Sitka I guess. I brought this to the  
16 Regional Advisory Council and I'm the one who adamantly  
17 requested that it be on here because I have heard, not what  
18 Ray has heard, but I have heard from Mark Jacobs, ad  
19 nauseam and other Native hunters who have said clearly that  
20 it's difficult to teach young people how to hunt brown bear  
21 when you can take one only every four years. And they see  
22 -- at the same time, while they, as rural residents, are  
23 being restricted to one every four years, these outsiders  
24 are coming in in increasing numbers and taking brown bear  
25 and so the opportunity is not going to the community it is  
26 going to people coming in who feel like taking one, as Ray  
27 said, as a trophy, while we have legitimate customary and  
28 traditional hunters who are being denied that opportunity  
29 because they took one three years ago. And so it was not  
30 my intent that it would benefit outsiders who want to come  
31 in and be one of these insane hunters but it was the intent  
32 from what I heard from Sitka people who do hunt, is that,  
33 they want to teach their children, they want to teach their  
34 nephews, they want to provide this opportunity and they  
35 don't see how they can provide it if it's once every four  
36 years.

37

38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, Dolly. Vicki.

39

40 MS. LeCORNU: I have a question for Dolly,  
41 I don't understand, do other hunters have a less  
42 restrictive hunt that's in the same area?

43

44 MS. GARZA: No, but you have -- I mean if  
45 only four bear a year are going to the traditional hunters  
46 then you have in excess of say 20, and then the next years  
47 that are available, the trophy hunters are going to come  
48 in, even if it's non-customary and traditional, if that  
49 excess harvest or surplus is available, they're going to  
50 come in and take them as trophy hunts.

00129

1 MS. LeCORNU: So they do have less  
2 restrictive then?

3  
4 MS. GARZA: Well, they -- not that they can  
5 -- they can't come in more than once every four years, it's  
6 just that there's more of them.

7  
8 MS. LeCORNU: Oh, I see.

9  
10 MS. GARZA: So there's like gazillions.

11  
12 MS. LeCORNU: Well, you know, I could see  
13 where this would be appropriate because it does allow for  
14 the subsistence hunt and maybe it does impact those other  
15 hunters so I would be in favor of it because it does -- it  
16 would restrict those other hunters in favor of giving  
17 preference to the locals.

18  
19 So I don't know how everybody else feels.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Fred.

22  
23 MR. CLARK: May I ask a question, Mr.  
24 Chairman?

25  
26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Uh-huh.

27  
28 MR. CLARK: The primary use of the bears  
29 taken by Sitka residents, subsistence users in Sitka, are  
30 they primarily to acquire materials for mortuary purposes,  
31 for ceremonies, things of that sort or for regalia; things  
32 of that sort? The reason I'm asking is that there is --  
33 the existing regulations allow for the taking of wildlife  
34 out of season for food and other things used in religious  
35 ceremonies, part of a funeral and mortuarity, including  
36 memorial potlatches. The one possibility would be to  
37 modify that regulation as opposed to the timing or the bag  
38 limits for how often people can harvest bears for  
39 subsistence purposes.

40  
41 Just an idea, a question about what the actual  
42 purposes are for those bears and if they might fit within  
43 this regulation somewhat.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Mary.

46  
47 MS. RUDOLPH: I know one of the concerns  
48 that came up in Hoonah was mostly for the guides that were  
49 taking the hunters out. I think when Herman Kitka was on  
50 here he talked about our people never hunted bear at the

00130

1 end of the summer season because they tasted strong of the  
2 fish that they ate all summer, there was a certain time  
3 they did their hunting and it wasn't at that time. So I  
4 was wondering what kind of data did they get to come up  
5 with the September 15th one?

6  
7 MR. JOHNSON: Well, just one comment on the  
8 September date in terms of the ability to preserve the hide  
9 if it was a non- -- if someone was hunting for harvest for  
10 a trophy. The later in the year that you would go would be  
11 easier to take care of your hide because of flies and  
12 things and associated with that. I don't know the specific  
13 wildlife management reasons, again, sows would be with cubs  
14 during the summer. I guess I would defer again to the  
15 State as far as what makes the September 15th date a magic  
16 date, but I really can't respond to that question.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The State can't either.  
19 He gave me the academy salute.

20  
21 MS. GARZA: Let me respond first to Fred's  
22 question. I guess my response, Fred, is that, people in  
23 Sitka are pretty tired of applying for all these special  
24 permits to do things that -- they're just kind of tired of  
25 it, you know, to do one for whatever take that they have to  
26 do that's out of season, it's just they're getting tired of  
27 all these hoops they have to jump through and here we have,  
28 you know, trophy hunters coming in that don't have to do  
29 any hoops, they just go in and pay lots of money and they  
30 can go out and get it.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Madame Chair, recognize  
33 Floyd, would you.

34  
35 MR. KOOKESH: One of the things that I've  
36 noticed about Proposal 4 is it seems to me that Proposal 4  
37 relates to the same thing 3 and 7 are trying to answer, is  
38 that, these proposals they're not perfect and I think we're  
39 trying to, in one way, address customary and traditional,  
40 but the thing we seem to be looking at is we're dealing  
41 with the regulations, we're following the regulations that  
42 are laid down by us by other -- like the regulatory  
43 agencies. So what we're trying to do is work within that  
44 system, and we get Proposals like 3, 4 and 7, which really  
45 should be addressing customary and traditional. That's  
46 what I keep seeing. Because what we're doing is, I think,  
47 Mr. Willard mentioned it earlier is that -- and I'm  
48 paraphrasing but it's like we're regulating our traditional  
49 way of life away. We're allowing it to be regulated. If  
50 you look at our current regalia from the brown bear, I

00131

1 don't think you'll see new brown bear regalia, I think  
2 we've allowed the system to deter us from using that.

3  
4 Correct me if I'm wrong, you've been to these --  
5 I'll give you an example, have you been to any of the  
6 Tlingit doings, have you see new brown bear regalia on  
7 them? I think we're being moved out of that way of life  
8 that we're so accustomed to. But these regulations, all  
9 those are not perfect, they're trying to address something  
10 and I think what I'm seeing is that it's customary and  
11 traditional we're talking about.

12  
13 I think the Kake people, in looking at the system,  
14 are just trying to follow what's in front of us and we're  
15 probably -- we're going to go back to Mr. Jackson and tell  
16 him, we're talking customary and traditional here. and  
17 that's the same thing with brown bear that you're  
18 questioning. I think the example is that it should be  
19 applying only to the Native community, this Proposal 4.  
20 Far from perfect but it's addressing -- starting to take it  
21 down that road.

22  
23 MR. STOKES: Are you speaking in favor of  
24 it?

25  
26 MR. KOOKESH: Yes, I'm speaking in favor of  
27 it.

28  
29 MS. GARZA: Okay, Bruce, you were going to  
30 comment to a question from Mary, I lost track.

31  
32 MR. DINNEFORD: It was basically a comment  
33 on why September 15th is the opener. And it's -- it's  
34 customary and traditional. That's -- in a different sense.  
35 That's what the date has been for a long time and I can't  
36 tell you why that's when people went hunting bears. I'm  
37 not trying to be flip or disrespect.

38  
39 MS. GARZA: Okay. So the customary and  
40 traditional knowledge up here says that's when the hides  
41 are best.

42  
43 MR. STOKES: If he was hunting it?

