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SOUTHEAST ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE  
REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

9

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11

VOLUME III

12

13

Sitka, Alaska

14

March 19, 2004

15

8:00 o'clock a.m.

16

17

18 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

19

20 John Littlefield, Chairman

21 Bertrand Adams

22 Michael Bangs

23 Michael Douville

24 Dolly Garza

25 Donald Hernandez

26 Eric Jordan

27 Harvey Kitka

28 Floyd Kookesh

29 Patricia Phillips

30 Mary Rudolph

31 Michael Sofoulis

32 Richard Stokes

33

34 Herman Kitka, Member Emeritus

35

36 Regional Coordinator, Robert Schroeder

37

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47 3522 West 27th Avenue

48 Anchorage, Alaska 99517

49 907-243-0668

50 jpk@gci.net

00288

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

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3 (Sitka, Alaska - 3/19/2004)

4

5 (On record)

6

7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. We're back  
8 in session. The first item on the agenda is -- well,  
9 first let me make an announcement. I believe there is a  
10 fundraiser today for the Kaagwaantaan. Do you know if  
11 that's correct at lunch time?

12

13 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, I believe  
14 there's a fundraiser. We have to get final information  
15 on where it is.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay.

18

19 DR. SCHROEDER: So we will be finding  
20 that out this morning.

21

22 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: So we will be  
23 getting something on that a little later. But I believe  
24 there's a lunch fundraiser. Okay.

25

26 When we recessed last night we were on  
27 Wildlife Proposals Regional Council deliberations,  
28 recommendations, and justification. And under  
29 Considerations were Proposals WP04-03 through 15. What  
30 I'd like to do here this morning is if you look at our  
31 agenda we've still got a lot of stuff to handle. So I  
32 would suggest that the Council try to hopefully keep  
33 their comments to five minutes unless you really need to  
34 have something to say. Five minutes and we'll try to  
35 talk once -- everybody to have one chance to talk and  
36 then we can go back instead of having dialogue between  
37 two people. And we really need to move through these.

38

39 We've got a full agenda. I would not  
40 have believed it when I looked at the agenda a month ago,  
41 but anyway that's we are. We are at Council's wishes on  
42 those proposals.

43

44 Dr. Schroeder has an ethics disclosure to  
45 do.

46

47 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, Ms.  
48 Phillips wasn't able to be with us in the beginning part  
49 of our meeting and because of that she wasn't able to do  
50 an ethics disclosure at that time. Before we act on this

00289

1 proposal I'd like to do that with Ms. Phillips and she'll  
2 find the notes that she had on the ethics disclosure --  
3 we can do that in minute, Patty, unless you have it.  
4 Let's take that up in a.....

5  
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I'll let her do  
7 it.....

8  
9 DR. SCHROEDER: Okay.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: .....get it done.

12  
13 (Pause)

14  
15 CHAIRMAN LITTLE: Okay. We will read  
16 that in to the record here in a few minutes, but right  
17 now what I'd like to do is get the Council's wishes on  
18 how they would like to proceed. We have all these  
19 proposals before us. Of course the Staff proposal  
20 recommended action only on one item and no action on  
21 others. That's not necessarily what you have to do as  
22 the Council. That's just their recommendation. So what  
23 I'd like to do is if you would tell me how you would like  
24 to proceed. Mr. Douville.

25  
26 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
27 I would like to make a motion that we take no action on  
28 Proposals 3 through 14.

29  
30 MR. KOOKESH: Isn't it suppose to be a  
31 positive.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN LITTLE: Is there a page that  
34 this is referenced to in our book.

35  
36 MR. KOOKESH: Isn't it suppose to be a  
37 positive action?

38  
39 DR. GARZA: No, you can do a no action  
40 motion.

41  
42 MR. DOUVILLE: Huh?

43  
44 DR. GARZA: You can do a no action  
45 motion.

46  
47 MR. KOOKESH: You can take a no action  
48 motion.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: You can do a no

00290

1 action motion. I guess there isn't really one. Is  
2 there.

3 DR. GARZA: Page 2 and 3.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Page 2 and 3.

6  
7 DR. GARZA: I'll second the motion.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. It's been  
10 moved and seconded to take no action on Proposals 3  
11 through 14. That's the motion before you. Discussion.  
12 Mr. Douville.

13  
14 You're the maker, you can have the first  
15 words. You don't have to.

16  
17 MR. DOUVILLE: Go ahead.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Other  
20 Council comments on the motion before you.

21  
22 (No comments)

23  
24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I've been informed  
25 we're looking at Page 89 in your book.

26  
27 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Go ahead.

30  
31 DR. GARZA: It's my intent as the  
32 seconder of the motion by taking no action on Proposals 3  
33 through 14 that we are allowing the subcommittee on the  
34 Prince of Wales U-2 deer to work over the next year and  
35 perhaps come up with a solution that is acceptable to  
36 island and off island residents, and taking any further  
37 action on these proposals at this time may just make  
38 those discussions more difficult.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. This is a  
41 little bit different for the rationale because we're just  
42 taking no action on these, but I think it is important to  
43 note for the records that there are no conservation  
44 concerns as listed in the justification.

45  
46 Other Council.

47  
48 (No comments)

49  
50 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are you ready for

00291

1 the question on the motion.

2

3 Mr. Jordan.

4

5 MR. JORDAN: Mr. Chair, I thought -- and  
6 I want to put it on the record that's why I moved to  
7 speak here. I thought some of the testimony from Prince  
8 of Wales was especially compelling. Mr. Morris and Mr.  
9 Peterson particularly in regards to perhaps moving the  
10 season a little later and the fact of hanging the deer  
11 later, et cetera, without going over all the details, I  
12 found that testimony compelling. The reason I'm going to  
13 support this motion is we have formed a subcommittee to  
14 deal with those.

15

16 On the balance of the issues I believe  
17 that what I'm heading towards is supporting this and then  
18 supporting 15 to rollover the existing regulations.

19

20 On the comment about conservation  
21 concerns. While I don't feel there are immediate  
22 conservation concerns in terms of enough deer. I feel  
23 there are conservation concerns that have been brought  
24 out and due to the habitat change some localized  
25 depletion issues that will be a factor in me supporting  
26 No. 15 and also a factor in me supporting the formation  
27 of the subcommittee.

28

29 So to me there are conservation concerns.  
30 The testimony from Mr. Morris and Mr. Peterson was  
31 compelling, but in balance I think we should leave it for  
32 the subcommittee to come back with a proposal for us and  
33 leave the status quo in effect until that time.

34

35 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

36

37 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Other  
38 Council.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: At this time we  
43 would like to have Ms. Phillips give her ethics  
44 disclosure before there is a vote. Is there any  
45 objection to that.

46

47 (Council Shakes Head Negatively)

48

49 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We'll do so.

50

00292

1 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman  
2 Littlefield.

3  
4 My name is Patricia Phillips. I am a  
5 rural resident from Pelican, Alaska. I hunt subsistence  
6 resources on the Federal lands under consideration at  
7 this meeting. Thank you.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Ms.  
10 Phillips. As the designated Federal Official I consider  
11 that Member Phillips does not have any significant  
12 financial interests directly related to the matters  
13 before this Council at this meeting and may fully  
14 participate in our proceedings.

15  
16 Any other Council discussion on the  
17 motion before you.

18  
19 Dr. Garza.

20  
21 DR. GARZA: Just to clarify, Mr.  
22 Chairman. It's the intent of the motion to follow the  
23 direction of the recommendation on Page 18 to support  
24 Proposal 15 and take no action on these proposals.  
25 That's Page 89, excuse me.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.  
28 Mr. Douville.

29  
30 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
31 I agree with what Dolly just said and I would like to  
32 make a couple points here.

33  
34 I live on Prince of Wales. I'm also a  
35 member of CCA and I've talked a lot of hunters who have  
36 participated in this early hunt. I got a lot of positive  
37 feedback. I've known many of those people, they're able  
38 to take their kids out and it was a good hunt.

39  
40 And you keep hearing that I like to hang  
41 my deer longer. Well, I grew up when there was no  
42 freezers or refrigeration or anything else and it didn't  
43 stop us from getting deer. And I'd like to point out  
44 that if you skin your deer, quarter it up, and air dry  
45 it, you can hang it for days. I don't care how warm it  
46 is. It keeps just fine. We've done this for years. And  
47 it's just a matter of education on how to deal with it.  
48 You can't hang it with the skin on and expect it to stay  
49 good. So I don't think the early season is an issue.

50

00293

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.

4

5 (No comments)

6

7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are you ready for  
8 the question.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. The motion  
13 before you is to take no action on Proposals WP03, 04,  
14 05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14. All in favor  
15 please signify by saying aye.

16

17 IN UNISON: Aye.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All opposed, same  
20 sign.

21

22 (No opposing votes)

23

24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The motion is  
25 approved. We will take no action on those proposals.  
26 Council wishes on 15.

27

28 DR. GARZA: Move to adopt Proposal 15.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there a second.

31

32 MR. ADAMS: I'll second it.

33

34 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's been moved  
35 and seconded to support Proposal WP04-15. Council let's  
36 find the page here.

37

38 DR. GARZA: A summary of Proposal 15 is  
39 on Page 77.

40

41 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any Council. Mr.  
42 Bangs.

43

44 MR. BANGS: Yeah, thank you, Mr.  
45 Chairman. I wasn't here when this proposal was  
46 presented, but I'm curious as to why it says Prince of  
47 Wales rather than Unit 2.

48

49 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Federal Staff.

50 Mr. Johnson.

00294

1 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chair. Mr. Bangs. The  
2 reason for that is the restriction that was placed on  
3 non-Federally-qualified was for Prince of Wales only. It  
4 did not include the remainder of Unit 2, nor the  
5 additional lands that are in non-Federal ownership.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Douville.

8  
9 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
10 I would like to offer an amendment changing the wording  
11 August 1 to August 21. I would this change from August 1  
12 to August 15.

13  
14 DR. GARZA: Second.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. If we're  
17 looking -- if I have this correctly we're looking on Page  
18 77 under the proposed regulation. The existing  
19 regulation in the second paragraph says The Federal  
20 public lands on Prince of Wales Island are closed to the  
21 hunting of deer from August 1 to August 21. The intent  
22 of the amendment is change that from August 1 to August  
23 15. Would you like the floor, Mr. Douville.

24  
25 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
26 There are no conservation concerns that have been pointed  
27 out and it really does not affect the subsistence  
28 opportunity. As the graph that was presented to us  
29 showed that the first week or 10 days was the most  
30 productive and through my personal communication with  
31 many of the people that hunted them they were happy with  
32 that. They did not wish to expend all their tags in the  
33 early season and they were happy with the one or two they  
34 got and saved their tags for the rut later.

35  
36 And I believe that the information we  
37 were presented to document this was substantial and I  
38 also believe that this would have a positive affect on  
39 non-subsistence users by giving them a bit more  
40 opportunity in August which is a very popular time for  
41 them to hunt also.

42  
43 Thank you.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council  
46 comments on the amendment. Dr. Garza.

47  
48 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I also  
49 support the amendment. If you look at the minutes from  
50 last year the proposal -- I think five that we forwarded

00295

1 to the Federal Subsistence Board closed Prince of Wales  
2 to non-subsistence users from August 1 to August 10. So  
3 our initial decision as this Council was to have a 10 day  
4 closure to allow for rural resident to have that jump on  
5 getting into the good spots. And it was actually the  
6 Federal Subsistence Board who changed it to the 21st  
7 pretty much unbeknownst us as a Council.

8

9                   And while we are a Subsistence Board I  
10 think we also do -- at least I do value family  
11 opportunities and it is those having two weeks in August  
12 for non-rural residents from Ketchikan to come over and  
13 take their children up into the Alpine and have some  
14 family activity I think is important. And I think that  
15 is going to help provide a balance as Mr. Douville  
16 pointed out the majority of the hunt -- that early hunt  
17 by the rural residents was in the first week. Certainly  
18 more in the second week, but I think that if we provide  
19 two weeks to the Ketchikan people it will alleviate a lot  
20 of the issues that we have.

21

22                   The one week from the 21st of August on  
23 makes it very, very tight for Ketchikan people because  
24 they have kids that are going back to school just like  
25 everybody else and it just becomes very difficult to plan  
26 with only that one week of trying to get a hunt in,  
27 getting back, working on your deer, and getting in to  
28 school.

29

30                   Thank you.

31

32                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.

33 Ms. Phillips.

34

35                   MS. PHILLIPS: Chairman Littlefield.  
36 With all respect to Mr. Douville and Ms. Garza I will be  
37 voting against the amendment. I would more support a  
38 quid pro quo which is an exchange for an exchange. If  
39 you want to provide opportunities for non-Federally-  
40 qualified subsistence users in August I would be willing  
41 to if you offered an exchanged time for that time that  
42 you're taking away put into October or November.

43

44                   Thank you.

45

46                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Other  
47 Council. Mr. Jordan.

48

49                   MR. JORDAN: Mr. Chair, I will be  
50 supporting the amendment with all respects to Ms.

00296

1 Phillips. The statement by Mr. Douville is pretty  
2 persuasive. I have read all the letters and there's  
3 quite a few letters requesting some changes in August,  
4 especially by residents of Ketchikan. I think it shows  
5 responsiveness of this Council. And so on balance I will  
6 be supporting it.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.  
9 Mr. Adams.

10

11 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr.  
12 Chairman, I intend to support this proposal unless  
13 somebody changes my mind between now and the time that we  
14 vote.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Hernandez.

17

18 MR. HERNANDEZ: Mr. Chairman, I'll also  
19 be supporting the amendment as put forward by Dr. Garza.

20

21 In response to Patty's suggestion of a  
22 quid pro quo I was listening to Mr. Morris' comments  
23 yesterday about the need for restrictions in October on  
24 non-Federally-qualified users. I guess I decided  
25 ultimately that, that probably was not a good idea. I  
26 didn't want to go there. And my reason for that was that  
27 pretty much for some of the reasons he stated as to why  
28 he didn't want the early hunt. The question is  
29 seasonality.

30

31 And when I listened to Mr. Peterson's  
32 comments about what he's seen on the roads in the August  
33 hunt it kind of made me think that there -- you might  
34 kind of categorize the non-Federally-qualified hunters  
35 maybe in to a couple different groups.

36

37 The ones that might come out early and  
38 may be looking for one deer -- preferably a large deer  
39 something with a big rack on it and that group might be  
40 more prone to not fully utilizing the meat at that time  
41 of year. And that might be cause for some of the  
42 situations he sees and testified about.

43

44 Whereas the non-Federally-qualified  
45 hunter that would be out in October would tend to be more  
46 the person out looking for meat. More a subsistence  
47 oriented person from an urban area. And that's the group  
48 that I would not want to penalize if we're talking about  
49 the restriction. So for that reason I think I would  
50 support Dolly's amendment.

00297

1 Thank you.

2

3

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Before  
4 I'll allow anymore we do need to cover the rationale for  
5 recommendation and we have to remember our charge of  
6 Title VIII. There are two things in the -- how does it  
7 affect the subsistence opportunity and what is the affect  
8 on non-subsistence users. We need to remember Title VIII  
9 when we consider these proposals. I won't say anything  
10 yet. Other Council.

11

12 (No comments)

13

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is Council done.

14

15

16 (No comments)

17

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. I'll make

18

19 my comments.

20

21

I'm not going to support this because if  
22 I look at the rationale for recommendation and we've  
23 discussed the conservation concerns at nauseam. Nobody  
24 knows what's happening there, but believes there's a  
25 slight decline in deer and we all know it's going to get  
26 worse.

27

28

How does it affect the subsistence  
29 opportunity. Well, this is clearly bad for the  
30 subsistence users. And no matter how you look at it  
31 we're taking away time from them. The information is  
32 again we have lots of information needed to make this.  
33 The affect on non-subsistence users is positive, but  
34 that's not what we're here for.

35

36

And if you'll -- I'll bring you some  
37 history of what happened last year. We supported an  
38 August 10th -- the Regional Advisory Council did go  
39 August 1st to August 10th. But we have to remember that  
40 there was another thing that was tied to that and that  
41 was reduction from four deer to two deer. It was not  
42 just a date. And when the Federal Subsistence Board took  
43 action what they did is they extended the season to give  
44 us what they thought was an equal how many deer we would  
45 get by reducing it to two bucks by giving them that  
46 season length. So it was, in affect, trying to make the  
47 proposal that we submitted last year more fair, more  
48 equal. And I guess I'll leave it at that as I'm just  
49 going to have to vote against this.

50

00298

1                   And I hope the Council remembers what  
2 we're here for. We are not here to support the Ketchikan  
3 hunters or the non-rural hunters. I mean that's not our  
4 job so.

5  
6                   Thank you.

7  
8                   Mr. Douville.

9  
10                  MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
11 I might point out that we have family and friends that  
12 live in Ketchikan and we support their efforts to become  
13 rural also.

14  
15                  So having said that I will point out that  
16 the portion -- the part that I want to amend is not  
17 utilized by the rural hunters in any great degree. It  
18 would not create any hardship in my opinion.

19  
20                  Thank you.

21  
22                  CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Other  
23 Council.

24  
25                  (No comments)

26  
27                  CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are you ready for  
28 the question.

29  
30                  (No comments)

31  
32                  CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Question before  
33 you is an amendment to WP04-15 to change the wording in  
34 the second paragraph on Page 77 to read the Federal  
35 public lands on Prince of Wales Island are closed to the  
36 hunting of deer from August 1st to August 15th, except by  
37 Federally-qualified subsistence users. All in favor  
38 please signify by saying aye.

39  
40                  IN UNISON: Aye.

41  
42                  CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All opposed, same  
43 sign.

44  
45                  CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Aye.

46  
47                  MS. PHILLIPS: Aye.

48  
49                  MR. BANGS: Aye.

50

00299

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I need to have a  
2 division here. The secretary will take the role here.  
3 All in favor of this please raise your right hand.

4  
5 (Pause - Show of Hands)

6  
7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All opposed, same  
8 sign.

9  
10 (Pause - Show of Hands)

11  
12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay.

13  
14 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, the vote was  
15 eight to three.

16  
17 Thank you.

18  
19 In favor. I stand corrected. It's nine  
20 to three.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. The vote is  
23 nine to three. The amendment has passed. We are going  
24 to change the date to August 15th. What?

25  
26 DR. GARZA: Recommend.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We're going to  
29 recommend to the Federal Subsistence Board that they  
30 change that to August 15th. Okay. The main motion is  
31 before you as amended.

32  
33 Mr. Jordan.

34  
35 MR. JORDAN: Mr. Chair, I wanted to ask  
36 Mr. Bangs if the answer that he received was sufficient.  
37 I also am wondering why that shouldn't read the Federal  
38 Public lands in Unit 2 are closed to hunting. I  
39 understand that there are State lands and private lands,  
40 but seems to me there's islands in District 2 that are  
41 Federal lands where the regulation ought to be uniform.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I'm going to refer  
44 that question to Mr. Brainard as opposed to Mr. Bangs.

45  
46 MR. JORDAN: Okay.

47  
48 MR. BRAINARD: Yes, good morning. I  
49 believe the reason for that was, was the outer islands  
50 are not utilized as much. And the feeling was that, that

00300

1 still gave people an opportunity to go to that area to  
2 hunt during that time and the hope -- I think -- was that  
3 it would help disperse some of the activity. And as I  
4 remember quite a lively discussion about that. And they  
5 just felt that the majority of the problems that were  
6 perceived were from the roaded area of the island and so  
7 that's why they went with that.

8

9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Johnson, do  
10 you have anything to add to that.

11

12 MR. JOHNSON: I would just concur with  
13 it, Mr. Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Bangs.

16

17 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My  
18 concern that made me think of this was the people that  
19 live in those outlying islands. And the reason that I  
20 brought it up was I thought that with the regulation as  
21 listed with Prince of Wales those subsistence users in  
22 Edna Bay, Port Ellis, and the other little communities  
23 they would end up not being able to utilize this time  
24 period and wind up going to Prince of Wales putting more  
25 pressure during that subsistence time. That was my  
26 thought.

27

28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That seems correct  
29 to me. We'll go back to Staff comment.

30

31 MR. BRAINARD: Yes, sir. The people that  
32 live in those islands are rural residents and can hunt  
33 anywhere in that area they want. Both in the -- on their  
34 islands or on Prince of Wales. They are fully covered  
35 under the rural determination.

36

37 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Bangs. Follow  
38 up.

39

40 MR. BANGS: Yes. The way I read it  
41 though that the they could not hunt on those outside  
42 islands during that restricted time period of the July  
43 hunt. They would have to go to Prince of Wales and that  
44 was my concern that those islands were left unprotected  
45 for those communities.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Staff. First to  
48 Mr. Johnson.

49

50 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Bangs.

00301

1 The restriction was only to the non-Federally-qualified.  
2 Federally-qualified hunters can hunt anywhere on Federal  
3 lands in Unit 2 during the entire season as listed in the  
4 regulations booklet. Again, the idea was that it was  
5 unlikely that you would have lots and lots of people  
6 coming that are non-Federally-qualified to hunt on those  
7 islands simply because of the difficulties involved in  
8 getting there. Whereas some of the effort would be  
9 dispersed, but clearly would not have a major affect on  
10 the Federally-qualified users that are going to be  
11 hunting basically in their own back yard.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is that.....

14

15 MR. BANGS: (Nods affirmatively)

16

17 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Mr.

18 Hernandez.

19

20 MR. HERNANDEZ: I was just going to ask  
21 for clarification. That means that as of July 24th --  
22 the way this is written -- a person from Edna Bay could  
23 hunt on Kosciusko Island because it will be open on July  
24 24th. All of Unit 2 is open on July 24th. That's  
25 correct, right?

26

27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Federal Staff.

28

29 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman. Mr.

30 Hernandez. That is correct.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are you ready for  
37 the vote on the motion as amended.

38

39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Phillips.

40

41 MS. PHILLIPS: Are we voting on the main  
42 motion with the amendment; is that correct?

43

44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Correct.

45

46 MS. PHILLIPS: So as amended. I have a  
47 comment. It is appropriate to provide a priority  
48 preference for subsistence. Our charge is ANILCA. The  
49 continuation of the opportunity for subsistence uses by  
50 rural residents.

00302

1 In Unit 2 there are no practical  
2 alternative means available for the rural residents  
3 dependent on subsistence harvest of deer. There's a loss  
4 of jobs, decreased ability to harvest fisheries sources,  
5 and increased competition from other user industries, and  
6 a lack of a sustainable economy.

7  
8 There are also the continuation of the  
9 opportunity for subsistence use is threatened by:

- 10  
11 1. Non-Federally-qualified deer  
12 harvest.
- 13  
14 2. Scientific data demonstrates a  
15 decline in deer populations. The  
16 data presented to us shows a  
17 slight decline in deer pellet  
18 count. There's a 41 percent  
19 decline from 1985 to 2001 in the  
20 deer pellet count. The harvest  
21 data indicates reduced deer take  
22 and it takes more time and effort  
23 to harvest deer in areas they  
24 hunt. There is sufficient  
25 evidence documenting a  
26 conservation concern. There's  
27 changes in habitats, closing in  
28 of clear-cuts, and forest  
29 management practices are unclear  
30 of future plans to improve the  
31 habitat.
- 32  
33 3. There are significant impacts  
34 from increased accessibility from  
35 the inter island ferry system,  
36 improved road systems, and recent  
37 management regulations for the  
38 harvest of deer on Unit 2 support  
39 the taking of deer in a manner  
40 consistent with the sound  
41 management principles and the  
42 conservation of healthy  
43 populations of deer and the use  
44 of public lands is to cause the  
45 least adverse impact possible on  
46 rural residents who depend on the  
47 resource. And the non-wasteful  
48 subsistence use of fish,  
49 wildlife, and other renewable  
50 resources shall be the priority

00303

1 consumptive use.

2

3

4 The inability to obtain enough deer to  
5 meet Federally-qualified subsistence users needs is  
6 detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs.  
7 Household survey data supports difficulties in obtaining  
8 deer and public testimony of Federally-qualified  
9 subsistence users supports this. The recently  
10 implemented management regulations need more time  
11 consecutive years to determine if harvest opportunities  
12 are being met by Federally-qualified subsistence users.

12

13

14 The public has had adequate opportunity  
15 to respond. The Federal Subsistence Board has determined  
16 it appropriate to close public lands on Prince of Wales  
17 Islands to non-subsistence deer hunters to maintain  
18 subsistence opportunity.

18

19

20 A significant percentage of non-  
21 Federally-qualified subsistence users do not understand  
22 the requirements of Public Law 96-487 ANILCA passed on  
23 December 1, 1980. Be it enacted Title VIII.

23

24

25 Present indications are that clear-cut  
26 loggings in Southeast Alaska will reduce the carrying  
27 capacity of deer winter range and result in long term  
28 reduction in deer numbers. This is from the deer hunting  
29 patterns resource populations and management issues on  
30 Prince of Wales Island. From the letter to Millie  
31 Stevens, President of Craig Community Association from  
32 the Federal Subsistence Board dated September 16, 2002,  
33 Page 88.

33

34

35 In summary, the hunter opinion data shows  
36 that respondents believe that it is taking more time and  
37 effort to harvest deer on Prince of Wales Island and that  
38 the island deer population is in decline. A large  
39 proportion of respondents believe Ketchikan and other off  
40 island hunters are hurting their hunting success.  
41 Community deer harvest were perceived as being less than  
42 what was needed for Craig, Hydaburg, and Klawock  
43 respondents for the 1997 harvest year.

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are you speaking  
in support of the motion.

48

49

50

MS. PHILLIPS: Yes, Chairman Littlefield.

00304

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: In support of the  
2 main motion or opposed to it.

3  
4 MS. PHILLIPS: Are we -- this is support  
5 for Proposal 15.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: For clarification  
8 the support -- a vote to support -- a yes vote will be to  
9 continue the existing regulations in effect with the  
10 recommendation by this Council that the date be amended  
11 to August 15th instead of August 21st.

12  
13 MS. PHILLIPS: Chairman Littlefield.  
14 Though I did not support the amendment to the main  
15 motion, I will vote in support of the motion as amended.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are there other  
18 Council that would like to comment for the record.

19  
20 Mr. Jordan.

21  
22 MR. JORDAN: Mr. Chair. Council members.  
23 Ms. Phillips' eloquent statement sums up my comments.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Douville.

26  
27 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
28 I would like to support the WP04-15 as amended. As there  
29 are no conservation concerns that were brought to our  
30 attention. It does not affect significantly the  
31 subsistence opportunity and the kinds of quality of  
32 information presented for me to make that decision I  
33 believe were adequate. It has a positive affect on non-  
34 subsistence users as well.

35  
36 Thank you.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.  
39 Mr. Kitka.

40  
41 MR. KITKA: Mr. Chairman, thank you. I  
42 will support this motion even though I'm very taken with  
43 them taking days away from the hunters. I believe that  
44 Mrs. Phillips is right and there should be some time set  
45 aside for them in late October and the first part of  
46 November, if at all possible. But I will support this  
47 motion mostly because of the subcommittee and I hope that  
48 they will work toward this end.

49  
50 Thank you.

00305

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.  
2 Mr. Hernandez then Mr. Bangs.

3  
4 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
5 I will also be voting in favor of this motion.

6  
7 However, I have to say that we're facing  
8 maybe some different circumstances this year. I came to  
9 this meeting fully intending to voice concerns about  
10 conservation concerns on the island. I think that's a  
11 debate that will continue.

12  
13 I also was going to be looking for more  
14 kinds and quality of information for this meeting.  
15 However, at the beginning of the meeting we did vote to  
16 start this deer planning process and I'm willing to  
17 essentially postpone my debate on this topic until that  
18 planning process takes place.

19  
20 So as I say, I'm going to vote for this  
21 motion. I think it corrects a very small situation that  
22 arose in last years deliberations at the Subsistence  
23 Board level and so I guess I'm essentially willing to  
24 withhold judgment for another year on this topic and I  
25 will vote for this motion.

26  
27 Thank you.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Bangs.

30  
31 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
32 After hearing the further comments, I think that I will  
33 support this as amended. But I do have some reservations  
34 about -- I don't feel like we're taking the time away  
35 from them because they can still hunt, of course, but it  
36 is something that I'm hoping that the subcommittee can  
37 come with a good compromise and work it out to where  
38 we're not making a detrimental move towards a subsistence  
39 harvest. So in that in light I feel comfortable that it  
40 will work out in this next year.

41  
42 Thank you.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council who  
45 haven't had a chance yet.

46  
47 (No comments)

48  
49 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. I guess I'm  
50 last. I'm going to also vote to support WP04-15 as

00306

1 amended even though I have problems with the amendment  
2 and I believe the Federal Board may as well.

3

4 But one of the things that we were  
5 promised was a cooperative planning effort would be  
6 brought forward and that's what I am hoping for that  
7 these will resolve these. So by holding the status quo,  
8 except we did change it a little bit, but by holding the  
9 status quo we're going to see this cooperative management  
10 go forward and hopefully resolve these problems.

11

12 So are you ready for the question.

13

14 DR. GARZA: Question.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The motion before  
17 you is to support WP04-15 as amended to change the date  
18 from August 1st to the 15th. All in favor please signify  
19 by saying aye.

20

21 IN UNISON: Aye.

22

23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Those opposed,  
24 same sign.

25

26 (No opposing votes)

27

28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The amended motion  
29 has carried. Let's take five minutes. Let's try to keep  
30 five minutes too. Just grab a cup of coffee and come  
31 back.

32

33 (Off record)

34

35 (On record)

36

37 MR. HERNANDEZ: .....hunters during that  
38 October 14th period. Where you able to extract that from  
39 any of your data or is that just not available?

40

41 MR. BRAINARD: I do not have that kind of  
42 data. I have the people who hunted on the Federal permit  
43 data only.

44

45 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Dr.  
48 Schroeder you can continue.

49

50 DR. SCHROEDER: We're moving with

00307

1 Proposal 18 to moose and this relates to issues on Unuk  
2 River.

3

4 By way of background in our last Council  
5 meeting we received significant public interest in moose  
6 management on the Unuk River and the Council recommended  
7 an early start to the subsistence moose hunt on the Unuk  
8 and that proposal went through the Federal Subsistence  
9 Board. The status of moose of customary and traditional  
10 of moose on the Unuk River was that there had been no  
11 specific customary and traditional determination made as  
12 of last year when you did your recommendation.

13

14 This year we have a proposal before us  
15 from Louie Wagner of Metlakatla who's one of the active  
16 hunters of Unuk moose. And he requests that a positive  
17 customary and traditional use determination be made for  
18 moose in Unit 1(A) for all rural residents of Unit 1(A).

19

20 The Staff analysis that I'll be  
21 summarizing begins on Page 94 and I'll briefly go through  
22 the material before you. As I said there haven't been  
23 any specific customary and traditional use determinations  
24 for moose in this unit. That means that all rural  
25 residents are eligible to subsistence hunt for moose in  
26 Unit 1(A).

27

28 We provided a background on the moose  
29 population in this area. Moose are believed to have been  
30 established in this unit sometime in the early 1900s.  
31 Some Unuk River moose may seasonally migrate across the  
32 international border with Canada. The Canadian portion  
33 of the Unuk River drainage has high quality moose  
34 habitat. Some moose were also transplanted into the  
35 Chikamin drainage in 1963. This transplant was not  
36 successful and hasn't resulted in a huntable population.  
37 The Unuk River population is estimated to be 35 to 50  
38 moose. The state of Alaska has a post-hunt population  
39 objective of 35 moose. The Department estimates that  
40 this population could support a harvest of five to 10  
41 bulls per year. The Staff analysis on the following  
42 Proposal WP04-19 has further biological information.

43

44 Over the past 13 years -- the time period  
45 that we have data -- hunters have taken from zero to five  
46 moose per year from this unit. All hunting that we know  
47 about has taken place in the Unuk River drainage. This  
48 Unuk River is reported to be a really difficult place to  
49 hunt. Depending on the route taken the hunt is 65 to 100  
50 water miles from Ketchikan/Saxman and Metlakatla, the

00308

1 communities that make the most use of the area. Whether  
2 you get to the mouth of the Unuk by boat or plane hunters  
3 need use of a river boat, preferably a jet drive boat to  
4 hunt effectively there. This area has no infrastructure  
5 to support hunters, changing river conditions, and a  
6 brushy riverain habitat make this hunt challenging and  
7 definitely one of those local knowledge hunts.

8

9 I presented the regulatory history in  
10 Table 1. The State season has been open September 15th  
11 to October 15th for some time. The final line on that  
12 table indicates the Federal Subsistence season which  
13 opened earlier -- ten days earlier on September 5th as of  
14 last year.

15

16 There are three communities close to the  
17 moose hunting areas in Unit 1(A) that have a strong  
18 history of use of 1(A) resources. Those are Ketchikan,  
19 Metlakatla, and Saxman. Excluding Saxman the Ketchikan  
20 Borough has a population of about 13,276.

21

22 Now I need to correct this. Most of  
23 these Borough residents live in a non-rural area and not  
24 eligible for subsistence. There are some approximately  
25 200 Ketchikan residents who live within the Borough, but  
26 outside the urban area as the non-rural area as defined  
27 by the Federal Subsistence Program.

28

29 Metlakatla had a population in 2000 of  
30 1,431. Saxman's population was 394. The small  
31 communities of Meyers Chuck, population 21, and Hyder,  
32 population 97, are also located within Unit 1(A). We're  
33 considering the use of moose within 1(A) by residents of  
34 those communities as well. I do mention that a small  
35 number of other rural residents may live outside the  
36 named places that homesteads, Native allotments, and  
37 other locations in Unit 1(A). And that would include  
38 approximately 200 people who are either out the road in  
39 Ketchikan or at Loring or at other places that articulate  
40 pretty closely with Ketchikan.

41

42 I've provided some background on Saxman.  
43 Saxman, as you know, is the relocated site of Tlingits  
44 from the old villages of Tongass and Cape Fox.

45

46 Metlakatla, of course, was founded by a  
47 group of Canadian Tsimshians who migrated from Prince  
48 Rupert, British Columbia in 1887 primarily seeking  
49 religious freedom. And Metlakatla is, of course, a  
50 reservation and the 86,000 acre island reservation and

00309

1 surrounding 3,000 feet of coastal waters are locally-  
2 controlled and not subject to state jurisdiction.

3

4                   Meyers Chuck is a very small community  
5 located along Clarence Strait on the northwest tip of the  
6 Cleveland Peninsula. It's about 40 miles northwest of  
7 Ketchikan and I provided some background on that.

8

9                   Hyder is a small unincorporated community  
10 at the head of Portland Canal about 150 water miles from  
11 Ketchikan and close 200 water miles from the Unuk River.  
12 Hyder articulates most closely with Seward the nearby  
13 community in Canada. It developed as a mining port for  
14 major mines that were located in Canada.

15

16                   Most of the land in Unit 1(A) is managed  
17 by USDA Forest Service, Tongass National Forest. All the  
18 known moose hunting takes place with Misty Fjords  
19 National Monument portion of this unit, although  
20 occasionally moose may be sighted in other locations.

21

22                   Looking through the eight factors for  
23 determining customary and traditional use a long-term  
24 consistent pattern of use excluding interruptions beyond  
25 the control of the community or area. Historically, this  
26 area the Burroughs Bay and Unuk River drainage, as well  
27 as the Chikamin River drainage, were part of the  
28 traditional territory of the Saxman/Cap Fox Teikwidi  
29 Clan. The other portions of what are now Unit 1(A)  
30 where moose may be found were also part of the  
31 traditional Cape Fox territory. There was a fort located  
32 on the north shore of Boroughs Bay and the Unuk River  
33 drainage had active hunting camps and smokehouses in the  
34 historic period. That means around World War II and  
35 before. The small community of Saxman continues to  
36 maintain its cultural ties to this traditional territory.  
37 We did look at household surveys conducted in Saxman  
38 covering the '87 season. They show some harvest and use  
39 of moose by that community. The surveys didn't indicate  
40 where that moose hunting took place. Households surveyed  
41 in 2000, covering 1999 reported some use of moose and  
42 attempt to harvest moose, but no moose taken in '99.  
43 Households surveys conduct in Hyder and Meyers Chuck  
44 covering the '87 season documented moose harvest and use  
45 by residents of those communities for that study year.

46

47                   Metlakatla looking at this community its  
48 developed a pattern of use of in the Behm Canal and Unuk  
49 River drainage. Main subsistence harvests include  
50 eulachon and moose. Household surveys conducted in

00310

1 Metlakatla covering the '87 season showed some use of  
2 moose by that community, but no harvest in that year.

3

4 I would point out that the Ketchikan  
5 Indian Association and the Tribes that they represent  
6 also have use of this area. It's not highlighted in this  
7 discussion because they live in an urban area.