44  
45 MR. DINNEFORD: No, I wouldn't go hunting  
46 for a hide in September, I'd wait or go earlier, much  
47 earlier.

48  
49 MS. GARZA: Okay.

50

00132

1 MR. STOKES: Yes, yes.

2

3 MS. GARZA: Other Board comments. Okay,  
4 Dave.

5

6 MR. JOHNSON: Madame Chair, also I'd like  
7 to point out in the current regulations in terms of the  
8 utilization specifically speaking to meat, failure to  
9 salvage edible meat may not be a violation if such failures  
10 caused by circumstances beyond the control of a person --  
11 I'm sorry, let's back up to the first one here. Failure to  
12 salvage edible meat of ungulates, bear or grouse and  
13 ptarmigan is prohibited, so it doesn't distinguish between  
14 brown bear or black bear. So regardless of why you're  
15 harvesting the bear you're still going to have to utilize  
16 the meat.

17

18 MS. GARZA: Is there further discussion or  
19 are we ready for the vote? You have a question -- Patty.

20

21 MS. PHILLIPS: What does a bear tag cost  
22 for non-subsistence; does anyone know?

23

24 MR. JOHNSON: Are you talking about a non-  
25 subsistence or a non-resident?

26

27 MS. PHILLIPS: Either or, and, both?

28

29 MR. JOHNSON: I think non-rural or rural  
30 residents would pay the same. I don't have that.....

31

32 MR. CAPRA: \$25 for Alaska residents.

33

34 MR. JOHNSON: \$25 for residents and what  
35 150 for.....

36

37 MR. KNAUER: Five hundred.

38

39 MR. JOHNSON: .....500, okay, 500 for non-  
40 resident.

41

42 MS. PHILLIPS: And then the harvest data, I  
43 mean you gave 592 animals in X amount of years but do you  
44 have the.....

45

46 MR. JOHNSON: What's the question again?

47

48 MS. PHILLIPS: Harvest data.

49

50 MR. JOHNSON: Again, the harvest data from

00133

1 1960 to 1998, there were 3,621 animals taken. Of that  
2 number, 592 were taken by rural.

3  
4 Did I answer the question?

5  
6 MS. PHILLIPS: Well.....

7  
8 MR. JOHNSON: Do you want it by year or  
9 by.....

10  
11 MS. PHILLIPS: Recent, you know, like.....

12  
13 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Unit 4, 1998/99 there  
14 were 128 bears taken legally, nine additional bears were  
15 taken illegally. Is the clarification the question that  
16 you wanted to know the difference between rural harvesters  
17 and non-rural harvesters during the 1998/99 season?

18  
19 MS. PHILLIPS: Well, that'd be great to  
20 know, too. I just wanted harvest numbers.

21  
22 MR. DINNEFORD: You want to know how many  
23 animals were harvested.

24  
25 MR. KOOKESH: What about unreported?

26  
27 MR. JOHNSON: I can't speak to last year  
28 but I can say that during the last 36 years, only 16  
29 percent have been -- 16.3 percent have been harvested by  
30 non-rural.

31  
32 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you.

33  
34 MR. JOHNSON: I'm sorry, by rural.

35  
36 MS. GARZA: Mike.

37  
38 MR. DOUVILLE: What affect would this have  
39 on like there's some focus on the rural user in Unit 4, but  
40 we're all residents, so somebody from Juneau would have the  
41 right to get a bear every -- are we talking about residents  
42 or the rural user subsistence user. Does this apply to  
43 both?

44  
45 MS. PHILLIPS: For brown bear it's  
46 residents of Unit 4 and residents of Kake, they have C&T  
47 for bear.

48  
49 MR. DOUVILLE: Okay. So this doesn't apply  
50 to any -- then I just have a comment. Biologically I don't

00134

1 see any problem with this thing at all. And there's been  
2 some opposition to it but in reality no one says you have  
3 to go take a bear every other year, you can take one every  
4 four years if you want, you know, what I mean. So it's not  
5 -- no one has to do it but for those people that do want to  
6 use it, I don't see a significant increase in the bear  
7 take. If there was an increase, certainly they have a  
8 priority.

9  
10 MR. JOHNSON: Madame Chairman, regardless  
11 of whatever number of bears would be taken by rural or non-  
12 rural if this was adopted, ADF&G would still be sealing  
13 those bears and still monitoring that population. So if at  
14 any point it was determined that rural or non-rural  
15 residents were taking too many bears there would be a  
16 request for emergency closure on the State side and also on  
17 the Federal side. Just as there was this year with the  
18 wolf.

19  
20 MR. CLARK: Madame Chair.

21  
22 MS. GARZA: Fred.

23  
24 MR. CLARK: Just for the information of the  
25 Council, I have a copy here of subsistence use of brown  
26 bear in Southeast Alaska, it's a technical paper put  
27 together by Dr. Thomas Thornton and it has lots of good  
28 information that might address a few of your questions if  
29 you're interested in kind of the long-term use of bears in  
30 -- brown bears in Southeast.

31  
32 MR. JOHNSON: By the way that report is  
33 referenced of Page 16 of your booklet, second paragraph.

34  
35 MS. GARZA: Other discussion. Is there a  
36 call for the question?

37  
38 MR. STOKES: Question.

39  
40 MS. GARZA: Question has been called -- do  
41 we have a motion?

42  
43 MS. LeCORNU: Did anybody make a motion?

44  
45 MR. STOKES: We never made a motion.

46  
47 MS. GARZA: Oh, is there a motion?

48  
49 MS. LeCORNU: I make a motion to accept the  
50 proposal, Proposal 4.

00135

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Second.

2

3 MS. GARZA: It's been moved by Vicki and  
4 seconded by Bill to support Proposal 4.

5

6 MS. PHILLIPS: Question.

7

8 MS. GARZA: Question has been called. All  
9 in favor signify by saying aye.

10

11 IN UNISON: Aye.

12

13 MS. GARZA: Opposed.

14

15 (No opposing votes)

16

17 MS. GARZA: Motion passes. Back to you,  
18 Bill.

19

20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you, Dolly. Next.

21

22 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, let's go to  
23 Unit 2, deer. The proposal is to eliminate the doe  
24 harvest. Actually what is being proposed is the antlerless  
25 season because we currently do not have a doe season in  
26 Unit 2, we have an antlerless season.

27

28 MS. LeCORNU: Could you say that again?

29

30 MR. JOHNSON: Currently in Unit 2, we only  
31 have an antlerless season not a doe season because I'm not  
32 sure how you can tell whether it's a buck or doe if it  
33 doesn't have antlers. Now, maybe Tlingit people can tell, I  
34 can't tell. If you're close enough maybe you can tell.

35

36 MR. STOKES: By the color of the face.

37

38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It depends on the  
39 expression.

40

41 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Mr. Chairman, the  
42 proposal is to go to just a four bucks only season. This  
43 proposal has been before the Council before. Again, the  
44 numbers of does that are being reported to Fish and  
45 Wildlife Service and the number of -- or I should say the  
46 number of antlerless permits being issued. Total  
47 antlerless permits have been averaging around 300. I have  
48 not got the final number this year but in a personal  
49 conversation with Chuck Miller, he indicated that about a  
50 300 permits had been issued. Now, of those 300, how many

00136

1 of those were actually filled with does is not clear at  
2 this time. But again, from a biological standpoint, the  
3 harvest of, if it was 300 does, across Unit 2,  
4 biologically, does not appear to be an issue. If you're  
5 talking about portions of Unit 2, that's a different  
6 discussion. So biologically in Unit 2.....