8

9 Table 2 shows the Unit 1(A) moose harvest  
10 data collected by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game,  
11 Division of Wildlife Conservation for the 1990-2003 time  
12 period. As I said, all hunting took place in the Unuk  
13 River drainage. We have a gap for '93 for some reason.  
14 Over this time period from zero to 13 rural residents,  
15 mean 6.2, are known to have hunted in this area. They  
16 took zero to three moose per year a mean of half a moose.  
17 From zero to 41 non-rural hunters hunted in this unit a  
18 mean of 27 -- 28 and they took from zero to five moose  
19 per year, a mean of 2.2.

20

21 We'll note that the number of rural and  
22 non-rural hunters as well as hunting success has varied  
23 over time. However, there really doesn't seem to be a  
24 very strong trend in this pattern. A possible trend of a  
25 little bit more participation over time, but it's not  
26 really very strong.

27

28 Over this time period a preponderance of  
29 hunters who we can identify who are rural residents have  
30 come from Metlakatla and Saxman. We had one Klawock  
31 resident hunted in '92; one Wrangell resident in '94;  
32 three Craig residents in '95, one in '98, three in '99;  
33 and one Thorne Bay resident in '94. None of these other  
34 rural hunters reported getting any moose. Data don't  
35 show any harvest of moose by Meyers Chuck residents.  
36 However, we have a problem because Meyers Chuck data is  
37 coded in to Ketchikan. So we can't say whether Meyers  
38 Chuck residents did or did not hunt in this area. These  
39 data do not show any participation in Unit 1(A) moose  
40 hunt by residents of Hyder. I was able to contact Sam  
41 Burger who is a long time expert Hyder hunter and he knew  
42 of no hunting by anyone from Hyder in this unit in his  
43 experience.

44

45 Almost all of the non-rural hunters are  
46 residents of Ketchikan Gateway Borough and I've provided  
47 a list of the few other hunters who have gone up there.  
48 As far as we know, no one else has gotten any moose.

49

50 Two looking at seasonality as far as we

00311

1 know all hunting has taken place within the established  
2 seasons.

3

4 Three looking at methods and means. The  
5 hunting methods and means are common to moose hunting in  
6 Southeast Alaska. The hunt areas are accessed by large  
7 boat or airplane. Hunters use skiffs or jet boats to  
8 navigate the Unuk River in search of moose. It's  
9 basically a riverain type hunt. The Unuk River drainage  
10 doesn't have very many large open areas where stand  
11 hunting or stalking can be as effective as they might be  
12 in other parts of Alaska.

13

14 Consistent harvest of wildlife. As I've  
15 said this area is remote, difficult to hunt, and its only  
16 been moderately productive for moose. Nevertheless it's  
17 been consistently hunted by rural residents of Metlakatla  
18 and Saxman. Other non-rural residents of the Ketchikan  
19 Gateway Borough also appear to have a consistent pattern  
20 of use. And a number of the persons and families who  
21 regularly hunt this area of cabins or hunting camps in  
22 upper Burroughs Bay or the lower Unuk River.

23

24 Looking at criteria five, the means of  
25 handling, preparing, etcetera. We find these to be  
26 basically standard throughout Southeast Alaska. Moose  
27 are generally field dressed, skinned, quarter for  
28 transport by skiff or river boat back to base camps or  
29 anchored vessels. I did find out that some people reef  
30 whole field dress moose back to fishing vessels or cabins  
31 and then do cutting up back there. As with the meat of  
32 over large ungulates, moose meat may be frozen, ground,  
33 smoked, dried, vacuum packed, canned, or made into  
34 sausages. Hides may be occasionally be tanned.

35

36 Looking at the transmission of knowledge  
37 from generation to generation. Again, we find this  
38 criteria to be basically common to -- common  
39 characteristics with this hunt are in common with those  
40 of other hunts in the region. There's special means of  
41 transmission within the native community that consist of  
42 matrilineal relatives passing down knowledge of  
43 traditional places to younger kinsman.

44

45 Non-Natives also participated at times by  
46 Native subsistence practices and may learn Native ways  
47 through friendships, attendance at Native celebrations,  
48 or traditional adoption. More typically non-Natives  
49 learn the hunting skills, values, and lore from relatives  
50 and friends as they participate in harvest activities.

00312

1                   Given how this is just a local knowledge  
2 hunt it's quite clear that there would be an inter-  
3 generational transmission of lore to hunt successfully  
4 there.

5  
6                   We looked at the pattern of use in  
7 sharing and distribution. I've provided the harvest data  
8 such as we know it in Tables 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 for the  
9 communities of Hyder, Meyers Chuck, Metlakatla, and  
10 Saxman.

11  
12                   Just sort of a provision in any hunt  
13 where there are -- for any harvest where there are a  
14 relative small number of animals taken, random sample  
15 survey may miss those. So our survey data from studies  
16 conducted by the Division of Subsistence is indicative of  
17 use of moose by these communities, but the random sample  
18 could simply have missed a moose hunter or two in the  
19 survey sample year. And for that reason that harvest  
20 wouldn't be reflected in the harvest statistics.

21  
22                   Looking at criteria eight which is  
23 basically looking at the generalized dependence on  
24 subsistence resources. Again, I'm referring to the  
25 harvest levels of fish and wildlife as shown in Division  
26 of Subsistence surveys. We have one data point for  
27 Hyder.

28  
29                   These are also shown in Figure 1 presents  
30 the overall Southeast Alaska per capita subsistence  
31 harvest for different communities. The places where we  
32 -- let's see if they're all highlighted. It looks like I  
33 missed putting a strip on Meyers Chuck, but we do have  
34 harvest data for Saxman for two years, for Metlakatla for  
35 one year, and for Meyers Chuck for one year.

36  
37                   Hyder had a composite harvest level of  
38 345 pounds per capita in '87. Metlakatla's harvest level  
39 was a bit on the low side at 70 pounds per capita in that  
40 year. Meyers Chuck had an estimated per capita harvest  
41 level of 414 pounds. Saxman's two data points are quite  
42 different. The estimate was 90 pounds of subsistence  
43 foods per capita in '87, 217 pounds per capita in '99.  
44 We don't really know whether there was a change in Saxman  
45 over that time period.

46  
47                   In summary, in all of these communities  
48 virtually all households used some subsistence resources.  
49 Large majority of households harvest some subsistence  
50 resources for their own use and all communities maintain

00313

1 a subsistence orientation. There's quite a bit more  
2 detail in the excellent tables coming from Division of  
3 Subsistence work.

4

5                   Looking at the effects of this proposal.  
6 The regulations currently in effect allow all rural  
7 residents to participate in subsistence hunting for moose  
8 in Unit 1(A). As we've seen from the data even though  
9 all rural residents are presently eligible that  
10 participation in the hunt has really been limited to  
11 relatively nearby residents of Unit 1(A).

12

13                   The proposed customary and traditional  
14 use determination would limit subsistence moose hunting  
15 in this unit to residents of the communities of Hyder,  
16 Metlakatla, Meyers Chuck, Saxman, and other rural  
17 residents of Unit 1(A). If this was passed, the  
18 residents of other rural communities in Southeast Alaska  
19 and elsewhere in the State of Alaska would no longer be  
20 able to subsistence hunt for moose under Federal  
21 Subsistence Regulations within this unit. Hunters  
22 without recognized customary and traditional use of moose  
23 in this until would be unable to hunt during the  
24 September 5-15 season when the unit is open to Federal  
25 subsistence hunting but closed to hunting under the State  
26 of Alaska regulations.

27

28                   The preliminary Staff conclusion is to  
29 support the proposal with modification. And the  
30 modification would be to extend the customary and  
31 traditional use recognition to residents of Unit 1(A)  
32 excluding residents of Hyder. Our reasoning there is  
33 that we note that moose hunting opportunities are limited  
34 in 1(A) that however moose have regularly been hunted  
35 there for many years. We note that it's part of the  
36 traditional territory of the Saxman Tlingit who maintain  
37 cultural ties to the area. We note that residents in  
38 Metlakatla have developed a subsistence use pattern in  
39 this area since the founding of Metlakatla over a century  
40 ago. All hunters from both of these communities have a  
41 subsistence pattern of moose hunting in this unit and the  
42 uses vary for harvesting for other subsistence uses as  
43 well. Residents of Meyers Chuck show a strong subsistence  
44 orientation and have documented harvested moose. As I  
45 said, because of the way permit data are coded their use  
46 of the Unuk River moose herd cannot be desegregated from  
47 Ketchikan. A small number of other rural residents of  
48 this unit living outside these communities, but  
49 reasonably close to the hunt area also may make use of  
50 these local resource. And included in this small number

00314

1 of other rural residents are these people who are  
2 relatively close to Ketchikan, but across the border from  
3 or across the line of the Federal delineation of the non-  
4 rural area for Ketchikan.

5  
6 We looked at Hyder. We found that Hyder  
7 residents do have a subsistence orientation and a  
8 documented use of moose. However, they're very distance  
9 from the hunt area and there is no evidence showing their  
10 use of the Unuk River moose herd. There are no other  
11 known huntable moose populations in Unit 1(A) that would  
12 be reasonably close to Hyder. So excluding them from  
13 excluding them from the C&T determination would not  
14 restrict their hunting opportunities in anyway.

15  
16 And we find that no other rural residents  
17 of Southeast Alaska are known to have a pattern of  
18 subsistence use of moose in this unit.

19  
20 Mr. Chairman, that concludes my brief  
21 presentation and I'm open for questions at this time.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Questions from the  
24 Council for Staff. Mr. Kitka.

25  
26 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
27 Looking at the graphs I saw that Metlakatla got four  
28 moose, but I was just wondering how many families that  
29 was.

30  
31 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Kitka.  
32 To my knowledge there are a small number of families in  
33 Metlakatla that regularly hunt moose up in this area.  
34 They're very much the same group of folks who also  
35 participate in the hooligan harvest and have a habit of  
36 going up there and getting hooligan at other times of the  
37 year. So my best estimate would be from four to six  
38 families maximum in a given year.

39  
40 And I'd also like to thank -- say that I  
41 relied on Jill Reeck for a good deal of the information  
42 and his customary and traditional use write up as well as  
43 material generously provided by Mike Turek of Fish and  
44 Game.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.  
47 Dr. Garza.

48  
49 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, thank you. I  
50 guess I'm a bit confused from our last cycle of fisheries

00315

1 proposals where we excluded Petersburg and Meyers Chuck  
2 and then they were added back in by the Federal  
3 Subsistence Board. We got the response that we should be  
4 inclusive as we can with C&T determinations of  
5 communities and so it looks like we're excluding Hyder  
6 and I'm not sure on the map on Page 95 if Hyder --  
7 although we're calling it Unit 1. Hyder looks like it is  
8 clearly within Unit 1(A).

9

10 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman. Ms. Garza.  
11 Hyder is in Unit 1(A). It's way up at the head of -- if  
12 we had a slightly different map Hyder is way up Portland  
13 Canal and so it is within Unit 1(A).

14

15 DR. GARZA: And so when we are doing C&T  
16 determination we're calling it Unuk River, but is it in  
17 fact Unit 1(A)?

18

19 DR. SCHROEDER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Dr.  
20 Garza. The request is for a traditional use  
21 determination for moose in Unit 1(A).

22

23 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chair, if I could follow  
24 up.

25

26 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Follow up.

27

28 DR. GARZA: And we may need to get some  
29 response from ADF&G if this their survey data. But if  
30 you look at the household survey data for Hyder Page 104,  
31 Table 6, it says moose percentage of household using  
32 three, harvesting six, receiving 27 pounds 945. So are  
33 they getting their moose outside of 1(A) or they just not  
34 reporting it?

35

36 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman. Dr. Garza.  
37 We have rather thin information on Hyder. Many years ago  
38 the previous Regional Council had a member from Hyder. A  
39 man named Jim Bunn. Jim passed away this last year. I  
40 called and found that out. I spoke to Sam Burger who is  
41 a very active hunter in Hyder and asked him specifically  
42 that question. His best idea was that these were moose  
43 that were hunted by people who lived in Hyder, but hunted  
44 in Canada or in some other location. He knew of no one  
45 among the roughly 100 residents of Hyder who had ever  
46 hunted elsewhere in Unit 1(A).

47

48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We'll go to Mr.  
49 Kookesh and then if Mr. Turek I think if you could  
50 approach you could -- well we'll get to you next. You

00316

1 can answer -- you might be able to answer some of these  
2 next. Mr. Kookesh.

3

4 MR. KOOKESH: My question was sort of  
5 following Dolly's. I was curious that when we do C&T  
6 determinations do we make it a point and what are those  
7 points where we exclude communities? Because I like to  
8 do it as a body, instead of make an exception. And I was  
9 wondering are there a lot of exceptions on C&T in  
10 Southeast?

11

12 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman. Mr.  
13 Kookesh. We have two sets of C&Ts for Southeast Alaska.  
14 One on the fisheries side and then other customary and  
15 traditional use determinations on the wildlife side.

16

17 In general, the ones on the wildlife side  
18 tend to be much more inclusive and tend to identify whole  
19 units and then groups of communities that may use those  
20 units. And so they tend to be inclusive rather than  
21 exclusive.

22

23 The fisheries C&Ts as we work through  
24 them tend to be much more pointed at use.

25

26 Does that help you?

27

28 MR. KOOKESH: I'm making a comment to  
29 that. If we're going to C&Ts for areas it seems that we  
30 should just include it as a one body, instead of start  
31 breaking it out. That's my comment.

32

33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Having attended  
34 the Federal Subsistence Board and been on several C&T --  
35 listened to several C&T discussions I think it is the  
36 clear intent of the Federal Board to be as inclusive as  
37 possible when using C&T because what the affect of is we  
38 are actually cutting down the number of people who can  
39 use the area. We have rural residents that are allowed  
40 to use Unit 1(A) now. What we're doing is we're making  
41 that group smaller. So the direction that I understand  
42 from the Board is that we should be as inclusive as  
43 possible and including everyone that possibly could use.

44

45 And I'll give you an example of a long  
46 distance one was the discussion on Unit 20(E) which is  
47 the Chicken Eagle Highway. They were having people that  
48 had C&T that lived in Circle. All the way down through  
49 Tok up the Delta, to Fairbanks, and up the Steese  
50 Highway. I mean the distance wasn't necessarily the

00317

1 criterias. If they used it then they should be included.

2

3

Mr. Bangs.

4

5 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr.  
6 Schroeder if these other hunters from Craig or Klawock or  
7 Wrangell if they had been successful would that have  
8 changed your decision on to how you determined what area  
9 and what people?

10

11

Thank you.

12

13

14 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chair. Mr. Bangs.  
15 No. The idea of customary and traditional use  
16 determinations is that, that's a community characteristic  
17 and so the charge to you and to the Federal Subsistence  
18 Board is to determine whether there's a community pattern  
19 of use of a particular resource.

19

20

21 And so simply if one person harvested one  
22 animal at one time that wouldn't necessarily mean that,  
23 that community had a pattern of use. I think it gets a  
24 little -- because so few moose are harvested in the Unuk  
25 River drainage that makes this a little of a special case  
26 compared to a situation where say with deer hunting where  
27 relatively large number of animals are taken and the  
28 community use pattern is generally pretty easy to  
29 determine.

29

30

31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: If there's no  
32 other questions maybe -- oh excuse, we've got a whole  
33 bunch of them. You -- follow up. Go ahead.

33

34

35 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
36 That's the reason that I brought that point up is because  
37 there are so few moose harvested that one moose or two  
38 moose from any of those other communities would be a  
39 substantial percentage of the moose overall harvest and  
40 that's what brought that up. I wasn't sure how you deal  
41 with such a small population of harvested moose and  
42 differentiate between one or two moose is going to make a  
43 huge difference to those people that may have  
44 participated and harvested a pretty good percentage of  
45 the overall population. That's what I was getting at.

45

46

Thank you.

47

48

49 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chair. Mr. Bangs.  
50 There's basically a good deal of background and history  
in the way customary and traditional use determinations

00318

1 are made and I didn't go in to that in great detail.

2

3

4 The eight factors have been guidelines  
5 for the way we Regional Councils and the Federal  
6 Subsistence Board decides its customary and traditional  
7 use determinations. But really key in there is whether  
8 or not there is a long term consistent pattern of use  
9 excluding interruptions beyond the control of the  
10 community or report area. So this is focused on a  
11 pattern of use not on individual success. Successful  
12 hunt or unsuccessful hunt. So that some of the things  
13 that contribute that would indicate a positive customary  
14 and traditional use of this area would be things that  
15 were mentioned in the analysis.

15

16

17 Mainly for Saxman that this is  
18 traditional territory. That as documented in the  
19 literature that there were historically hunting camps and  
20 fishing camps in this area. There was a Tlingit fort  
21 there. That other resource harvesting takes place as  
22 well. So it really looks like in the case of Saxman for  
23 example that this is part of their territory. This is  
24 something that is very strongly a customary and  
25 traditional use for that community and for the resident  
26 of that community. That's simple an example with Saxman.

26

27

28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I have Ms.  
29 Phillips and then Mr. Hernandez.

29

30

31 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman  
32 Littlefield. If I remember correctly the Native villages  
33 on Prince of Wales Island traditionally have utilized  
34 hooligan from the Unuk River. So that tells me that  
35 overlapping areas of Tribal territories occur. And I  
36 recognize that Mr. Schroeder is telling us about Saxman's  
37 Tribal territories. And much like Ketchikan and Saxman  
38 utilize Unit 2, Unit 2 residents also utilize Unit 1(A)  
39 lands for their subsistence harvest of resources.

39

40

41 That being said along the lines of Mr.  
42 Bangs though we are to recognize a pattern of use last  
43 year we finally recognized -- we began to recognize the  
44 priority for subsistence users for moose on the Unuk  
45 River based on testimony that the immediate past  
46 regulatory rules did not recognize subsistence users of  
47 the resource. That being said but also that immediate  
48 past regulatory rules have discouraged documentation of a  
49 pattern of use for moose from Unit 1(A) in your opinion  
50 Mr. Schroeder?

50

00319

1 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chair. Ms. Phillips.  
2 I think that basically you have the data before you as  
3 well as we can present it.

4  
5 Really this area -- this is kind of a  
6 special place. In talking with people and then if you  
7 think of the testimony we heard last year in Ketchikan.  
8 That on the one hand this is a pretty remote area, it's  
9 hard to get too, it's hard to hunt effectively, and it  
10 has a small moose population. So it's never going to  
11 produce large numbers of moose.

12  
13 On the other hand certain people are just  
14 extremely attached to their hunting capability in this  
15 area. So it's almost a romance with this place is what I  
16 felt last year. I don't believe that the regulations  
17 have really gotten in the way of people's use of this  
18 area for moose mainly because there simply aren't very  
19 many moose there. I think that the terrain and the  
20 ecology of that region will probably determine much more  
21 of what takes place there.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Mr.  
24 Hernandez.

25  
26 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
27 You indicated that the Board feels that to be -- that we  
28 should be as inclusive as possible in our customary and  
29 traditional use determination. So my question is why  
30 would the Staff not recommend this proposal because it is  
31 exclusive? It seems to me that would have to be some  
32 pretty strong evidence to be exclusive like that.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I stand behind the  
35 statement I made. I believe that is the intent of the  
36 Federal Subsistence Board. But I know the there's going  
37 to be -- the State is going to oppose some of this too.  
38 So I'm just -- I'll let Dr. Schroeder answer that why he  
39 did it. But that was just my perception of what the  
40 Board does.

41  
42 DR. SCHROEDER: Perhaps Don can you  
43 restate your question. I'm not sure exactly which way to  
44 go here.

45  
46 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah, I guess maybe I'll  
47 state it this way. Do you feel that there is very strong  
48 evidence to justify excluding communities on this  
49 customary and traditional use basis?

50

00320

1 DR. SCHROEDER: Through the Chair, Mr.  
2 Hernandez. Our guidelines for writing up customary and  
3 traditional use determination look at actual use or use  
4 that may be interrupted by -- as Ms. Phillips pointed out  
5 regulations or other circumstances outside the control of  
6 a using community. And then we look at -- we're suppose  
7 to be identifying patterns of use by a community. And so  
8 customary and traditional determinations look at those  
9 patterns of use. In looking through these data we see if  
10 this pattern of use -- who's participated in hunts there  
11 for Unuk moose or hunts anywhere in Unit 1(A) for moose  
12 and these are the communities and the individuals -- the  
13 communities and the rural resident who appear to be the  
14 people with C&T use.

15  
16 With respect to other communities they  
17 may potentially use moose in this are, but there isn't  
18 any evidence that they do.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams.

21  
22 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
23 Does Hyder have C&T determination?

24  
25 DR. SCHROEDER: Through the Chair, Bert.  
26 Not for -- at the present time Hyder would be -- since we  
27 have no customary traditional use determination for moose  
28 in 1(A) all rural residents would be eligible. And so  
29 the affect of passing this all rural residents of the  
30 State of Alaska would be eligible.

31  
32 Does that answer your question, Bert?

33  
34 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman.

35  
36 (No comment)

37  
38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Floyd you and I  
39 could go on to -- and Bert right now. Are there other  
40 questions.

41  
42 (No comment)

43  
44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Mr. Turek  
45 State.

46  
47 MR. TUREK: Good morning Chair. Council.  
48 My name is Mike Turek. I'm the Regional Supervisor for  
49 the Southeast Region Division of Subsistence Alaska  
50 Department of Fish and Game. And our comments will be

00321

1 brief. I'll also add that I don't have any more  
2 information about Hyder then what Dr. Schroeder shared  
3 with you. That's the most updated information you'll  
4 probably get about moose in Hyder. So, I'll just read  
5 our comments here briefly.

6  
7 Alaska Department of Fish and Game we  
8 support the C&T finding with modifications. The Staff  
9 analysis presents evidence on the eight factors  
10 supportive finding that some residents of Unit 1(A) have  
11 a customary and traditional use of moose in Unit 1(A).  
12 The evidence and the Staff analysis is sufficient to make  
13 a positive finding for Metlakatla, Saxman, and rural  
14 residents living outside of, but near the Ketchikan  
15 Borough. But is less compelling for other rural  
16 communities in Unit 1(a), especially Meyers Chuck and  
17 Hyder. The Department supports a positive C&T finding in  
18 Unit 1(A) only for those communities for which sufficient  
19 information is available on the eight factors to fully  
20 evaluate their use of moose harvested in Unit 1(A).

21  
22 If you have any questions, I can answer  
23 --try to answer those.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Questions for Mr.  
26 Turek. Mr. Kookesh.

27  
28 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Turek, if we started  
29 excluding communities within a unit do you believe that  
30 we become like a bureaucracy and that we'd get too  
31 technical with ourselves in the end?

32  
33 MR. TUREK: Chair. Mr. Kookesh. Our  
34 review of these C&T findings we're using the same  
35 standard we would use for our Board of Game, but that may  
36 not be the standard that you want to use and that's up to  
37 you.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

40  
41 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chair, thank you. I  
42 guess, you know, I'm expressing some of the concerns that  
43 I've heard and that is a concern for Hyder. And just in  
44 the evidence in front of us I mean their taking, you  
45 know, 350 pounds per capita for subsistence purposes and  
46 I can't believe that's all deer. I mean if it's all deer  
47 then they're taking more than their limit. Which may or  
48 may -- might be two deer. Who knows. But just in  
49 looking at the data -- he made me say that -- on Table 6  
50 I also am not convinced that all those deer are from

00322

1 Canada.

2

3

4 And so it would be my intent to support  
5 the proposal as initial submitted to include Hyder  
6 because the Federal Subsistence Board may choose to do  
7 that in terms of being more inclusive and because it does  
8 demonstrate -- the data does demonstrate that they  
9 actually do get moose from somewhere and they do eat it  
10 and they have a high per capita consumption of  
11 subsistence foods.

11

12

13 And so my question to ADF&G Staff would  
14 be would they have serious heartburn over a  
15 recommendation that's more inclusive?

15

16

17 MR. TUREK: Chair. Dr. Garza. I guess I  
18 should repeat what I said to -- response to Mr. Kookesh  
19 is that, that's your decision. If you want to be more  
20 inclusive then that's your decision and there's really  
21 nothing we can add to that. Like I say our standard we  
22 that we use would be the same one that we use for our  
23 Board of Game.

23

24

25 But you don't have to follow that  
26 standard. You can follow your own standards.

26

27

28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Our standard  
29 recognizes rural residency. Mr. Jordan.

29

30

31 MR. JORDAN: I just seem to remember when  
32 I was on the predecessor to this Council as a Chairman of  
33 our Advisory Committee we were meeting and going through  
34 a State process to do customary and traditional findings  
35 that we were very liberal in our findings on fisheries.

35

36

37 And I also -- it appears to me that just  
38 because we don't have documented use does not mean there  
39 hasn't been a long tradition of use. I know in some  
40 instances even in my own case I'm reluctant to share  
41 patterns of traditional use particularly of certain kinds  
42 of clam beds and steelhead streams with either State or  
43 Federal officials. So because of that I tend to be more  
44 liberal in my thinking about what might be customary and  
45 traditional then what we see on the documentation.

45

46

47 Do you have any response to that? Am I  
48 totally in left field here or have you seen this before?

48

49

50 MR. TUREK: Through the Chair. Eric.  
Yeah, I think you touched a good point. I think though

00323

1 the problem that you can run in to with being too liberal  
2 with C&T findings is that in times of shortages it's  
3 going to make your job that much more difficult. Because  
4 then you'll have more people that you'll have to address  
5 the concerns of the shortages. In other words, if there  
6 is a moose shortage in this area and you have more  
7 communities listed for C&T findings then it's going --  
8 you're going to have to figure out who has the priority.  
9 Which in this situation may not be difficult because you  
10 do have the data showing Metlakatla and Saxman from our  
11 data has a long history of use of this area. So that's  
12 the only cautionary note I think of being more inclusive  
13 on C&T findings or you may upset a community by allowing  
14 another community to have a C&T finding in an area that  
15 they consider to be their traditional use area.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

18

19 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, to Mr. Jordan.  
20 I think you were born on the left side, but I think  
21 that's okay.

22

23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: No personal  
24 attacks.

25

26 (Laughter)

27

28 MR. JORDAN: Just one follow up. My wife  
29 is left-handed.

30

31 (Laughter)

32

33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other  
34 questions for Mr. Turek.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. I  
39 think we'll take a short break here. We'll come back.

40

41 (Off record)

42

43 (On record)

44

45 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We are on Proposal  
46 18, tribal Governments. Are there any tribal governments  
47 that would like to testify on Proposal 18.

48

49 (No comments)

50

00324

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other agency  
2 comments. Any other agency that would like to comment.

3  
4 (No comments)

5  
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Inter-Agency Staff  
7 Committee.

8  
9 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chair, the Inter-Agency  
10 Staff Committee has no comments on this one.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Fish and Game  
13 Advisory Committee comments. Any Fish and Game Advisory  
14 Committee present.

15  
16 (No comments)

17  
18 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Schroeder Fish  
19 and Game Advisory Committee and summary written public  
20 comments.

21  
22 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, I don't  
23 have written public comments to present. I did receive a  
24 communication from Cindy Wagner which was tangential to  
25 this, but did relay to her concerns about moose hunting  
26 and possible enforcement problems on Unuk River. But I  
27 have nothing specifically on this proposal.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I have public  
30 testimony. I have one card from a Ralph Guthrie and  
31 Mike See. Let's take Ralph first and then Mike See.  
32 Please push the button.

33  
34 MR. GUTHERIE: I don't have a lot to say  
35 but, you know, when I was a -- I've been to a lot of  
36 these meetings Mr. Chairman and a.....

37  
38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Please state your  
39 name for the record for the court recorder.

40  
41 MR. GUTHERIE: Ralph Guthrie. I live in  
42 Sitka fisherman. But early on I attended a lot of the  
43 meetings when Bill was the Chairman and always the  
44 concept with Bill was that we're here to provide a  
45 opportunity and not to take away that opportunity.  
46 Unless there was a major conservation problem.

47  
48 And in a moose situation if you're having  
49 high numbers you'll get an influx of people, but not on  
50 low numbers. If the numbers are showing that there's not

00325

1 a lot of effort and a lot of, you know, because of a low  
2 population moose you're not going to get a big influx of  
3 people. I think, you know, in a lot of cases I've seen  
4 in Southeastern is that moose have a tendency to move in  
5 to an area.

6

7 And like in the Stikene River there was a  
8 lot of cross over from Canada into the Stikene River.  
9 They finally started showing up on Mitkof and they showed  
10 up on Kupreanof and the population gradually built. But  
11 I think that Unit Area 1 mainland area this is a kind of  
12 think you're going to have is moose moving in and out of  
13 that area. You know, you don't have a measure resident  
14 population. I think you're going to have what that cause  
15 up is that you'll have the same thing happening all the  
16 time. A little change over in that moose population. So  
17 I'm not really in favor of limiting an area and say, you  
18 know, say that nobody else can come in there and hunt,  
19 you know. When you -- I'm in favor of providing an  
20 opportunity unless you have conservation problems.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Would  
25 you stay there. Any questions for Mr. Gutherie.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you for your  
30 comments. Mr. See.

31

32 MR. SEE: My name is Michael See. I live  
33 in Hoonah and we live pretty much by subsistence. I have  
34 a problem with this situation here in that when you start  
35 talking about excluding people in any given area for any  
36 reason. Like if I want moose I have to -- we don't have  
37 moose in Unit 4. That's where I live. If I want a moose  
38 or want -- we have to go over to 1(C). That's across the  
39 Gustavas side and yet there's people even in Sitka who go  
40 up there to get moose. And when you start talking about  
41 excluding, you know, anybody from anything, you know,  
42 what the next year they're going to exclude me, you know.  
43 Or they may exclude anyone of us if you live a  
44 subsistence live style if you go outside your area or you  
45 go anywhere else to hunt.

46

47 If you start excluding people you may  
48 wind-up being excluded yourself some day and that's, you  
49 know, it's a scary proposition because this is the way we  
50 live. And that's basically all I have to say.

00326

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are there any  
2 questions for Mr. See.

3  
4 (No comments)

5  
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Thank you  
7 very much.

8  
9 MR. SEE: Thank you.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. We're at  
12 Regional Council deliberation, recommendation,  
13 justification. And WP04-18 Council's wishes.

14  
15 Mr. Douville.

16  
17 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
18 I move to adopt WP04; is that correct?

19  
20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dash 18.

21  
22 MR. DOUVILLE: Dash 18.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there a second.

25  
26 MR. HERNANDEZ: Second.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's been moved  
29 and seconded to adopted WP04-18. Let's find the page  
30 here before we go in to discussion.

31  
32 MR. JOHNSON: 93, Mr. Chairman.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. The WP04-18  
35 Executive Summary is on Page 93. Council discussion.  
36 And we need to again I'll remind you satisfy the  
37 rationale for our recommendation.

38  
39 Mr. Kookesh.

40  
41 MR. KOOKESH: Does the motion speak to  
42 the proposed regulation on Page 93 specifically?

43  
44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The existing  
45 regulation is shown on Page 94 and this was what was  
46 discussed earlier by the two public testimonies that Unit  
47 1(A) moose is currently open to all rural residents of  
48 Alaska. What the proponent wants to do is change that to  
49 rural residents of Unit 1(A) only and I guess I should  
50 clarify that what we're looking at is the residents of

00327

1 Unit 1(A), not the Staff recommendation.

2

3

Mr. Douville.

4

5 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
6 I do not support the proposal. I don't believe there is  
7 a conservation concern however small the numbers may be  
8 and I believe that it takes away a subsistence  
9 opportunity. Although it doesn't appear to be used often  
10 from other units. The kinds of information I guess I  
11 would agree with are okay. And since the numbers are  
12 small it has an undetermined in mind affect on non-  
13 subsistence usage.

14

15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Mr.  
16 Douville. Any other Council.

17

18

Mr. Jordan.

19

20 MR. JORDAN: Well I really appreciated  
21 the comments of Mr. Gutherie and Mr. See. And one of the  
22 things that came to my mind I've lived in several rural  
23 communities and two of the urban communities in Southeast  
24 Alaska in my lifetime and I know there's a lot of people  
25 that moved from rural community to rural community in  
26 Southeast in some ways were all one big neighborhood.  
27 And the more we vulcanize ourselves I think the more we  
28 deny access and I'm opposed to that. For example Mr. See  
29 mentioned Glacier Bay. A good friend of mine in Sitka  
30 for a long time, Frank O. Williams, originally from  
31 Hoonah, but his family was originally from Glacier Bay.  
32 And so he had traditional interests in that area. I have  
33 family members who have property right next to the park  
34 in Glacier Bay. So I'm opposed to this also. I think  
35 that the longer we leave it open for as many people as  
36 possible the better.

37

38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.  
39 Mr. Kitka.

40

41 MR. KITKA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Thank  
42 you. I'm speaking opposed to this. I see no  
43 conservation things and more to the point that I don't  
44 see any long term subsistence use determinations as yet  
45 because there's other people like the people from Prince  
46 of Wales they don't show a long term use because this is  
47 the first year that it was enacted and even though they  
48 did subsist on it they probably did it with a State  
49 hunting license. And this subsistence use determination  
50 was just enacted last year. So we need a little more

00328

1 information on it.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.

6 Ms. Phillips.

7

8 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman  
9 Littlefield. It may not be the intent of the proposer,  
10 but I view the proposal as having the effect of reducing  
11 competition which provides an easier hunting opportunity  
12 for those that they are requesting a C&T preference for.  
13 I am voting against the proposal.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.

18 Mr. Schroeder -- Dr. Schroeder.

19

20 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, I'd just  
21 like to clarify that when you move to a vote on this if  
22 the Council could state whether it wishes the situation  
23 to remain as it is, such that all rural residents would  
24 be presumed to be eligible or if it has some other  
25 intention to clearly state that on the record.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's my  
28 understanding if we didn't do anything it would stay the  
29 same, but let's make that clear. Mr. Adams.

30

31 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, is that what  
32 Mr. Schroeder is referring to is the community of Hyder,  
33 I mean.

34

35 DR. SCHROEDER: My Chairman won't let me  
36 speak. He just took my nickel. I wanted to make sure  
37 there wasn't any confusion about how the Council's vote  
38 would be considered to say there was no customary and  
39 traditional use in this area or if this was possible a  
40 negative finding. So the Council could state that it  
41 wishes the current situation to remain unchanged that  
42 would probably be useful.

43

44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Right. If we were  
45 -- if we had made a motion to take no action then the  
46 existing language of all rural residents would have  
47 remained. I think we can do that -- accomplish that if  
48 there was a vote to reject this by making it clear in the  
49 minutes that you want the existing language to remain.  
50 That all rural residents have that customary and

00329

1 traditional use of moose in Unit 1(A).

2

3

Dr. Garza.

4

5 DR. GARZA: Sorry, Mr. Chairman, I was  
6 out for a bit. And I guess I have a couple questions  
7 that perhaps were already answered. So right now moose  
8 can be hunted in this region Unit 1(A) by any rural  
9 resident in the State. However, it may not be hunted by  
10 non-rural residents; is that correct?

11

12

13 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman. Dolly.  
14 Last year on your recommendation the Federal Subsistence  
15 Board opened a earlier subsistence use for moose. At  
16 this time the subsistence season opens on September 5th.  
17 The general hunting season opens on September 15th.  
18 We're not excluding anyone. We simply have a season for  
19 subsistence hunters from September 5 to September 15th in  
20 which only Federally-qualified subsistence users can  
21 hunt.

21

22

23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Do you want to  
24 follow up.

24

25

26 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, thank you.  
27 Thank you for that clarification. I guess I understand  
28 the need for something to be done in this area because it  
29 is a very small moose population and so there could be  
30 conservation concerns. However, I guess I don't feel  
31 that the material provided to us was significant enough  
32 and the conclusions that were drawn seemed to counter  
33 then to the data that was available in the book. I mean  
34 it's obvious that Hyder's getting moose from somewhere.

34

35

36 And so I'm at a quandary as how to vote  
37 on this. Because if we vote it down I think having moose  
38 available to all rural residents in a fairly small area  
39 with a limited population isn't the necessary the means I  
40 want to come to. However, I don't think that we have  
41 good enough data in front of us to say okay these are the  
42 communities that we think have customary and traditional  
43 use of moose in this area.

43

44

45 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.  
46 Mr. Jordan. Just a second -- just a second. Any other  
47 Council. You've already had one shot at this. Any other  
48 Council.

48

49

(No comments)

50

00330

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Mr. Jordan.

2

3 MR. JORDAN: We'll I'm speaking to a  
4 procedural matter. Would it be more our intent if we  
5 tabled this and took no action on it? Would that be more  
6 in line what we want to do instead of voting this down?  
7 What are you thinking, Mr. Chairman?

8

9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: My answer is I  
10 have a -- I don't know how the votes going to go, but the  
11 way it seems to me is that the Council is not going to  
12 accept this at this time and that's the way I will be  
13 voting.

14

15 I see no reason why we cannot express  
16 that as well as has been expressed in the record once  
17 already that we intend for the regulations to remain the  
18 same because there -- and the way I look at this is there  
19 has not been sufficient data to identify all the C&T  
20 users. That's what all the questions were about. We  
21 were talking about Hyder. But we have not been as  
22 inclusive as we should have been because there may be  
23 other communities.

24

25 For instance, on Unit 2 as was mentioned  
26 by Ms. Phillips that we simply don't have the data. We  
27 don't have the holes we can't fill them in. So we should  
28 be excluding anyone at this time. That's why I would do  
29 that. And I would just make that clear in the record  
30 that we intend for the regulations to remain the same.  
31 2003 we established a proposal at the request of this  
32 proponent that clearly gave a meaningful preference to  
33 subsistence by allow it ten day earlier opener for all  
34 rural residents. There's only five deer there.

35

36 If you look at the records everybody  
37 who's ever went there from out of the area didn't get a  
38 moose and they don't come back I suppose unless they just  
39 like to the Unuk. I mean this is not a hunt that's going  
40 to attract people. There are not 10,000 moose there.  
41 There are only a few and it's a local knowledge hunt.

42

43 So that's my suggestion that you just go  
44 ahead take the motion on it. I think the record is clear  
45 enough that we -- the Council desires that the existing  
46 regulations remain in affect.

47

48 Mr. Douville.

49

50 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chairman. I agree.

00331

1 There is no evidence that has been presented that shows  
2 that we even need to go here. It would restrict  
3 subsistence users unnecessarily and I just feel that it's  
4 necessary at this time. And when evidence shows that it  
5 is necessary well then I would think it would be time at  
6 that time.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are you ready for  
9 the question. The question before you is to give a  
10 positive recommendation to WP04-18. All those in favor  
11 signify by saying aye.

12

13 (No aye votes)

14

15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All those opposed,  
16 same sign.

17

18 IN UNISON: Aye.

19

20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The motion has  
21 failed and the record shall clearly show that it's the  
22 intent of the Southeast Alaska Regional Advisory Council  
23 that the existing regulations for Unit 1(A) remain in  
24 affect. Okay. Proposal 18 is done. Let's go to  
25 Proposal No. 19 Prohibit Guide Hunting.

26

27 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman. You need a  
28 break.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We'll finish.

31

32 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, just to report  
33 to the public. We did indicate how much we earned last  
34 night and we're off a little bit and we did receive an  
35 additional donation. So the money that will go to Bill  
36 Thomas is \$2,174 and I'm sure Bill will be grateful not  
37 only for the outpouring of donations, but also that you  
38 felt kind enough toward him to make that donation and I'm  
39 sure he'll be happy to receive it. Tomorrow I'll drop it  
40 off.

41

42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you for  
43 that. Dr. Schroeder.

44

45 DR. SCHROEDER: Yes I'll be presenting  
46 the next proposal, but before I do that Mr. Kitka  
47 informed me that yes we -- the Kaagwaantaan is sponsoring  
48 our lunch today and that will be 12:00 o'clock at ANB  
49 Hall; is that correct Herman?

50

00332

1 MR. H. KITKA: Yeah.

2

3 DR. SCHROEDER: So I know it will be good  
4 if it's from the Kaagwaantaan.

5

6 Secondly, I'd encourage you that make  
7 sure that you're signed up with Melinda so we know that  
8 you're here and can duly record your presence at this  
9 meeting in our notes. So, Melinda, if you could make  
10 sure that takes place.

11

12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: What's for dinner?  
13 What's the menu?

14

15 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Kitka do you know  
16 what the menu is for lunch?

17

18 MR. H. KITKA: No I don't, clam chowder.

19

20 DR. SCHROEDER: We have a mystery menu  
21 for lunch. Clam chowder.

22

23 MR. H. KITKA: And fry bread.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Clam chowder and  
26 fry bread.

27

28 DR. SCHROEDER: Clam chowder, fry bread.

29

30 MR. DOUVILLE: And there might be  
31 sandwiches there, but that's only a rumor.

32

33 (Laughter)

34

35 DR. SCHROEDER: Okay. well maybe there's  
36 a rumor for white king too. I don't know.

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 DR. SCHROEDER: So much for rumors. And  
41 I'd like to thank those people who put some money in the  
42 pot for coffee and those of you who have been staying  
43 awake on Government coffee if you can make a contribution  
44 that would be real useful.

45

46 I'll be presenting a Proposal WP04-19 for  
47 Jill Reeck. Jill Reeck was unable to be here. Although  
48 she did the lion share work on this proposal and the  
49 biological background for the previous proposal.

50

00333

1                   This proposal is found on the Staff  
2 discussion begins on Page 112. And the proposal language  
3 that you may wish to act on is on Page 111. This  
4 proposal was also submitted by Mr. Louie Wagner of  
5 Metlakatla and he requests that guided subsistence moose  
6 hunts be prohibited in Unit 1(A).

7  
8                   The proponent believes that guided  
9 subsistence moose hunts should be allowed. He states  
10 that subsistence hunting does not require the use of  
11 guides and that non-rural guides should not be allowed to  
12 hunt or shot moose.

13  
14                   We've gone through a good deal of the  
15 information on the Unuk River moose and moose hunting.  
16 I'll just touch on that very briefly. We have a location  
17 map on Page 113 showing where the Unuk River is.

18  
19                   This is mainly Federal public lands. It  
20 is part of Misty Fjords National Monument. Jill does  
21 identify a small amount of private land at the confluence  
22 of the Unuk and Eulachon Rivers.

23  
24                   The regulatory history we've presented  
25 earlier for the seasons and bag limits. We did note that  
26 for 2003 the Federal season was extended ten days to  
27 include September 5 through October 15th with the ten day  
28 September 5 to September 15 presently there's only a  
29 Federal season for that time period. There is no State  
30 season for that time period. Jill notes that there are  
31 no licensed guides offering moose hunts on the Unuk  
32 River. That's information from Boyd Porter of Fish and  
33 Game in Ketchikan. There is a guide operation Unuk River  
34 Post they specialize in fishing. There is a bear guide,  
35 Ed Toribio guides brown bears and mountain goats within  
36 the general Unuk vicinity. Similarly the Forest Service  
37 has not issued any outfitter/guide permits for moose on  
38 the Unuk River and has not had a request for anyone to  
39 guide moose on the Unuk River at least over the past ten  
40 years. We also note that although its not a common  
41 practice in our experience, there isn't anything in the  
42 Federal Subsistence Management Regulations that would  
43 prohibit the use of a guide to help someone meet  
44 subsistence needs.

45  
46                   We presented some biological background  
47 on moose in this area. Jill has an excellent summary  
48 that I'm sure you've gone through.

49  
50                   The harvest history obviously we just

00334

1 presented that in the previous proposal. Jill references  
2 the household survey data showing that although moose are  
3 a small percentage of the total subsistence harvest in  
4 Southeast Alaska they're an important subsistence  
5 resource.

6

7                   The effect of this proposal. This  
8 proposal would unnecessarily restrict subsistence users  
9 and could be detrimental to the satisfaction of  
10 subsistence needs. It would also restrict  
11 outfitter/guide business opportunities for rural  
12 residents and potentially represent a loss of income to  
13 outfitter/guides should an outfitter/guide actually be  
14 engaged in guiding subsistence users.

15

16                   This proposal really wouldn't have --  
17 would have a minimal affect on non-rural users. Non-  
18 rural users are eligible to harvest wildlife under  
19 Federal Subsistence Management Regulations and seasons.  
20 And regulating any other uses or recreational uses of the  
21 Unuk River is outside the jurisdiction of the Federal  
22 Subsistence Board. The proposal would restrict potential  
23 outfitter/guide business opportunities during the  
24 subsistence season. However, these opportunities would  
25 still exist to guide non-rural users during State  
26 seasons.

27

28                   Jill didn't see that this proposal would  
29 have significant affect on moose populations. She notes  
30 there's no conservation concern with the Unuk River moose  
31 herd. And again notes that overall hunting success in  
32 this area is low for both rural and non-rural hunters due  
33 to dense brushy habitat, difficult terrain, and dramatic  
34 flow patterns of the Unuk River. And she also sees that  
35 there's a trend that's changing there.

36

37                   The preliminary Staff conclusion is to  
38 oppose this proposal. Jill notes there's no conservation  
39 concern with the moose population. And although it's not  
40 all a common practice restricting the use of guides would  
41 place a restriction on Federally-qualified subsistence  
42 users and could be detrimental to the satisfaction of  
43 subsistence needs.

44

45                   Mr. Chairman, that concludes our brief  
46 presentation of this proposal.

47

48                   CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Questions from the  
49 Council for Staff. Mr. Adams.

50

00335

1 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If  
2 I wanted to take in the traditional way if I wanted to  
3 take my nephews out to shoot a moose and show them how to  
4 do it, where to go, how to dress it, how to take it home  
5 and take care of it, you know, everything. How would  
6 this affect this proposal?

7  
8 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman. Bert. In  
9 that case in normal thinking you would not be a licensed  
10 guide according to the regulations. A guide needs to go  
11 through certain procedures and is basically paid to take  
12 someone out to hunt. So that's why were talking about  
13 licensed guides.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Did you want to  
16 follow up on that Mr. Adams.

17  
18 MR. ADAMS: No, thank you. As Mr.  
19 Kookesh don't take a candy bar, you know for.....

20  
21 MR. KOOKESH: That's payment.

22  
23 DR. SCHROEDER: I do have one thing you  
24 may be puzzled with what's going on in this proposal.

25  
26 In the realm of hunting it's generally  
27 acceptable for someone to accompany a hunter and to  
28 assist a hunter who the hunter being the person who in  
29 fact shots the animal to help a person carry that out.  
30 And that isn't a normally restricted activity. In that  
31 doing that doesn't make a person a guide and it seems  
32 that this proposal may be directed at more that activity  
33 then regular paid guide services.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.

36  
37 (No comments)

38  
39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It does not say  
40 licensed guide. It says guided. State I guess. If we  
41 don't have any other questions we're ready for the State.

42  
43 MR. TUREK: Chair and Council. I'm Mike  
44 Turek with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
45 Division of Subsistence. Alaska Department of Fish and  
46 Game opposes this proposal.

47  
48 This proposal ceased to prohibit the use  
49 of guides for hunting moose in Unit 1(A). The author of  
50 this proposal appears to be attempting to prevent local

00336

1 residents of Ketchikan who also happen to be guides from  
2 hunting moose in this area. However, a person hunting  
3 for his or her own personal use is not functioning as a  
4 guide is, therefore, no subject to any guiding  
5 restrictions.

6  
7 Without further clarification in the  
8 wording of the proposed regulation and an explanation of  
9 the management problem the author is attempting to  
10 resolve the Department believes the proposed changes are  
11 unnecessary.

12  
13 If you have any questions I can try to  
14 answer them.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Questions or  
17 comments for the ADF&G.

18  
19 (No comments)

20  
21 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you very  
22 much. tribal governments.

23  
24 (No comments)

25  
26 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any tribal  
27 governments present that would like to testify on  
28 Proposal 19.

29  
30 (No comments)

31  
32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other agencies  
33 present.

34  
35 (No comments)

36  
37 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other  
38 agencies.

39  
40 (No comments)

41  
42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Inter-Agency Staff  
43 Committee. Mr. Kessler.

44  
45 (Laughter)

46  
47 MR. BOS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Greg Bos  
48 Staff Committee member. Steve Kessler had to step out of  
49 the room and on this proposal there are no additional  
50 comments from the Staff Committee.

00337

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Fish  
2 and Game Advisory Committee comments.

3  
4 (No comments)

5  
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Summary of written  
7 public comments.

8  
9 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, I have no  
10 specific public comments on this. I did receive a  
11 communication from Cindy Wagner which appeared to be more  
12 concerned with possible hunting violation and we're in  
13 discussion with enforcement concerning that.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Public testimony I  
16 don't have any forms but anybody in the audience that  
17 wants to testify. Mr. Gutherie please come forward.

18  
19 MR. GUTHERIE: Thank you Mr. Chairman.  
20 My name is Ralph Gutherie. I'd like to say that I have  
21 no problem with licensed guides on open hunts.

22  
23 Where I do have a problem is providing a  
24 professional hunter providing the opportunity to go out  
25 for is a commercial -- on a commercial basis and I don't,  
26 you know, it ceases to be a subsistence hunt when you  
27 start hiring people in a subsistence time to do that. If  
28 you have an open hunt and a person wants to have guide,  
29 that's fine, but not in a subsistence area. It ceases to  
30 be subsistence at that time. So I'm urging you to make a  
31 statement here that is consistent with that type of  
32 situation. You know, I like what Bert has to say. If  
33 you're taking your family out on a hunt and showing them  
34 how to do it that's one thing, but to hire a commercial  
35 guide that's a totally different situation and it needs  
36 to be dealt with.

37  
38 Thank you.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Just  
41 stay there a minute. Mr. Hernandez do you have a  
42 question for him.

43  
44 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah I was just wondering  
45 Ralph you -- I might agree with you there, but do you  
46 think that it would be wise to address it for one  
47 specific area and maybe that should be better addressed  
48 as a, you know, region wide or even State wide issue.  
49 I'm kind of hesitant to try and focus on one area and,  
50 you know, get in to a subject like that.

00338

1

2

MR. GUTHERIE: My opinion of the.....

3

4

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Turn your mike on.

5

6

MR. GUTHERIE: Okay. Excuse me Mr. Chairman. No I'm a -- I'd like to a -- I think this one is one of things that you're going to have to, you know, each region is going to have to address. I think for the whole region, you know, Southeastern I'd like to see our people to address that. You know, I don't think we can speak for the whole State here, but it would be a start in that direction.

14

15

Thank you.

16

17

18

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council questions for Mr. Guthrie. Mr. Jordan.

19

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21

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50

MR. GUTHERIE: Are we going to get -- excuse me. Are we going to -- Eric -- are we going to do halibut on this year-round or is that on another time? Because I think that once you start addressing the issue it will be inclusive. It's not going to be a separate issue. It will be an inclusive issue that takes in the fisheries and people that aren't familiar with an area that want to come down and hire somebody to take them out they can do that on their sports license. They don't need to do that on their subsistence situation. And your allowed so much on a -- if a charter outfit takes you out you're allowed this much, but when you start going for subsistence you have a different amount of fish that you can take. And I think it is very necessary that we define where commercial is and where subsistence is. And I think when you start hiring people you're in to a commercial operation you're not in to a subsistence operation.

00339

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Follow up.

2

3 MR. JORDAN: Mr. Chair. Mr. Guthrie. I  
4 think Mr. Guthrie raises a real important issue that  
5 this Council is going to need to discuss in the future.  
6 I don't think we've been informed or prepared for it in  
7 depth for this time. But just to put you on notice Mr.  
8 Guthrie and also the Council. It's an issue I think's  
9 important that we need to discuss.

10

11 Thank you for bringing it forward Mr.  
12 Guthrie.

13

14 MR. GUTHERIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
15 Thank you, Mr. Jordan. If that's all I'll reseal myself.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you for your  
18 testimony. We will not then -- I think this Council will  
19 probably take that up as a region wide proposal rather  
20 than any specific unit in Southeast. We'll look at that  
21 through the whole area and thank you for your prodding  
22 there. I'm sure we're going to take some action on, but  
23 probably not today.

24

25 MR. GUTHERIE: Thank you and good luck.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I have a Ron  
28 Porter. Ron let me bring you up to speed here. I know  
29 you have 18 and 19 on here.

30

31 MR. PORTER: Yes.

32

33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We already took  
34 action on Proposal 18. I knew you wanted to do this, but  
35 we went through it.

36

37 MR. PORTER: I'm sorry I wasn't here, we  
38 were fishing, I'm sorry.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: And we did vote  
41 this down with the provision that the current regulations  
42 would remain the same. The ones that we approved last  
43 year would remain in effect.

44

45 MR. PORTER: Okay.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: So we're on  
48 Proposal No. 19 now.

49

50 MR. PORTER: Okay. Mr. Chairman, my name

00340

1 is Ronald Porter. I'm a resident of Ketchikan, Alaska  
2 and I'm a Unuk River moose hunter. I've hunted moose up  
3 there for quite awhile.

4

5 I'd like to speak in opposition to  
6 Proposal 19 to prohibit guided hunting for moose on Unit  
7 1(A). I think this is a proposal that says what if. To  
8 my knowledge there has been never any guided moose  
9 hunting when on the Unuk River prior to the rural ten day  
10 season and after.

11

12 There's one guide from Petersburg comes  
13 down and does some bear hunting ever three or four years  
14 there with a couple of clients, but and I'm not real sure  
15 what the individual who proposal in is referring too.  
16 There's property owners up there that have joint cabins  
17 that are owned by rural and urban people. They both own  
18 the cabin and they might both be there at the same time,  
19 but the urban guys not out guiding the rural guy on the  
20 moose hunt.

21

22 That's just not happening and I -- it  
23 looks to me like it's just a what if regulation if this  
24 happens. It's not happening at this time and I have no  
25 knowledge of anybody, like say ever doing any guided  
26 moose hunting up there.

27

28 That's about all I got.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are there any  
31 questions for Mr. Porter. Mr. Adams.

32

33 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Porter for  
34 answering a question that I had at the beginning of this  
35 -- when we started discussing this proposal because I was  
36 wondering if there was guided guides taking place, you  
37 know, for subsistence hunts and so on.

38

39 I don't have a question I just wanted you  
40 to know that you answered my question already. Thank  
41 you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council.  
44 Mr. Hernandez.

45

46 MR. HERNANDEZ: To your knowledge, Mr.  
47 Porter -- maybe somebody else might have to answer this  
48 from Staff -- is Unit 1(A) an area where a guide has to  
49 register for that specific area to be a moose hunting  
50 guide?

00341

1 MR. PORTER: I do not know. I believe he  
2 does for brown bear, but I don't know about moose.

3

4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We have a  
5 councilman that probably can answer that. Mr. Sofoulis.

6

7 MR. SOFOULIS: I believe we heard earlier  
8 from Dr. Schroeder that the Forest Service has not  
9 permitted any guides for moose hunting in that area and  
10 they would have to have a Forest Service permit.

11

12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Does that answer  
13 your question?

14

15 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. That kind of leads  
16 me to believe that there is nobody eligible to guide for  
17 moose for that area right now either.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other questions  
20 for Mr. Porter. Mr. Bangs.

21

22 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
23 was wondering if these people, the rural and the urban  
24 cabin owners, whether they would be up there during the  
25 subsistence hunt together and possibly hunting together,  
26 is where he came up with this proposal saying that they  
27 would put it on the Federal tag if one of them was to get  
28 a moose. Do you know if that is a possibility?

29

30 MR. PORTER: I guess anything is a  
31 possibility. The month of September, when all this takes  
32 place, the fishing season is over, most of us guys that  
33 have cabins up there are commercial fishermen, so we go  
34 to the Unuk and work on our cabins and go trout fishing  
35 and we do a lot of things up there. I know you have some  
36 stats and some records about the moose that was killed  
37 there, but I believe -- and in that valley is pretty  
38 small and the people there pretty much intermingle with  
39 each other, so we all kind of know what each other is  
40 doing. I think there was one moose killed during the 10-  
41 day special season and that moose was killed by a rural  
42 guy, but he's part of the same group that has a cabin  
43 that several different guys use. I know for sure,  
44 because it's the cabin I'm involved in, he was by himself  
45 when that whole deal happened.

46

47 I don't think that any of the urban guys  
48 are taking the rural guys' hunting. I think in that  
49 group up there there's three individuals that are  
50 involved in cabins or land around there that are rural,

00342

1 but those same pieces of property are jointly owned or  
2 together owned with guys that are urban. There's a bunch  
3 of guys that kind of share a lot of stuff up there.  
4 During that first 10-day season I think there was one  
5 moose shot. That was the first day and he was shot by a  
6 rural guy, but he wasn't being guided, but he was at a  
7 cabin where there was some urban guys there, I think. I  
8 believe.

9

10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We hope he was a  
11 rural guy. Dr. Garza.

12

13 MR. PORTER: I'm having trouble with  
14 urban and rural. I'm sorry. It's a new term, urban. I  
15 wasn't aware I was urban, but I guess I am. Anyway,  
16 there was one moose killed during the rural season by a  
17 rural guy, but he wasn't being guided by an urban guy.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That's enough  
20 guide talk. Dr. Garza.

21

22 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. It's  
23 kind of hard to discuss other people when they're not  
24 here, so perhaps we shouldn't even be asking them those  
25 questions, but we know that there was one moose taken by  
26 a rural resident. Thank you for your testimony and your  
27 concern. Perhaps you keep saying rural because we, as  
28 Ketchikan people, know that we are rural.

29

30 Just to reiterate that the Council at the  
31 Ketchikan meeting did wholly support Ketchikan being a  
32 rural community and we just have to figure out how to  
33 forward that.

34

35 Beyond Proposal 18 and 19, I would like  
36 to let you know that in the deer proposals we did take no  
37 action on all proposals except for Proposal 15 and that  
38 was to look at status quo, that we just have that closure  
39 for non-rural residents. We, however, did amend that  
40 proposal so that the closure is from August 1 to 15  
41 instead of the 21st, so it's our recommendation to the  
42 Federal Subsistence Board to give six days back to the  
43 non-rural residents, recognizing that we are, indeed,  
44 rural, for one. And that's not why other people voted on  
45 it, but it gives families opportunities during good  
46 weather.

47

48 MR. PORTER: Thank you. I appreciate  
49 your comments about the rural setting for Ketchikan.  
50 There's some stuff afoot trying to get that designation

00343

1 done. Hopefully that will happen because we all feel  
2 there that we are rural.

3

4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council  
5 comments or questions. Mr. Adams.

6

7 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr.  
8 Porter, I know that you came here to testify on both 18  
9 and 19 and we already did 18. Just out of curiosity,  
10 maybe for the record, were you going to oppose or support  
11 Proposal 18?

12

13 Thank you.

14

15 MR. PORTER: I don't think I have any  
16 problem with 18 as I understand it and I guess what that  
17 says, and somebody maybe correct me here, that under that  
18 proposal, if you didn't live in Unit 1, you wouldn't hunt  
19 up there unless you had a history of hunting up there.  
20 Here again, it's kind of a what if thing to me. I don't  
21 see where it would make a whole lot of difference one way  
22 or another, I guess.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.  
25 Mr. Bangs.

26

27 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
28 just want to make it clear, Mr. Porter, I wasn't trying  
29 to figure out any names or whatever, but I was trying to  
30 figure out if there was a situation that might have  
31 caused him to present this proposal and that was all I  
32 was getting at.

33

34 Thank you.

35

36 MR. PORTER: I don't know what would  
37 cause that to happen. Like I say, it's kind of a what if  
38 thing, if this was to happen. There's some tension up  
39 there about the rural/non-rural stuff, yes. No question  
40 about that. But there is none of these guys that are  
41 guiding or bringing people in to go hunt. It's the same  
42 bunch of guys and you can look at the permits that's been  
43 issued from the State and see it's the same bunch.

44

45 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.  
46 Mr. Sofoulis.

47

48 MR. SOFOULIS: Do you know if any of  
49 these guys that are hunting up there are registered  
50 guides? Could that have possibly been the cause of this,

00344

1 that there was a registered guide up there at that time  
2 maybe hunting for himself?

3

4 MR. PORTER: No. To my knowledge, there  
5 is no landowners or guys in the moose hunter bunch that  
6 hunts up there that's a registered guide. No, I don't  
7 believe so.

8

9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council  
10 questions for Mr. Porter. I have one for you. A  
11 previous speaker that gave testimony alluded to the fact  
12 that we should address the guided subsistence hunt  
13 region-wide. I believe that's probably going to come  
14 before us at some time. We'll have to make a statement  
15 on that. I'm just interested in your comments if you  
16 have any on how you feel about whether guided subsistence  
17 hunts are okay or not because the current regulations  
18 they're not prohibited. You don't have to answer that if  
19 you don't want to. I just thought that you're pretty  
20 familiar with what's going on in there.

21

22 MR. PORTER: Well, I guess if there was  
23 going to be rural hunters come up there and hunt on that  
24 river, they need somebody to keep them alive. Yeah,  
25 that's kind of the bottom line there. That's a real  
26 treacherous river. If you're not aware of what that  
27 river is all about, you probably shouldn't be there. I  
28 don't know of any guides that have any knowledge of the  
29 river. It could be learned. I learned it, so anybody  
30 can learn it, I assure you. If that situation was to  
31 come to pass, they would certainly need somebody to show  
32 them around, especially where you moose hunt because  
33 you're way up the river. You're pretty much up to the  
34 Canadian border and it gets pretty steep up there.

35

36 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That's probably  
37 why, when we look at the records, we see where a hunter  
38 from Fairbanks or Kenai has gone there and they never  
39 went back as far as I know.

40

41 MR. PORTER: There has been some of those  
42 guys show up there and they very seldom even get in the  
43 river. They get on the intertidal area and they get up  
44 to the cabins and kind of go take a quick look and  
45 they're usually back in about a half an hour wanting to  
46 ride with one of us.

47

48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.

49 Mr. Adams.

50

00345

1 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I think the  
2 proper way one could hunt in this area is to make sure  
3 that you take someone that knows the area without having  
4 to have a paid guide or so forth. Just make sure you go  
5 with someone that already hunted there and knows the  
6 area. That's my opinion. Just a comment.

7  
8 MR. PORTER: Mr. Chairman, the group of  
9 hunters that hunt there is pretty much the same bunch of  
10 guys with the exception of one or two for a lot of years.  
11 They kind of come and go back and forth. Everybody  
12 that's on that system has got lots of time on the river  
13 and doing various things, but there's not a lot of --  
14 like you say, occasionally a guy or two will show up from  
15 somewhere but they normally don't do too much. That  
16 whole group is pretty much the only ones that do a lot up  
17 in the river during the hunting season. Now, there's  
18 some trout fishing stuff that goes on in the spring and  
19 there's guys come down river and do hooligans and various  
20 things, but the moose hunting crowd is pretty much all  
21 the same bunch.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other  
24 question. Mr. Jordan.

25  
26 MR. JORDAN: How big are those steelhead  
27 in the Unuk River?

28  
29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: You don't have to  
30 answer that. Okay, I think that's it. Thank you, Mr.  
31 Porter.

32  
33 MR. PORTER: I can honestly say I've  
34 never caught one. Thank you very much for your time, you  
35 guys. Good luck.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other members  
38 of the public that would like to testify at this time on  
39 Proposal 19.

40  
41 (No comments)

42  
43 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. We're at  
44 Regional Council deliberations. Proposal WP04-19.  
45 Council's wishes. Dr. Garza.

46  
47 DR. GARZA: Move to adopt.

48  
49 MR. KOOKESH: Second.

50

00346

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's been moved  
2 and seconded to adopt WP04-19 as shown on Page 111.  
3 Discussion. Dr. Garza.

4  
5 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, the motion was  
6 to put it on the table. Under Robert's Rules of Order,  
7 it's generally in a positive action, but I do intend to  
8 vote against it.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council. We  
11 need to take care of the rationale for our recommendation  
12 here. Ms. Phillips.

13  
14 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman  
15 Littlefield. I will be voting against the motion.  
16 Eligibility for subsistence use. You may take fish and  
17 wildlife on public lands for subsistence uses only if you  
18 are an Alaskan resident of a rural area or rural  
19 community. The abbreviated definition of resident means  
20 any person. The definition of person means an individual  
21 and does not include a corporation, company, partnership,  
22 firm, association, organization, trust, business or  
23 society.

24  
25 That says to me it's persons out hunting,  
26 it's not persons and a business. Thank you.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Ms.  
29 Phillips. Other Council. Mr. Kookesh.

30  
31 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman, I'm going to  
32 also vote against this proposal, but I have the opinion  
33 that if having a guide is what it's going to take for  
34 someone to provide for themselves, then I have no problem  
35 with that and I support this. I also believe that you  
36 can kill two birds with one stone. It also provides an  
37 opportunity, in my opinion, that there's some -- say, for  
38 example, you have your children and you want to show them  
39 how guides do it, maybe they want to get into the guiding  
40 business, and at the same time you might also learn  
41 technique. Some of the most successful guides, that's  
42 what it's all about, is their technique. There is an  
43 opportunity to learn something. I don't believe that you  
44 should have to suffer. I believe that if this affords an  
45 opportunity to put some meat where you want it, then I  
46 have no problem with this, but I am opposed to this.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council. We  
49 need to cover the rationale for recommendation. Mr.  
50 Hernandez.

00347

1 MR. HERNANDEZ: Mr. Chairman, I'm going  
2 to vote against this proposal and I don't feel there are  
3 any conservation concerns that we've heard. This  
4 proposal would result in a restriction to an allowed  
5 subsistence opportunity at this time. It is legal for a  
6 subsistence user to hire a guide if he so wishes, so it's  
7 a negative effect on subsistence users. I think we have  
8 ample information on this proposal and I don't see that  
9 it has any effects on non-subsistence users.

10

11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Mr.  
12 Hernandez. Other Council.

13

14 DR. GARZA: Question.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are you ready for  
17 the question? The question before you is to recommend  
18 adoption of WP04-19 as shown on Page 111. All those in  
19 favor please signify by saying aye.

20

21 (No aye votes)

22

23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All those opposed  
24 same sign.

25

26 IN UNISON: Aye.

27

28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Our recommendation  
29 is to not adopt. A five minute break, at which time  
30 we'll come back for a special presentation.

31

32 (Off record)

33

34 (On record)

35

36 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The meeting will  
37 come back to order. Please take your seats. We're back  
38 in session. At this time we're going to do a special  
39 presentation. I would like to turn this over to our  
40 coordinator, Dr. Schroeder.

41

42 DR. SCHROEDER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
43 At this point in the meeting all of us feel like we've  
44 really been sitting here for a long time and Council  
45 Members, who are volunteers of course, who have spent  
46 many hours both before the meeting pouring through  
47 materials and during the meeting going through tough  
48 deliberations.

49

50 What we're about to do right now is an

00348

1 example of, I think, a time when the Federal program has  
2 worked very well to meet exceptional local need and local  
3 interest. Roughly about a month ago the Sitka Tribal  
4 Alaska and Teri Rofkar expressed an interest in obtaining  
5 a permit to get some spring goats, which would allow a  
6 very important educational program to proceed in Sitka.  
7 The Federal staff, particularly Carol Goularte, staff in  
8 Sitka here, but as well the Federal staff members really  
9 worked overtime to get this through our cumbersome  
10 regulatory process and we're real happy to be able to  
11 proceed with this today. So I'd like to call on Ken  
12 Coffin, who was our lead person in Sitka in preparing the  
13 material and turn it over to Ken.

14

15 MR. COFFIN: Thanks, Mr. Chairman and  
16 Members of the Council. As Bob mentioned, he covered a  
17 lot of the ground here, but, as he did say, Teri Rofkar  
18 did come forward with the request to harvest three goats  
19 out of Unit 4 for the collection of wool to harvest the  
20 traditional Tlingit ceremonial robes. This special  
21 action request was granted under a cultural educational  
22 permit by the Federal Subsistence Board on Monday.

23

24 Just a little background about Teri.  
25 She's quite well-known for her weaving of these  
26 ceremonial robes as well as her spruce and cedar baskets.  
27 She's the resident artisan at the Southeast Alaska Indian  
28 Cultural Center located at the Sitka Historic Park. She  
29 teaches these traditional crafts to whoever would like to  
30 learn about them and has a strong desire to continue with  
31 these traditions so they are carried on from this  
32 generation to the next. Teri has spent quite a bit of  
33 time seeking out other sources of wool to weave these  
34 blankets through hunting networks, people that hunt  
35 goats, and she's had a difficult time finding sources of  
36 wool, so she came forward with this request to harvest  
37 goats from Unit 4.

38

39 At this time, I'd like to call on Carol  
40 Goularte, district ranger. She's going to come up and  
41 turn over the permits to Teri as well as, I believe, Jack  
42 Lorrigan of Sitka Tribe. Teri is also here and I noticed  
43 she's wearing one of the robes, so I'm sure she would be  
44 happy to answer any of your questions that you might have  
45 pertaining to her activities. I would also answer any  
46 questions if you have any regarding the analysis.

47

48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I know your name,  
49 but could you again state your name. Some of us didn't  
50 hear it.

00349

1 MR. COFFIN: My name is Ken Coffin. I'm  
2 a biologist with the Sitka Ranger District.

3

4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Does anybody have  
5 any questions at this time? Bring Carol forward.

6

7 MS. GOULARTE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman  
8 and Council. I would like to ask Sitka Tribe council  
9 member Jerry Hope to come up and join me as well as Teri.  
10 And, of course, Jack Lorrigan.

11

12 So many people put a lot of energy into  
13 this and it come out to all of our benefit and it's a  
14 wonderful opportunity to continue the culture of the  
15 Tlingit people and to allow our children to learn about  
16 the traditional ways that they want to continue share for  
17 many years. I'm honored to present these three permits  
18 for three goats to the Sitka Tribe of Alaska.

19

20 (Applause)

21

22 MR. HOPE: On behalf of the Sitka Tribe  
23 of Alaska and our tribal chairman, Mr. Widmark, I'd like  
24 to say thank you to Carol for this ceremony, but more  
25 importantly for the opportunity to work with the Forest  
26 Service in the strong fashion that the Sitka Tribe of  
27 Alaska and the Forest Service has, especially in this  
28 district, in efforts to recognize the important parts of  
29 our culture. This is yet one more strong example of how  
30 we are able to work together.

31

32 Also, I'd like to request Jack Lorrigan,  
33 who might do some of the hunting for these goats, as our  
34 tribal biologist, to say a couple words, but I also  
35 wanted to recognize and show some honor and respect to  
36 Teri. Teri is somebody who has, with a strong part and  
37 reflection of the art in our culture, also recognizes a  
38 lot of other areas that are important to our culture. As  
39 you see by the robe that she has woven, that it's just a  
40 strong example of some of her work. Our love, respect  
41 and gratitude goes to Teri Rofkar in this area.

42

43 I'd like to call on Jack Lorrigan to say  
44 a couple of words as well.

45

46 MR. LORRIGAN: Thank you. It's fitting  
47 that Teri finishes up with her comments because she  
48 championed this. For any of those of you who have ever  
49 gone goat hunting and packed these animals out of the  
50 hills and known the pain and suffering that goes into

00350

1 getting them out of their environment, in discussing what  
2 will happen to the hide once we get it out and giving it  
3 to Teri, what she's going to do to it, it would be like  
4 you're going to do what with it. Which would mean  
5 letting the hairs slip so it could be plucked. By  
6 looking at this beautiful robe, I can see that the beauty  
7 of the animal is reflected in her weaving and I'm really  
8 glad that this happened. So, Teri.

9

10 MS. ROFKAR: I probably won't even use  
11 the mike. This robe is a raven's tail robe and they were  
12 originally known as northern geometric chilkat. These  
13 robes are more rectangular. For those of you who came  
14 out to the park yesterday, we looked at chilkat robes.  
15 These kind of robes pre-date the chilkat, so the robes  
16 that I look at, the old ones in the museums, they were  
17 all out of mountain goat wool. This one is all out of  
18 sheep wool.

19

20 I have to say, you know, this art that we  
21 do, whether it's in the wood or the weaving, was a way  
22 that we recorded our relationship with the animals, with  
23 the other people, with the place. This one is about  
24 Lituya Bay. I think that you are many times stewards in  
25 helping the people of the areas with their relationships,  
26 still with the places and the animals and the other  
27 people, so I really appreciate to be a part of that.

28

29 This was the way that we would record our  
30 relationships and now we use words and reports and those  
31 kinds of things. So isn't it exciting that we get to  
32 work together again to bring back the kind of recording.  
33 What you've done now, today, with the mountain goat  
34 permit like we're doing when we make that robe out of all  
35 mountain goat, I don't think that that's been done  
36 completely since like the 16 or 1700's. The commercial  
37 wools influenced our weaving pretty tremendously.  
38 Although we kept the relationship of mountain goat  
39 spinning right up until today, everybody has used it all  
40 along.

41

42 So it's really exciting to be able to do  
43 it. A big part of my energy was the hunters themselves.  
44 They have such an intimate relationship with the animals  
45 and that they knew their hides were going to be used with  
46 respect, that they were going to go on into -- I mean  
47 these last for hundreds of years and their hides are  
48 going to be part of that. Thanks, you guys.

49

50 (Applause)

00351

1 MR. LORRIGAN: Mr. Chairman, we do need a  
2 photo opportunity if we could get people together.

3

4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I've got us off  
5 the record for a minute.