7

8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, the proposal just  
9 is in reference to Unit 2, right?

10

11 MR. JOHNSON: That's correct.

12

13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

14

15 MR. JOHNSON: As you can see, one  
16 antlerless, and again that's just during the period of  
17 October the 15th through December 30th -- I'm sorry  
18 December 31st is the portion of the season that is for the  
19 antlerless season.

20

21 Again, biologically, hunter success has been high.  
22 The mean success rate is 67 percent. Rural residents  
23 accounted for 69 percent of the total deer harvest during  
24 the '97/98 season, 78 percent approximately of the doe  
25 harvest, now, again, I don't know who took the other 23  
26 percent since, according to the State's data, some other  
27 folks apparently are killing antlerless deer other than  
28 just Unit 2.

29

30 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Really.

31

32 MR. JOHNSON: Rural residents, so.....

33

34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Um, surprise.

35

36 MS. LeCORNU: Would you repeat that Dave.

37

38 MR. JOHNSON: There were reports in ADF&G's  
39 harvest data that 20 something percent of the antlerless  
40 deers were taken by non-rural residents even though there's  
41 not a State season for antlerless deer or does.

42

43 The conclusion is to not support this proposal, Mr.  
44 Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dave, now, discussing the  
47 game management Unit 2 in its entirety is a pretty vast  
48 area in the Prince of Wales surrounding area, right?

49

50 MR. JOHNSON: That's correct.

00137

1                   CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I mean it doubles the  
2 size of Prince of Wales when you add the other islands.....

3  
4                   MR. JOHNSON: Approximately two million  
5 acres in total in Unit 2.

6  
7                   CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. So the data we're  
8 discussing at the moment has to do with a very small  
9 portion of that between the Hollis Road and probably  
10 Kaufman Cove.

11  
12                   MR. JOHNSON: I don't believe that's  
13 correct, Mr. Chairman.

14  
15                   CHAIRMAN THOMAS: What do you believe to be  
16 correct?

17  
18                   MR. JOHNSON: I believe that the  
19 information provided to ADF&G harvest data is for the  
20 entire Unit 2 area which comprises the outside islands and  
21 Prince of Wales Island too, so it's the total area.

22  
23                   CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So the person that  
24 submitted the proposal drove 20,000 miles; where did he  
25 drive to and from?

26  
27                   MR. JOHNSON: I'm not sure I follow that  
28 Mr. Chairman.

29  
30                   CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, the proposal was  
31 submitted -- the author of the proposal said he covered  
32 20,000 miles of road out there.

33  
34                   MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chairman, maybe I can  
35 help you.

36  
37                   CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

38  
39                   MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Savland is an  
40 enforcement officer for the ADF&G and he does spend a lot  
41 of time on the road doing whatever fish cops do, that's why  
42 he's got so many miles on it.

43  
44                   CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. So the Staff  
45 recommendation was to not support.

46  
47                   MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, just a couple  
48 other comments. Indications are, though, from ADF&G  
49 Subsistence Division and also from Wildlife Division and  
50 also from the Forest Service, a lot of people are opposed

00138

1 to the doe season. There's a lot of.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I know that.

4

5 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. So I want to just.....

6

7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No, I know that. We all  
8 know that.

9

10 MR. JOHNSON: Okay.

11

12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Department comments.  
13 Other agency comments.

14

15 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman.

16

17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Fred.

18

19 MR. CLARK: There are some ADF&G comments  
20 in the booklet in support of the proposed prohibition on  
21 harvest doe deer in Unit 2, this change also will align the  
22 State and Federal regulations.

23

24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: To align the State?

25

26 MR. CLARK: Right. Because they don't  
27 allow a harvest of antlerless deer.

28

29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: But they don't  
30 acknowledge ANILCA either, right?

31

32 MR. CLARK: Right.

33

34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Was that the total of  
35 comments.

36

37 MR. CLARK: ADF&G comments, yes.

38

39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. How about other  
40 agency comments. How about written comments.

41

42 MR. CLARK: On Page 31 of the booklet,  
43 there are a number of written public comments and then  
44 there's one additional.

45

46 MS. GARZA: Was one of those incorrectly  
47 placed?

48

49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Uh-huh.

50

00139

1 MR. CLARK: Which one?

2

3 MS. GARZA: Edna Bay, it says, we support  
4 Kake community.

5

6 MR. CLARK: It looks like it probably is.

7

8 MS. GARZA: Okay.

9

10 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

11

12 MR. CLARK: Do you want me to go through  
13 those quickly?

14

15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Sure.

16

17 MR. CLARK: Steve Merritt of Prince of  
18 Wales Island supports the proposal. He says that in the  
19 last two years I've noticed a decline in deer population on  
20 Prince of Wales Island. I attribute this to the doe hunt.  
21 Most units that have doe seasons don't have roads going  
22 through the hearts of the unit. This allows surplus deer  
23 to work their way to the outside edges of the unit and be  
24 harvested while the center stays abundant to keep the cycle  
25 going. Prince of Wales has roads everywhere and the center  
26 population of deer aren't protected from getting wiped out.

27

28

29 It looks like Mr. Merritt also sent in an e-mail a  
30 little bit later agreeing with Proposal 5, he says, I can't  
31 explain the reasoning for my support any better than what  
32 is written so I won't. In the last two years I've noticed  
33 a decline in the deer population, and then the rest is the  
34 same that's in the book.

35

36 A little further down on Page 31 there's a note of  
37 support from Craig Trulock of Thorne Bay who says, I fully  
38 support Proposal 5 to remove the doe season. I feel that  
39 the population can sustain four bucks but the taking of  
40 does has too much impact on the population.

41

42 Similarly, Elzie Isley of Ketchikan writes that she  
43 supports the proposal. Too many does are killed without  
44 permits, maybe there would not be so many night hunters --  
45 it's written hungers in here -- if it were illegal to shoot  
46 does. It would save fawns for next year's season.

47

48 Eastern Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory  
49 Committee also writes in support of the proposal. Advisory  
50 Council members are concerned that the deer population has

00140

1 declined in GMU 2, and that the taking of does only  
2 exacerbates the problem. In addition, ADF&G consensus is  
3 that the deer population on GMU 2 will decrease because of  
4 lack of forage due to the large amount of 25 to 40 year old  
5 second growth forest. This 25 to 40 year old second growth  
6 shades out deer forages and will reduce the amount of food  
7 available to the population. Moreover, hunting pressure in  
8 GMU 2 has increased and the deer population cannot support  
9 this level of hunting especially if the reproductive  
10 potential of the population is reduced by the allowing of  
11 taking of does.

12  
13 That concludes the written public comments, Mr.  
14 Chairman.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. It's interesting  
17 that there wasn't anybody from the West Coast of Prince of  
18 Wales. Public comment. Any public comment on this, Ray,  
19 are you coming as public?

20  
21 MR. NIELSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
22 Sitka ANB opposes elimination of any hunting opportunities  
23 for the Native community. And as far as antlerless deer  
24 go, you know, it's pretty much traditional knowledge the  
25 true hunter can tell a buck with no horns. And as far as  
26 the meat goes, after the rut's over, the doe is the  
27 preferred sex to harvest for a better quality of meat. And  
28 we don't by -- by not allowing them to shoot does we're  
29 afraid in Unit 4 that it will be coming up to -- I mean the  
30 people of Unit 4, the ABC islands, we do not want  
31 additional pressure having people from the southern  
32 community coming up and competing with us.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Okay, any  
35 further public comment. Alfredo. That means Mr. Mack.