6

7 (Off record)

8

9 (On record)

10

11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, we're back  
12 on the record. Before we dispense with that, I'd like to  
13 add a little bit about that. This was not as easy as it  
14 might seem to the Council to come to the decision to  
15 issue the permit to the Sitka Tribe. It seemed very  
16 simple to me at the time, but there was some complication  
17 with it.

18

19 One of our members Emeritus, Mr. Herman  
20 Kitka, attended a two-hour teleconference with the  
21 Federal Staff and that was very key in getting them to  
22 approve this permit. So I would like to extend a hand to  
23 Mr. Kitka for your work on this on behalf of the tribe  
24 and all customary and traditional subsistence users.

25

26 (Applause)

27

28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are you prepared  
29 to do Proposal 20, Matt?

30

31 MR. MORAN: Yes.

32

33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Proposal 20, Matt  
34 Moran.

35

36 (Pause)

37

38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Matt, I'm going to  
39 put you on hold for a minute. Would somebody grab Teri  
40 out there. I think it would be real appropriate,  
41 Mr. Kitka, if they would take a picture of you at the  
42 same time in that picture. We'll just take a few minutes  
43 to take that picture. We're off the record right now.

44

45 (Off record)

46

47 (On record)

48

49 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The meeting will  
50 come back to order. We're back in session on the record.

00352

1 Proposal WP04-20. Mr. Moran.

2

3

4 MR. MORAN: Mr. Chair, Council Members,  
5 my name is Matt Moran. I'm a wildlife biologist for the  
6 Forest Service in the Yakutat Ranger District and I will  
7 be presenting Proposal WP04-20.

7

8

9 This proposal was submitted by Bill Lucey  
10 of Yakutat. The current regulations in Unit 5(A), except  
11 Nunatak Bench, look at one antlered bull by Federal  
12 registration permit only. This is the Federal  
13 regulation, not the State regulation.

13

14

15 Bill Lucey's proposal is to create a  
16 joint Federal/State registration permit for Unit 5(A)  
17 moose. He wants to minimize confusion created by the  
18 existing dual permit system. Mr. Lucey believes that  
19 currently hunters are confused when they need to use  
20 their State permit and their Federal permit and I will  
21 discuss this here in a minute when I show a map. He  
22 believes by creating a joint Federal/State permit, this  
23 will consolidate all the reporting, it will consolidate  
24 the reporting of the mailers that the hunters have to  
25 send in and this will also minimize discrepancies to  
26 provide more accurate harvest data for both Federal and  
27 State agencies.

27

28

29 This is currently a map of GMU 5(A).  
30 What I want to really show here is right here in this  
31 area all this is either encumbered or private lands and  
32 currently they're under the jurisdiction of State  
33 regulations for hunting moose in Unit 5(A). What we do  
34 have is a unique area anywhere out in this area where  
35 there's a two-week subsistence period where only rural  
36 users of 5(A) have subsistence priority for the first two  
37 weeks, October 8 through October 21st. However, the  
38 State regulations allow you to begin hunting inside this  
39 area beginning October 15th. After October 21st, under  
40 the State regulation, you can hunt anywhere in this unit.  
41 This is really what causes confusion.

41

42

43 If you go ahead and take a look at this  
44 handout number one, this handout actually contains  
45 currently two permits, the State permit and the Federal  
46 permit and they're separate permits. The confusion -- we  
47 actually hand out the third page and that's an attempt to  
48 explain all the regulations of when they need to have  
49 which license or which permit. It's pretty lengthy and  
50 it's confusing. It's very wordy. I've spent hours upon  
51 hours explaining it to many people. The majority of the

00353

1 people do get it, but it needs to be reminded every year.

2

3

4 One of the biggest problems that we do  
5 have is reporting problems. Because of the two permit  
6 systems, people are asked to mail in how many days hunter  
7 effort that they hunted, if they harvested an animal, et  
8 cetera. What we get is reportings that are in conflict  
9 or error or we're not sure which. Somebody, and I'll use  
10 myself as an example, may go out and hunt on October 8th  
11 -- well, I'm not going to give you a date, just outside  
12 of the encumbered lands, and I may hunt 14 days, but I  
13 may choose to report seven days under the State and seven  
14 days under the Federal permit system. As a biologist,  
15 both the State and Federal government try to tease some  
16 of this information out, but we run into problems.

17

18 Also I want to point out by having these  
19 two permit systems, this is twice as much effort for  
20 everybody. The hunter has to report twice, so they have  
21 to remember to submit that report twice, both to the  
22 State and Federal government. Both agencies basically  
23 have to consolidate their reporting and the Federal  
24 reporting.

25

26 What I have in handout two, the first  
27 page you'll see is an example of Unit 20(E). This is an  
28 area where they have created a joint Federal/State  
29 permit. It deals with caribou. But the top page is the  
30 exact permit for Unit 20(E). If you look at the second  
31 page and the third page, these are designed to be one  
32 page except I wanted to make sure everybody could read  
33 it. This is my attempt working with Neil Barten from  
34 ADF&G to create the wording system that would look like  
35 the first page. It would only be one harvest report and  
36 less work for everybody. I will continue with a couple  
37 assumptions that we made here in a second.

38

39 When we first received this proposal,  
40 people had some concerns. They didn't think this could  
41 actually be done. Starting to look and talk with people  
42 in Unit 20(E), they found it relatively easy. They kind  
43 of got the same reaction at first. When they worked  
44 through it, they found it's much better. They really  
45 enjoy having this joint permit.

46

47 To give you an example, I show that  
48 there's a problem with reporting conflicts from three to  
49 five days. This isn't really a problem. This is just  
50 one of the hardest things we've actually had to deal with

00354

1 so far, is do we want people to report within three days.  
2 Traditionally, with subsistence, most people tend to hunt  
3 on the west side of Dangerous, which is more accessible  
4 back into town. Under the Federal government, we had  
5 them reporting within three days. The State, most people  
6 who hunt under the State registration tend to go out and  
7 they hunt on the other side of Dangerous River and the  
8 State allows five days. This would be pretty easy to  
9 resolve. I just wanted to point that out there.

10

11                   Probably assumptions Neil Barten and I  
12 have discussed is, again focusing on the Unit 20 permit  
13 and what they did there, is the State can actually create  
14 this permit and print it out. They can do it at a much  
15 cheaper cost than the Federal government can. We were  
16 guessing maybe \$500 max to create the permit and there  
17 would be no additional fee that the State has already  
18 incurred for what they already print out for the permit  
19 system that they currently have.

20

21                   Also discussing with Neil Barten, Neil  
22 suggested that the State take the lead in administering  
23 these permits since they created the permit. That being  
24 said, we want to make it available. It will be available  
25 at the Forest Service in Yakutat as well and we will be  
26 helping out, reporting back to the State as quickly as  
27 possible when we do hand these things out.

28

29                   Like I said, I do want to mention this  
30 has been done before. This isn't a new idea. It was  
31 done in Unit 20(E) for caribou.

32

33                   The preliminary conclusion here was to  
34 support this proposal. I believe it will be a benefit to  
35 everybody. I have sat down and discussed this with Bert  
36 Adams, numerous members of the community and they really  
37 seem to support this proposal.

38

39                   Our justification, again, was this will  
40 minimize reporting conflicts. It will really help us  
41 figure out what the hunter effort actually is. I do want  
42 to point out at this time there is no conservation  
43 concern for moose. The State, in their last report  
44 actually shows that the population of moose is increasing  
45 in Unit 5(A). However, we do have some concerns. People  
46 have said it is more difficult for them to harvest their  
47 moose and by doing so we can address these issues.

48

49                   We believe this will reduce hunter  
50 confusion and we also believe that this will be a benefit

00355

1 to everybody involved. This concludes my presentation.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you.

4 Questions for Federal staff.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Hearing none.

9 ADF&G.

10

11 MR. RABE: Thank you, Chair and Members  
12 of the Council. I'm Dale Rabe. I'm management  
13 coordinator with Fish and Game and Wildlife Conservation.  
14 I'm here to provide a few brief comments with regards to  
15 this proposal.

16

17 First, I guess, it's probably obvious  
18 that it's a new face, I haven't been here before and I'm  
19 pleased to be here and have a chance to learn both about  
20 the process that's used in subsistence regulations and  
21 how the State can participate in that and I've been very  
22 pleased with, my view, of the cooperation that exists  
23 between the agencies at this point in time.

24

25 With regards to this particular proposal,  
26 the State has taken a position in terms of supporting in  
27 concept and the only reservation in terms of in concept  
28 is based on the idea of the logistics to be worked out.  
29 As Matt has indicated, they have made great strides and  
30 we are very comfortable that the technical aspects of  
31 this proposal can be resolved.

32

33 As such, the State is very interested in  
34 having programs that are very efficient and provide very  
35 direct services to the hunters from both the subsistence  
36 and from the State users, so we see that this proposal  
37 would move in that direction and provide those better  
38 services to the users. In any case where we can help to  
39 simplify regulations, we think that that's a good thing  
40 in terms of the documentation and the effort that the  
41 customers have to go through.

42

43 So, with that, that's the end of our  
44 comments on this, but I would be happy to entertain any  
45 questions.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any questions for  
48 ADF&G from the Council.

49

50 (No comments)

00356

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Any  
2 Tribal governments want to testify on this.

3  
4 (No comments)

5  
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other agencies  
7 that would like to comment. Inter-Agency Staff  
8 Committee.

9  
10 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chair, Steve Kessler  
11 with the Inter-Agency Staff Committee and the Forest  
12 Service, and we don't have any specific comments on this  
13 proposal other than that we do support the proposal.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Fish and  
16 Game Advisory Committee comments.

17  
18 (No comments)

19  
20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Written public  
21 comments.

22  
23 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, we have no  
24 written public comments on this proposal.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there any  
27 member of the public that would like to testify on this  
28 proposal? I don't have any. Do you have any paperwork?

29  
30 DR. SCHROEDER: No.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. We're at  
33 Regional Council deliberation, recommendation and  
34 justification on Proposal 20, which is shown on Page 121.  
35 Council's wishes. Mr. Adams.

36  
37 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
38 move that we adopt WP04-20.

39  
40 MR. KOOKESH: Second that.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's been moved  
43 and seconded that we adopt WP04-20. Discussion. Dr.  
44 Garza.

45  
46 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I fully support  
47 this proposal. I only had one question and I can't  
48 remember who brought it up, but I was taken by the, well,  
49 gee, we'll just give permitting authority to the State.  
50 This is a Federal subsistence hunt and if it's a joint

00357

1 permit, I don't see why it can't be done through the  
2 Federal system.

3

4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Does anybody want  
5 to respond to that from Staff? Mr. Johnson.

6

7 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, I don't have  
8 a real good response, but I'll give one. The bottom line  
9 is that since the permitting has been done by the State,  
10 it reduces the confusion on getting permits from one  
11 agency and by the Forest Service participating with them  
12 to issue the permits, it avoids some of the confusion in  
13 the data collection and again further minimizes the  
14 confusion among the hunters.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Would you like to  
17 follow up on that.

18

19 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I guess I still  
20 would see the Federal government doing this. I serve on  
21 a number of Native commissions and what we have learned,  
22 as small as we are, that data is power and if it's  
23 through the State, then that's just giving them more  
24 power. If it's through the Federal government, through  
25 Park Service or Forest Service, whichever does it, then  
26 they don't have to sit around for months hearing that,  
27 well, the data will come out next week or it's not  
28 available until it goes to Regional Council approval -- I  
29 mean from the regional biologist or whatever and it just  
30 seems like if it's a Federal hunt, it should be a Federal  
31 permit.

32

33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. LaPlant.

34

35 MR. LAPLANT: Mr. Chairman, Member Garza,  
36 maybe I can try and provide a little more additional  
37 information. My name is Dan LaPlant with OSM. The  
38 Federal program normally uses State reporting mechanisms  
39 when they're available for data management purposes. For  
40 example, for years the Federal program used the State  
41 harvest tickets for deer. Well, they do throughout  
42 Southeast. Up until the special season was created last  
43 year for Unit 2 deer with a Federal registration permit,  
44 we used those State harvest tickets and we have many  
45 examples around the state where State registration  
46 permits are also used. So it aids in data management.  
47 We have data sharing protocols with the State where that  
48 information is available to both Federal and State  
49 managers. It's just a more efficient way of collecting  
50 harvest information. So when the choice is available to

00358

1 use State harvest recording mechanisms, traditionally  
2 that is what the Board has used.

3

4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Follow up.

5

6 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I  
7 understand that, but I also -- I lose track of time, but  
8 I know some time passed when we were talking about this,  
9 particularly with fish. I remember in Kake we were  
10 really insistent that we have Federal permitting process  
11 and the response we got at that time or some time  
12 previous was that the Federal government fully supported  
13 the State taking over subsistence and they didn't want to  
14 change anything in the event that the State would take it  
15 back, would be an easier transition to that and that's  
16 what I keep seeing.

17

18 As long as the Feds keep saying the State  
19 can do this, the implication I receive is that we're  
20 still waiting for the State to figure out how to take  
21 subsistence back and we're not ruffling anything that  
22 would make that transfer back more difficult. To me,  
23 that's how the permitting ended up with the State and the  
24 Council has in the past, it may not be currently since  
25 the structure has changed, has really supported Federal  
26 permitting because people feel more comfortable going --  
27 they know that the Federal is subsistence, they know that  
28 State is basically anti-subsistence, so to walk into a  
29 State office to get a subsistence permit just seems a  
30 little bit backwards to what people feel comfortable  
31 with.

32

33 Thank you.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council  
36 questions. Mr. Jordan.

37

38 MR. JORDAN: I just want to make a  
39 comment here on what Dolly said. I think the State of  
40 Alaska is very supportive of subsistence. I think the  
41 majority of the state residents would vote. If a few  
42 people in the legislature would let us vote, we'd vote to  
43 conform with ANILCA. So I don't think the State is  
44 anti-subsistence. I think some of the legislative  
45 leaders are anti-subsistence.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Let's try to  
48 refocus on what we're doing. We have WP04-20 on the  
49 table as a motion. Any other Council.

50

00359

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is Council ready  
4 for the question. The motion before you is WP04-20. All  
5 those in favor of adopting please signify by saying aye.

6

7 IN UNISON: Aye.

8

9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All those opposed  
10 same sign.

11

12 (No opposing votes)

13

14 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It is our  
15 recommendation to support Proposal WP04-20.

16

17 We're going to withhold discussion on  
18 Proposal 22, which is the next item on the agenda, until  
19 1:00 p.m. That means we've got to be back from lunch at  
20 that time. I do want to announce there's a fundraiser.

21

22 I want to take care of one other item of  
23 business. We've got a couple minutes. Let's go to the  
24 second to last item of business, Item 15. If there's no  
25 objection, I'd like the Council to go ahead and discuss  
26 this at this time. Is there any objection to that? 15  
27 would be to establish the times and place of the fall  
28 2004 and the winter 2005 meetings. Is there any  
29 objection to taking this up at this time?

30

31 (No comments)

32

33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Schroeder,  
34 could you give us a presentation on this.

35

36 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, Council,  
37 you have a calendar on Page 153 of your book giving the  
38 window for the fall meeting and the following page is the  
39 meeting window for the winter 2005 meeting. At the  
40 present time, we're scheduled to be in Juneau October 5  
41 through October 7. There was some concern expressed  
42 about conflict with the Alaska Native Brotherhood meeting  
43 held in Sitka. I'll note that at least two of our  
44 Council Members are very active in ANB and maybe officers  
45 of their local camps and would like to attend. So there  
46 was discussion of moving the dates of that meeting. Then  
47 there was some discussion of moving the location. I will  
48 alert you that, if possible, we would like to avoid  
49 overlapping with Southcentral Regional Advisory  
50 Committee, which I believe is still scheduled on October

00360

1 12 through 14, because we have Staff that needs to attend  
2 both meetings. I'm sure Staff would do the best to work  
3 around if we need to have our meeting at that time.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: What are the  
6 Council's wishes. We're going to do only the fall right  
7 now. The ANB grant camp convention is going to be held  
8 in Sitka from October 3rd to October 9th, so let's first  
9 do the date and then we'll discuss the place. Well, it  
10 doesn't matter. You can do either one you want. Dr.  
11 Garza.

12

13 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I would move  
14 that we hold the fall meeting September 29th to October 1  
15 in Juneau.

16

17 MR. KOOKESH: Second.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's been moved  
20 and seconded to hold the fall 2004 meeting in Juneau.  
21 The dates would be September 29th to October 1st. Any  
22 discussion. Mr. Jordan and then Mr. Sofoulis.

23

24 MR. JORDAN: Mr. Chair, I really that. I  
25 have a real conflict with moving after October 10th as  
26 the winter king season opens on October 11th. That's  
27 really important to me, so I really appreciate the motion  
28 and I will be supporting that.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Sofoulis  
31 followed by Mr. Bangs.

32

33 MR. SOFOULIS: Mr. Chairman, I'll be busy  
34 until about the 9th of October, all the way from  
35 September 1st to the 9th.

36

37 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
38 would be in support of that change as well. The October  
39 dates conflict for me, but the September dates would work  
40 very well.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.  
45 Mr. Adams.

46

47 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I have a  
48 conflict here. We have our SRC meeting on the 28th and  
49 29th of September. Already been established, although I  
50 might be able to influence them to change it.

00361

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other comments,  
2 questions, Council. Are you ready for the question? Let  
3 me just say first that I know that everyone has some  
4 times that they can't make these meetings. We have to  
5 remember that everyone here is a volunteer. We don't get  
6 paid for this and it's money out of our pockets just  
7 about every single time we have to come here. So I'm  
8 sympathetic with not being able to meet these. Probably  
9 there is no good time for me, especially right now, to be  
10 meeting, so I would support that, too. Are you ready for  
11 the question?

12

13 MR. KOOKESH: Question.

14

15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams.

16

17 MR. ADAMS: The statement you just made,  
18 this is kind of just putting some humor into things,  
19 about being volunteers. I could have un-volunteered  
20 myself here about 11:00 and be heading down to Ketchikan  
21 to attend the Southeast Region Five basketball tournament  
22 today.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We really  
25 appreciate you staying with us, Mr. Adams. Are you ready  
26 for the question? The question before you is to change  
27 the time and date of the fall 2004 meeting to September  
28 29th through October 1st and the place is Juneau. All in  
29 favor signify by saying aye.

30

31 IN UNISON: Aye.

32

33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All opposed same  
34 sign.

35

36 (No opposing votes)

37

38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The motion is  
39 adopted. We've moved our meeting into September. The  
40 next item that we would have to take care of would be on  
41 the last page of your book, winter 2005. It looks like  
42 we have it wide open. I'll turn it over first to Dr.  
43 Schroeder.

44

45 DR. SCHROEDER: Yes, Mr. Chair, this is  
46 the meeting calendar on Page 154. If there's a Federal  
47 Staff person who knows when other Regional Advisory  
48 Councils are meeting, they might give us that or if  
49 there's any other conflict. If we don't have that  
50 information, I think we do have an open window there.

00362

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Can any Federal  
2 Staff give us any information on when the other regions  
3 dates are?

4  
5 DR. SCHROEDER: There's typically spring  
6 school break late in March, so that last week has quite a  
7 few people traveling and doing other things with their  
8 kids.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Let's just go with  
11 it. We just changed the one for the fall of 2004. We  
12 can take care of it if we have to later. I'm open for  
13 suggestions or a motion. First, let's do a place if we  
14 can. Has anybody expressed any interest in inviting the  
15 Council?

16  
17 MR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, we did  
18 receive a communication from the Petersburg Indian  
19 Association and a strong interest relayed to me from our  
20 Council Members who are either from Petersburg or  
21 temporarily living in Petersburg, as well as from the  
22 district ranger, there was interest in having a meeting  
23 in Petersburg. I haven't gotten any other expressions of  
24 interest in having us come by.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Previous Councils  
27 have taken the position that the winter meeting would be  
28 held in an area where there's a large airport and a large  
29 community so that we didn't get snowbound, but we're not  
30 bound by that. That's just a point of information. Mr.  
31 Jordan.

32  
33 MR. JORDAN: I think Petersburg would be  
34 a great place. Just some full disclosure from my Angoon  
35 friend there, I'm also from Petersburg and my mother  
36 still lives there, so I'm all in favor of going to  
37 Petersburg.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other  
40 communities want to make a pitch? Petersburg. After  
41 being at this meeting, you guys still want us? Make your  
42 pitch, Mr. Bangs.

43  
44 MR. BANGS: I'd just like to reiterate  
45 what was said there by Dr. Schroeder that there's been a  
46 lot of interest from the local residents as well as the  
47 Petersburg Indian Association to get a grasp of what this  
48 Council does and I think it would be a good place to go  
49 to expose the procedures.

50

00363

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Hernandez, do  
4 you have a motion?

5

6 MR. HERNANDEZ: Are we ready for a  
7 motion? If we don't have to discuss a time yet, I'll  
8 move that the meeting be held in Petersburg for the  
9 winter 2005.

10

11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Do we have a  
12 second.

13

14 MS. PHILLIPS: Second.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any discussion.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Hearing none. All  
21 in favor of holding the winter 2005 Regional Advisory  
22 Council meeting in Petersburg, please signify by saying  
23 aye.

24

25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Those opposed same  
28 sign.

29

30 (No opposing votes)

31

32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The meeting is in  
33 Petersburg. Now we need to discuss the time. Mr.  
34 Kessler.

35

36 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman, Southcentral  
37 Regional Advisory Council has tentatively scheduled their  
38 March meeting for March 15 through 17 and that is the one  
39 RAC that we try not to overlap with.

40

41 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

42

43 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I guess what we  
44 should start by is asking the Council Members if there  
45 are dates that are not good for them because of personal  
46 obligations, fishing, whatever.

47

48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kitka.

49

50 MR. KITKA: Mr. Chairman, I would not

00364

1 want to have the last week of March because of the  
2 herring spawn.

3

4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I agree, just as  
5 everyone is from Sitka, you know what we're going to be  
6 doing here next week. I don't want the end of the month.  
7 Mr. Sofoulis.

8

9 MR. SOFOULIS: I'm fine with early March.

10

11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Early March.  
12 Other Council. Mr. Adams.

13

14 MR. ADAMS: Ditto to that, Mr. Chairman.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Hernandez.

17

18 MR. HERNANDEZ: I was also going to  
19 suggest early in March.

20

21 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. It's  
22 looking like early March. What are the dates? Somebody  
23 just make a pick. Dr. Garza.

24

25 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I would move we  
26 have the winter 2005 meeting in Petersburg the week of  
27 February 28th to March 4th, depending on potential ferry  
28 schedules so that those of us that fly in there and get  
29 stuck have a way to get out.

30

31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there a second.

32

33 MR. ADAMS: I'll second, Mr. Chairman.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Phillips.

36

37 MR. PHILLIPS: I'm unable to get out of  
38 Pelican on a Sunday unless a flight is chartered for me  
39 because we have no scheduled flights on Sundays. If it's  
40 a Monday start, I have to leave Saturday, which puts me  
41 traveling a long time to come to these meetings.

42

43 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, it was the  
44 intent that we figure it out within that week, so if we  
45 don't want Monday, then we won't have Monday.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That was my  
48 understanding, somewhere within those five days.  
49 Generally we would be like the 1st, 2nd and 3rd because  
50 Staff doesn't like to travel those days either. Any other

00365

1 comments on that. Mr. Jordan.

2

3 MR. JORDAN: Just to make you all aware,  
4 that's a good time for crab. There's a lot of crab  
5 coming in to Petersburg right about that week.

6

7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Rudolph.

8

9 MS. RUDOLPH: I agree wholeheartedly.  
10 I'm just sorry that they didn't have this during the time  
11 I was serving on there. I would have loved to have gone  
12 to Petersburg during crab time. I support it for  
13 whatever it may count for.

14

15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Schroeder.

16

17 DR. SCHROEDER: I know that the standing  
18 member from Petersburg is aware of the obligations on the  
19 host community to provide every facility and hospitality  
20 to the Council when they meet and I just wanted to bring  
21 this to Mr. Bangs' attention, particularly with respect  
22 to crab.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

25

26 DR. GARZA: That would also hold for Mr.  
27 Hernandez, who sometimes is there in the fall, as well as  
28 Mr. Jordan, who apparently has ties to Petersburg.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are you ready for  
31 the question.

32

33 DR. GARZA: Question.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The motion before  
36 you is to hold our winter 2005 Regional Advisory Council  
37 meeting the week of February 28th to March 4th. That's  
38 what your motion was. All those in favor please signify  
39 by saying aye.

40

41 IN UNISON: Aye.

42

43 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Opposed same sign.

44

45 (No opposing votes)

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The motion has  
48 passed. Mr. Kookesh.

49

50 MR. KOOKESH: If it makes you feel any

00366

1 better, they will probably have Admiralty deer, Admiralty  
2 halibut and Admiralty crab there.

3

4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We have a one-hour  
5 lunch break. We need to be back at 1:00 p.m.

6

7 (Off record)

8

9 (On record)

10

11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. We're going  
12 to come back to order. Please take your seats. Let's  
13 get going on this. We're on our last proposal, Proposal  
14 No. 22. I think we've seen this before. For the new  
15 people on here, it's about the second or third time.

16

17 MR. PARSLEY: My name is Chuck Parsley.  
18 I'm a biologist in Hoonah. Presenting Proposal WP04-22.  
19 I'd hoped to do a power-point before, but I guess Steve  
20 Fadden, our forest biologist, was going to do the power-  
21 point. He's still at lunch for a couple seconds here, so  
22 I'll go through if it's okay and do an analysis and then  
23 he can do the power-point at that point in time.

24

25 Proposal WP04-22 is a deferral of  
26 Proposal WP03-11 from the 2002-2003 proposal cycle.  
27 WP03-11 is a deferral of Proposal WP02-15 from the 2001-  
28 2002 proposal cycle, concerning trapping regulations in  
29 Unit 4. The Hoonah Indian Association submitted WP03-11  
30 from the 2002-2003 proposal cycle and requested the  
31 current regulatory ban on the use of motorized vehicles  
32 for the taking of marten, mink and weasel on Northeast  
33 Chichagof Controlled Use Area be lifted to allow the use  
34 of any motorized land vehicle. The Board deferred the  
35 proposal to allow Federal and State managers, the council  
36 and local trappers to collect additional information and  
37 provide better planning for marten in NCCUA. This  
38 information would also help determine appropriate harvest  
39 levels and determine if other in-season management  
40 restrictions would be needed. The Federal Subsistence  
41 Board directed the U.S. Forest Service to work closely  
42 with HIA, trappers and the Department of Fish and Game to  
43 find a solution.

44

45 The SERAC discussed Proposal WP04-15  
46 during their spring 2002 Juneau meeting. The SERAC's  
47 recommendation was to defer the proposal. At the  
48 suggestion of ADF&G manager, the Council requested  
49 Federal Staff meet with trappers and ADF&G biologists in  
50 Hoonah to see if a consensus solution to questions

00367

1 concerning trapping, trapping seasons and use of motor  
2 vehicles could be reached. The Federal Subsistence Board  
3 concurred with SERAC and deferred this proposal.

4

5                   On October 11, 2002, Jack Whitman, ADF&G  
6 area biologist, Dave Johnson, Tongass National Forest  
7 subsistence coordinator, Chuck Parsley, Dave Belton, HIA,  
8 and several local trappers attended a meeting in Hoonah  
9 to discuss issues associated with marten trapping in the  
10 Hoonah area. A compromise was agreed upon that would  
11 maintain the current Federal season and allow for the use  
12 of motorized vehicles in the NCCUA and the remainder of  
13 Chichagof Island. ADF&G and TNF biologists had proposed  
14 to monitor the harvest in an endeavor to prevent over-  
15 harvest and to provide resource conservation measures.

16

17                   Trappers would be encouraged to submit  
18 their skinned marten carcasses to the local Forest  
19 Service office. The management goal is to maintain the  
20 percent of total males harvested above 55 percent. More  
21 importantly, it is critical not to allow the ratio of  
22 total young-of-the-year:adult females greater than 2.5  
23 years to fall below 3:1 ratio. Harvesting of more than  
24 three juveniles to one adult female greater than 2.5  
25 years old represents an acceptable harvest.

26

27                   Jack Whitman recommends using a more  
28 conservative ratio of 4:1. Additionally, Whitman reports  
29 that after managing marten populations for over 11 years  
30 in western interior Alaska, when seeing 3:1 ratios,  
31 marten populations seemed to maintain themselves. With a  
32 more conservative 4:1 ratio or greater, marten  
33 populations going into the following winter would be at  
34 increased densities and have a higher probability of  
35 survival and recruitment.

36

37                   To ensure over-harvest does not occur,  
38 biologists will monitor the harvest and determine sex and  
39 age ratios in the harvested population.

40

41                   Following the ADF&G Unit 4 area  
42 biologist, Jack Whitman, changing jobs, the ADF&G had  
43 differing opinions as to how best to manage marten. The  
44 ADF&G changed the position, citing new available  
45 information, and did not support the previous agreement.  
46 This new position was first made public at the February  
47 2003 Council meeting. As a result of additional  
48 information provided by ADF&G, the Board deferred WP03-  
49 11.

50



00369

1 proposal with modification. A proposed add to the  
2 provision, the biologists will examine marten carcasses  
3 to determine sex and age ratios and analyze results. The  
4 Forest Supervisor may close all or a portion of Federal  
5 Public Lands to trapping for marten after consultation  
6 with ADF&G when current or previous year sex and age  
7 ratio thresholds for marten are exceeded (total males  
8 harvested below 55% and total young-of-the-year:adult  
9 female falls below 4:1).

10

11 Justification. The Forest Service and  
12 ADF&G are in agreement there is not a conservation  
13 concern with the marten on Chichagof including NCCUA.  
14 The State currently allows the use of motorized land  
15 vehicles for the taking of marten, mink or weasel. Most  
16 of the harvest is thought to occur during December.  
17 Currently trapping on NCCUA is open to vehicle access  
18 under State regulations and should not change with the  
19 expanded subsistence opportunity proposed by this  
20 proposed regulatory change based on the fact the majority  
21 of the harvest occurs in December and also due to snow  
22 conditions. To ensure over-harvest does not occur,  
23 biologists will monitor the harvest levels and determine  
24 sex and age ratios in the harvested population. The  
25 season may be closed when potential over-harvest is  
26 detected.

27

28 That concludes my presentation. I'll  
29 take any questions.

30

31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: What about the  
32 power-point or do you want to do questions now?

33

34 MR. PARSLEY: However you prefer. We can  
35 go with the power-point, it's kind of an overview of what  
36 we've done, or if you have questions directly related to  
37 the proposal. Either one is fine.

38

39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I think I'd like  
40 you to go ahead and finish your presentation and then  
41 both of you stay there for questions.

42

43 MR. PARSLEY: Okay. Steve, I'll turn it  
44 over to you.

45

46 MR. FADDEN: Mr. Chairman, Members of the  
47 Council. My name is Steve Fadden. I'm with the U.S.  
48 Forest Service. I'm the Forest wildlife biologist on the  
49 Tongass National Forest situated in Ketchikan. My office  
50 is in the Ketchikan supervisor's office. I'd like to

00370

1 thank you for allowing me this opportunity to present our  
2 research and monitoring on marten on Chichagof Island.  
3 My apologies for coming in here late today.

4  
5                   Marten were introduced to Northeast  
6 Chichagof on or about the early to mid 1920s to the best  
7 of our knowledge. They're an important fur resource from  
8 the commercial and subsistence standpoint. They're  
9 native to mainland Alaska. The project that we're  
10 discussing had its origins in a proposal which was  
11 submitted by the Hoonah Indian Association. We've come  
12 through the subsistence regulatory process thus far with  
13 an eye toward developing some regulatory consistency and  
14 how marten are utilized on Chichagof.

15  
16                   The project that we're presenting on  
17 today addresses primarily how we determine what the  
18 population ecology of marten is presently. We use sex  
19 and age ratios to do that. We're very interested in more  
20 effectively managing marten in Northeast Chichagof  
21 through the cooperative process that we developed with  
22 ADF&G, with the Hoonah Indian Association and through our  
23 Forest Service staff.

24  
25                   The map there illustrates Northeast  
26 Chichagof. The Chichagof controlled use area is  
27 highlighted, the top center of the photo. That is a  
28 close-up of the north central area of Chichagof Island  
29 where the project was conducted. That's the analysis  
30 area.

31  
32                   Our rationale is really based on getting  
33 some basic information that will allow us to develop  
34 trends across time on the sex and age ratio of marten  
35 that are harvested on Chichagof. One of the things  
36 that's important in this process is developing and  
37 embracing what the sensitivity thresholds are. In other  
38 words, what are the parameters that you used to determine  
39 what the population stability is. Through a lot of  
40 existing literature and research that's been done, we  
41 were able to determine that the ratio of males harvested,  
42 if it's greater than 55 percent, that we are generally in  
43 a stable situation. The ratio total young of the year to  
44 adult female, if it's equal to or greater than 4:1, you  
45 have a much more stable population situation, as  
46 indicated by harvest, than you would if it were less. So  
47 if we had four young of the year to one adult female or  
48 if the population had greater than 55 percent males  
49 harvested, we would infer that based on the harvest data  
50 that we had a stable population at the time that harvest

00371

1 occurred. We use sex and age determination as our  
2 primary methodology.

3

4 We monitor demographics in this way,  
5 determining what the sex and the age of marten harvested  
6 are because it gives us an opportunity to determine,  
7 based on last year's harvest and cumulative years, trend  
8 data and a much better understanding of the survival and  
9 recruitment of marten. That data, to date, we really  
10 worked hard and cooperatively with ADF&G and this year  
11 with the HIA to increase our knowledge base and to  
12 promote a better understanding of marten so that we can  
13 ensure the continued survival of marten on Chichagof and  
14 as a resource.

15

16 The most important and robust measurement  
17 that we use is total young to adult female because the  
18 young basically are the interest and the adults can be  
19 viewed as the principal in the population. When you're  
20 harvesting interest, you have a better indication that  
21 you're not getting at the reproductive potential of the  
22 population as much as if you had more adults in that same  
23 sample.

24

25 We can use pelage to assign sex based on  
26 size alone, but that's not in and of itself the best  
27 predictor. We've used a multiparameter indicator of what  
28 the age and gender of the population is to come up with a  
29 more reliable estimate based on what we've seen in this  
30 sample.

31

32 Sexing can be done using skins. The  
33 prepuccial orifice on the male is situated at the top  
34 photo with the orientation of the hair toward the head  
35 end. In the females, enlarged or darkened nipples  
36 indicate the gender and the age of that gender in many  
37 cases. Hair growth patterns near the inguinal region or  
38 below the abdominal region are another indicator. Once  
39 again there are other things that we're looking at at the  
40 same time.

41

42 Whole carcasses, sexing can be done using  
43 carcasses by looking at the baculum and the testes,  
44 although the baculum is a bone that's inside the penis of  
45 the male, it is used for jewelry and many of the  
46 carcasses that we got didn't have the baculum on them.  
47 If you do have the baculum, you can use it as a positive  
48 indicator of the male. There are other considerations,  
49 that the weight of that baculum will come into play later  
50 in the presentation. If the baculum is not present, the

00372

1 testes are gone and in the event we believe we're looking  
2 at a female, we need to excise the carcass and examine  
3 the reproductive tract to be sure.

4

5                   You can use skulls as an indicator and we  
6 did. Overall, males are generally 10 percent larger than  
7 female skulls in any marten population. Of the known  
8 data, the total length of female skulls is less than 79  
9 millimeters and males are larger than 79 millimeters.  
10 What you can see on the left is a male, an adult male,  
11 and what you see on the right is an immature female. The  
12 length of that center ridge on the back of the skull,  
13 that's called a sagittal crest and the development of  
14 that sagittal crest. The development of that sagittal  
15 crest becomes that pronounced in the adult males. On the  
16 female, what we look at is not just the absence of the  
17 sagittal crest, but also the nasal opening at that point  
18 where the arrow is. The degree of that opening also  
19 aides us in determining what the gender of that  
20 particular animal is.

21

22                   We have a small sample size that was used  
23 for femur length. In developing the baseline data of  
24 known femur lengths in males and females, the sample  
25 overall is small, so it's still not absolutely certain  
26 parameter, but what we're doing is lending to the  
27 knowledge base about what defines marten as adults and  
28 juveniles, males and females. Once again, the point of  
29 this is to illustrate that we can show the adult to  
30 juvenile, the male to female and to come up with an  
31 inference about what's been harvested and use that as a  
32 predictor for what the stability of the breeding  
33 population is for the next year.