36  
37 MR. MCKINLEY: Thank you very much Mr.  
38 Chairman. I know everybody seems to be tensed over here  
39 about deer population. But before I start I'd like to tell  
40 you a story about an old man in Hoonah.

41  
42 He rowed ashore, like early in the morning,  
43 Saturday morning, and then there was a game warden but he  
44 didn't know it was a game warden, so this old man rowed  
45 ashore and there was nobody in the street because it was  
46 Saturday morning I guess everybody went out on Friday. And  
47 when he came ashore he told this guy, he went, hey, I had a  
48 good day, and this guy said, yeah, what did you do, oh, I  
49 just shot me five deer. And this person said well, what  
50 was your good day, he says, I just shot me five deer. Oh,

00141

1 this game warden guy said, you know who I am, and this old  
2 man said, no, I'm the Fish and Wildlife game warden. And  
3 this old man said, you know, who I am and he says, no, I'm  
4 the biggest liar in town.

5

6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, we know that.

7

8 MR. MCKINLEY: Well, you know, when I look  
9 at the Board, you know, it just dawned on me, you know,  
10 I've been hunting ever since I was a little boy. And when  
11 I went into the armed forces I became an expert, I used to  
12 shoot mallards. I used to shoot their heads off when I was  
13 a little boy, you know. And so when I got in the Army I  
14 became an expert. So anyway.....

15

16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So you're not to be  
17 fooled with, uh?

18

19 MR. MCKINLEY: When you actually talk about  
20 the deer population it just dawned on me, if you kill all  
21 the does -- I mean if you don't -- you shoot all the bucks,  
22 it will still be the same difference. If you shoot all the  
23 does it still will be the same difference. So the  
24 population will decrease one way or the other.

25

26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Let's keep this G-rated  
27 now.

28

29 MR. MCKINLEY: But I see some of these  
30 things but it seems like to me that it shouldn't be --  
31 whatever decision is made here, it should be kind of  
32 flexible. In other words, you take every month maybe, two  
33 months, something like that and kind of regulate it. I  
34 mean guys like this guy take inventory, they take  
35 percentages, you know, and if there's not enough doe well  
36 then you just kind of decrease your hunt and so forth, you  
37 know. It's something that needs to be regulated and if  
38 there's so much bucks to be taken then you put a stop to  
39 that and then you -- in other words, you go back and forth.  
40 I mean that's what I would recommend, you know, it  
41 shouldn't be concrete on this regulation. It should be  
42 very flexible is all I'm saying, you know, what I mean,  
43 sir. Yes, he agrees with me, so.....

44

45 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: He understands you, he  
46 didn't say he agreed. He has a memorandum of  
47 understanding, not a memorandum of agreement.

48

49 MR. MCKINLEY: Right. I mean it's just  
50 everything.....

00142

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: (In Native).

2

3 MR. McKINLEY: .....I listen to you

4 guys.....

5

6 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You enlightened us,

7 immensely.

8

9 MR. McKINLEY: Right. Okay, thank you very

10 much. I just want it to be flexible one way or the other.

11

12 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, thank you. Further

13 public comment. Okay, now, we bring it before the Council.

14 I want to remind the Council that the letters that we

15 got.....

16

17 MR. STOKES: I move we support the

18 proposal.

19

20 MS. GARZA: Second.

21

22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The proposal or the

23 conclusion?

24

25 MS. GARZA: The proposal.

26

27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: To eliminate?

28

29 MS. LeCORNU: For discussion purposes,

30 right?

31

32 MS. GARZA: Yes.

33

34 MR. STOKES: To delete the harvest?

35

36 MS. GARZA: You bring a proposal on the

37 table in an affirmative manner.

38

39 MS. LeCORNU: Yeah.

40

41 MS. GARZA: And you can.....

42

43 MS. LeCORNU: You can vote it up or down.

44

45 MS. GARZA: .....vote against it if you

46 want.

47

48 MR. STOKES: Okay.

49

50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It's been moved, is there

00143

1 a second?

2

3 MS. GARZA: Yes, I was the second.

4

5 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You were the second.

6

7 MS. GARZA: Yes.

8

9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Discussion.

10 Discussion. Marilyn.

11

12 MS. WILSON: I forget what year it was that  
13 we brought this up when the deer population was in  
14 question. And we were meeting, I even forget what  
15 community we were meeting in, it might have been.....

16

17 MS. GARZA: Saxman.

18

19 MS. WILSON: .....Saxman. No, I wasn't  
20 even at the Saxman meeting.

21

22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No wonder you don't  
23 remember.

24

25 MS. WILSON: Well, anyway that one meeting  
26 that I was at we made it customary and traditional  
27 preference to the POW island, and that was when we included  
28 the doe season, and that's the one we got in trouble with  
29 everybody in Ketchikan. I remember because I got phone  
30 calls as a Council member.

31

32 But it seems to me now that the Island is open for  
33 all the hunters again and not just that one area, that we  
34 should probably cut the doe season out now. Because the  
35 reason we did that was to give opportunity to the people  
36 that lived around in that area, the Prince of Wales Island.

37

38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So now you want to take  
39 the opportunity away from them now? Is that what you want  
40 to do is take the opportunity away? ANILCA says to provide  
41 an opportunity.

42

43 MS. WILSON: Well, the reason I voted for  
44 it was to provide the opportunity because we had cut it  
45 down to just that area.

46

47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No, we didn't.

48

49 MS. LeCORNU: We tried to but it didn't  
50 pass.

00144

1 MS. WILSON: Oh, it didn't pass?

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No it didn't pass.

4

5 MS. LeCORNU: That's what you got in  
6 trouble for.

7

8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: It wasn't that bad. It  
9 was that bad until we made our move then it wasn't that  
10 bad. And all these people that are opposed to it are  
11 opposed to ANILCA. ANILCA says that our job is to provide  
12 access, and you don't provide by taking away.

13

14 MR. STOKES: Call for the question.

15

16 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chairman.

17

18 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: A comment.

19

20 MR. DOUVILLE: I don't support this  
21 proposal for the simple reason that we do have some  
22 safeguard in there, in that, you have to go to the Forest  
23 Service to get a permit to harvest a doe. So we have a  
24 more accurate handle on the numbers that are being taken  
25 and they don't seem to be unreasonable for all of the Game  
26 Unit. So there's 300 -- a little over 300 permits issued.  
27 Even if we guess that everyone of them got a doe, it  
28 doesn't -- it's not that big of a number. So if we're  
29 worried about just those 300, well, then the deer  
30 population would have to be in serious trouble.

31

32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The only reason the whole  
33 idea was even introduced was that there are some  
34 subsistence users that can't -- that don't have a truck,  
35 they can't climb hills and many times the only thing they  
36 see is a doe. These are people that are still trying to  
37 continue to provide for themselves. And so we were just  
38 contributing to their will of self-determination by  
39 allowing this to happen. People that can, I don't know of  
40 anybody myself that deliberately goes after a doe, But  
41 there are some people that, like I said, that's the only  
42 animal that they'll see. And so people just find that if  
43 they disagree with something, they find a big way to make a  
44 big issue out of it and -- but to support the proposal  
45 would be in conflict with ANILCA.

46

47 MS. GARZA: Call for the question.

48

49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Question's been called  
50 for. All those in favor say aye.

00145

1 (No affirmative votes)

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: All those opposed.

4

5 IN UNISON: Aye.

6

7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Next.

8

9 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, Council, the  
10 next proposal has also to do with Unit 2 deer. The  
11 community of Hydaburg and the Hydaburg Advisory Committee  
12 has submitted a proposal to request a community allocation  
13 for 500 deer for the community of Hydaburg. This pertains  
14 to Section .805(b) that pertains to community allocation  
15 under the section that reads, in evaluation of current and  
16 anticipated subsistence needs for fish and wildlife  
17 population within the region and goes on to say, to  
18 accommodate subsistence uses and needs and recommendations  
19 concerning the policy, standards, guidelines and  
20 regulations.

21

22 Apparently in some of the northern portions of the  
23 state units there have been allocations by communities for  
24 other species and this was the intent in conversations with  
25 a couple of people in Hydaburg. But in terms of conducting  
26 the biological analysis, it was difficult to factor in how  
27 that proposal relates to the current management of deer  
28 because under the State's system -- current State system,  
29 you can get four deer per hunter under the State system and  
30 based on the population of people living in Hydaburg, it  
31 would appear that you can take more than 500 deer now. So  
32 I guess I would request some additional clarification  
33 perhaps from Vicki or other.....

34

35 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: We'll do that under  
36 Council deliberations. Do you have more info on the  
37 analysis?

38

39 MR. JOHNSON: Again, we did not support the  
40 proposal based on the fact that the existing regulation  
41 provides harvest limits above that which is requested. It  
42 would also reduce the number of deer that larger rural  
43 communities such as Craig could harvest to levels below  
44 those reported in the past. And the subsistence  
45 opportunity for rural residents of Unit 1(A), 2 and 3,  
46 which currently are able to harvest deer in Unit 2 would  
47 not be increased by adopting the proposal.

48

49 MS. LeCORNU: Mr. Chairman.

50

00146

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Vicki.

2

3 MS. LeCORNU: I have to clarify here that  
4 there was a mistake made, that we only requested this for  
5 the community of Hydaburg. So there's some  
6 miscommunication here.

7

8 MR. JOHNSON: My understanding was that  
9 that was the case, too, Vicki. In the analysis that was  
10 done, it was not clear if it was only for the community of  
11 Hydaburg or for these other communities. But again, based  
12 on the proposal, it wasn't clear why there would be a need  
13 to have a community allocation when the existing State  
14 regulation provides for that number or more deer to be  
15 harvested under the State system.

16

17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Well, we'll get to  
18 that when we come to Council deliberations. Does that  
19 conclude your analysis?

20

21 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, it does, Mr. Chairman.

22

23 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Department  
24 comments.

25

26 MR. CLARK: The Department has no  
27 recommendation at this time. The intent of the proposal is  
28 unclear as there are currently are no community harvest for  
29 deer in Unit 2.

30

31 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Other agency  
32 comments. Summary of written public comments.

33

34 MR. CLARK: There are three comments, Mr.  
35 Chairman, on Page 39.

36

37 Steve Merritt of Prince of Wales Island says in  
38 opposition, I do not support because it contains a doe  
39 season.

40

41 Elzie Isley from Ketchikan is in opposition saying  
42 this is against all concept of fair division of fish and  
43 game. These people take more than 500 deer under the  
44 present law. With no enforcement from the Federal level,  
45 there would be not [sic] way to determine how many deer  
46 were taken. People furnish most of the tax for fish and  
47 game. These people, for the most part, are from outside  
48 Unit 2.

49

50 Eastern Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory

00147

1 Committee writes in opposition. EPOW AC members disagree  
2 with this proposal. AC members are concerned that the deer  
3 population has declined in GMU 2. The deer population  
4 cannot support this level of hunting.

5

6 That's the end of the public comments, written.

7

8 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. Public  
9 comments. Do we have any public left. Okay, Council  
10 deliberations, recommendation and justification. What's  
11 the wish of the Council?

12

13 MS. LeCORNU: Mr. Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Vicki.

16

17 MS. LeCORNU: I hope the Council had time  
18 to read this, I don't know if they would. I don't know if  
19 we want to give them time to read what I've presented for  
20 the justification from the Hydaburg Advisory Committee but  
21 as we stated in this letter, we've gone through a long  
22 public process to bring this to fruition today and I hope  
23 we would get the Hydaburg's justification for it.

24

25 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So if this is supported  
26 by the Council, would this involve all the communities on  
27 Prince of Wales or would that be just limited to Hydaburg?

28

29 MR. JOHNSON: I guess I would request a  
30 point of clarification from perhaps Bill Knauer, but my  
31 understanding would be it would just be specifically for  
32 the community of Hydaburg. However, I don't see how you  
33 could provide that increased opportunity for that rural  
34 community without doing it for all rural communities. So I  
35 guess I would defer to Mr. Knauer.

36

37 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, based on your  
38 analysis, it doesn't sound like it's a raise, it sounds  
39 like it's a limit.

40

41 MS. LeCORNU: Can I clarify that?

42

43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Sure.

44

45 MS. LeCORNU: It is not a limit. It  
46 provides for more opportunity as explained in our letter  
47 and in our resolution and that the four deer limit is  
48 unjustifiable.

49

50 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Now, my question

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1 was, does this affect all the communities on Prince of  
2 Wales or just Hydaburg? What are the intents of Hydaburg,  
3 for just Hydaburg?

4  
5 MS. LeCORNU: It was just for Hydaburg.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So this is a special  
8 request then from a community?

9  
10 MS. LeCORNU: Uh-huh.

11  
12 MS. GARZA: What's the population of  
13 Hydaburg?

14  
15 MS. LeCORNU: About 450 to 500. But my  
16 point to you, I want you all to know that if you look at  
17 the figures there were 44 deer taken out of Hydaburg, and  
18 not 500 people go hunting. Some hunters go out and get a  
19 lot of deer and those are the people we want to make legal.  
20 I don't hunt deer so you can discount me from that 500 and  
21 you can discount all the children and all the women who  
22 don't hunt and you'll get a very few group of hunters, and  
23 they need more than four deer. They need to fulfill  
24 opportunity to get deer when they need it and how many they  
25 need. It's their own opportunity. And so my question  
26 today was, we have no justification for limiting ourselves  
27 to five deer. And although they might think it's a limit,  
28 the community of Hydaburg believes it provides more  
29 opportunity because it will do one thing, it will give us a  
30 preference that's required in ANILCA. That's never been  
31 done by this Council as far as these little towns go, we've  
32 not addressed it on each community level. And we haven't  
33 addressed on a regional level.

34  
35 So what my point is, is it does provide more  
36 opportunity and it does provide for more take.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, we're not objecting  
39 to that. I'm just trying to get a clarification as to  
40 whether it's confined to a single community or does it have  
41 to include more communities?

42  
43 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, my  
44 understanding is when the proposal came in, the  
45 understanding was that it was for all the communities.

46  
47 MS. LeCORNU: No.