34

35                   In Southeast Alaska, 68 millimeters seems  
36 to be the cut-off for gender determination using femurs,  
37 so we would cut the femur out when we did this project.  
38 We collected the femurs in a bag along with the baculum  
39 and some muscle samples for DNA purposes and a few other  
40 things that we'll show here. The bags were numbered, as  
41 were the marten, when we did the necropsies so that we  
42 could properly associate all of the data that would  
43 eventually be generated out of those various parts.

44

45                   Using skin to determine age class is not  
46 reliable. It's not often right, it is also often  
47 incorrect, so we've chosen to eliminate that as a  
48 population or an age parameter. By the time marten are  
49 18 weeks of age, the young have reached their adult  
50 length. They may not continue to gain mass. They grow

00373

1 very fast. In actuality, the skins are not a good  
2 indicator because of the fact that they develop so  
3 quickly.

4

5                   The sagittal crest is, once again,  
6 referring to the top photo on the left you have an adult  
7 male with that pronounced sagittal crest. That increases  
8 with age. It's very useful on males but can't be used as  
9 a predictor in females simply because it doesn't exist in  
10 that fashion, but you can see in the bottom photo on the  
11 left side you have a juvenile male and on the right side  
12 you have a juvenile female and on the top right side you  
13 have an adult female and you can see how the nasal  
14 opening is much smaller on the right side photo. Then  
15 look at the bottom right photo and you can see the degree  
16 of the opening of the nasal area and that's about how  
17 specific that is in virtually every case that we see with  
18 this necropsy process.

19

20                   Skull sutures are where the skull grows  
21 together in mammals. In this instance, you can see the  
22 nasal or what can be referred to as a jugal squamosal  
23 suture, is a good, reliable indicator. On the right you  
24 have a female and on the left you have a male and in the  
25 female the nasal or jugal squamosal suture is not  
26 complete in this illustration, so young of the year  
27 animals can be separated by older age classes using clean  
28 skulls based on the degree to which that suture is  
29 complete.

30

31                   You can see in the bottom photo there  
32 below the joint, right there where the arrow is now,  
33 that's the suprasesamoid or suprafabellar tubercle on the  
34 distal end of the femur, which would be the lower end of  
35 the femur. That denotes an animal that is at least one  
36 year old and a number of repetitions have established  
37 that as a good baseline. It's not always possible to  
38 have clean or prepared skulls to work with. So, once  
39 again, as I said before, we had to come up with a number  
40 of indicators that were reliable and converge them until  
41 we came up with a comprehensive methodology. Since you  
42 don't always have clean skulls, we had to use some of  
43 these other indicators additionally as they were  
44 available. It is possible to determine the relative age  
45 of the animal by using the skull and one of the methods  
46 is apparent in this next photo.

47

48                   The degree of coalescence of the masseter  
49 muscle, which is on the top of that skull, where the  
50 arrow is now on the right side, and of the left, those

00374

1 are the masseter muscles. Coalescence meaning the way  
2 the muscle comes together, the degree to which it's  
3 closed together is a very good indicator of the young of  
4 the year to adult females and we'll give you a shot of  
5 each of those here. In this case, you have a young of  
6 the year female and you can see that clear, where the  
7 sagittal crest would be in the male you have an exposed  
8 skull and a much less developed masseter muscle.

9

10 Here you have the adult female and you  
11 can now see that the masseter muscle surrounding the  
12 crest in the female, although there is no crest there,  
13 still there's a suture there that still gains that  
14 definition. That's a good indicator of the female.  
15 That's pretty much proof positive, although you do have  
16 instances where you have to use other factors to make  
17 sure you've got the right information down.

18

19 In comparing young of the year and adult,  
20 that's pretty much what you're looking at in every  
21 situation. So based on the number of marten that we were  
22 able to collect from the Hoonah Indian Association  
23 participants and the trappers, we were able to come up  
24 with this sort of data and looking at the young of the  
25 year to adult provided us with a breakdown of what that  
26 population was that was affected by harvest. That's  
27 effectively what we can regulate and control.

28

29 Aging males from the baculum is another  
30 very reliable method. The mass or weight of the baculum  
31 is a very reliable indicator and do to a number of  
32 repetitions by other researchers, baselines have been  
33 drawn whereby we can predict pretty much and very  
34 reliably what the adult to juvenile status is based on  
35 the weight of the penis bone. Less than 0.1 gram is  
36 probably a young of the year animal. A linear  
37 measurement is not as effective as just literally the  
38 weight of the bone.

39

40 Using reproductive tracts is very  
41 important in determining the adult to juvenile status of  
42 the females. The reproductive status more than anything.  
43 When we placed a marten on its back and exposed it,  
44 ventrally we made an incision along the center line of  
45 the body and we were able to look at the stomach contents  
46 and the reproductive tracts. We cut out the uterus and  
47 we made uterine length measurements and width  
48 measurements of the uterus and then we used a dissecting  
49 microscope and a syringe that we flushed any eggs,  
50 ovaries, that were in the uterus out. If there were

00375

1 ovaries in there, it's generally assumed that we had a  
2 breeding age female or an adult female.

3

4 If they were not there and they did not  
5 also meet the specific measurements, we had to make a  
6 decision then about how we were going to classify them.  
7 Generally, uterine horns that are longer than 45  
8 millimeters or wider than one millimeter are from year-  
9 plus-old animals, which would put them into the adult  
10 female stage. The eggs are the best predictor. If  
11 they're there, they're adults.

12

13 The blastocysts are basically what we  
14 flushed out with the syringes. On the right, you can  
15 just barely see one. It's much more clear in a  
16 dissecting microscope under saline solution. It's not  
17 hard to see.

18

19 Another thing that I found is very  
20 interesting and I don't know what relevance it has other  
21 than scientific and knowledge base, which makes it very  
22 important, the parasite loads in the marten stomachs was  
23 sort of fascinating to me. Many of them had very heavy  
24 loads of soboliphymes baturini. That parasite, nothing  
25 is known about the life cycle to date.

26

27 We also did body fat measurements on the  
28 marten carcasses. It was interesting to me to note,  
29 although I don't have a specific number, those with the  
30 greatest percentage of body fat also seemed to have the  
31 highest parasite loads and we would extract the  
32 parasites, count the total number of the worms in each  
33 sample and we would differentiate them based on male or  
34 female. That gives an indication that the general health  
35 of the population, but I hesitate to say any more about  
36 it because it also may mean nothing at all. It may be  
37 that that particular worm could possibly be beneficial to  
38 the marten. In the way that it deals with bacteria, it  
39 may secrete an enzyme which aides in the digestive  
40 process of the food source of marten. It's very  
41 interesting. But samples were collected and preserved  
42 and they were sent to the University of New Mexico  
43 through Jack Whitman with ADF&G, who played a vital role  
44 in our success here.

45

46 We had some photos that we wanted to  
47 share with you. Jack is on the left with his hands up.  
48 He's an expert on marten and a number of other things.  
49 On the right is Doug Larsen and in the center back is  
50 Dale Rabe. They are all with Alaska Department of Fish

00376

1 and Game. We were discussing sample sizes at that point  
2 in time, but I regard those as the three best looking men  
3 in ADF&G. Here they are again.

4

5 Dale is, I believe, recording numbers on  
6 tubes that were used to store parasites. While each  
7 marten was examined for parasites, fat content, we also  
8 took a femur when it was available. We took two samples  
9 of muscle from the back of the thigh on the marten which  
10 will be used for genetic analysis by other researchers.

11

12 I think we worked probably 30 hours on  
13 this with a little rest in between because they were  
14 frozen and after a while that room was a little -- it was  
15 cold enough we had to have a heater, so that was  
16 problematic.

17

18 We have Dale and Doug working on length  
19 measurements. We took total body length measurements and  
20 tail length measurements, which also add more information  
21 to the knowledge base that we can use related to managing  
22 marten for the reasons that we do. Those are the  
23 carcasses as we received them after they'd been skinned.

24

25

26 There's Jack Whitman, ADF&G. This simply  
27 would not have been possible without Jack Whitman's  
28 input. He's an expert, once again, on marten. It was  
29 interesting when I met Jack. He just finished writing a  
30 chapter for one of the leading international references  
31 on mammals and that reference was written by a professor  
32 I had in zoology in Illinois and he came up and asked  
33 Jack to write that chapter and I didn't know it until I  
34 met Jack in Hoonah that we had that individual in common  
35 and that speaks volumes to me about his ability and his  
36 willingness to cooperate. Mary Rabe, Jack's supervisor,  
37 provided him the permission and support that we needed to  
38 have him there and we simply couldn't have done this  
39 without him.

40

41 I'd like to acknowledge the ADF&G for  
42 what has been a tremendously successful endeavor to  
43 develop information and knowledge regarding marten and to  
44 work cooperatively. If anything, it was a cooperative  
45 process that took some bold measures on the part of  
46 everybody involved, both financially and physically. In  
47 the spirit of cooperation, we came away with some very  
48 good information and it is our hope to continue to  
49 collect this data annually now until we get very strong  
50 repetitions that lend us information about what's going

00377

1 on in the marten population.

2

3

4 I'd like to thank Dave Belton of the  
5 Hoonah Indian Association. He was vital in the  
6 cooperative process and in helping us get the materials  
7 that we needed and the support that we needed. Local  
8 trappers were Keith Skaflestad, Max Dick, John Halfacre.  
9 They were very important and provided us the sample that  
10 we had and we could not have gotten that any other way in  
11 the volume that we did and that was a very good number of  
12 marten to be able to start out with and get this  
13 information on.

14

15 Thanks to the Hoonah Ranger District for  
16 the facilities and the support. To Forrest Cole, the  
17 Tongass National Forest supervisor. And to Olleke Rappe-  
18 Daniels, the Tongass National Forest deputy forest  
19 supervisor. Without their support and encouragement and  
20 mentoring, I simply wouldn't have been able to go this  
21 far with this project. I was very pleased to have them  
22 along with us on this important endeavor.

23

24 Dave Johnson is the subsistence  
25 coordinator for the Forest Service. You all know Dave.  
26 Without him, this could not have happened. It took a lot  
27 of resources and a lot of strategy to get the timing  
28 right to recover the carcasses that we needed, the  
29 financial resources that were required. Dave continues  
30 to be an important part of our understanding in this and  
31 a number of other areas.

32

33 Thanks also to Scott Snelson, my  
34 supervisor, for giving me this opportunity. Scott is our  
35 wildlife, fisheries, ecology, watershed and subsistence  
36 staff officer. He covers it all. He would be here  
37 today, but he's at a meeting in Seattle on behalf of the  
38 Forest Service.

39

40 I'd also like to thank Marlene Duvall,  
41 who was a volunteer, and she was in a couple of the  
42 pictures we showed. She did a remarkable job standing  
43 there with us at no benefit financially. Her husband is a  
44 member of the staff of the Hoonah Ranger District and  
45 Marlene is a biologist by training, but she was a  
46 volunteer on this project.

47

48 Without the cooperative support and  
49 dedication of everybody involved, once again, we couldn't  
50 have done this and I hope that we can continue to because  
of the intrinsic value of knowledge and the importance of

00378

1 cooperative relationships in helping us more effectively  
2 manage the things we depend on. We look forward to  
3 working with everybody again next year and for years to  
4 come.

5  
6 Thank you. I'd entertain any questions,  
7 Mr. Chairman.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I have one  
10 question for you before I turn it over and that's a  
11 correction perhaps on Page 138. The first sentence of  
12 the biological background says that marten were  
13 introduced to the island in 1950. During your  
14 presentation you talked about in the '20s. I'd like to  
15 clarify which one is correct.

16  
17 MR. FADDEN: Mr. Chairman, Jack and I  
18 talked at some length about the introduction of marten  
19 and that was something I recalled from our conversation.  
20 I apologize if I misled you with that. It may well be  
21 that I was wrong or I recalled something different than  
22 what Jack and I shared in our talk, but he seemed to  
23 believe the 1920s was a potential date for introduction,  
24 but I don't think he was reacting to anything specific  
25 either. We were talking in general at the time.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: So that's just a  
28 misprint. It should be the early 1920s on Page 138.

29  
30 MR. FADDEN: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to  
31 ask Mr. Parsley to comment on that as well.

32  
33 MR. PARSLEY: Currently, I think McDonald  
34 and Cook are looking into that. The best information I  
35 know of, there was thought to be some earlier in the turn  
36 of the century, but in late '50s there was a consolidated  
37 effort to repopulate most of Unit 4. That's probably  
38 where the difference lies. So I think there definitely  
39 was an effort in the '50s to try and repopulate the  
40 marten population.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: What brought that  
43 about?

44  
45 MR. PARSLEY: I'm trying to recall. I  
46 think it was in response to the fur industry. There was  
47 a need after the war for a bunch of marten. They thought  
48 this area was kind of -- I think it was also the need for  
49 looking for an industry in Southeast. A lot of islands,  
50 typical habitat. I think later they introduced squirrels

00379

1 to let the marten feed on them, but no one told the  
2 marten they were supposed to be eating those guys, so  
3 kind of one of those things we kind of did that weren't  
4 very popular.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Well, the martens  
7 certainly learned to eat up all the hooters and the  
8 ptarmigan around here, I know that. What I'd like to  
9 have from Staff is a copy of the original proposal from  
10 the Hoonah Indian Association. When they originally  
11 proposed this, I believe it was in Juneau. And where it  
12 has morphed to now. Just for the record, I'd like to  
13 look at that before we're done.

14

15 Ms. Phillips.

16

17 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman  
18 Littlefield. The examination of the stomachs, did it  
19 verify that voles were its main food or was there birds?

20

21 MR. FADDEN: Through the Chair, Ms.  
22 Phillips. No, it didn't. Although vole are accepted to  
23 be one of the primary food sources, in our analysis that  
24 wasn't the case and that might have been due to seasonal  
25 variation as much as anything else. It was late in the  
26 year. We didn't recover a lot of definite material.  
27 There seemed to be invertebrates from stream bottoms and  
28 from beaches, shell remnants. There was feces that  
29 appeared to be from deer pelage in the stomachs. Once  
30 again, the parasites played an interesting part in all  
31 that. The fat content of the marten was remarkable to me  
32 in light of the conditions there and what we found in the  
33 stomach.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.  
36 Questions for Federal Staff.

37

38 (No comments)

39

40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I guess we're  
41 done. ADF&G presentation.

42

43 MR. RABE: Mr. Chairman, thank you for  
44 the opportunity to provide comments on behalf of the  
45 State. Again, I'm Dale Rabe, management coordinator with  
46 ADF&G wildlife conservation division.

47

48 I think before you you have a one-page  
49 handout of a few points that I would like to focus on as  
50 the presentation here. And I want to thank Steve Fadden

00380

1 particularly for providing proof positive that  
2 occasionally we do get out of the office and get our  
3 hands dirty with some biology.

4

5                   In terms of the comments, the first thing  
6 I'd like to focus on is that as we reviewed the proposal,  
7 and you have to realize that there are some new people  
8 that are part of the process that weren't part of it when  
9 it first became an issue here, as referenced by the  
10 Chair, going back to previous cycles for consideration.  
11 As a result, I think we have had an opportunity and an  
12 obligation to do some re-analysis of the information and  
13 try and uncover as much as we can so that we can  
14 represent an understanding of what's happening and where  
15 we think it ought to be, what some of the concerns might  
16 be with the proposal.

17

18                   As a general statement, the State's  
19 position in terms of the management is to ensure the  
20 continued health of marten populations in Northeast  
21 Chichagof Island and to provide sustainable marten  
22 trapping opportunities while requiring minimum time,  
23 money and effort to effectively monitor and manage the  
24 population.

25

26                   If I might focus on the word  
27 sustainability. I know it was an element of discussion  
28 in terms of what the definition of that word means. In  
29 this case, what our focus is in terms of sustainability,  
30 is that there's a continuity in the availability of the  
31 harvest so that it's not on and off year after year kind  
32 of thing, so that those people who are utilizing that  
33 resource have an opportunity to utilize it year after  
34 year after year and I think as we go through you'll  
35 understand a little better why I'm focusing on that.

36

37                   I think there's some relevant pieces of  
38 the puzzle relative to the history of events that have  
39 occurred, at least as far as I'm able to discern at this  
40 point in time. One of those is that prior to 1990, as we  
41 understand it, the season for trapping on Chichagof  
42 Island extended from December 1st to February 15th and it  
43 was open for all trappers. The road system on the island  
44 was also open and could be used as the base for  
45 distributing trap lines at the time.

46

47                   In the years leading up to that point,  
48 the harvest of marten indicated that there was a decline  
49 in the population. As a result, in the trapping year  
50 '90-'91, there was an emergency closure of trapping in

00381

1 that area and it did resume the following year, but when  
2 it resumed there were changes to the regulations which  
3 shortened the season to the month of December for  
4 everyone and it created the road closure, which was a  
5 Federal action at the time. At the same time, for the  
6 next couple of years, the season was closed for non-rural  
7 trappers.

8

9 I'll focus on the fact that the Federal  
10 government took the action for the road closure, but in  
11 exploring the history, I understand it was the  
12 expectation and an understanding then that that closure  
13 was effective to everybody, so it applied to State  
14 trappers as well.

15

16 There was an event in '94-'95 when the  
17 Federal lands were closed to trapping and yet the State  
18 season remained open. It's not clear, I wasn't able to  
19 discover exactly what the circumstances were surrounding  
20 that Federal action. Following that, in '95-'96 the  
21 Federal lands were again re-opened. In 2001-2002, the  
22 season then shifted so that the trapping season for rural  
23 classified individuals was from December 1st to February  
24 15th, while the season dates for non-rural was still  
25 limited to December 1st through the 31st.

26

27 It was also at this point in time there  
28 was a legal re-interpretation of the road closure on the  
29 part of the State and it was decided that that rule did  
30 not apply to those individuals trapping under State  
31 regulations. As I mentioned before, it was assumed and  
32 had effectively operated as a complete closure from the  
33 early '90s up until that re-interpretation. Nothing  
34 changed in terms of the rules, it was just a legal  
35 interpretation that had occurred at that point in time.

36

37 Another element that I think is important  
38 in understanding this is that the division research staff  
39 have been engaged in research activities on marten in  
40 Northeast Chichagof and in other parts of Southeast  
41 Alaska since 1991. We've learned a great deal about the  
42 species during that time. I think one of the most  
43 salient points is the discovery, which is not new at the  
44 time but a reaffirmation, that the marten populations  
45 fluctuate considerably as a natural event based on  
46 availability of prey. Yes, it was determined that voles  
47 in many places are a very important prey item for marten,  
48 particularly in Northeast Chichagof.

49

50 Also relevant to, I think, this issue is

00382

1 the fact that marten have a fairly large home range. It  
2 may be differentiated between males and females and  
3 roughly the researchers have found that females have  
4 about a two square mile range, whereas the males a three  
5 square mile range, so they can cover a lot of land. More  
6 pointedly is that marten are known to be relatively easy  
7 to trap and that trapping effort in one area can very  
8 effectively significantly reduce the population of all of  
9 the animals that have a home range that overlap that  
10 area. The reduction in population that has been  
11 demonstrated from research results can be upwards of 80-  
12 90 percent of population reduction locally because of the  
13 trapping effort.

14

15 As a result of these facts and to allow  
16 for continued harvest without interruption, it has been  
17 the acknowledged strategy in managing the population to  
18 provide and maintain a refuge concept for an area where  
19 trapping is not impacting the population and in those  
20 areas, because of the readily movement of the animals  
21 into new areas where there are lower densities, refuges  
22 act as an opportunity to replenish populations when they  
23 have been depleted and to recover from a natural  
24 fluctuation in those populations as well.

25

26 As was stated in the Forest Service  
27 analysis, currently we do not have a biological concern  
28 associated with marten in Northeast Chichagof Island  
29 subsequent to the road closure that went into effect in  
30 the early '90s. However, allowing trapping from the  
31 roads will remove that decade-old conservation measure  
32 and could very easily result in future biological  
33 concerns occurring, as was the case in 1990 when an  
34 emergency order was used to close trapping.

35

36 By the way, as I understand it, not  
37 having been here during that period of time, the amount  
38 of roads on the island has increased significantly from  
39 1990 to today, making even more of that area accessible  
40 to trapping.

41

42 A few comments with regards to the sex  
43 and age ratio information that has been provided. I do  
44 want to say that, yes, as a State agency we are very  
45 interested in collecting information as having more  
46 information is better for making intelligent management  
47 decisions. The idea of a ratio has merit in terms of  
48 monitoring a population. It comes at a cost. But our  
49 research staff, having conducted research throughout the  
50 '90s, went back and looked at the information that was

00383

1 available for animals trapped between 1991 and 1997 and  
2 were able to determine that based on the criteria that  
3 have been suggested as the monitoring value of four  
4 juvenile marten for every adult female, that four out of  
5 the last seven years that ratio would have fallen short  
6 and, therefore, presumably, would have required some sort  
7 of management action to adjust the season or trapping  
8 opportunity. When, in fact, having lived through that  
9 time, the State has not seen or witnessed anything that  
10 would indicate there was a biological concern during  
11 those years.

12

13 Another aspect that is questioned in  
14 terms of how the actions with this proposed monitoring  
15 program would function include what specific actions  
16 would be taken on the part of the agencies responsible  
17 for modifying the season if it falls short and those have  
18 not been identified at this point in time. If those  
19 include closure, then that begs the question of what are  
20 the criteria that would allow it to be reopened at a  
21 future point in time after that closure occurred. In the  
22 past, we have had to research projects that have provided  
23 supplemental activity in that area, but that's not likely  
24 to continue forever into the future.

25

26 The State has, in recognizing the  
27 difference in regulations that exist because of the  
28 interpretation of the road closure, making the  
29 regulations more restrictive than the State regulations,  
30 our view is that we would certainly like to resolve that  
31 problem and we think that the conservation measures that  
32 are in place do a very good job of protecting the  
33 resource and providing for that opportunity for trapping  
34 and we would propose that we would take a proposal to the  
35 State Board of Game to change and close the road system  
36 for State trappers so that it was on an equivalent basis  
37 with what has been in place for over a decade for what we  
38 thought was all trappers, but, as it turns out, was for  
39 Federal subsistence alone.

40

41 We have also been advised by the Office  
42 of the Attorney General that it's not necessarily an  
43 action that the State would have to take, that a Federal  
44 action that clarified the intent of the closure being  
45 applied to all individuals would also resolve the issue  
46 of the inequity that exists today.

47

48 Short of that, we would propose to look  
49 for other alternatives that would maintain some level of  
50 refuge for marten on the island so as to avoid the

00384

1 situation where there are significant depletions of that  
2 resource and might require actions to limit the trapping  
3 opportunity.

4

5 That concludes my comments. I'd be happy  
6 to take questions. In terms of clarifying the question  
7 about when they were introduced, some information that  
8 Mike Turek provided me from a game transplant report  
9 shows that they were taken to Chichagof Island in 1949,  
10 1951 and 1952. Any questions.

11

12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

13

14 DR. GARZA: I learned more about marten  
15 than I had ever hoped to. I hope I forget it all by  
16 tonight.

17

18 (Laughter)

19

20 DR. GARZA: I sort of got a feel for it,  
21 but I do not see in the paperwork ADF&G's clear position  
22 whether or not they're for or against this proposal.

23

24 MR. RABE: Through the Chair, Dr. Garza.  
25 Our position remains the same as the written one, which  
26 would be to adopt with amendment. The amendment that was  
27 described in the comments that were provided with the  
28 original report and analysis have modified a little bit.  
29 With subsequent conversations with Forest Service  
30 personnel, they pointed out to us that the idea that we  
31 came up with, which was using old growth reserves as a  
32 way of identifying areas that could be set aside as a  
33 refuge, that that had some enforcement problems  
34 associated with that, so we are not focused on that as a  
35 particular solution, but are wide open to any other type  
36 of designation that might reserve some land as a refuge.

37

38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Jordan.

39

40 MR. JORDAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So  
41 you're hoping that we'll invent something that hasn't  
42 been specifically suggested, is that right?

43

44 MR. RABE: Through the Chair, Mr. Jordan.  
45 No, that's not my expectation, that that would be  
46 necessary. I think that the proposal in front of you  
47 really talks about the wisdom of having an opportunity to  
48 trap from the road system in its entirety and, as such,  
49 an action on the part of the Council addressing whether  
50 or not that's a good idea would leave it open for other

00385

1 alternatives to be explored that could, in fact,  
2 reinstate a refuge condition on the part of State  
3 trappers and we're proposing we would go forward with  
4 that as an action regardless.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Did you want to  
7 follow up on that, Mr. Jordan?

8  
9 MR. JORDAN: Well, my thinking is that I  
10 would like to support something like I think the State  
11 wants us to do, but I don't see the specific vehicle for  
12 that and maybe it's because I'm new and stuff, so I'm  
13 worried that we'll just end up without the kind of  
14 protection the State talks about and that concerns me.  
15 Also, I wonder where those marten came from you  
16 introduced. Were those Sitka marten?

17  
18 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Those were  
19 introduced too.

20  
21 MR. RABE: Through the Chair, Mr. Jordan.  
22 The document here on the table simply says that the  
23 source of the stock was Southeast Alaska.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I have a question.  
26 When you talk in your first paragraph about the State's  
27 management objective and you talk about sustainable, that  
28 sustainability is an economic concern, it's not a  
29 conservation concern, is that right? You want to make  
30 sure that the trappers always have something to trap and  
31 go out.

32  
33 MR. RABE: That is correct in the sense  
34 that one of the State objectives is clearly to provide a  
35 maximum of opportunities to use resources and, as such,  
36 both from a management standpoint in terms of a minimum  
37 amount of energy and money needed to monitor the  
38 population while providing consistent access for being  
39 able to trap, that is what I'm referring to as a  
40 sustainable action here.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.  
43 Ms. Rudolph followed by Mr. Adams.

44  
45 MS. RUDOLPH: Maybe let Mr. Adams talk  
46 first. I'm trying to read this paper.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams.

49  
50 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I

00386

1 just wanted to make a comment. Like Dolly, I've learned  
2 more about marten than I've ever had and I can guarantee  
3 you I'll have it all forgotten by this evening.

4

(Laughter)

5

6  
7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are you ready, Ms.  
8 Rudolph?

9

10 MS. RUDOLPH: Yes. On your alternative  
11 approaches you're talking about identify alternative  
12 refuge. Is this working with the Federal in this process  
13 or separate from the Federal?

14

15 MR. RABE: Through the Chair, Ms.  
16 Rudolph. Yes, the idea would be that we would continue  
17 the discussions with the Forest Service in terms of what  
18 would be a reasonable approach that would meet the  
19 objectives that we have set out in this analysis, which  
20 is basically to have a reserve of area where trapping  
21 would not occur, which would provide a refuge. There are  
22 other ideas that have been floated in terms of just very  
23 preliminary discussions, whether they be watersheds or  
24 some other mechanism that an enforceable area of  
25 significant size that would meet that need could be  
26 identified and would resolve the issue of having  
27 boundaries that people would understand and could abide  
28 by.

29

30 MS. RUDOLPH: When it was first  
31 introduced in Juneau, it was the concern for motor  
32 vehicles going into Federal lands. The motor vehicle was  
33 able to go into State but not Federal. I see with the  
34 papers here, just from the reports that were given, it  
35 was expanded further than just the motor vehicles, so is  
36 that the intent, to shut off all motor vehicles to the  
37 State and Federal?

38

39 MR. RABE: Through the Chair, Ms.  
40 Rudolph. I am handicapped a little bit by not having the  
41 familiarity with the geography and land ownerships that  
42 others have at this point, so forgive me if I err in my  
43 statement here, but it's my understanding that there is  
44 very little to none State ownership in this area. There  
45 are private lands within that area.

46

47 In terms of the trapping on those lands,  
48 that doesn't present a biological concern because of the  
49 size of those land holdings at this point. If they were  
50 to get depleted from the road system, there's a lot of

00387

1 land around that that could potentially replenish those  
2 areas. So, relatively speaking, it's a smaller part of  
3 the landscape.

4

5                               Whether or not the Board would choose to  
6 take action to close private lands, that I cannot  
7 predict. I mean we would certainly ask for the public  
8 lands to be put on an equitable basis between the rural  
9 and non-rural trappers.

10

11                               CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Hernandez.

12

13                               MR. HERNANDEZ: I think that question was  
14 kind of along the lines of what I was going to ask. My  
15 question was who are the State trappers and who are the  
16 Federal trappers? Is that just a function of where you  
17 choose to trap? Is it essentially the same group of  
18 people, depending on whether you're on Federal lands or  
19 State lands, is that what you're referring to?

20

21                               MR. RABE: Through the Chair, Mr.  
22 Hernandez. Looking at the harvest records, on a year-to-  
23 year basis, it's inconsistent. On some years there have  
24 been folks from Juneau that have trapped in that area  
25 and, therefore, are not qualified as rural. By and  
26 large, the trapping is occurring by folks that reside on  
27 the island and are all qualified as rural residents.

28

29                               MR. HERNANDEZ: Just to follow up. If  
30 you are a Hoonah resident and you're trapping -- this  
31 will be another question. I assume Hoonah residents are  
32 allowed to trap on probably the private lands I would  
33 assume. Maybe Ms. Rudolph could answer that.

34

35                               CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I have Mr.  
36 Douville first and then Ms. Rudolph.

37

38                               MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
39 I have maybe lost sight of where we're going here. I  
40 just want to give you a comparison or I have some  
41 questions or maybe both. Are these martens special in  
42 some way? On Prince of Wales Island you can go by boat,  
43 train, tricycle, however way you want. There is no  
44 restriction, you can set as many traps as you want, you  
45 can literally pound it into the ground and the only thing  
46 that slows you down is your lack of energy. I've seen  
47 this happen for years. No one is concerned about  
48 conservation or set aside areas or anything else and the  
49 marten do come back. I mean it doesn't seem to be a  
50 problem. I'm just wondering why this particular place is

00388

1 so unique.

2

3

4 MR. RABE: Through the Chair, Mr.  
5 Douville. It is true that there are no similar  
6 restrictions on other places, other islands where marten  
7 do occur. In fact, looking at some of the information  
8 about marten abundance in those areas and the particulars  
9 of those situations, I believe it to be true that on  
10 Prince of Wales, even though there is a large number of  
11 miles as has been discussed in earlier discussions, that  
12 there are still large areas of unroaded area that provide  
13 a natural refuge that, without penetrating deeply from  
14 either shoreline or from an existing road, that there are  
15 in effect the kinds of refuges that we think are  
16 appropriate to try and maintain a stock of marten in an  
17 area.

17

18

19 There are other examples, and I believe  
20 Mitkof Island is probably one of those where the road  
21 system on there and having full access through those  
22 areas has occurred for a number of years and, yes, the  
23 marten do continue to occur there, but if you look at the  
24 trapping records, the harvest records, they are  
25 consistently very low.

25

26

27 So one of the issues that is probably  
28 worth consideration and deliberation is a strategy that  
29 would provide greater opportunity or potentially less  
30 opportunity, depending on what the trapping is allowed  
31 when a population is already trapped down to a low level.  
32 Yes, you can continue to trap it. You may not cause a  
33 local extinction of the population, but your  
34 opportunities for harvesting marten are a function of  
35 your reproductive success.

35

36

37 As is pointed out with the presentation  
38 earlier, the trapping is non-discriminatory in terms of  
39 males and females, so protecting the reproductive  
40 component is important, I think, if you want to maintain  
41 healthy populations.

41

42

43 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Follow up on that,  
44 Mike.

44

45

46 MR. DOUVILLE: I do a lot of trapping  
47 myself and I've caught hundreds of marten and it tends to  
48 be self-regulating. If you overdo it one year, you're  
49 effort will be less the next year because you won't catch  
50 as many. It's as simple as that. It kind of self-  
51 regulates. In any case, thank you.

00389

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Rudolph.

2

3

4 MS. RUDOLPH: I was just going to answer  
5 Mr. Hernandez's question. I think they are allowed to  
6 trap on corporation land. From the paper I got, it says  
7 that the Federal regulation is more restrictive than the  
8 State regulation. So, to conform, both Federal and State  
9 regulation increasing the opportunity to take marten made  
10 under the Federal subsistence permit and the change will  
11 benefit population of subsistence. I wasn't too  
12 familiar when the study was going on and I'm trying to  
13 move with what the tribe wanted, but this is the first  
14 I've seen of this. The concern I would have is of  
15 population, but usually the Native in our community  
16 usually know when to trap and they usually know when  
17 there's a shortage. So it's all new reports that's  
18 coming out, so I'm just sitting here willing to learn and  
19 listen.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Let's try to  
23 conclude this because we have some business. Let's ask  
24 Mr. Rabe questions about his handout. I know we've got  
25 some other stuff going and I'd like to ask Mr. Fadden to  
26 be prepared to come back and answer some of these same  
27 questions if he'd like to and then we'll give you the  
28 same opportunity to come back if you so wish. Are there  
29 any other questions at this time.

30

31 (No comments)

32

33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: With the  
34 understanding that we may call you back up, at this time  
35 we're going to take a break.

36

37 (Off record)

38

39 (On record)

40

41 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The meeting will  
42 come back to order, please. We're going to interrupt  
43 this to make a short presentation. Dr. Schroeder.

44

45 DR. SCHROEDER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. If  
46 I could ask Chuck Parsley and Olleke Rappe-Daniels to  
47 come forward, please. Although at this exact moment in  
48 our procedure we're involved in controversies over marten  
49 management, we do want to recognize -- and we'll resolve  
50 that in the proposal process. We do want to recognize

00390

1 just what a special effort it was for Fish and Game, for  
2 the tribe and for Forest Service to go and do some hands-  
3 on research and field study in Hoonah this last season  
4 with marten.

5                   So quite a few things came together. It  
6 may be something of a model for how our agencies and the  
7 Tribal government and the Federal government and State  
8 government can interact. It also shows a great deal of  
9 cooperation from trappers. I'm not sure whether Chuck  
10 mentioned in his presentation that he has 100 percent of  
11 the marten that were trapped in the Hoonah area and  
12 that's a real major achievement and it shows some good  
13 cooperation between our agencies and the trappers. So  
14 I'll turn it over to you two.

15

16                   MS. RAPPE-DANIELS: Mr. Chairman and  
17 Members of the Council, I'm Olleke Rappe-Daniels. I'm  
18 the deputy forest supervisor on the Tongass National  
19 Forest. My duty station is in Ketchikan, although we  
20 have offices all over Southeast Alaska and one of our  
21 supervisor offices is right here in Sitka, so I was  
22 delighted to be able to participate in a little bit of  
23 this meeting here today. I was here for some other  
24 meetings as well, so I appreciate the time that you're  
25 allowing us to spend here today.

26

27                   One of the things, as I was listening to  
28 the presentations, that becomes really clear to me and  
29 the rest of us who are interested in not only the species  
30 marten but in the management of public lands and the  
31 management of opportunities for trappers, recreationists,  
32 the wonderful thing that has happened with this project  
33 is that we have cooperation between our agency, the  
34 Forest Service, ADF&G and the HIA, in addition to the  
35 trappers who were willing to participate in this project.

36

37

38                   Regardless of where we are at sort of a  
39 policy management level, the fact that people were  
40 willing to come together and work on this data collection  
41 project and help us learn, our scientists learn  
42 procedures and share information is something that we  
43 feel really good about and it's certainly a relationship  
44 that we hope to continue.

45

46                   So this gave us an opportunity to  
47 publicly thank both ADF&G and we have some awards that  
48 we'd like to present recognition and the Hoonah Indian  
49 Association for their involvement in this whole project.  
50 Chuck, maybe I can get you to bring the awards.

00391

1 First we'd like to recognize, and I  
2 realize that he's not here, but we'd like to recognize  
3 Jack Whitman for his work with ADF&G. I understand,  
4 Dale, you're going to accept this from us and I'll ask  
5 Chuck to read the inscription on the piece and then hold  
6 it up for the group to see.

7  
8 MR. RABE: The inscription reads to Jack  
9 Whitman, outstanding contribution to marten management on  
10 NCCUA 2004.

11  
12 (Applause)

13  
14 MS. RAPPE-DANIELS: So if you would  
15 present that to Jack. Thank you. Then we would also  
16 like to recognize Dave Belton from the Hoonah Indian  
17 Association. Without his help and cooperation, this  
18 project would not have been possible and we have the same  
19 kind of piece and, Chuck, if you want to read that, that  
20 would be great.

21  
22 MR. PARSLEY: Presented to Dave Belton  
23 for administrative support and contribution towards  
24 marten management on NCCUA 2004.

25  
26 MS. RAPPE-DANIELS: My understanding is  
27 that Dave is not here either and Mike is going to accept  
28 it for him.

29  
30 Thank you.

31  
32 (Applause)

33  
34 MR. SEE: I'm very happy to accept this  
35 for Dave. He's done a lot of work for us and what have  
36 you and I'm sure if he was here, he'd be a lot more  
37 eloquent than I am, so consider yourself lucky, actually.