48  
49 MR. JOHNSON: Let me finish. Further  
50 clarification from folks from Hydaburg indicated it was

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1 only for the Hydaburg community. Under the current system  
2 we have a designated hunter system in Unit 2. Under that  
3 system hunters from the community of Hydaburg can hunt for  
4 other members of the community. Theoretically, a hunter --  
5 one hunter could hunt for all of the other hunters in -- or  
6 all the other residents as long as there were licenses and  
7 tags for those individuals that he or she is hunting for.  
8 So I don't understand how this proposal increases the  
9 opportunity.

10  
11 And secondly, I guess, I'd like to hear from Mr.  
12 Turek in terms of established need for the Hydaburg  
13 community because there has been some house-to-house  
14 surveys done to.....

15  
16 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, what I want to  
17 establish right now is if whatever action is taken on this  
18 does it affect the rest of the communities in that Game  
19 Management Unit?

20  
21 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, from what I see  
22 from the Staff Committee, that are much higher than me, no.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. So that being the  
25 case then, we can proceed. Patty.

26  
27 MS. PHILLIPS: I just wanted a  
28 clarification. This proposal would be for the village of  
29 Hydaburg and it would be a year-round hunt; is that what  
30 I'm understanding? It's not going to be confined by August  
31 1st to December 31st, it would be.....

32  
33 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No, the proposed  
34 regulation is August 1 to December 31st.

35  
36 MS. PHILLIPS: But I'm going by the  
37 resolution, it's asking for an annual harvest.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, an annual harvest  
40 is what will occur between August 1st and December 31st.

41  
42 MS. PHILLIPS: So was that the intent?

43  
44 MS. LeCORNU: No, the intent was an open  
45 harvest.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: For a year-round hunt?

48  
49 MS. LeCORNU: Uh-huh.

50

00150

1 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman.

2  
3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yes.

4  
5 MR. JOHNSON: Just for point of  
6 clarification as far as analysis purposes go, my  
7 understanding is I have not see this information that you  
8 have in front of you in terms of what's further clarifying  
9 what the actual proposal states. So you've got some new  
10 information that we did not have in the analysis process.

11  
12 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You mean this didn't  
15 accompany the proposal?

16  
17 MR. JOHNSON: That's correct.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Oh, I see. Dolly.

20  
21 MS. GARZA: I guess to get it on the table  
22 I would like to move that we support Proposal 6.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is there a second.

25  
26 MS. LeCORNU: Second.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Moved and seconded,  
29 discussion.

30  
31 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I would move that  
32 we amend Proposal 6 so that communities -- to make it clear  
33 that this is for Hydaburg only.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, there's a motion to  
36 specify Hydaburg as the only affected community. That's  
37 the motion at this point.

38  
39 MS. GARZA: The amendment.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The amendment, strike  
42 Unit 2 and make it Hydaburg, right?

43  
44 MS. GARZA: Yes.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

47  
48 MS. GARZA: So it would be raise allowable  
49 500 limit to 500 for Hydaburg in that grey shaded area.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Uh-huh. So instead of  
2 per community it would be 500 for the community of  
3 Hydaburg?

4  
5 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Fred.

8  
9 MR. CLARK: The word, raise, might be a  
10 problem there because you can't raise something that isn't  
11 already in existence in terms of a community limit.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Impose.....

14  
15 MR. CLARK: Establish.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: .....establish allowable  
18 limit to 500.

19  
20 MS. WILSON: For Hydaburg?

21  
22 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Uh-huh.

23  
24 MR. CLARK: For Hydaburg, yes.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. So if there's no  
27 objection we'll make that change in the shaded area to  
28 establish instead of raise.

29  
30 MS. LeCORNU: Mr. Chairman, was that a  
31 motion?

32  
33 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: No. I said if there was  
34 no objection.

35  
36 MS. LeCORNU: Okay, thanks. Also, I guess  
37 the dates, you know, we intended that it would be a hunt  
38 that would allow for a preference. And by that I mean that  
39 we get out and hunt before the sport hunters get there. So  
40 the dates would have to change either to year-round or, at  
41 least, a month in advance of the sport hunters.

42  
43  
44 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Was that understood when  
45 the proposal was submitted?

46  
47 MS. LeCORNU: No.

48  
49 MR. JOHNSON: (Nods negatively).

50

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1 MS. LeCORNU: I don't know if we did say a  
2 date, Dave?

3  
4 MR. JOHNSON: (Nods negatively).

5  
6 MS. LeCORNU: So there was no dates  
7 mentioned.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: So it was an incomplete  
10 proposal.

11  
12 MS. LeCORNU: No, we intended it to be open  
13 year-round but.....

14  
15 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Yes.

18  
19 MR. KOOKESH: I'm not a biologist but I  
20 happen to believe that August 1st through December 31st is  
21 the proper time for deer hunting only. This is from my  
22 years of experience, I don't see hunts going further than  
23 that or before that. Because I know on August 1st, deer  
24 aren't at their fattest. If I had my way I'd have the  
25 regulation set from September 1st because that's when the  
26 deer are -- start gaining their weight for the upcoming  
27 winter. We also know that after December 31st, and this is  
28 just from my actual use, after December 31st and even into  
29 December 15th, deer aren't at their prime anymore. That's  
30 just a comment.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Marilyn.

33  
34 MS. WILSON: Yes, we haven't established  
35 how much or how many antlerless deer to put down because  
36 the original proposal says four deer, however, no more than  
37 one may be antlerless. So if we say 500, how many can be  
38 antlerless?

39  
40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I guess I'll leave that  
41 up to the Council.

42  
43 MS. WILSON: Twenty-five?

44  
45 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

48  
49 MS. GARZA: I would move that we table this  
50 proposal until tomorrow so that we could get the proposed

00153

1 regulation clarified.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is there a second?

4

5 MS. WILSON: I second that.

6

7 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay, it's undebatable so  
8 we'll table this until tomorrow.

9

10 MR. JOHNSON: Proposal 7 has already been  
11 taken care of Mr. Chairman.

12

13 Proposals 8 and 9 are related, Mr. Chairman, I'd  
14 recommend that the Council consider them together because  
15 they involve eliminating -- one involves reducing the  
16 harvest limit and the other one has to do with just  
17 shortening the season.

18

19 Proposal 8 would shorten the season from January  
20 31st to December 31st and Proposal 9 would do the same  
21 thing with the addition of reducing the bag limit from six  
22 deer to four. These proposals, Mr. Chairman, are based on  
23 the fact that Unit 4 has experienced significant winter  
24 severity in the last few years, particularly during the  
25 '98/99 season. According to the report, this was the  
26 highest snowfall in 30 years. This would, over the long-  
27 term, increase the deer population, however, hunter success  
28 and population trends on the other side indicate that  
29 there's no need to reduce the season. Available biological  
30 data does not support the opinion that these proposals  
31 would reduce the deer harvest. This may be a short-term  
32 decline and it appears that hunters have adequate  
33 opportunity to harvest deer.

34

35 Again, there's been a wide fluctuation of success  
36 in harvest ratios and the percent harvest from 1995 to 1999  
37 during the month of January only accounts for approximately  
38 three to seven percent of the total harvest. Therefore,  
39 our analysis does not support the proposal.

40

41 That concludes my presentation.

42

43 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Any comments from  
44 the Department.

45

46 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, the Department  
47 supports the proposed season change as this would align the  
48 State and Federal seasons. That's for both proposals, 8  
49 and 9.

50

00154

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Other agency  
2 comments. Summary of written comments.

3  
4 MR. CLARK: Yes, Mr. Chairman, Ben Mitchell  
5 from Sitka writes in support of Proposal 8. He says that,  
6 I strongly endorse Proposal 8 as written that would  
7 eliminate the taking of antlerless deer in Unit 4 after  
8 December 31st. This change is long overdue and to continue  
9 the status quo, especially in the Sitka area. Deer herds  
10 will continue to decline as they have been doing for the  
11 last 10 years. Again, that's Proposal No. 8.

12  
13 And then not in the book there is -- there are  
14 notes from the Elfin Cove Advisory Committee. It looks  
15 like they are not in support of Proposal 8.

16  
17 That concludes the public comment.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you. This brings  
20 it to the Regional Council. Dolly.

21  
22 MS. GARZA: So Fred, Sitka Regional  
23 Advisory spoke to the brown bear issue but they didn't  
24 speak to the deer? Bill Payton.

25  
26 MR. CLARK: They spoke only to Proposal 4.

27  
28 MS. GARZA: Can I ask Ray, do you know  
29 whether or not the Regional Advisory Council spoke to that?

30  
31 MR. NIELSEN: It wasn't put on the table  
32 until after the fact there. And I mentioned, you know, my  
33 reasoning.

34  
35 MS. GARZA: So I see your comments and I  
36 see that you submitted it but I just wanted to know whether  
37 or not the advisory committee submitted comments.

38  
39 MR. NIELSEN: No, they -- only brown bear  
40 was brought up because the task force put it before us.  
41 But the committee did not do any action on any proposals.  
42 And I'd like to speak on my reasoning is we talk about  
43 traditional knowledge and my reasoning was to keep that  
44 healthy gene that could survive a severe winter, keep that  
45 gene going so it could be around for next year and for the  
46 next mating season.

47  
48 Now, traditional knowledge is not beachcombing in  
49 January. It's too easy to drop them. In a severe winter  
50 they're there and the quality of meat is not there. I am a

00155

1 cook so that's my reasoning behind that. And I refuse to  
2 cook a real bad deer from a real severe winter. A lot of  
3 people in Sitka, the problem is -- it gets worse by the  
4 year, wanton waste by the non-Native community. We have  
5 documentation -- I wish Jack was here, he could tell you,  
6 even show you photos of all they take is the hindquarters.  
7 And there were huge piles of it, and it's not by us. There  
8 are other people. We will eat the meat if we have to but  
9 by getting rid of that deer season in January when it's a  
10 severe winter, that will force the people to, you know, go  
11 out and shoot a better quality of deer, make them hunt. To  
12 me a hunt is fair chase. Beachcombing, I don't call that  
13 hunting. It is a form of hunting but traditional  
14 knowledge, teach the young ones how to go out in the woods  
15 and shoot the deer, fair chase.

16  
17 And for elimination of two extra deer, we don't  
18 support that.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, you and I are not  
21 compatible, because my timberline is right at the kelp  
22 line.

23  
24 MR. NIELSEN: Well, I'll shoot from a boat  
25 too, though.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I like to hear them  
28 splash when I shoot. Mary.

29  
30 MS. RUDOLPH: I was at the natural resource  
31 meeting last night with the Hoonah Indian Association. And  
32 for us, in the small communities where there is no jobs and  
33 things, deer, at this time becomes a real necessity for our  
34 people. And they were very concerned about the changes --  
35 on what came up so I brought letters in from the board with  
36 their signatures. But I have tasted quite a bit of deer in  
37 January and I have never crossed a stinky one, yet, but I  
38 was kind of wondering about that because I know during this  
39 time, the villages don't have the economy to help them  
40 through the winter. So it really becomes a necessity for  
41 our people to survive during this time, especially the ones  
42 with a large family. And this is the reason why they  
43 oppose this proposal, 8 and 9.

44  
45 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Vicki first.

48  
49 MS. LeCORNU: I guess I have a question  
50 regarding, you know, if we're going to be restricting

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1 people, I want to know that other measures were taken first  
2 to restrict other hunters. So that's my only concern.

3

4 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Floyd.

5

6 MR. KOOKESH: I agree with Mr. Nielsen.  
7 When you do shoot deer in January, you're not getting the  
8 best quality animal or meat that you should be getting.

9

10 One of the things I am aware of, too, is that we're  
11 given ample opportunity between August 1st and December  
12 31st to harvest what we need to sustain us, and I think  
13 there is a lot of truth to the fact that we have them at  
14 our mercy in January with the snowfall and everything. And  
15 I think the thing that gets -- the down side is that  
16 they're just -- it's just too good to pass up when you see  
17 all those deer on the beach. And I think that if there's a  
18 need for deer during the season when they harvest them from  
19 August 1st to December 31st, I think we need to take more  
20 advantage of that. I don't remember who originally  
21 submitted this proposal the first time around. I would  
22 like to hear all of the discussion that was carried on with  
23 it. I'd be curious. Because I do have concerns, too,  
24 because I know I can get all my deer by December 31st and  
25 it is sad what happens in January. And I am not speaking,  
26 by the way, for the community of Angoon. I haven't gotten  
27 any input back from them.

28

29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

30

31 MS. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I was part of the  
32 original effort that submitted this as a proposal three,  
33 maybe four years ago, and it was reviewed at Sitka. The  
34 fish and game advisory committee had a working group that  
35 supported this proposal, we had all kinds of great logic  
36 and it basically followed the same thing that in January,  
37 you know, these guys are suffering anyway, they're not the  
38 best, blah, blah, blah. And we thought we had everything  
39 in order and we had some elders come in and just blast us.  
40 And so that proposal did not pass then. We heard from  
41 Angoon that they needed that hunt in January because things  
42 were thin then and we've heard that again now.

43

44 I guess, what I see has changed is that there has  
45 been a decline in deer, whether or not that decline is  
46 significant enough to justify a cut back, I'm not sure, and  
47 I don't know if there's a way that we can fashion this  
48 regulation that allows it to be cut back in years when the  
49 population strength is of question but to allow for that  
50 January hunt when we know that there is a mild winter and

00157

1 the population is looking better. But if we don't address  
2 it in a way that allow for options it will just continue to  
3 come back because it is a big concern in Sitka, and you can  
4 argue both sides of this ad nauseam, which we have done in  
5 the past and I'm not anxious to do again.

6  
7 MR. STOKES: Mr. Chairman.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dick.

10  
11 MR. STOKES: The Stikine area had a doe  
12 season at one time but we had two mills working two shifts  
13 a day and the guys that hunted at work during the day  
14 hunted at night, and the guys that worked nights hunted  
15 during the day. And the deer season extended into January  
16 and we don't have any deer left in and around Wrangell and  
17 that was over 10 years ago.

18  
19 That's all I've got to say.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Mary. Is there a motion  
22 on the floor?

23  
24 REPORTER: No.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: How about, let's put a  
27 motion on the floor.

28  
29 MS. WILSON: Mr. Chairman, I move we accept  
30 this Proposal 9.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Is there a second.

33  
34 MR. STOKES: I second it.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Moved and seconded, now  
37 discussion.

38  
39 MR. CLARK: Just 9 or eight also?

40  
41 MS. WILSON: Eight and nine, excuse me.

42  
43 MS. GARZA: No, it has to be separate.