38  
39 MS. RAPPE-DANIELS: Thank you, Mr.  
40 Chairman and the Committee.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We'll give you  
43 another chance to come up here, Mike. Tribal  
44 governments. We're back on discussion of Proposal 22.

45  
46 MR. SEE: My name is Michael See. I'm  
47 the vice president of Hoonah Indian Association and the  
48 chairman of the Customary and Traditional Use Committee.  
49 I'd like to go on record saying that the Hoonah Indian  
50 Association is in favor of this proposal. They've gone

00392

1 through a lot of work and being there is no biological  
2 concern with the marten population. We'd like to see  
3 that the subsistence users are afforded the same  
4 opportunity under the subsistence regulations as the  
5 trappers are in the State regulations and this all being  
6 in the spirit of ANILCA.

7

8 Right now the Federal regulations are  
9 stricter and the rest of Southeast Alaska doesn't have  
10 the same restrictions that Northeast Chichagof does.  
11 There's a lot of roads over on Northeast Chichagof, but  
12 there's a lot of areas where there are no roads. The  
13 only access to them basically would be go along with  
14 skiffs on the beaches and what have you.

15

16 It seems strange that once the regular  
17 trapping season closes, you know, you can use your four-  
18 wheelers all the time up to there and then when that  
19 season closes and the Federal season starts the easy  
20 accessibility through motorized vehicles also leaves with  
21 the State people.

22

23 I think in the spirit of ANILCA that it  
24 should be accepted. Thank you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Stay with us for  
27 just a minute. Dr. Garza.

28

29 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank  
30 you for being here. I understand your support and I  
31 certainly agree with that; however, we have two different  
32 versions. In our packet there are two proposals. One  
33 which basically eliminates the -- would re-allow  
34 motorized vehicles. It strikes that portion on Page 132-  
35 133. Then the recommendation following the preliminary  
36 conclusion on Page 141-145 is modified and the  
37 modification on Page 142 is that the forest supervisor  
38 may close all or a portion of Federal public lands to  
39 trapping for marten after consultation with ADF&G when  
40 current or previous year sex or age ratio thresholds for  
41 marten are exceeded.

42

43 So are you supporting that modification  
44 as well?

45

46 MR. SEE: Through the Chair, Dr. Garza.  
47 I would have to believe that if there were a need, if it  
48 comes to a point where there is a need that it has to be  
49 closed, I would have to agree with that, but our concern  
50 was that once the State season closed that the

00393

1 subsistence trappers lost the opportunity to use  
2 motorized vehicles. Maybe there will be a problem with  
3 over-trapping, I don't know, but if there is a problem,  
4 then they still have the option of shutting it down. If  
5 they did shut it down, it wouldn't be forever. There  
6 doesn't seem to be any biological concern right now as  
7 far as the availability of marten.

8

9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Follow up. Ms.  
10 Rudolph first.

11

12 MS. RUDOLPH: I just wanted to let the  
13 Council know that it was not the full support of the  
14 Hoonah Indian Association. It didn't really come before  
15 us. I sit on the board, but I think if they knew all the  
16 issues that came before us today and all the things that  
17 were brought forward, I think they would have supported  
18 wholeheartedly. But Mike is the chair for subsistence  
19 and this is an area he was working in with Dave Belton,  
20 so I just thought I'd make that clear.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Does any other  
25 Council have questions for Mr. See or comments.

26

27 Mr. Kookesh.

28

29 MR. KOOKESH: My comment kind of goes  
30 toward what Mike Douville here said concerning self-  
31 regulation. When I look on Page 142, all I see is more  
32 bureaucracy and I thought I was taking the simple  
33 approach and I like self-regulating when the hunt is  
34 down, you move on and I like that approach better. I was  
35 wondering do you believe that there's a self-regulation  
36 out there or do you believe we should have more of this  
37 forest supervisor having the authority to close?

38

39 MR. SEE: Through the Chair. There's  
40 always going to be people who abuse any situation that  
41 you get into. In a situation where things start getting  
42 bad, you know, and we have enough self-control and say,  
43 okay, fine, we let them rest, but you know as well as I  
44 do there are people out there who don't show any  
45 restraints whatsoever and I think that -- I don't have  
46 the authority to go up and tell a person what to do as  
47 far as the way they hunt. I can disapprove of what they  
48 do and I can tell them of my disapproval, but if they  
49 continue to do it, that leaves me pretty much in a spot  
50 where I have to say, okay, we need something to fall back

00394

1 on because there are people out there who don't exercise  
2 the same restraints that you or I or whoever as regular  
3 people would.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.  
6 Dr. Garza.

7

8 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, thank you. I  
9 guess I understand your concern there and still looking  
10 on Page 142 there were two questions and one I think you  
11 made me think of is after consultation with ADF&G. Well,  
12 the first question is, I know that in moose situations  
13 and other areas where we've had emergency closure, that  
14 has also been in consultation with the local Indian  
15 association or community members and included contact  
16 with the area council members, so I've been contacted for  
17 moose or whatever because I happen to be the closest. So  
18 I don't see that in this modification here, so there  
19 should be some requirement that it be in consultation  
20 with ADF&G and HIA so that you guys are made aware of  
21 what's going on.

22

23 But the other thing that just popped into  
24 my head is it said may close all or a portion of Federal  
25 Public Lands to trapping for marten and it doesn't say  
26 how long. I mean my first impression or read-through of  
27 this was it would be for the remainder of the season. If  
28 you're taking in self-regulation and you're taking in the  
29 population has crashed per se, that the next cycle it  
30 would probably be back up and you would think that  
31 hunting would occur again, but it doesn't clearly state  
32 that it's only for the season, so I would hate to think  
33 that we're giving approval for a forest supervisor to go  
34 in there and close it for the next five years.

35

36 I think if we're supporting this language  
37 on Page 142, that we make that clear. Thank you.

38

39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Rudolph.

40

41 MS. RUDOLPH: I think when they first  
42 introduced it it was going to be just for the motor  
43 vehicles on Federal and State land to be allowed to do  
44 their trapping because State closes before Federal and  
45 they're not allowed to go on Federal land with their  
46 motor vehicles. That initially was the main concern of  
47 this proposal and somehow we got into just the marten,  
48 but that's been trying to get the Federal to comply with  
49 the State so that they can go into Federal lands to trap.

50

00395

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Phillips.

4

5 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman  
6 Littlefield. Has the Forest Service met with HIA to  
7 discuss the results of the necropsy?

8

9 MR. SEE: Mr. Chairman. We were invited  
10 down when the biologists came to Hoonah. They were still  
11 in the process of doing some of the necropsies and  
12 they're keeping us pretty much advised of what is going  
13 on. We have a pretty good working relationship with the  
14 Forest Service and the presentation that was given was it  
15 was a pretty good presentation and that shows what can be  
16 achieved through cooperation.

17

18 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council or  
19 follow up.

20

21 MS. PHILLIPS: A quick follow up. I  
22 would encourage capacity building with either the youth  
23 or with interested trappers when they do the actual  
24 necropsy.

25

26 Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other  
29 questions for Mr. See. Mr. Adams.

30

31 MR. ADAMS: Mr. See, does the State and  
32 the Forest Service confer with the tribal organization  
33 when any proposals or emergency openings and closings  
34 occur?

35

36 MR. SEE: Mr. Chairman. We are working  
37 toward having a better relationship with the Forest  
38 Service and I would hope that if it doesn't exist now  
39 that it will in the future because everything has been  
40 very positive so far. It seems to be getting better and  
41 better and everyone seems to be working together better.  
42 Let's put it that way.

43

44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams, follow  
45 up.

46

47 MR. ADAMS: The Forest Supervisor does  
48 have the authority to use his emergency orders, authority  
49 to open and close. I know in Yakutat we have that  
50 relationship with the State. It happened in goats one

00396

1 year. I can specifically address there was an area that  
2 needed to be addressed because of low populations and  
3 everything and they talked about closing off a certain  
4 portion of the Nunitak area and it involved the  
5 participation of the State, Feds and Tribal government.  
6 I would really encourage that to happen. Not only just  
7 in your area, but as a matter of policy, you know, for  
8 all government agencies and State as well.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kookesh.

13

14 MR. KOOKESH: My question concerns if  
15 you're going to implement a regulation like this, what is  
16 the process laid out for a closure? Can I ask someone in  
17 Staff if they know what this process is.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Parsley, would  
20 you take care of this, please. Why don't you stay there  
21 for a second, Mike.

22

23 MR. PARSLEY: Mr. Chairman, Chuck  
24 Parsley. The way we understand through OSM is that  
25 currently the Forest Supervisor does not have that  
26 authority. It has to be delegated from the Board to the  
27 Forest Supervisor. So their hopes were that by putting  
28 the language in there, if it did get passed and approved  
29 by the Board, that the Forest Supervisor would then have  
30 the inherent ability to close in times of shortage or  
31 concerns. Without that they'd have to have an emergency  
32 convening of the Board to make that effect.

33

34 MR. KOOKESH: My other question was, was  
35 there a time frame for closures? I was asking a question  
36 about closures. Is it for 60 days with a public hearing?  
37 What is that process?

38

39 MR. PARSLEY: I'm not sure I understand  
40 the question. Are you saying if there is a concern and  
41 it is closed, how long will the closure be in effect for?

42

43 MR. KOOKESH: Yes.

44

45 MR. PARSLEY: That we really don't know.  
46 It depends on what data we had and the severity of the  
47 skew of the ratio. It could be that we would allow the  
48 rest of the season to continue as it takes a while to  
49 pick up the traps and then next year we may have a  
50 shortened season or there's a myriad of options, but it

00397

1 basically would be a yearly closure for the remainder of  
2 the season and then next year we pretty much would start  
3 over unless we had some reason to change, but the actual  
4 answer I can't answer for you. It would depend on the  
5 data we have and the severity of it, what the skew of the  
6 ratio of young of the year to adult females would be.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I'd like to ask  
9 Mr. Johnson to answer that, please.

10

11 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, the in-season  
12 closure would be good for only 60 days. After that it  
13 has to go before the Board.

14

15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Follow  
16 up, Mr. Kookesh.

17

18 MR. KOOKESH: When I was reading the  
19 original proposal that Mr. Belton submitted, I believe  
20 there was a request he put in there to see an increase in  
21 grouse and ptarmigan and I'm wondering are we going stop  
22 -- we know it's going to go down, the marten take is  
23 going to decrease. I think there's a request to see a  
24 rebounding of grouse and ptarmigan, at the same time  
25 they're asking to be able to pull marten out. You'll  
26 never see it as long as you keep closing and opening it  
27 just to build up stocks. I'm curious. I think that what  
28 they're desiring of subsistence takers is to also see a  
29 rebound of another resource. Is that correct?

30

31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's my  
32 recollection that the original proposal we looked at in  
33 Juneau from the Hoonah Indian Association did have that  
34 in there where one of the positive effects of their  
35 action, if we were to take it, would be to increase  
36 grouse and ptarmigan in the area, but these are probably  
37 not directly related to you guys, but maybe Mr. LaPlant  
38 could answer it.

39

40 MR. LAPLANT: Mr. Chairman, just to  
41 clarify a question Mr. Kookesh had asked about the  
42 closure. Under current conditions, if no regulation was  
43 passed as a result of this proposal, under current  
44 conditions a closure would have to be done through  
45 special action process and it would be done under  
46 emergency closure, which would be good for 60 days. As  
47 you referred to, a public hearing would have to be held  
48 in order for it to be extended beyond 60 days. So if a  
49 measure was passed by the Board as a result of this  
50 request to give authority to the Forest Supervisor, that

00398

1 would be the conditions as specified in this action, it  
2 would be either for the entire season or for whatever is  
3 specified in the proposal.

4

5 But without it current condition is 60-  
6 day closure, public hearing to extend beyond 60 days.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you. Are  
9 there any other questions for the tribal representative,  
10 Mr. See?

11

12 Mr. Stokes.

13

14 MR. STOKES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
15 Not being familiar with the trapping area or the road  
16 system, would it be possible to close off different  
17 roads?

18

19 MR. SEE: Mr. Chairman, the way the road  
20 system is on Northeast Chichagof, they could  
21 realistically shut off large areas by shutting off one  
22 road system where you can basically isolate one whole --  
23 you know. They do that to us now as far as some of the  
24 hunting. They've got what they call water bars. They do  
25 that. They could effectively isolate large areas just by  
26 shutting off a road system very easily.

27

28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The Forest Service  
29 does have the authority to put a lock across the gate.  
30 It's their road. They can do that if they want to just  
31 for information. We're going to be here to 6:00, folks,  
32 so we better get moving here. Any other questions for  
33 the tribal representative. Thank you, Mr. See, for your  
34 testimony. Any other tribal representatives that would  
35 like to speak at this time.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other agency  
40 comments.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Inter-Agency Staff  
45 Committee.

46

47 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chair and Council, I'm  
48 Steve Kessler again. Just a couple items of maybe  
49 clarification. Maybe more questions will result. But  
50 the way the Federal regulations work, they're one-year

00399

1 regulations. So in order for the supervisor to maintain  
2 closure of an area, the supervisor has to close that area  
3 again every year. Unless there's something different  
4 that's put into the regulations, that's how that works,  
5 so it's not a two-year closure or three-year closure  
6 without going through a specific process.

7  
8 The other thing just as far as  
9 clarification goes, in the language that's proposed, you  
10 might note that it talks about when current or previous  
11 years sex or age ratio thresholds for marten are  
12 exceeded. The reason for those words are that generally  
13 you can't do an in-season management based on the  
14 necropsies. Generally what you'll do is do the  
15 necropsies and then manage for the following year, so  
16 there would be a closure the following year that the  
17 Forest Supervisor would have to make happen.

18  
19 Otherwise, the Inter-Agency Staff  
20 Committee does not have any comments for you.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are there any  
23 questions for Inter-Agency Staff.

24  
25 Dr. Garza.

26  
27 DR. GARZA: So this provision on Page 142  
28 in essence would give the Forest Supervisor the ability  
29 to close the whole next season.

30  
31 MR. KESSLER: That is correct, but the  
32 next season has to start before that authority would be  
33 in place. As I say, they're one-year regulations that  
34 start -- I'm afraid I can't remember what the season is.  
35 For these regulations, I think it's September 1st. I  
36 don't remember. But they're one-year regulations and the  
37 Forest Supervisor would have to close the area after the  
38 new regulations became active.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Follow up.

41  
42 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So in  
43 a season you would get all the carcasses, you'd go  
44 through your data over the summer, you'd decide that  
45 maybe the harvest was heavy, the season would open on  
46 whatever days you guys figured out and then two days  
47 later he could technically close it for either 60 days or  
48 the rest of the season.

49  
50 MR. KESSLER: If this regulation were put

00400

1 in place, it could be closed for the rest of the season,  
2 but the trapping season doesn't start until after the  
3 regulatory year has already been under way for quite a  
4 while, so the trapping season wouldn't start at all.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.  
7 For the record, it starts December 1st and ends February  
8 15th. Mr. Douville.

9  
10 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
11 So you could trap other species and this would be focused  
12 on marten I would expect.

13  
14 MR. KESSLER: That's how I understand it.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other questions.

17  
18 (No comments)

19  
20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Mr.  
21 Kessler. Fish and Game Advisory Committee comments.

22  
23 (No comments)

24  
25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Summary of written  
26 public comments.

27  
28 DR. SCHROEDER: We have none. Thank you.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Public testimony.  
31 Is there anyone in the audience who would like to  
32 testify.

33  
34 Mr. Gutherie, please come forward.

35  
36 MR. GUTHERIE: I'm in agreement with Mike  
37 Douville there. When I was a child there, there was two  
38 to three thousand trappers in Southeast Alaska and we  
39 still have a lot of furs. It's really nice to have  
40 information to look at and study, but that Northeast  
41 Chichagof marten group is not a unique group. You've got  
42 another two thirds of the island, a lot of it's forested,  
43 packs marten, and even if there is a small decline in the  
44 population on Northeast Chichagof area, as the  
45 populations in the other areas over-populate, they move,  
46 and marten is one of the travelers in that family group.

47  
48  
49 What I hear out of this is a lot of talk  
50 about working together with the Feds and the State, so I

00401

1 think that's really good. It's really good to have the  
2 information, but I don't think it's necessary to start  
3 making separate regulations. So that's the way I'd urge  
4 you to look at.

5  
6 Thank you.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are there any  
9 questions for Mr. Gutherie.

10  
11 (No comments)

12  
13 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you for your  
14 testimony. We're at Regional Council deliberation,  
15 recommendation, justification. I'd like to remind the  
16 Council there are at least two different versions in your  
17 book. I have one on Page 131 and I have a second one on  
18 Page 141 and 142, so please specify which one you desire  
19 to take action. You have your choice. You can make a  
20 motion to adopt either one or none. You could move to  
21 adopt the proponents' recommendation, which would be on  
22 Page 131 or you can move to adopt the Staff Committee  
23 recommendation on Page 141 and 142.

24  
25 Let's take a one-minute recess. Don't  
26 leave. We're just going to get this motion in order.

27  
28 (Off record)

29  
30 (On record)

31  
32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We're back in  
33 order and the legal counsel is going to explain what's  
34 going on here.

35  
36 MR. USTASIEWSKI: Mr. Chair, Jim  
37 Ustasiewski with the Office of the General Counsel. I'm  
38 not sure if I can explain what's going on, but I can at  
39 least explain what's in the regulation. I found this a  
40 little confusing, so I just wanted to point this out for  
41 the Council. The language that is on Page 131, it  
42 appears under proposed regulation and there's a line  
43 through it because that's the proposal, but that's the  
44 language under the line, of course, that's the language  
45 that's actually in the regulation as it exists now. The  
46 language that's at Page 142, the italicized language at  
47 the top of that page, Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use  
48 Area consisting of, all that language there. There is a  
49 regulation that is similar to that, but it does not have  
50 the language at the very tail end that says or the taking

00402

1 of marten, mink or weasel. It simply applies to brown  
2 bear. So I just found that confusing. That language  
3 looks as though it's being presented as if it's in the  
4 original regulation, but my copy of the reg book does not  
5 have that language, that language that has the line  
6 through it there. Instead it's simply the line that  
7 follows that. I'm sorry, not the line that follows that.  
8 I can read it right out of the regulation book if it  
9 makes it clearer.

10

11 This is from 36 CFR 242.26(n)(4)(ii)(E)  
12 and it states you may not use any motorized land vehicle  
13 for the taking of marten, mink or weasel on Chichagof  
14 Island. That's the whole extent of the regulation that  
15 applies to the taking of marten. In other words, there's  
16 no particular separation with respect to the Northeast  
17 Chichagof Controlled Use Area even though that might be  
18 the way a person might read Page 142.

19

20 So my advice to the Council would be if  
21 you want to change the regulation that currently  
22 prohibits the use of motorized land vehicles, use the  
23 language that is at the top of Page 131.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are there any  
26 questions for legal counsel.

27

28 (No comments)

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you.  
31 Council wishes. Dr. Garza.

32

33 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I move that we  
34 support Proposal WP04-22 as outlined on Page 131 of our  
35 document.

36

37 MR. STOKES: I'll second the motion.

38

39 DR. GARZA: And this would, in effect,  
40 under the proposed regulation, strike the entire sentence  
41 that says you may not use any motorized land vehicle for  
42 the taking of marten, mink and weasel on Chichagof  
43 Island. Mr. Chairman, it's my understanding that was the  
44 original intent of HIA.

45

46 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's been moved  
47 and seconded to adopt the language on the top of Page 131  
48 WP04-22, striking the language after 26(n)(4)(ii)(E).  
49 Discussion.

50

00403

1 Mr. Jordan.

2

3 MR. JORDAN: Mr. Chair, I move to amend  
4 that so that the Forest Supervisor may close all or a  
5 portion of Federal Public Lands to trapping for marten  
6 after consultation with Alaska Department of Fish and  
7 Game when current or previous years sex or age threshold  
8 for marten are exceeded, total males harvested below 55  
9 percent, total young of the year to adult female falls  
10 below 4:1.

11

12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there a second.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Hearing none, the  
17 amendment fails for the lack of a second. We're back to  
18 the main motion. Any discussion on the main motion. Mr.  
19 Bangs.

20

21 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
22 wasn't there for the whole conversation, but I was under  
23 the impression Mr. See and Ms. Rudolph were speaking  
24 about an amendment that would include the Hoonah Indian  
25 Association. They had expressed concern to have a check  
26 and the amendment would include the consultation with  
27 ADF&G and the HIA and I was just wondering if that was  
28 still the case.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Does anybody want  
33 to clarify that?

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: No, I guess not.  
38 So we're back to the main motion. The main motion is on  
39 Page 131, to strike everything after 26(n) through (E).  
40 Further discussion. We should have rationale for our  
41 recommendation here.

42

43 Dr. Garza.

44

45 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I will support  
46 Proposal 22 as it is written on Page 131 and without  
47 modification. I don't believe that there are  
48 conservation concerns. I think this will surely improve  
49 subsistence opportunity if after the State season is  
50 closed they are allowed to continue to use motorized

00404

1 vehicles. I think it was an oversight in some original  
2 language that that opportunity was not provided earlier.  
3 I think the evidence I received is enough to allow me to  
4 make a good decision. I don't think this has any effect  
5 on non-subsistence users since we are speaking to the  
6 subsistence season only.

7

8 In terms of the attempt at modification  
9 to this, I would like to see that submitted as a separate  
10 proposal at another time. I get the feel that it has  
11 been reviewed by the community involved and that they  
12 have support for that modification.

13

14 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council.  
17 Mr. Stokes.

18

19 MR. STOKES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
20 I'm going to speak in favor of this motion based on Mr.  
21 See's testimony.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kitka.

26

27 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
28 also will support this motion. I also think the number  
29 of animals they're trapping, there's no fear of over-  
30 trapping them at this point. I would also say that the  
31 agreement with the biologists and Fish and Game was done  
32 through the local community and I think it should stay  
33 there and that they should continue their study of it on  
34 their end.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council  
39 comments. Ms. Phillips.

40

41 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman  
42 Littlefield. I too support 04-22. This proposal has had  
43 adequate opportunity for the public to respond to it. We  
44 have undergone numerous meetings to get where we're at  
45 today and I don't want to stall it by sending a  
46 recommendation forward on a modification that hasn't gone  
47 before public review.

48

49 Thank you.

50

00405

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.

2 Ms. Rudolph.

3

4 MS. RUDOLPH: I would like to thank the  
5 Council for supporting this proposal. It kind of got  
6 away from me a little bit because of all the intense  
7 study that was done when we just wanted the Federal lands  
8 to be open for motor vehicles than to hear all that was  
9 done. Not that I disapprove of it. I think they did all  
10 right. I just didn't know where everybody was going.  
11 But I appreciate your help on this proposal and I'm glad  
12 we went back to the original one.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council  
17 comments. I'd just like to note in there that the area  
18 in there can be closed with a special action if the need  
19 arises. All it would take is an extra day or two if the  
20 situation warranted it. If ADF&G or the local people  
21 came to the district ranger, I'm positive the proper  
22 action would be taken. Are you ready for the question.  
23 Mr. Adams.

24

25 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
26 Eric has been trying to get your attention for a little  
27 bit now. As far as I'm concerned, unless somebody  
28 drastically changes my mind between now and the time you  
29 vote, I intend to support this proposal.

30

31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Jordan, you  
32 have that chance.

33

34 MR. JORDAN: I've worked with groups too  
35 long to think that anything I say is going to change  
36 anybody's mind. So I'm just speaking for myself and I'm  
37 not trying to change anybody's mind. I'm going to oppose  
38 the motion because I thought it would be a better  
39 proposal with an amendment as recommended by the Staff  
40 and in the direction of supporting a collaborative effort  
41 to work together to favor a modified proposal. I think  
42 when the Council supports those kind of efforts, it  
43 reinforces them and powers the people to do that kind of  
44 work. I regret that the Council isn't doing that and I  
45 think that does have conservation consequences in the  
46 long run because I think the best conservation comes from  
47 people working collaboratively together at the local  
48 level and I support that.

49

50 How does it affect the subsistence

00406

1 opportunities? I believe in the long run this has a  
2 negative effect because it bypasses the local efforts  
3 there and the conservation concerns of the biologists,  
4 both the State and Federal that have been brought out. I  
5 think the information that was presented here was  
6 excellent and I want to congratulate the people who  
7 brought that. I particularly personally enjoyed the  
8 information about marten. I think they're one of the  
9 most interesting creatures we have in this forest and I  
10 really appreciated the opportunity to learn more about  
11 them.

12

13 What is the affect on a non-subsistence  
14 user? I believe the same kind of effects as on a  
15 subsistence user. So I'm going to oppose this motion.

16

17 Thank you.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.

20 Mr. Bangs.

21

22 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
23 just wanted to say I was going to support this proposal,  
24 but I just wanted to really thank Mr. See for coming down  
25 here to testify because his testifying really cleared  
26 things up in my mind for the same reasons that Ms.  
27 Rudolph had, that there was so much other stuff involved  
28 there.

29

30 I just wanted to say thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.

33 Are you ready for the question.

34

35 MR. STOKES: Question.

36

37 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The motion before  
38 you is WP04-22 as shown on the top of Page 131 and it is  
39 to strike all of the language after Section  
40 26(n)(4)(ii)(E). All those in favor please signify by  
41 saying aye.

42

43 IN UNISON: Aye.

44

45 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All those opposed  
46 same sign.

47

48 MR. JORDAN: No.

49

50 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The motion is

00407

1 carried. Our recommendation is to strike the language.

2

3

Dr. Schroeder.

4

5

DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, it might be  
6 useful for Forest Service Staff to hear whether or not  
7 the Council supports continuation of this cooperative  
8 effort between the tribe, ADF&G and Forest Service to  
9 find out more about the marten population.

10

11

Thank you.

12

13

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I think we can say  
14 we do. Is there any objection to that? Dr. Garza.

15

16

DR. GARZA: No. I concur with you, Mr.  
17 Chairman. I think we have heard it has developed into a  
18 good working relationship and my only objection to the  
19 proposed modification was that I didn't clearly hear from  
20 HIA that they were on board with it, so I felt I needed  
21 to defer to their original proposal, which has come  
22 before us several times.

23

24

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I concur. This  
25 Council has gone on record many times requesting  
26 proposals to come from the bottom up. This proposal did  
27 not come from the bottom up. It came from the Staff  
28 Committee and that's the wrong place for it to be coming  
29 from in my opinion.

30

31

Mr. Adams.

32

33

MR. ADAMS: I agree with everything you  
34 said there, Mr. Littlefield, but I think out of a matter  
35 of courtesy it would be in the best interest of  
36 communities to involve all of the people that have a  
37 direct effect on whatever proposals or issues might be  
38 taken before them. Like I said, in Yakutat, the Forest  
39 Service and the State and the Tribe have always worked  
40 pretty closely together in issues that pertain to the  
41 community as a whole. I think that's as a matter of  
42 courtesy as well. They didn't have to do it. But we  
43 have that relationship where it's really helped the  
44 community a lot.

45

46

Thank you.

47

48

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council  
49 that would like to make their point clear on that.

50

00408

1 Ms. Phillips.

2

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Chairman Littlefield, I'd  
4 like to go on record saying I likely would have supported  
5 the modification had it gone through the regulatory  
6 review procedures.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Rudolph.

11

12 MS. RUDOLPH: I appreciate the work that  
13 was done with all the studies that was done before with  
14 the HIA. I just wish that modification had come before  
15 the Board so I think we would have went right along with  
16 supporting it. Once they find out how much work was done  
17 into it when our Natural Resource Director comes before  
18 the Board and if he has all the information and gives it  
19 all to the Board, I think we can move from that  
20 direction. Like when I spoke to the president, he told  
21 me that I couldn't agree, I had to go with the original  
22 proposal, so that's what I did. But I do appreciate a  
23 lot of the work that was done by everyone involved.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I think that point  
28 is made clear, that we support this. Is there any other  
29 Council that wants to make a comment. Mr. Douville and  
30 then Mr. Adams.

31

32 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
33 My comment would be that when this proposal was  
34 originally made by Dave Belton, it was focused as Mr.  
35 Kookesh mentioned, that it would reduce the amount of  
36 bird predation, which some of these people evidently  
37 value over marten. These marten were introduced species,  
38 as they were on Prince of Wales. On Prince of Wales,  
39 it's rare to see ptarmigan. When I was a young teenager,  
40 they were plentiful. So it does have its dark side and  
41 that's why I made my comments, why are these a unique  
42 species. I wasn't being smart with you, I just wondered  
43 why they seemed so special when they were introduced for  
44 one thing and then they have virtually wiped out other  
45 species. You know what I'm saying? So that's why I had  
46 that attitude.

47

48 That is my comment.

49

50 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams.

00409

1 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
2 just went over and asked Mr. See if the Hoonah  
3 Association had an MOU with the Forest Service and he  
4 thought that they did. If that's so, then that  
5 solidifies the cooperation between those two entities and  
6 they can bring the State in on that as well.

7  
8 So I just wanted to make that clear.

9  
10 Thank you.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any other Council.  
13 Shall we move on on this issue here. Ms. Rudolph, I'll  
14 let you finish up.

15  
16 MS. RUDOLPH: Mr. Chair, we do have an  
17 MOU with Forest Service and we have one with the Park  
18 Service.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All right. I  
21 think we're clear on that. We're on Page 3 of our agenda  
22 and we still have a ways to go. Number 11, call for  
23 proposals to change the Federal subsistence fisheries  
24 regulations. Bob Larson is presenting.

25  
26 (Pause)

27  
28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Larson, with  
29 your indulgence, we have some Federal Staff that need to  
30 leave and I would like to give them the opportunity to  
31 address the Council before that happens.

32  
33 Thank you, sir.

34  
35 MR. BALDWIN: Thank you, Mr. Chair and  
36 Council. My name is John Baldwin. I'm the district  
37 ranger at Hoonah. I haven't been there very long. The  
38 process here has been fascinating and I want to thank you  
39 for all being so civil, so educated, so patient. It's  
40 been a real eye-opener for me and I hope to participate  
41 in these in the future and hope to see you all as often  
42 as I can, particularly Mary and others as well. I look  
43 forward to working with Patty and the rest of you in the  
44 future.

45  
46 I just wanted to say thank you very much.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you for  
49 attending. It was good to see you here. Are there any  
50 Staff or Council that would like to address Mr. Baldwin.

00410

1 Ms. Rudolph.

2

3 MS. RUDOLPH: I just met Mr. Baldwin. I  
4 didn't know we had a new district ranger in Hoonah. I  
5 welcome you to Hoonah and hopefully we'll have a good  
6 working relationship with HIA.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 MR. BALDWIN: Ms. Rudolph, through the  
11 Chair, thank you very much. I really do look forward to  
12 it and I've been really pleased with the working  
13 relationship that's been started. The one person who  
14 really deserved an award today I might add was Mr. Chuck  
15 Parsley. From what I've seen, he's done an outstanding  
16 job and this entire process -- many thanks go to several  
17 people, but Chuck has been the one constant throughout  
18 this as far as I could see.

19

20 It was largely his drive that was the  
21 motivating factor behind much of this, so I would like to  
22 personally thank Mr. Parsley.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Mr.  
25 Baldwin. On behalf of the Regional Advisory Council, if  
26 you could also relay our thanks for the work that Mr.  
27 Parsley as well as Mr. Fadden did on this. It was an  
28 excellent presentation and as you heard, the Council is  
29 in support of that collaboration and we want it to  
30 continue.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 MR. BALDWIN: I would be delighted to do  
35 that for Chuck. And I appreciate that support from the  
36 Council as well.

37

38 Thank you.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you very  
41 much. A couple housekeeping things.

42

43 Dr. Schroeder.

44

45 DR. SCHROEDER: Council, I have two  
46 items. Earlier in the meeting on day one you passed a  
47 resolution now numbered SERAC 04-04 concerning Council  
48 correspondence. In the last couple of days this has been  
49 reviewed by Council Members and slightly modified, not in  
50 its intent, but just so it reads slightly better. I'd

00411

1 like to quickly read that into the record so that we have  
2 a good record of that.

3

4 Is that appropriate, Mr. Chair?

5

6 It's the intent of the Southeast Regional  
7 Advisory Council to continue to correspond in writing on  
8 issues concerning subsistence. The Council Charter and  
9 the Alaska National Interest Land Conservation Act direct  
10 us to protect subsistence. ANILCA Section 805(a) calls  
11 for the Regional Councils to, quote, initiate, review and  
12 evaluate proposals for regulations, policies, management  
13 plans and other matters relating to subsistence use.  
14 Councils are further directed to provide a needed forum  
15 whereby persons can express subsistence concerns within  
16 our region. This ANILCA responsibility distinguishes the  
17 Councils from other Federal Advisory Committees regulated  
18 by the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

19

20 In order for the Council to be effective  
21 and to follow the congressional direction in Title VIII  
22 of ANILCA, the Council needs to correspond by writing  
23 letters to communicate our intentions concerning  
24 subsistence uses. Specifically, the Council uses  
25 correspondence to gather information it needs to support  
26 the recommendations that it makes. It also undertakes  
27 correspondence to express its concerns on matters that  
28 relate to subsistence uses within the Southeast Region  
29 and to give voice to the subsistence concerns that are  
30 expressed by subsistence users and others at its biannual  
31 meetings.

32

33 The Council disagrees with the present  
34 Agency direction to curtail Council correspondence and to  
35 thus limit the Council's ability to fulfill its charter  
36 and statutory responsibilities. The recent action to  
37 restrict Council correspondence took place without  
38 consultation with the Council and is in conflict with our  
39 mandate.

40

41 The Council continues to be willing to  
42 coordinate correspondence with the Federal Subsistence  
43 Board and appropriate staff as needed to ensure clear  
44 communication. However, this coordination may not have  
45 the effect of curtailing necessary Council communication.  
46 We request that the Office of Subsistence Management  
47 provide any Title VIII materials that may support its  
48 direction to restrict Council correspondence.

49

50 Finally, we request direct communication

00412

1 with the Federal Subsistence Board Chair as well as with  
2 Agency Staff developing this policy. So this language  
3 would substitute for the previous language for the  
4 resolution concerning Council correspondence.

5  
6 Is there any discussion, Mr. Chair.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: This particular  
9 resolution 04-04 has been reviewed by the secretary, vice  
10 chairman and myself and it was re-written with the help  
11 of those two individuals as well as Staff so that it more  
12 clearly grasps what our abilities under ANILCA are and it  
13 just makes it a little bit more clear and I think that  
14 the way to do this, the way to handle this would be to  
15 move to reconsider our action on 04-04, which would put  
16 that back before us as if it had not been accepted and  
17 then someone can make a motion to substitute this  
18 language for that motion and then we could approve that.  
19 Because I think this goes a long ways towards capturing  
20 all the key points that we need to make, so that would be  
21 my recommendation, that we move to reconsider 04-04.

22  
23 Mr. Jordan.

24  
25 MR. JORDAN: So move.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there a second.

28  
29 DR. SCHROEDER: Second it.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's been moved to  
32 reconsider SERAC Proposal 04-04. Is there any discussion  
33 on that.

34  
35 (No comments)

36  
37 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All those in favor  
38 of reconsidering 04-04, please signify by saying aye.

39  
40 IN UNISON: Aye.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Those opposed same  
43 sign.

44  
45 (No opposing votes)

46  
47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: SERAC 04-04  
48 concerning Council correspondence is before you at this  
49 time for discussion.

50

00413

1 Ms. Phillips.

2

3 MS. PHILLIPS: Chairman Littlefield, I  
4 move to substitute language in 2004-04 with the document  
5 you've revised.

6

7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there a second.

8

9 MR. KOOKESH: Second.

10

11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's been moved  
12 and seconded to amend the motion to substitute the  
13 language that was read into the record by Dr. Schroeder  
14 for SERAC 04-04. Any discussion on that.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are you ready for  
19 the question. All those in favor of offering substitute  
20 language for SERAC 04-04 to the last read correspondence  
21 please signify by saying aye.

22

23 IN UNISON: Aye.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Those opposed same  
26 sign.

27

28 (No opposing votes)

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. The motion  
31 before the Council is the substituted language SERAC 04-  
32 04. Is there any discussion.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All those in favor  
37 please signify by saying aye.

38

39 IN UNISON: Aye.

40

41 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Those opposed same  
42 sign.

43

44 (No opposing votes)

45

46 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Hearing none, the  
47 substitute language is accepted for SERAC 04-04. Dr.  
48 Schroeder, I would like to make sure that we get a copy  
49 of this to all the Councils so they can have a look at  
50 it. We still have a few minutes to look at that, but I

00414

1 believe it certainly would capture what we would like to  
2 do.

3

4 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chair, I have another  
5 item relating to Council resolutions. On Thursday we had  
6 extensive discussion concerning the formation of a  
7 subcommittee which would consider deer management  
8 cooperative planning for Prince of Wales Island. Since  
9 that time I was able to look through the FACA  
10 requirements for establishing a subcommittee.

11

12 I'll read the section that's relevant  
13 here. This is under 41 CFR 102-3.35, what policies  
14 govern the use of subcommittees. The important section  
15 there is part (b). It's very simple. The creation and  
16 operation of subcommittees must be approved by the agency  
17 establishing the parent advisory committee.

18

19 I would like simply to clarify that it's  
20 the intention of the Council to request that approval  
21 from the agency that established the Southeast Regional  
22 Advisory Council and see if you're directing Staff to  
23 proceed with that step at this point.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We need a motion  
26 to that effect. Mr. Hernandez.

27

28 MR. HERNANDEZ: I'll make a motion to  
29 that effect.

30

31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We have a motion  
32 to that effect. And the effect of that is, Dr.  
33 Schroeder.

34

35 DR. SCHROEDER: just to have that motion  
36 be a little more clean, what we're talking about is that  
37 we asked for the approval of the formation of a  
38 subcommittee to deal with cooperative deer management  
39 planning for Prince of Wales Island and this would be  
40 directed to the agency that formed us, which would be the  
41 Office of Subsistence Management as the delegated group  
42 from the Department of Interior.

43

44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I disagree. OSM  
45 did not form us. That needs to be directed to the Chair.  
46 Legal counsel.

47

48 MR. USTASIEWSKI: Mr. Chair, Jim  
49 Ustasiewski, Office of the General Counsel. Mr. Bill  
50 Thomas's word to us was always to look to see what Title

00415

1 VIII said and Section 805(a) states that the Secretary in  
2 consultation with the State shall establish a Regional  
3 Advisory Council, so it's the Secretaries of both the  
4 Interior Department and the Agriculture Department that  
5 established the Council.

6

7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That's correct and  
8 our charter tells us that we report to the Chair of the  
9 Federal Subsistence Board as the representative of the  
10 Secretary of Interior and Agriculture. Is the Council  
11 clear who we're going to send this motion to? This is  
12 going to be directed to the Chair. Is the Council clear  
13 on what the effect of the motion is or do we have to read  
14 it again?

15

16 Mr. Jordan.

17

18 MR. JORDAN: Mr. Chair, my understanding  
19 was that we were going to send it to the Chair and we're  
20 going to copy all the other Regional Councils.

21

22 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That's my  
23 understanding. Dr. Garza.

24

25 DR. GARZA: I better stop weaving and  
26 start listening. I thought that the one we're going to  
27 send to the other Councils was the one we just dealt with  
28 regarding correspondence and that we were now onto the  
29 Prince of Wales U-2 subcommittee, which doesn't really  
30 need to go to the rest of the regions. However, when we  
31 get back to the U-2 subcommittee, I have an amendment.

32

33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: What's the  
34 Council's wishes? Are we sending this to the Chairs or  
35 not? This is the U-2 request. It is not going to be  
36 going to the other Councils. Does everybody understand  
37 where we are here?

38

39 Dr. Garza.

40

41 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Hernandez  
42 brought forward a motion to send the request for the U-2  
43 subcommittee to go through the proper channels for  
44 approval. It's my understanding that is what is on the  
45 floor to us. I don't personally care if it goes to Mitch  
46 Demientieff or the Secretary of Interior, just as long as  
47 whoever is supposed to approve it approves it. I do,  
48 however, have an amendment to it.

49

50 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

00416

1 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, per discussion  
2 with Board Member Edwards from Federal Subsistence Board,  
3 I would move that we amend this request to include  
4 adequate administrative support.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there a second.

7  
8 MR. HERNANDEZ: Second.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's been moved  
11 and seconded to add an amendment to request adequate  
12 administrative support. Is there any discussion.

13  
14 (No comments)

15  
16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All those in favor  
17 of the motion to request adequate administrative support,  
18 please signify by saying aye.

19  
20 IN UNISON: Aye.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The motion is  
23 amended and the main motion is before you at this time.  
24 Is there any further discussion.

25  
26 (No comments)

27  
28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All those in favor  
29 of the motion to -- would you read this into the record.

30  
31 DR. SCHROEDER: I'm not sure we have very  
32 good wording right at this moment for this motion. The  
33 intention is that we gain approval for establishment of a  
34 subcommittee to proceed with cooperative deer management  
35 planning for Prince of Wales as a subcommittee.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is that clear to  
38 the Council what we're voting on and it has been amended?

39  
40 Dr. Garza.

41  
42 DR. GARZA: And I am assuming, I hope  
43 properly, Mr. Chair, that that request includes the  
44 complete request that that subcommittee be made up of the  
45 seven members that we recommended and that's all part of  
46 the package.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That's my  
49 understanding, that it's just a continuation that's an  
50 add-on to that original resolution.

00417

1 DR. SCHROEDER: My intention in bringing  
2 this up was just to be very clear that we proceed with  
3 this step rather than have a resolution that doesn't call  
4 for a specific action. So this is calling for a specific  
5 action of requesting this approval.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All those in favor  
8 please signify by saying aye.

9  
10 IN UNISON: Aye.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All those opposed  
13 same sign.

14  
15 (No opposing votes)

16  
17 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That intent is  
18 going to be transmitted to the proper procedure. And it  
19 is an amendment to our original resolution.

20  
21 I am going to take five minutes and we're  
22 going to come back with Mr. Larson and then Dr. Garza can  
23 chair the meeting at that time.

24  
25 (Off record)

26  
27 (On record)

28  
29 DR. GARZA: I'll call the meeting back to  
30 order and get rolling. Personally, I don't care because  
31 I'm here until tomorrow but I'll be considerate.

32  
33 We are going to go off agenda, Bob  
34 Larson, you might as well sit in the back for a little  
35 bit and we're going to start with Mike Turek.

36  
37 (Laughter)

38  
39 DR. GARZA: Bob Larson, we only want to  
40 hear from you after you know what's going on with  
41 herring.

42  
43 (Laughter)

44  
45 DR. GARZA: Mr. Turek.

46  
47 MR. TUREK: Chair. Council. I'm Mike  
48 Turek with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game,  
49 Division of Subsistence. I'll be very brief. I handed  
50 out status reports for several FIS projects that we're

00418

1 working on. It should be right there Dolly.

2

3

4 So that's the status of the Kake and  
5 Klawock sockeye projects. Those reports have been  
6 completed and they're in draft right now and another  
7 version is being worked on right now. I gave you  
8 executive summaries of those reports.

8

9

10 And then I gave you a brief bit of  
11 information on the sockeye, some sockeye field work I'll  
12 be doing starting the end and next month, that project.  
13 I should have a draft report ready for the next Regional  
14 Advisory Council meeting in October on that.

14

15 And the Wrangell project, we're working  
16 on the draft final report right now, and I should have  
17 something for you on that also in October.

18

19

20 What I'd like to do at that October  
21 meeting in Juneau is have a little more time than I have  
22 in the past to actually present the Kake and Klawock and  
23 probably the POW steelhead reports presentations to you  
24 at that time. I have copies with me on CD of the of the  
25 Kake and Klawock draft reports if anybody would like  
26 that. I have two copies of that. I can give one to you,  
27 Dolly, with the complete reports. And Mike, I think  
28 you've gotten the complete paper report of the Kake  
29 report last fall, I think -- not Kake, but the Klawock  
30 report.

30

31

32 So I just kind of wanted to update you on  
33 our projects and request a little more time in October in  
34 Juneau to do a presentation on three of these reports.

34

35

36 If you have any questions, I'm available  
37 to answer questions for you.

37

38

39 DR. GARZA: It's my understanding that  
40 more complete reports will be made at the October meeting  
41 in Juneau, so for those of you who are new, and we're  
42 running out of time, so I'd ask that you just kind of  
43 stay in the dark until October and we'll be fine

43

44

(Laughter)

45

46

47 DR. GARZA: Okay. So I think you're  
48 good. So thank you, Mr. Turek.

48

49

50 MR. TUREK: Thank you. And just enjoyed  
being with you again and look forward to seeing you in

00419

1 Juneau in October and if anybody has any questions you  
2 can contact me at the office.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 DR. GARZA: Just as a final comment, I  
7 have continued correspondence running into the guys from  
8 Klawock and they're really happy to be working on this  
9 project.

10

11 MR. TUREK: Good.

12

13 DR. GARZA: Dan LaPlant.

14

15 MR. LAPLANT: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
16 I've got a few different spots here identified on your  
17 agenda, I'm assuming you want me to go through those at  
18 this time.

19

20 There's one item on here on the briefing  
21 on Draft Predator Management Policy. And there's a  
22 briefing for you on Page 145 of your book.

23

24 This Draft Predator Management Policy was  
25 before the Council at your fall meeting and there was a  
26 more detailed analysis that went along with it. And the  
27 Draft Policy, to give you a little background on this,  
28 the Federal Subsistence Board had asked the OSM Staff to  
29 develop a Draft Policy on predator management, this is  
30 well over a year ago. The Staff developed that analysis  
31 that you saw in the fall and the Draft Policy.

32

33 The Policy basically identifies the need  
34 for the Board to differentiate between proposals that  
35 come before them for the adjustments of seasons on  
36 predators for the subsistence take and use of predators  
37 for personal and family consumption as compared to  
38 requests that come to the Board for predator control, the  
39 reduction in population of one species to benefit the  
40 population of another species. When the Environmental  
41 Impact Statement for the program was approved by the  
42 Secretary back in 1992, predator control was identified  
43 as a responsibility that would be left with the  
44 individual land managers and not responsibility given to  
45 the Federal Subsistence Board.

46

47 It's kind of put in the same category as  
48 habitat management. And the reason for that is, you  
49 know, each individual Federal land management category  
50 has different responsibilities, different mandates as far

00420

1 as management. For example, the Park Service has a  
2 mandate for managing for natural and healthy populations  
3 as compared to the Refuges and Forests that are managed  
4 for healthy populations. And there's some management  
5 techniques or some tools that would be used in predator  
6 control that wouldn't be applicable on some lands.  
7 Helicopter use, chasing predators with snowmachines or  
8 sameday airborne shooting and so forth. So predator  
9 control has been identified by the Secretary to remain as  
10 a responsibility of the individual land management  
11 agencies.

12

13 So the Draft Predator Management Policy  
14 that was developed for the Board to consider adopting  
15 identifies that and that policy is on Page 146. A  
16 similar policy was presented to you last fall. And  
17 basically at that time had paragraphs A and B that are on  
18 that page and the new information is paragraph C. So  
19 what the Draft Policy says is that when the Board  
20 receives proposals to adjust the seasons, harvest limits,  
21 bag limits, methods and means for harvesting predator  
22 species for the subsistence they'll consider those  
23 proposals just like they will any other proposals. But  
24 when they receive a proposal that specifically says the  
25 reason for this proposal is predator control then it's  
26 the policy of the Board to have the Staff, the OSM Staff  
27 when they receive that proposal to return it to the  
28 proponent, explain that it's not within the Board's  
29 authority and guide them to the proper Federal land  
30 manager and also the Board of Game that has jurisdiction  
31 for predator control.

32

33 That was presented to the Councils last  
34 fall and when it was forwarded to the Board at their  
35 December meeting, it was brought to the Board's attention  
36 by Council members, Council Chairs, Mr. Littlefield, in  
37 particular and as well as the Southcentral Council Chair,  
38 that by doing this these proposals would kind of bypass  
39 the Councils and kind of leave the Councils out of the  
40 loop. It would prevent the Councils from being informed  
41 of concerns from the local subsistence users and that the  
42 policy needed to be modified to address that concern.

43

44 So what we've done is we've gone back and  
45 modified the policy, the Draft Policy, and added  
46 paragraph C. So paragraph C on the bottom says that the  
47 Board will ensure that appropriate Regional Councils are  
48 informed of predator control proposals by having them  
49 printed in the proposal booklet and presented to the  
50 Councils at the next appropriate Council meeting, along

00421

1 with other rejected proposals that address concerns which  
2 are outside of the Federal Subsistence Board. So if the  
3 Board adopts this policy, and it will be brought to them,  
4 again, at their next meeting in May with Council  
5 comments, it's been presented again to all the Council  
6 during this round of meetings. If that is adopted, then  
7 in the future when the proposal book comes out each year,  
8 those proposals that are outside the Board's authority  
9 will be printed in this book and identified as such. You  
10 know, these proposals have been rejected for these  
11 reasons.

12

13 So, Mr. Chairman, that's where we are  
14 with this Draft Predator Management Policy as this time.

15

16 Thank you.

17

18 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. LaPlant. Can  
19 you turn off your mike. I could have done that, sorry.

20

21 And so we need to review what is on Page  
22 146 of this document and it sounds like the Federal  
23 Subsistence Board is seeking comments from all of the  
24 Regional Councils. They'll probably go ahead with it  
25 anyway but we might want to, at least, say we support it,  
26 don't support it or appreciate the modification that they  
27 made in Section C to at least make us aware of what's  
28 going on with the predator control.

29

30 MR. LAPLANT: Yes, Madame Chair, that's  
31 correct. The only difference from what you saw at your  
32 fall meeting is that paragraph C.

33

34 DR. GARZA: Mr. Kitka.

35

36 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Madame Chairman.  
37 I was just looking under C, I believe it was, where it  
38 says Regional Councils will be informed, does that mean  
39 that we will not be able to make any changes or add  
40 anything to this? It just says that we will be informed.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 MR. LAPLANT: Yes, Mr. Kitka, through the  
45 Chair. The rejected proposals will be printed in this  
46 booklet and you will be informed of them as the Council  
47 meets at their next meeting. And one of the things that  
48 the Council can do with that information then is address  
49 it in your annual report. Later on in the meeting here  
50 it's one of the upcoming agenda items, is to identify

00422

1 them through your annual report.

2

3

4 If there are concerns that the Council  
5 has that are outside of the Board's jurisdiction but  
6 within the jurisdiction of the individual land management  
7 agencies, usually that's where those are addressed. So  
8 you can express your concerns whether you agree or  
9 disagree with that issue in your annual report.

9

10 That's one way you can do it. The other  
11 way is to go directly to the individual, you know, Forest  
12 supervisor or whatever, whatever land manager is and  
13 address the concern that way.

14

15 DR. GARZA: Any other questions. Is  
16 there a motion to accept what's on Page 146.

17

18 Mr. Douville.

19

20 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Chairman. I  
21 move to adopt the wording on Page 146 to accept.

22

23 MR. KOOKESH: Second.

24

25 DR. GARZA: It's been moved and seconded  
26 by Mr. Douville and Mr. Kookesh to accept the language on  
27 Page 146, the new language is that the Regional Councils  
28 will be informed of any efforts along these lines that  
29 are relative to their area.

30

31 Further discussion.

32

33 Mr. Douville.

34

35 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Madame  
36 Chairman. I would certainly be appreciative of any  
37 proposals concerning predator control in my area. I  
38 would want to be involved and I think it'd be good  
39 vehicle to do so with and I speak for the motion.

40

41 DR. GARZA: Further discussion.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 DR. GARZA: Is there a call for the  
46 question.

47

48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Question.

49

50 DR. GARZA: Question has been called.

00423

1 All in favor of the motion, the motion to accept the  
2 language on Page 146 regarding predator control, the new  
3 language is providing information on any proposals on  
4 predator control relative to Regional Council that will  
5 be provided to them, that's the intent of the new  
6 language. All in favor of the motion, signify by saying  
7 aye.

8

9 IN UNISON: Aye.

10

11 DR. GARZA: Opposed.

12

13 (No opposing votes)

14

15 DR. GARZA: Unanimously passes. Any  
16 other comments.

17

18 MR. LAPLANT: Thank you, Madame Chair. I  
19 have a couple other items on the agenda if I could go  
20 through those at this time.

21

22 DR. GARZA: Go ahead.

23

24 MR. LAPLANT: The next item, it's  
25 actually listed on your agenda to be addressed by Pete  
26 Probasco, but Pete was unable to make it to the meeting  
27 today. And that item is the status of the Governor's  
28 request.

29

30 A letter was handed out earlier in the  
31 meeting from the Secretary of Interior to Governor  
32 Murkowski. Hopefully you have that someplace in your  
33 pile of papers, I think it was handed out yesterday or  
34 late on Wednesday. It's just a one page letter. It's  
35 from the Secretary of Interior.

36

37 A little background on this. The  
38 Secretary received a request from the Governor, I believe  
39 the date on that letter was July 17th asking that the  
40 Secretary appoint a State of Alaska representative to  
41 serve as a non-voting member on the Federal Subsistence  
42 Board and with that request the Secretary asked the  
43 Federal Subsistence Board to make a recommendation as to  
44 how to respond. The Federal Board held a public hearing  
45 on that issue in early November, I believe it may have  
46 been November 5th, and they took public testimony on that  
47 and sent a recommendation off to the Secretary. The  
48 Secretary's response came in this letter, we received it  
49 February 24th, you can see the date of that letter.

50

00424

1                   The meat of the letter here, I'm not  
2 going to read it into the record, it's available for you,  
3 but the meat of the letter is the last sentence there in  
4 the first paragraph, where she says I would be pleased to  
5 receive the name of the nominee to the State liaison to  
6 the Board. So again to emphasize that what was requested  
7 was a non-voting member to the Board and what she has  
8 responded to was to accept a nomination for a State  
9 liaison to the Board. And then she goes on in the letter  
10 to state that this would be consistent with the decision  
11 that was made by the Secretary in the Record of Decision  
12 when the program was first established in the  
13 Environmental Impact Statement, the 1992 document that I  
14 referred to earlier. And that document refers to a State  
15 liaison along with 10 Regional Advisory Council, the RAC  
16 Chair liaisons to the Federal Subsistence Board.

17  
18                   And so this is the response and I don't  
19 believe we've heard from the Governor's office on this  
20 yet, but this is the status we're in now.

21  
22                   If you also look on the back page, the  
23 third paragraph from the bottom, she says that although  
24 the State has the ability to propose a formal rulemaking  
25 to establish a non-voting seat on the Board, we're  
26 optimistic that this approach will provide the same  
27 benefits.

28  
29                   So Madame Chair, that's the response from  
30 the Secretary.

31  
32                   DR. GARZA: Anything else.

33  
34                   MR. LAPLANT: Yes, Madame Chair, one  
35 other item on the agenda is the update on the Safari Club  
36 Litigation.

37  
38                   DR. GARZA: Go ahead.

39  
40                   MR. LAPLANT: That briefing is on Page  
41 150 and 151 of your book.

42  
43                   And briefly, the U.S. District Court on  
44 January 16th, Judge Russell Holland ruled that the Safari  
45 Club International did not have standing to move forward  
46 with a broad legal challenge to the Federal Subsistence  
47 Board. The Judge's decision is largely favorable to the  
48 program as this briefing says. However, the Judge did  
49 find that the Federal Subsistence Board did follow the  
50 Administrative Procedures Act when implementing changes

00425

1 to the composition of the Regional Council, the 70/30  
2 rule. So that was the decision of the Judge.

3

4 This has been a legal issue, a lawsuit  
5 that the Office of Subsistence Management has been  
6 dealing with for quite a while and we have provided the  
7 plaintiff with reams of documents of Board action since  
8 the beginning of the program so this was a long awaited  
9 decision and again it was generally favorable to the  
10 Federal Program, with the exception that the 70/50 rule  
11 [sic] on Council composition -- 70/30, excuse me, my math  
12 is off there, 70/30 was not implemented through the  
13 benefit of the Administrative Procedures Act. So shortly  
14 after that the Federal Board met and decided to proceed  
15 with the rulemaking procedure to implement the 70/30 rule  
16 as recommended by the Judge.

17

18 The next steps here on Page 151 and I'll  
19 just go through those. It says the ruling by the  
20 District Court looks forward rather than backwards,  
21 therefore, appointments made to the Council this year  
22 will not be rescinded, they will be left in place, the  
23 process for requesting and reviewing applicants for  
24 appointments for 2005 will proceed as planned. The  
25 Court's ruling only prohibits the Secretaries from basing  
26 Council appointments on the 70/30 policy, however,  
27 appointments from all consumptive interests will continue  
28 to be considered. So all those who have applied will be  
29 considered.

30

31 The Court's ruling recognized that the  
32 critical importance of the Regional Councils and their  
33 role in providing recommendations to the Federal  
34 Subsistence Board regarding fish and wildlife management  
35 on Federal public lands, the Court decided against  
36 interfering in any way with this ongoing management  
37 pending the Court's requirement to initiate the  
38 rulemaking process regarding the Council membership  
39 composition.

40

41 The Federal Subsistence Board will  
42 initiate a rulemaking process immediately as directed by  
43 the Court. The Proposed Rule will be based on the 70/30  
44 policy language that is currently in the Regional  
45 Advisory Council Charters, so we're moving with that  
46 earlier decision by the Board. This language has the  
47 goal that 70 percent of the members of the Council will  
48 represent subsistence interests and 30 percent shall  
49 represent sport and commercial interests. The Proposed  
50 Rule will be published this spring followed by a public

00426

1 comment period and the Final Rule will be published later  
2 in the fall. And as of our Monday Staff meeting was told  
3 that that rule, that Proposed Rule was in the Secretary's  
4 office and it should be sent over for publication in the  
5 Federal Register at any time so it may have actually  
6 occurred later on this week. So it should be showing up  
7 shortly.

8

9 This rulemaking process will be completed  
10 prior to the Secretary's appointments for the 2005  
11 Decisions.

12

13 As a Council, you may provide comment to  
14 the Board on the 70/30 concept during this meeting and  
15 you may also comment as private citizens during the  
16 comment period after the Proposed Rule is published, and  
17 like I said that my have happened already but we will  
18 ensure that all Council members are provided a copy of  
19 the Proposed Rule as soon as it's available so you can  
20 expect copies in the mail shortly.

21

22 Madame Chair.

23

24 DR. GARZA: I would also hope that it's  
25 possible to receive that electronically so it may come in  
26 a more timely manner.

27

28 MR. LAPLANT: Madame Chair, when I left  
29 the office on Monday, the last word I heard was that the  
30 Judge in the issue of, I guess, I don't know how to  
31 phrase this, the BIA Trust Case, ruled that the Fish and  
32 Wildlife Service be disconnected from email and internet  
33 so we no longer have that service available to us and it  
34 might be quite awhile before it is available. So we're  
35 kind of where we just have to use regular mail or fax.

36

37 DR. GARZA: So if any of the Council  
38 members or public at large has a private email and knows  
39 when this is coming out, if they could forward it to  
40 whoever so it could start getting out there because  
41 generally it does get out fairly quickly through email  
42 process.

43

44 Mr. Schroeder.

45

46 DR. SCHROEDER: Through the Chair, Dr.  
47 Garza, I'll make sure that that happens with Council  
48 members and I note that I think almost all Council  
49 members are attached to email and haven't been  
50 disconnected by the Department of Justice, as of yet.

00427

1 (Laughter)

2

3 DR. GARZA: Okay. So I don't know if the  
4 Council wishes to make any statement regarding the 70/30  
5 split at this time or if they would like to individual  
6 once they see the Federal Register.

7

8 The one concern that I had when this came  
9 about, I mean there are many concerns I had, but I was  
10 very disappointed that that 30 percent does not include  
11 non-consumptive users, so there's no space for our raging  
12 left environmentalists to have a place at this Council.  
13 And while I may not always agree with them, I think it's  
14 very unfortunate that their voice is not here.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Madame  
17 Chair. The Council has taken a position on this several  
18 times in the past and I'm comfortable with that position.  
19 That we felt this Council was well representative of all  
20 of the interests. You heard, when people introduced  
21 themselves, they've got guiding licenses, charter  
22 licenses, commercial permits, and we felt that there was  
23 no need for that, not that we never wanted to exclude  
24 those interests but we felt that this Council was  
25 sufficiently broad to represent those. So I still  
26 support our previous position and that would be my wish  
27 that we do so.

28

29 Dr. Schroeder, I believe, has a copy of  
30 our previous letter.

31

32 DR. GARZA: Mr. Jordan.

33

34 MR. JORDAN: Well, I don't know how it  
35 happened and, of course, I'm on here as a commercial  
36 fisherman, but in due honesty I must confess that I was  
37 on the Alaska Conservation Society Board before it  
38 disbanded. I helped found SEAC. I was on the Sitka  
39 Conservation Society Board for 20 years. And I worked  
40 for the Alaska Marine Conservation Council for five  
41 years. So it's a good thing we don't have any official  
42 environmental representatives here.

43

44 (Laughter)

45

46 DR. GARZA: Two minute at ease.

47

48 (Off record)

49

50 (On record)

00428

1 DR. GARZA: We are back in session. It's  
2 my understanding that we had previous correspondence  
3 regarding the 70/30 split and until we hear otherwise  
4 that position still stands.

5  
6 It is in my discretion as acting Chair to  
7 request an audioconference regarding the 70/30 split once  
8 we are aware that the language is in the Federal register  
9 so we have the opportunity as a Council to read it and  
10 make any further comment at that time and so we will ask  
11 Dr. Schroeder to be able to set this up. Mr. Schroeder.

12  
13 DR. SCHROEDER: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
14 I'll definitely do that. And although it hasn't been our  
15 normal practice I believe that we can notice a  
16 teleconference such that you can meet as a Council and  
17 that will be something that I can investigate.

18  
19 DR. GARZA: If we need to meet a certain  
20 so many days in advance in requirements then this would  
21 be the official notice that we will have an  
22 audioconference in the next two weeks regarding this  
23 matter, assuming that it will be out in the Federal  
24 Register by then.

25  
26 DR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair, I think  
27 that's a good point. We wouldn't have to wait until the  
28 Federal Register notice was out until we scheduled a  
29 teleconference, an official teleconference.

30  
31 DR. GARZA: Anything else?

32  
33 MR. LAPLANT: No, Madame Chair. Thank  
34 you, I'll take that message back to the Board. Thank  
35 you.

36  
37 DR. GARZA: Mr. Kessler, do you have any  
38 parting comments before you leave us. Following him,  
39 Carl, if you had any comments, it's our understanding  
40 you're leaving this afternoon, Carl Jack, if you had  
41 comments to follow Mr. Kessler.

42  
43 Go ahead.

44  
45 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Madame Chair and  
46 Council. It's been a wonderful meeting as usual. I've  
47 greatly enjoyed participating with you in this session.  
48 I hope that over the next few months that we make  
49 significant progress with the cooperative deer planning  
50 process and that the Board is willing to accept the

00429

1 direction that you've chosen to go in that area.

2

3 I'll be seeing you next year, or I mean  
4 next fall.....

5

6 (Laughter)

7

8 MR. KESSLER: .....I hope.

9

10 DR. GARZA: Thank you. Mr. Jack.

11

12 MR. JACK: Thank you, Madame Chair. I  
13 echo Mr. Kessler's comments as well as comments made by  
14 Mr. Edwards before he left yesterday about the  
15 thoroughness that the Council does in discussing the  
16 issues before you.

17

18 The Staff Committee is going to be taking  
19 the wildlife proposals in April, all of the proposals  
20 that will come up before the Federal Subsistence Board. I  
21 will certainly keep your actions in mind as the Inter-  
22 Agency Staff Committee for the Chair.

23

24 On the issue of Council correspondence  
25 and the actions you took on the subcommittee, I will be  
26 briefing Mr. Demientieff on Monday on these issues.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Carl. And it's  
31 good to have you here so that we do have someone from  
32 Inter-Agency Staff that understands our points on these  
33 proposals.

34

35 I'm not going to sit next to John around  
36 anymore, he really bosses me around.

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 DR. GARZA: It's my understanding that we  
41 have additional information regarding WP04-22 on Page  
42 131, Mr. Ustasiewski, you're on board.

43

44 MR. ADAMS: Madame Chair, now you know  
45 how I feel sitting beside this guy.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 DR. GARZA: Nobody likes sitting next to  
50 Floyd.

00430

1 (Laughter)

2

3 MR. USTASIEWSKI: Madame Chair, Jim  
4 Ustasiewski, Office of the General Council. Could we  
5 have a moment, please, the Forest Service.

6

7 DR. GARZA: Yes.

8

9 (Pause)

10

11 DR. GARZA: Back in order, Mr. U -- I  
12 can't say it right now.

13

14 MR. USTASIEWSKI: Ustasiewski, I'm not  
15 sure I can say it right now.

16

17 DR. GARZA: Mr. Ustasiewski, go ahead.

18

19 MR. USTASIEWSKI: Madame Chair. I think  
20 the point of clarification about Request No. 22 concerned  
21 the fact that the Board's action -- or excuse me, the  
22 Council's action opened all of Chichagof Island to  
23 motorized use. I pointed the Council the existing  
24 regulation which currently prohibits motorized land  
25 vehicles on all of Chichagof Island, that's the current  
26 law, is no motorized use for marten anywhere on Chichagof  
27 Island. And the effect of the Board's proposal would be  
28 to open all of Chichagof Island, and I can see from  
29 nodding of some heads that that was the understanding of,  
30 at least, several of the Council members, maybe all of  
31 them.

32

33 I think what the Forest Service wanted to  
34 clarify perhaps was that the original proposal may not  
35 have asked for all of Chichagof Island.

36

37 (Pause)

38

39 MR. USTASIEWSKI: I, obviously, Madame  
40 Chair, don't know what the intent of the Hoonah Indian  
41 Association was in the original proposal, but I just  
42 wanted to clarify that there was this difference in what  
43 may have been the original intention.

44

45 DR. GARZA: Thank you. We're fortunate  
46 in that Mary Rudolph has a copy of the original proposal  
47 and it's No. 2, how should the new regulation read:

48

49 It says: On Chichagof Island, including  
50 the northeast Chichagof Controlled Use

00431

1 Area, you may use a motorized, land  
2 vehicle for the taking of marten, mink  
3 and weasel.

4  
5 So they did mean the entire island.

6  
7 MR. USTASIEWSKI: Thank you, Madame  
8 Chair, I stand corrected.

9  
10 DR. GARZA: Okay. If we can keep rolling  
11 along here. It's my understanding that we also have  
12 Council members that intend to leave on this flight so we  
13 do intend to finish on time, either that or I know that  
14 Floyd will willingly say another day with us.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Carol Goularte.

17  
18 MR. KOOKESH: Floyd who?

19  
20 (Laughter)

21  
22 DR. GARZA: Carol.

23  
24 MS. GOULARTE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman  
25 and Council. I wanted to take this opportunity to give  
26 you an update on the Shoreline Outfitter and Guide  
27 Environmental Impact Statement.

28  
29 If you recall in Hoonah we did a  
30 presentation on where we were at. And for those of you  
31 who are not aware or familiar with Shoreline Outfitter  
32 and Guide EIS, it encompasses Hoonah, Sitka, Admiralty  
33 and Juneau, and the boundaries of this document deal with  
34 one-half mile of the shoreline on Federal lands. So  
35 above mean high tide one-half mile in. And the document  
36 is going to give us an allocation for each area on how  
37 many outfitter and guide commercial permits we can  
38 allocate and it's based on a capacity analysis that the  
39 Forest Service did.

40  
41 Currently, right now, the Forest Service  
42 has selected a preferred Alternative 5, which would  
43 allocate up to 23 percent of the carrying capacity. And  
44 the Forest Service received about 150 comments from the  
45 public, Federal agencies and different interested parties  
46 and we compiled all the concerns and issues from the  
47 comments and we are addressing those issues and doing  
48 some modification to come up with a final decision, which  
49 is the Record of Decision.

50

00432

1                   The document is currently in internal  
2 review right now and then we hope to have our Record of  
3 Decision out late spring.

4  
5                   Any questions.

6  
7                   DR. GARZA: So the information on the  
8 back is also part of your presentation?

9  
10                  MS. GOULARTE: Yes, it is. It gives you  
11 some highlights of what the three issues are and what the  
12 numbers are in comparing alternatives, and it also gives  
13 you a map of the location of the enclaves and 15 percent  
14 area. The enclave would allow up to 70 people at one  
15 time in those areas. The other areas that don't have any  
16 enclaves identified you can have up to 21 people at one  
17 time. The allocations are going to be based on groups  
18 per day.

19  
20                  So if you take a look at the chart on the  
21 wall it gives you the groups per day, the capacity for  
22 that area.

23  
24                  DR. GARZA: So after this comes out from  
25 internal review, what will be the next step?

26  
27                  MS. GOULARTE: The next step would be the  
28 Record of Decision would be signed by the Forest  
29 Supervisor and that will go out to the public and the  
30 public will have an opportunity to appeal that decision  
31 if they don't think it's the proper decision.

32  
33                  DR. GARZA: During that time, once it  
34 comes out, is there like a 30 day, 60 day, 90 day, will  
35 that period be open when we meet again in October?

36  
37                  MS. GOULARTE: I'm drawing a blank right  
38 now, it's either 45 days or 90 days. Can anybody help me  
39 there?

40  
41                  (Pause)

42  
43                  DR. GARZA: Mr. Littlefield.

44  
45                  CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: In Hoonah we had  
46 asked to be sure that you would accept the Regional  
47 Advisory Council comments if you closed the period prior  
48 to our meeting, and hopefully we could have that  
49 assurance again if that were to happen, that the Regional  
50 Advisory Council would be allowed to take a position and

00433

1 it would be considered by the Forest Service.

2

3 MS. GOULARTE: The public comment period  
4 any comments from the public, that time period is now.  
5 After the Record of Decision is signed, that's our  
6 decision but then, of course, there's an appeal period.

7

8 DR. GARZA: So the time period is right  
9 now, once it goes through internal review and it comes  
10 back out then the only option there is an appeal, not a  
11 public comment period?

12

(Pause)

13

14 MS. GOULARTE: I was just chatting with  
15 my legal counsel here and we're both on the same page.

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 MS. GOULARTE: We've already gone through  
20 the public comment period with the draft. The draft came  
21 out in July of '02, and so we're working on the final  
22 decision, the Record of Decision and once that's signed  
23 then we have an appeal period, it's 45 days.

24

25 DR. GARZA: So basically we had the  
26 opportunity and we blew it.

27

28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It was already  
29 closed when we met in Hoonah.

30

31 MS. GOULARTE: I recall in Hoonah, the  
32 Council had talked about submitting a letter with your  
33 comments or recommendations and I don't believe we  
34 received that.

35

36 DR. GARZA: Thank you.

37

38 MS. GOULARTE: Thank you.

39

40 DR. GARZA: Well, Rob, I think we're  
41 ready unless you start up here and John nudges me and  
42 tells me someone -- oh, Doug Dobbins, are you leaving,  
43 too?

44

45 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: No.

46

47 DR. GARZA: Oh.

48

49 (Laughter)

50

00434

1 DR. GARZA: Mr. Larson. We want the  
2 herring report first.

3  
4 MR. LARSON: Madame Chair, the herring  
5 report is that we're not fishing today, might tomorrow.  
6 The roe percentages are increasing. The sample's up to  
7 12 percent, there's a fair body of fish, between Capvan  
8 and Kasian Islands. And that probably an announcement to  
9 the fleet as we speak kind of detailing all this  
10 information.

11  
12 DR. GARZA: Mr. Larson, go ahead.

13  
14 MR. LARSON: Madame Chair. If I could  
15 direct you to -- my name is Bob Larson, I work for the  
16 Forest Service in Petersburg. If I could direct you to a  
17 briefing document that I wrote earlier this spring  
18 entitled Subsistence Fishing Regulations and Permit  
19 System Review of the Southeast Alaska Area. I will be  
20 speaking from that document and I will be brief, I will  
21 not review the entire document.

22  
23 I would like to say that in 2003, the  
24 Staff and the Council reviewed the subsistence fishing  
25 program, and we found that the current Federal  
26 Subsistence Fishing Regulations are really not reflective  
27 of longstanding fishing practices and public expectations  
28 regarding the use of fishing permits.

29  
30 These discrepancies have highlighted the  
31 need for Council recommendations on the following issues.

32  
33 First there is no guidelines for limiting  
34 the fishing methods for chinook, sockeye, pink or chum  
35 salmon in Southeast Alaska other than what is provided  
36 under general methods and means.

37  
38 Second, the harvest limits for sockeye  
39 salmon are specified for only a very few specific systems  
40 with no harvest limits for chinook, pink or chum salmon.

41  
42 It's become obvious that what we have  
43 understood that State regulations somehow trump Federal  
44 regulations are not true. Federal Subsistence Fishing  
45 Regulations, we're talking about methods, seasons, closed  
46 waters and harvest limits are not dictated by State  
47 subsistence or personal use fishing permit conditions.