44  
45 MS. WILSON: Separate, well, I'll say  
46 eight.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

49  
50 MS. RUDOLPH: Mr. Chairman, I just got a

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1 note from Bob here, but in '92, at the request of the  
2 Hoonah elders, a season was extended to January 30th as  
3 there was still feed under the trees. Deer population was  
4 at healthy levels. And on January the 10th, the elders  
5 closed the season as it would then affect deer population.  
6 Local knowledge it should be left to January 30th in '92,  
7 the weather was -- made a hunt difficult in October and  
8 November. So I guess some of the concerns were that the  
9 elders knew when and I figure because of the direction  
10 we've been going on traditional knowledge, I think this is  
11 where this would come in, to work with the Hoonah tribe or  
12 any other units that need it.

13

14 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Fred.

15

16 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, I thank Dolly for  
17 pointing out a couple of other public comments that were  
18 available. In opposition to Proposal 8, one being from  
19 Hoonah Indian Association and the other one being from the  
20 Alaska Native Brotherhood, Sitka Camp No. 1, those are both  
21 in opposition to this proposal.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay. Further  
26 discussion. Patty.

27

28 MS. PHILLIPS: The region that I live in --  
29 the area that I live in is closer to the ocean and our  
30 winter has not been as severe as it was previous winter. I  
31 have to recognize that it is a practice in our area to do --  
32 to hunt deer in January for burger, deer burger. So in  
33 recognition of that practice I will not support either  
34 motion -- either proposal.

35

36 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Well, we're getting down  
37 to the nitty now. Marilyn.

38

39 MS. WILSON: Yes, I have a quick comment.  
40 Up our way we usually come down this way to hunt, you know,  
41 not -- further south because we have deer on the island up  
42 there by Haines, but -- Sullivan Island, but not that many.  
43 Any way, it's pretty hard, you know, when you go on a boat,  
44 the weather's rough to come from that far away and the  
45 weather is rough and that usually happens in November and  
46 half the time we're -- they're busy in the summer time,  
47 commercial fishing or other things, putting up fish or --  
48 it's always a busy time. But the weather factor has a big  
49 thing to do with it and my family couldn't even hunt until  
50 January this last year -- this year.

00159

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Uh-huh. Floyd.

2

3 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman, I thought that  
4 when we supported or when we voted on proposals, we were  
5 supposed to vote on a proposal for the good of the order,  
6 not based on what was best for our communities. I thought  
7 we were supposed to vote based on the bigger picture.  
8 Maybe I misunderstood our intent then.

9

10 MS. LeCORNU: I think I can clarify that  
11 for him.

12

13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Vicki.

14

15 MS. LeCORNU: When it's restricting the  
16 community we need to look twice. So in Patty's case or in  
17 Sitka's case.....

18

19 MR. KOOKESH: Angoon's case.

20

21 MS. LeCORNU: .....well, what I'm saying is  
22 if it's restricting somebody and then it would be  
23 restricting you, then we'd have to work it out but if it's  
24 restricting them unnecessarily we have to really look at  
25 it.

26

27 But what my question was earlier, we don't want to  
28 balance it on the back of the subsistence user as this  
29 proposal proposes. That's why my question was, what is  
30 being done in other means to reduce the harvest?

31

32 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Floyd.

33

34 MR. KOOKESH: So does that bring us back to  
35 the original question about what is customary and  
36 traditional as opposed to what's a rural preference? Are  
37 we talking that again? That the customary and traditional  
38 use determination extends into January as opposed to the  
39 rural -- correct me if I'm wrong. Fred. I'm just trying  
40 to understand.

41

42 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: You guys are going aloof  
43 and I don't know how to bring you back. Fred.

44

45 MR. CLARK: Mr. Chairman, just to point out  
46 that the current State season is more restrictive now than  
47 the current Federal regulation because the season is  
48 constricted and they're only allowed four deer instead of  
49 six.

50

00160

1 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Mike.

2

3 MR. DOUVILLE: I have a question, the ADF&G  
4 comments only says that it would align the State and  
5 Federal seasons. Is there any biological reason for  
6 wanting to reduce the number or is it going to stay healthy  
7 at six?

8

9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dave.

10

11 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, the State can  
12 comment on this, too, but again, from the biological data  
13 there has been significant fluctuations in that population.  
14 But it does not appear that by changing this January season  
15 or reducing from six to four would significantly change the  
16 harvest numbers to change the population in that unit. So  
17 based on that data, it did not warrant a change  
18 biologically.

19

20 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Another insignificant  
21 component.

22

23 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chair.

24

25 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly -- Mike, you had a  
26 follow-up?

27

28 MR. DOUVILLE: Yeah. So I guess what  
29 you're saying then is the population is healthy and doesn't  
30 warrant being reduced by two?

31

32 MR. JOHNSON: I'm saying with the current  
33 data, now, after this spring and we do deer pellet counts  
34 and we wait for the ADF&G report from this year's harvest  
35 and have additional information, we can then determine if  
36 it warrants further restriction. But currently, no.

37

38 MR. DOUVILLE: I have one more question.

39

40 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Okay.

41

42 MR. DOUVILLE: When was the last count done  
43 and how old is your current data?

44

45 MR. JOHNSON: Well, the harvest data is  
46 updated every year. So that was included -- I mean not  
47 this current year but the previous year.

48

49 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Let's have order at the  
50 table here.

00161

1 MR. DOUVILLE: Not your current harvest  
2 level, the amount of deer you are saying that are there?

3  
4 MR. JOHNSON: That's also updated annually  
5 as well. We conduct deer pellet surveys, the State does  
6 and we do, the Forest Service as well, and that information  
7 also goes into the Division of Wildlife Conservation.....

8  
9 MR. DOUVILLE: Every year?

10  
11 MR. JOHNSON: Every year.

12  
13 MR. DOUVILLE: Okay, annually.

14  
15 MR. JOHNSON: And again, I would defer, Mr.  
16 Chairman, if the State would like to further comment on  
17 that.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Dolly.

20  
21 MS. GARZA: With memory here, when we did  
22 this before the reason we said that the January hunt was  
23 insignificant was because there were a few people that  
24 hunted so the actual harvest during that month was limited.  
25 So I agree on that point. However, I would rather discuss  
26 Proposal 8 and 9 separately because reducing from six to  
27 four has potential major impact on Sitka hunters.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Vicki.

30  
31 MS. LeCORNU: I just wanted to clarify for  
32 Floyd, that is very confusing what the standard is, is it  
33 customary and traditional or is it rural? The standard is  
34 customary and traditional use and is only qualified by  
35 rural place of residence. Does that answer your question?  
36 So we're supposed to be looking at customary and  
37 traditional uses primarily. Only qualified by rural place  
38 of residence. So the preference is for customary and  
39 traditional use.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Further discussion.  
42 We're talking up or down on the motion.

43  
44 MS. WILSON: Question.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Question's been called  
47 for. Okay, let me back up, the motion was to approve.

48  
49 MS. WILSON: Approve.

50

00162

1 MS. GARZA: To support Proposal 8.

2

3 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Support Proposal 8, and  
4 we went through all the proper hoops. All those in favor  
5 of the motion signify by saying aye.

6

7 IN UNISON: Aye.

8

9 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: All those opposed say no.

10

11 IN UNISON: Aye.

12

13 CHAIRMAN THOMAS: The no's have it. We are  
14 in recess until 9:00 o'clock tomorrow morning. Thank you  
15 very much one and all.

16

17 (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