48  
49 With that in mind, during the October  
50 meeting in Hoonah, the Council appointed a subcommittee

00435

1 to do two things -- in Craig, excuse me. The Council  
2 appointed a subcommittee to do two things. First, to  
3 design a fishing permit conditions for 2004 to align  
4 regulations with expectations what has been common  
5 practice in the last -- since Federal takeover, or dual  
6 management, the other is to propose regulations that you,  
7 as a group, may or may not elect to propose to change  
8 these conditions at the October Board meeting next year.  
9

10 As I remind everybody, fishing proposals  
11 are due prior to March 26th of this year.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: And your  
14 recommendation.

15

16 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chairman. I recommend  
17 that we hear a report from the subcommittee and it would  
18 detail the nine proposals that we discussed.

19

20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Douville,  
21 would you like to start off.

22

23 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
24 We do have nine proposals that addressed items that Bob  
25 alluded to. And the committee did review them, and I  
26 believe that we should submit them as a RAC and I can  
27 read them off if that is your wish.

28

29 (Pause)

30

31 MR. DOUVILLE: Mr. Chairman, how would  
32 you like me to proceed with these, I have, I believe,  
33 nine of them, and I might make one other comment. If  
34 somebody does not agree with them, they go through a  
35 process where we can amend, reject or do whatever we want  
36 through due process.

37

38 DR. GARZA: So Mr. Douville, is it your  
39 intent that we include all nine of these as proposals  
40 from the Council for consideration at the next fisheries  
41 meeting?

42

43 MR. DOUVILLE: I move that we submit  
44 these nine proposals and if you wish I'll read them,  
45 however.....

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Second.

48

49 DR. GARZA: It has been moved and  
50 seconded by Mr. Douville and Mr. Littlefield that the

00436

1 Council submit as Council proposals the nine proposals  
2 before us developed by Mr. Larson and Mr. Casipit who is  
3 not able to be here. The understanding that this gets it  
4 in the book and it's not our endorsement, we will have  
5 ample opportunity to review them and make comment at our  
6 next Board meeting.

7

8 Is there any further discussion on  
9 submitting these proposals as Council proposals.

10

11 Mr. Adams.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Question.

14

15 MR. ADAMS: He beat me.

16

17 DR. GARZA: Question has been called.

18 All in favor of the motion of submitting these nine  
19 proposals as Council proposals developed by Mr. Larson  
20 and Mr. Casipit for consideration at our next meeting  
21 signify by saying aye.

22

23 IN UNISON: Aye.

24

25 DR. GARZA: Opposed.

26

27 (No opposing votes)

28

29 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Larson.

30 Anything else?

31

32 MR. LARSON: No, that's all. Thank you.

33

34 DR. GARZA: Motion passed.

35

36 (Pause)

37

38 DR. GARZA: Jim, do you have comments.

39

40 MR. CAPRA: Madame Chair, Council. I'm  
41 Jim Capra with the National Park Service, Glacier Bay  
42 National Park out of Yakutat.

43

44 I had one thing that's making its way  
45 around to you. In the course of the special -- the goat  
46 permits that were -- the three goat permits for Unit 4,  
47 the discussion came up that Glacier Bay was also a  
48 traditional area to harvest goats and goat hair for  
49 weaving. I know Mr. Littlefield was involved in the  
50 conversation and didn't get a satisfactory answer. One

00437

1 thing I can pass on, unfortunately I wasn't involved in  
2 the conversation but there is already a proposed  
3 regulation to allow that within the Park, the collection  
4 of goat hair. It's in the rulemaking process right now  
5 and I've handed all of you a draft -- or the draft that  
6 the Park has proposed.

7

8 DR. GARZA: And what are the next steps?

9

10 MR. CAPRA: It will go into the Federal  
11 Register sometime soon and the rulemaking should be over  
12 by the end of this summer is what we're hoping.

13

14 What the Park is proposing is to allow  
15 collection of goat hair in the Alpine areas or in the  
16 areas wherever the goats are within the Park, recognizing  
17 that collection of goat hair for weaving is a traditional  
18 practice and acceptable within the Park, which is not  
19 subject to the Title VIII regs and that goat hunting is  
20 not allowed.

21

22 For this year, if anybody wishes to,  
23 we're working on an educational permit with Wayne Howell,  
24 who is our cultural resource specialist to allow that for  
25 this year, if anybody desires to do it.

26

27 DR. GARZA: It's really nice to see a  
28 quick response from National Park Service.

29

30 Any questions of Mr. Capra.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 DR. GARZA: Thank you. Mr. Littlefield.

35

36 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Capra, I'd  
37 like to thank you as well as the Park Service and Mr.  
38 Summers for taking such quick action on this. This is,  
39 as you state yourself, a cultural practice and apparently  
40 it's been a long-term one and I'm glad that you're  
41 considering it. I would certainly speak in favor of it  
42 if it comes before us for an action item.

43

44 I think it's very good and thanks for  
45 taking this action.

46

47 DR. GARZA: We'd write a letter to  
48 support it but we can't.

49

50 Ms. Rudolph.

00438

1 MS. RUDOLPH: Yes, I'm really glad to see  
2 this come about because I was just talking about trying  
3 to tackle Glacier Bay on that issue because I talked to  
4 Teri about coming out and giving a class on -- giving our  
5 children a class on taking the goat hair and working with  
6 it.

7  
8 You beat me to the draw but I'm so happy  
9 and glad that this happened. Thank you so much.

10  
11 DR. GARZA: Enough accolades, we've got  
12 to move on or you guys will be here tomorrow.

13  
14 MR. CAPRA: Madame Chair, Council. I can  
15 also give a short summary of the projects that the  
16 Council has approved for the East Alsek River or I can do  
17 that at some later point during the fisheries proposals  
18 at the next meeting.

19  
20 DR. GARZA: What is the wish of the  
21 Council.

22  
23 (Laughter)

24  
25 DR. GARZA: Next meeting.

26  
27 MR. CAPRA: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
28 That's all I have and it's always a pleasure.

29  
30 DR. GARZA: We do have Council members  
31 that need to leave, how many are leaving?

32  
33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Who's leaving?

34  
35 DR. GARZA: Mike and Floyd.

36  
37 MR. SOFOULIS: Bye everybody.

38  
39 DR. GARZA: Welcome to the Council, see  
40 you at the next meeting.

41  
42 (Pause)

43  
44 DR. GARZA: So we now have people that  
45 are here for the night and they don't care how long we  
46 meet.

47  
48 (Laughter)

49  
50 DR. GARZA: Okay. Mr. Dobbins.

00439

1 MR. DOBBINS: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
2 Although you do have time, I know everybody's tired and  
3 I'm going to be brief.

4  
5 I just wanted to give you information  
6 that the Sitka Tribe has applied for a grant from the  
7 Fish and Wildlife Service. This was a national  
8 competition, it is called the Tribal Wildlife Grant. We  
9 were successful as one of the six tribes that are going  
10 to be awarded in state of Alaska. And what we were  
11 planning on doing, what we are going to do if we get the  
12 final word, we're hoping to have it signed off in early  
13 April, is to do eco-system research by using the otolith,  
14 which are the hearing organ for the fish, they're the ear  
15 bones, for both herring and sockeye. And so we are going  
16 to be working on the Sockeye Lake program, but expanding  
17 our research to do chemical analysis on the otoliths.

18  
19 I just came from the Raven Radio and did  
20 an hour program that will be aired on Sunday, if you're  
21 able to hear that or can get it on Internet, there'll be  
22 a lot more information there.

23  
24 Anybody that's interested, we will have a  
25 summary and an information sheet that's available if you  
26 want to contact me at the Sitka Tribe.

27  
28 So this is eco-system research and we're  
29 happy to give you the information that this is work that  
30 basically builds on the platform that we've been doing  
31 and that you have funded over the years.

32  
33 Thank you, very much.

34  
35 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Dobbins. It  
36 is good to see that part of what we've done, I think,  
37 through the Federal research money has led to capacity  
38 building. I mean that surely is what we want, and so I  
39 commend you on getting this grant, commend STA on getting  
40 one of these grants because they are a bit to come by and  
41 we look forward to the information that comes from it.

42  
43 Any other questions to Mr. Dobbins.

44  
45 Patricia.

46  
47 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chair Garza.  
48 What time on Sunday is the program?

49  
50 MR. DOBBINS: Does anybody know that,

00440

1 that's the Indigenous Radio, I think that's 4:00 o'clock  
2 in the afternoon. Jerry Hope's program.

3

4 MR. JORDAN: Yes, that's right, 4:00  
5 o'clock Sunday.

6

7 DR. GARZA: Any other comments or  
8 questions to Mr. Dobbins.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 DR. GARZA: Thank you.

13

14 MR. DOBBINS: Thank you.

15

16 DR. GARZA: Unless I've.....

17

18 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Annual report  
19 items, call for proposals.

20

21 (Pause)

22

23 DR. GARZA: Going back to Item 11, call  
24 for proposals to change Federal Subsistence Fishery  
25 Regulations. We did, by motion, support nine proposals  
26 that came from Rob Larson and Cal Casipit that were  
27 intended to clean up. And the question now is whether or  
28 not any Council members sees the need for any further  
29 Council proposals regarding fisheries, the deadline is  
30 something like March 24th or 26th. You certainly have  
31 time to submit them on your own or as a community or make  
32 that information available to people who may be  
33 interested in submitting them.

34

35 So this is an opportunity if you have  
36 something in mind to bring to the Council.

37

38 (Pause)

39

40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Madame Chair. I  
41 don't know if the Council wishes, but one of the things  
42 that I always thought cried out to me in the fishing  
43 regulations was the limits for trout, dolly varden, et  
44 cetera. When you look at them they're not enough for a  
45 family to -- or even hardly a person to eat much less a  
46 family, because we adopted the State regs and I don't  
47 know if the Council wishes, but I know of at least one  
48 person in Sitka who's been cited because they had like 10  
49 trout and they were only supposed to have two. So I  
50 think that it would be appropriate, sometime, to look at

00441

1 the limits on trout for subsistence use as opposed to  
2 State limits. Because the State limits are certainly not  
3 adequate for subsistence.

4

5 I don't know if the Council wants to  
6 generate that, I'd like to see that.

7

8 DR. GARZA: Unless, it's something you've  
9 got on the table. The deadline is March 26th at 5:00  
10 p.m., so it might be something that you would like to  
11 work on ANB or STA.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I'll submit one.

14

15 MR. DOUVILLE: You're going to write one.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I'll just write it  
18 for a placeholder.

19

20 MR. DOUVILLE: Well, send me a copy of  
21 it.

22

23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I'll send it out.

24

25 DR. GARZA: Mary.

26

27 MS. RUDOLPH: I would like to have a copy  
28 of that, too, Mr. Chair. Because I'm kind of -- I know  
29 of a family of three that went down for trout and the  
30 lady is a widow and she's taking care of her  
31 grandchildren and she got cited for getting more than she  
32 was supposed to. So I think it's something we need to  
33 look into to protect our subsistence users.

34

35 DR. GARZA: Mr. Littlefield.

36

37 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Madame Chair. Due  
38 to the lateness, I think I will, in consultation with  
39 Staff, make a stab at writing that proposal and I'll just  
40 go ahead and put it in under my name because we're not  
41 going to take action on it and that way we will have a  
42 placeholder to look at it at the next meeting because I  
43 think it's worthy of discussion.

44

45 Thank you.

46

47 MR. ADAMS: Madame Chair.

48

49 DR. GARZA: Mr. Adams.

50

00442

1 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Littlefield, will you  
2 make copies of your proposal available to the Council  
3 members?

4  
5 DR. GARZA: Yes, I'll tell him to.  
6

7 (Laughter)

8  
9 DR. GARZA: Okay, Item 12, annual report.  
10 Dr. Schroeder.

11  
12 DR. SCHROEDER: Mrs. Chairman -- or Ms.  
13 Chairman.....

14  
15 (Laughter)

16  
17 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's getting late.

18  
19 DR. SCHROEDER: It is getting to be a  
20 long day. What's my name?

21  
22 (Laughter)

23  
24 DR. SCHROEDER: It is time to put  
25 together our annual report. I did send things out to  
26 Council members concerning what we might do in the annual  
27 report. In past annual reports we basically put in items  
28 that aren't covered very well in the regulatory cycle and  
29 so this has been basically a -- in the past a mixed list  
30 of various items that are of concern to the Council.

31  
32 I think that that's a really good  
33 function of the annual report. And I think one thing  
34 that we should do is to gather up those items and to put  
35 those in our annual report.

36  
37 Our annual report also calls for  
38 something else, which hasn't been done on a regular basis  
39 by our Council, ANILCA directs Councils in annual reports  
40 to look at subsistence uses in their region and to  
41 comment on subsistence needs. And these are direct  
42 ANILCA wording. There was some interest among Council  
43 members beginning an approach wherein this Council would  
44 meet that request of ANILCA for the Council to look at  
45 subsistence uses and subsistence needs in the region.

46  
47 It's getting pretty late. We've been  
48 here for three days, a number of Council members are  
49 gone. It's basically up to you on whether you care to  
50 address the subsistence uses and needs issue.

00443

1                   What I suggested was that Council members  
2 simply talk about their region, the part of Southeast  
3 that they know well and to identify significant things  
4 related to subsistence uses and subsistence needs in the  
5 past year. Since this is new territory for all of us we  
6 don't have a fixed format for this.

7  
8                   What I think ANILCA envisioned was  
9 considering whether there was a particular problem or a  
10 particular success with some subsistence harvest in the  
11 area that Council members were familiar with.

12  
13                   So it's up to the Council how you wish to  
14 proceed on this.

15  
16                   We also, probably, can't defer this too  
17 long, I think I have a fairly short deadline to prepare  
18 the annual report to fit into the Federal process.

19  
20                   DR. GARZA: Mr. Jordan.

21  
22                   MR. JORDAN: Thank you, Chairman. Dr.  
23 Garza. I'm just thinking for myself, maybe some of the  
24 rest of you would like to comment. In my opening  
25 statement I brought up some things that were of concern  
26 from my perspective in the Sitka area, I'll refer you to  
27 the four H's. And I heard a lot of very significant  
28 comments from other Council members, so that's one place  
29 I might refer you.

30  
31                   DR. GARZA: One thing we have done in the  
32 past is set up an ad hoc committee to work with Mr.  
33 Schroeder on an annual report and the format would be  
34 that if you have concerns, that you forward them to Mr.  
35 Schroeder, preferably by email. They may be exactly the  
36 things you brought up in the introductory statements of  
37 concerns you have and that draft letter would go out to  
38 us and we would have the opportunity to comment on it and  
39 then get it back.

40  
41                   And so it's my understanding from Dr.  
42 Schroeder that we also need to, if we have not in the  
43 past, addressed subsistence needs and uses in our area.

44  
45                   So for me, I would certainly put down  
46 that Ketchikan has mega unmet subsistence needs since we  
47 have no subsistence at all, but that would give you an  
48 idea of what you might want to include.

49  
50                   DR. SCHROEDER: I think in paying some

00444

1 attention to subsistence uses and subsistence needs is  
2 particularly timing. You'll recall when we went through  
3 our training we spoke of the various protocols that were  
4 being developed with the State of Alaska and that the  
5 main effort at the present time at the request of State  
6 of Alaska is on developing subsistence use amounts. And  
7 so this is a thrust that's going on in State and Federal  
8 regulations at the Office of Subsistence Management  
9 level.

10

11 I sit on the group that's working on  
12 subsistence use amounts. It would be very useful, I  
13 think, for that group for Councils to address uses and  
14 needs issues, recognizing that since this is the first  
15 time that Council members would be specifically thinking  
16 of that, that we're probably going to be a bit imperfect  
17 in our approach this first time and that will set what we  
18 do next year and in subsequent years as we figure out a  
19 good way to address that ANILCA request.

20

21 DR. GARZA: So Dr. Schroeder, do you have  
22 a timeline on which you would like to get comments from  
23 us?

24

25 DR. SCHROEDER: Mrs. Chairman -- Dr.  
26 Garza. If Council members could get things to me within  
27 two weeks, that would be real useful, and that's also the  
28 timeline I get a transcript from Salena, in about 10 days  
29 or two weeks and so I can go through and -- I generally  
30 go through the introductory statements that Council  
31 members makes in which you base concerns for your area  
32 and see if those are annual report concerns, so that  
33 would be good timing for me, if we could do that in two  
34 weeks, the beginning of April.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 MR. STOKES: The 19th is today.

39

40 DR. SCHROEDER: If you could give me  
41 things within two weeks that would be good, so I think  
42 that's the 2nd.

43

44 DR. GARZA: Can you also make available  
45 copies of our last two letters -- annual reports so that  
46 the new members can get an idea of what we're looking at?

47

48 DR. SCHROEDER: Certainly. I circulated  
49 one or two of those around by email and I'll make sure  
50 you get copies of annual reports and the responses by the

00445

1 Federal Subsistence Board to our annual reports.

2

3

(Pause)

4

5 DR. GARZA: Okay, so moving right along.  
6 So one thing we want to add in there is the 14c community  
7 involvement in the RAC process. We want to make sure  
8 that that is in our annual report, so if you have  
9 concerns on that you might want to voice them right now  
10 so we can clarify that.

11

12

We're on Item 14c on Page 4.

13

14

Mr. Littlefield.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Several members  
17 had expressed, including myself, had expressed  
18 dissatisfaction with the amount of community involvement  
19 at these meetings and I think that they could be improved  
20 if we were allowed to communicate with them and get  
21 notice to them. I believe that's going to be worked on  
22 by Staff but I think we need to make sure that we notify  
23 everyone in the region, whether it be the Local Fish and  
24 Game Advisory Committees, make sure we copy them by name,  
25 there's not that many of them as well as organizations  
26 such as the Alaska Native Brotherhood, Tribal Councils,  
27 cities, others that are interested. In this case,  
28 certainly the city of Sitka is interested as well as  
29 Ketchikan and Juneau on rural determination, and they may  
30 wish to comment on it.

31

32

33 But we need to make sure that all of the  
34 players that we can possibly reach are at least notified  
35 of our meetings. We can't make them come here but we  
36 need to make sure that they're aware that these meetings  
37 and subjects are being discussed.

37

38

Madame Chair.

39

40

DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Littlefield.

41 Mr. Adams.

42

43 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Madame Chair. My  
44 Secretary, you know, unvolunteered himself, and so he's  
45 gone now and he left me a couple of notes here that I  
46 need to.....

47

48

(Laughter)

49

50

MR. ADAMS: .....so these are his

00446

1 comments, not mine, okay.

2

3 He says there is -- well, he says we  
4 often talk about communication being an issue yet in this  
5 very meeting the audience does not have enough of the  
6 material that the Council is being given. This needs to  
7 be addressed. All affected parties on proposals need to  
8 submit comments for the record and community workshops,  
9 examples of proposals and tribal feedback and so forth.

10

11 And in here he says, there is a  
12 recommendation that -- this is a recommendation that Bob,  
13 and I guess that means Dr. Schroeder, meet with all  
14 rangers and inform them of the process involved for  
15 proposals and community outreach. It is time for this to  
16 start.

17

18 And that is his comments, Madame  
19 Chairman. And there's another issue that he has here  
20 that I'll bring up later.

21

22 DR. GARZA: Another point that I would  
23 like to bring up in the annual report is the education to  
24 the general public of ANILCA, again, of what our  
25 requirements are as Council members of what we're able to  
26 do through proposal processes. Because it could -- will  
27 surely result in an increased understanding and hopefully  
28 will reduce our work load if proposals are coming to us  
29 that we really can't address or will not meet the  
30 criteria that we're looking at, then it's important that  
31 the public know that those are things that we can or  
32 cannot do.

33

34 So I think that providing information to  
35 the public is really going to be important in the next  
36 couple years.

37

38 Mr. Bangs.

39

40 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Madame Chair. I  
41 touched on it a little bit earlier in the meeting that I  
42 really feel strongly about the need to bring younger  
43 people into the program as far as education parts of it.  
44 And some of the presentations that we've seen on  
45 historical culture in different regions, I think it would  
46 be really helpful to be able to get a hold of that  
47 material.

48

49 And I know that the State has brought  
50 their libraries together and you can easily access

00447

1 material through the libraries from other libraries and I  
2 would really like to see some of that material available  
3 at a local library so that it could be accessed in other  
4 parts of the state. I think it's critical if we're going  
5 to keep -- I know the tribal governments are trying  
6 really hard to keep their youth involved, but, I know  
7 there's other communities in outlying areas that don't  
8 have that opportunity. So in order to educate them I  
9 just think that that might be one vehicle and I know I'm  
10 going to try to make some of the information more  
11 available in our community because I think it's real  
12 important to involve our children.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 DR. GARZA: Ms. Rudolph.

17

18 MS. RUDOLPH: I think he kind of touched  
19 on where we should be going. One of the things my  
20 husband should say is we can only get to them through the  
21 youth and I used to argue because I always felt we were  
22 much wiser than that. But then through the years of  
23 working and being on the Regional Advisory Council it's  
24 been hard trying to get the tribe involved and anybody  
25 involved that needs to be involved.

26

27 So one of the things he mentioned was  
28 maybe going up to the schools and showing them what we've  
29 done and what was passed and some of the things that we  
30 addressed here at the meeting and they could carry that  
31 home and share that with their parents.

32

33 So I think that's the only vehicle I can  
34 find that might be something useful to use.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 DR. GARZA: Dr. Schroeder and then Mr.  
39 Douville.

40

41 DR. SCHROEDER: I have one communication  
42 item. It's more communication with the Council. I  
43 wanted to see if the Council was interested in having a  
44 scheduled brief teleconference such that there would be a  
45 number that we'd call in possibly on a monthly basis and  
46 if you're able to make it that would be great and it  
47 would be a chance for us to talk, Staff with Council  
48 members.

49

50 This would just be for within our

00448

1 program, not a noticed meeting. This would just be a  
2 teleconference so some organizations would have, you  
3 know, a first Thursday of the month teleconference as  
4 being a way of touching in on issues.

5  
6 DR. GARZA: Okay. We're now to the end  
7 of the agenda and our tradition is to go around and get  
8 comments from the public, if anyone wishes to comment and  
9 have been waiting forever. Mr. Lorrigan. And that will  
10 be followed by Council comments, so if you would like to  
11 speak to concerns that you have or if you think life is  
12 hunky-dory.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Diane McKinley,  
15 too.

16  
17 DR. GARZA: Okay. Mr. Lorrigan and then  
18 Diane Mckinley.

19  
20 MR. LORRIGAN: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
21 Jack Lorrigan, tribal biologist for Sitka Tribe. On  
22 behalf of STA, thanks for coming to Sitka, we always  
23 enjoy having you. I hope you enjoyed your stay here and  
24 it was a pleasure having you at all of our events. It's  
25 really strange to see you up there without Uncle Bill.

26  
27 One thing I'd like to pass that's kind of  
28 a concern of mine and I'm hearing an Elder in my head  
29 right now, the whole time I've been listening to you when  
30 I was here, I never heard the words, customary and  
31 traditional. I kept hearing subsistence, so just to  
32 remind you that subsistence isn't our word, customary and  
33 traditional. It's a little longer and harder to say but  
34 that more reflects the nature of this business, and just  
35 a reminder.

36  
37 Thank you.

38  
39 DR. GARZA: Any comments for Jack. You  
40 can come up Diane, you can sit next to him.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Jack, on behalf of  
43 the Council I'd just like to commend the Sitka Tribe for  
44 its leadership, and pursuing the grant that you got as  
45 well as the leadership that you've taken in submitting  
46 proposals that ended up in regionwide proposals and  
47 solutions to problems that came from the tribes taking  
48 the leadership role in this. And I'd like to -- and this  
49 is going to be in the transcript record, but I'd like you  
50 to relay that to the Chairman, that we do appreciate the

00449

1 Sitka Tribe's involvement and leadership in fisheries as  
2 well as wildlife and other wild and renewable resources  
3 in a customary and traditional manner.

4

5 Thank you.

6

7 MR. LORRIGAN: In response to that, the  
8 new grant that we got was championed by Mr. Doug Dobbins  
9 in the audience. Listening to discussion prior to this  
10 that community involvement is a concern of the Council I  
11 do know STA tries to be at these meetings. We've been  
12 admonished by Madame Chair to have STA representation at  
13 all the meetings from several years ago and we try to do  
14 that.

15

16 This year, one of the reasons why we  
17 probably weren't as well represented as we have been in  
18 the past is we didn't have any proposals before you to  
19 champion and just the one proposal that we opposed had  
20 our concern, so that's probably the explanation there.  
21 And our Council is just meeting'd out right now,  
22 everybody's council is always meeting about something.

23

24 Thank you.

25

26 DR. GARZA: Mary.

27

28 MS. RUDOLPH: I think you've been in here  
29 as long as I have.

30

31 (Laughter)

32

33 MS. RUDOLPH: I want to commend the Sitka  
34 Tribe. They've set down a lot of examples for the other  
35 tribes and give us the strength to move forward and learn  
36 from all what they've been doing. And I'm proud of the  
37 input from the younger generations that's coming up, it's  
38 really been a learning experience that I would like to  
39 see some of our younger kids get involved with in Hoonah.

40

41 I really commend the tribe for pursuing  
42 things that we didn't think that we could, they've set  
43 the ground work for us, so again, Gunaxcheesh.

44

45 MR. LORRIGAN: Thank you.

46

47 DR. GARZA: Diane.

48

49 MS. MCKINLEY: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
50 Diane McKinley and I work with National Park Service but

00450

1 these comments are of my own. I am from Southeast so I  
2 really appreciate the opportunity to come down and watch  
3 this Council do the hard work and dedication that they  
4 continue to do on behalf of Title VIII. And I'm proud of  
5 the Council and I'm proud of the people that volunteer  
6 and as usual it demonstrates that they're informed, that  
7 they're involved and they participate and that local  
8 tribes and people come and participate also. And so I  
9 really appreciated this opportunity to watch our Council  
10 do the work.

11

12 And my only disappointment was not taking  
13 back a box of fresh herring eggs.

14

15 So I do look forward to -- I'll be in  
16 Juneau this next week so I'll watch with great interest  
17 what is going on over here, so thank you.

18

19 Gunaxcheesh, howa.

20

21 DR. GARZA: Dr. Schroeder.

22

23 DR. SCHROEDER: Madame Chair. I'd like  
24 to thank Diane for helping Staff out. She did unsung  
25 work of a very careful reading of our proposals and  
26 uncovered some things that could have been confusing if  
27 she hadn't found them and pointed them out to our Staff,  
28 and our only complaint is that we don't know how to drag  
29 her down to Southeast Alaska where she belongs so that  
30 she could work with us on the Southeast team.

31

32 MS. MCKINLEY: Thank you.

33

34 DR. GARZA: Mr. See, you're the last one  
35 out there, do you have any comments for us.

36

37 MR. SEE: Michael See. I've often heard  
38 about the work that's being done here. I've never  
39 actually, you know, I've always seen the results and I've  
40 never seen the actual workings of the deal. At first I  
41 couldn't understand why -- everyone to me was being so  
42 nitpicking, and then with the realization that some of  
43 the decisions that are being made are so far reaching  
44 that they're going to affect things from now on  
45 basically.

46

47 You folks are doing a good job, you know,  
48 and, I, for one appreciate you because I do live a  
49 subsistence lifestyle, and the things I do are made  
50 easier by the things you guys do.

00451

1 I just want to thank you.

2

3

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. See, earlier  
4 Mr. David Belton was given an award for collaboration and  
5 I've found that Mr. Belton has been quite helpful and  
6 progressive in putting in proposals on behalf of the  
7 Hoonah Indian Association and I'd like you to relay my  
8 encouragement to him to continue to do that because I  
9 think he's hopefully doing -- I hope you think the same,  
10 that I think he's doing a good job for you.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 MR. SEE: Mr. Chairman. Right after this  
15 resolution passed and everything, I went up and I did  
16 call him and let him know that he had received an award  
17 and I conveyed to him then that -- and I will convey your  
18 last remarks to him and I know he'll -- he does work hard  
19 for us, he's got -- you can ask him anything and he'll  
20 jump into it with both feet and work hard, so thank you  
21 very much.

22

23 DR. GARZA: Okay. Mr. Bangs.

24

25 MR. BANGS: Well, I just want to thank  
26 you again. But I think you could probably help on the  
27 Unit 1(A) moose hunt if you gave us a little more  
28 information on Unit 1(C).

29

30 (Laughter)

31

32 MR. SEE: Thank you.

33

34 (Laughter)

35

36 DR. GARZA: Okay, we're going to start  
37 with Council comments. We'll start with Mr. Adams.

38

39 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, again, Madame  
40 Chairman.

41

42 You know it's always a pleasure to come  
43 down here and be among you people. I want to welcome the  
44 new Council members, Michael and Eric and the other  
45 Michael who had to unvolunteer himself earlier as well.  
46 And I've always been impressed, you know, with the way  
47 the meetings have always progressed towards better ways  
48 of addressing our subsistence lifestyle.

49

50 So you know with that I just want to say

00452

1 that I appreciate every one of you because of the quality  
2 of leadership that you provide, not only in your own  
3 communities, but, you know, on this Council as well.

4

5 I'd like to address maybe the issue of  
6 community involvement a little bit and then I want to  
7 read something that my Secretary, you know, left with me  
8 before he left.

9

10 I really believe that as far as getting  
11 the communities involved that we, as Council members,  
12 now, I know that my colleague next to me, who is gone,  
13 doesn't believe that we as RAC members need to go out and  
14 promote the development of proposals or assist people in  
15 doing so, but I really feel that we need to get the word  
16 out into our communities and I promise that I will do a  
17 better job in my community in informing the members that  
18 they do have a process in how they can change, you know,  
19 subsistence issues for their benefit.

20

21 I've said this before that I think  
22 everything begins from the bottom and works its way up  
23 and even if it comes from an individual, you know,  
24 working its way up the process, you know, is going to be  
25 -- and then when it reaches here and we put our stamp of  
26 approval on it and, you know, it goes on up to the  
27 Federal Subsistence Board for consideration, you know,  
28 I've heard it said that there's a pretty good chance, you  
29 know, almost a 95 percent chance that it's going to get  
30 adopted. So, you know, with that, I think that the  
31 education in the community process is really important  
32 and that we do, as RAC members, have a responsibility to  
33 take that to our communities.

34

35 Let me read, you know, what what's his  
36 name.....

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 MR. ADAMS: .....you know, left me here.  
41 It's in regards to Patty's coming here late, and, you  
42 know, again this is not my comment it's his, I'm only  
43 reading what he had left here.

44

45 He said that if the Forest Service can  
46 have a charter for one Staff person then there should be  
47 no problem flying in or picking up Patty when needed.  
48 I'm referring to her unavailability to be at our meeting.  
49 And I think what he is saying that, you know, she is in  
50 an isolated areas and we've had experiences where she has

00453

1 had trouble coming out of Pelican because of weather and  
2 so forth, that every effort should be made to get her to  
3 the meeting on time, in a timely manner. And I think,  
4 you know, that's what he is trying to refer to here.

5  
6 Again, in conclusion, I just want to  
7 thank the Council, you know, for being here and allowing  
8 me to serve as the Secretary, although, you know, I  
9 haven't done very much yet but I look forward to next  
10 year when we meet in Juneau. And I also want to extend  
11 an invitation that we consider Yakutat after that. And  
12 the reason why I didn't go for it, you know, for next  
13 year is because we are in the process of renovating our  
14 ANB Hall and when we get that all done, then we're going  
15 to start inviting conventions and meetings up there so  
16 you'll be one of the first ones to be invited.

17  
18 What we're going to do there is we're  
19 going to do some real extensive renovation there. It's  
20 one of the oldest historical ANB buildings in Southeast  
21 Alaska. It's been condemned several times but we've  
22 always managed to save it. And we had an engineer come  
23 there and survey the whole building for us and he says  
24 the foundation is all stable and everything, so we're  
25 going to sink maybe a million to a million and a half  
26 dollars into renovating that and making it into a real  
27 good community building and so that's when we want to  
28 have you up there.

29  
30 So, thank you, have a safe trip home.

31  
32 DR. GARZA: I was a little bit remiss, we  
33 did miss Tina as well as Melinda, if both of you would  
34 care for comments.

35  
36 MS. HERNANDEZ: I'm the paperwork girl as  
37 you guys know now. But this has been, wow, a real  
38 learning experience for me, I'm really glad to be  
39 involved with this.

40  
41 My Tlingit professor said I should always  
42 introduce myself properly so:

43  
44 REPORTER'S NOTE: (Ms. Henderson's comments were  
45 requested to help in correct spellings but was not  
46 received at the time of transcription completion;  
47 apologies ahead of time for any misspellings)

48  
49 Tlingit Xeinx Wexico Shaatk yoo xat  
50 duwasaakw.

00454

1 Deit Kaa Xeinax Melinda Hernandez yoo xat  
2 duwasaakw.  
3  
4 Yeil Nax xat sitee.  
5  
6 Lukax.adi Shaa.  
7  
8 Hispanic yadi aya xat.ka. Hispanic  
9 duchxan aya xat.  
10  
11 Yeil Hit dax aya xat.  
12  
13 Haa atoowu yeilx sitee.  
14  
15 Jilkaat Kwaan aya xat.  
16  
17 So I'm really proud to be here and I look  
18 forward to working with all of you in the future.  
19  
20 Thank you.  
21  
22 (Applause)  
23  
24 DR. GARZA: Tina.  
25  
26 REPORTER: Do I have to go over there?  
27  
28 (Laughter)  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Turn the mike on.  
31  
32 DR. SCHROEDER: Turn the mike on, please.  
33  
34 MR. ADAMS: Turn the mike on.  
35  
36 MR. DOUVILLE: Turn your mike on.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yeah, turn your  
39 mike on and name please.  
40  
41 (Laughter)  
42  
43 REPORTER: Okay, I just want to thank you  
44 and I'll see you in Juneau. I've been with the Council  
45 for many, many years.  
46  
47 So Juneau, right, yes, and my name is  
48 Tina Hile.  
49  
50 Okay, thank you.

00455

1 DR. GARZA: We appreciate seeing you  
2 every year and we'll look forward to seeing you in the  
3 fall.

4  
5 Dr. Schroeder.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Terry Suminski.

8  
9 DR. GARZA: Okay, Terry first and then  
10 Dr. Schroeder.

11  
12 MR. SUMINSKI: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
13 Terry Suminski, subsistence fisheries biologist with the  
14 Forest Service.

15  
16 This is the first time I've actually sat  
17 up at this table as Staff just filling in for Cal, but  
18 it's a little different sitting here than out in the  
19 audience and I appreciate your patience with me at this  
20 meeting. And I'm always impressed with the careful  
21 deliberation that you demonstrate and I enjoy being here  
22 and I look forward to future meetings.

23  
24 Thank you.

25  
26 DR. GARZA: Dr. Schroeder, we're going to  
27 hold you off until after Council.

28  
29 (Laughter)

30  
31 DR. GARZA: We'll go back to Council, Ms.  
32 Rudolph.

33  
34 MS. RUDOLPH: I'm really happy to be  
35 always working with this group. I'm going to really miss  
36 the group when they move your meetings around. I was  
37 trying to talk Bob into making me honorary member but he  
38 won't listen to me.

39  
40 I'm going to be taking some things back  
41 home with me, especially concerning the youth. I've been  
42 frustrated for the last few years trying to get this  
43 information to the tribe, but, knowing now that I have  
44 somewhere to go with it is going to really lighten my  
45 load for wanting to share the information.

46  
47 I remember one time I went to a Board  
48 meeting, we had a different President at the time and I  
49 brought all these papers with me to make a report and he  
50 called me out of order, I guess it looked too much for

00456

1 him, so I think if I gave it to the youth they'd have  
2 something to deal with.

3

4                   It's been always a joy to work with the  
5 group. I've learned so much in the years I've been in  
6 here. I've made a lot of good friends. A lot of new  
7 friends that have always been kind to me, and taking care  
8 of me. Marilyn and I were always the last ones lagging  
9 behind everyone and everybody made sure to take our bags  
10 and our suitcases, and I think I'll be the last one to go  
11 now that Marilyn's gone.

12

13                   And I'm glad about the introduction that  
14 Jim Capra made on Park Service. I had that vision today  
15 as they made the dedication to Tina through the Park and  
16 I thought through my mind, I went out and talked to her  
17 and I told one of the things I'm going to do is try to  
18 get that happening in Glacier Bay and she was all excited  
19 so I'm going to be anxious to relay the message to her  
20 that we did it before we even had time to think about how  
21 we were going to do it.

22

23                   And I thank the Board for supporting the  
24 proposal as it was and I'm going to take back to the  
25 Board the paperwork on it to show them what modification  
26 that was going to be added to it and see how they feel  
27 about it so that whoever takes the place of my position  
28 will have something to work with.

29

30                   I want to thank Melinda for always being  
31 one step ahead of me and took over the job of taking care  
32 of me.

33

34                   And Tina, it's always good to see her,  
35 I'm going to miss her after I'm all done with this.

36

37                   But like I said it's been good to get to  
38 meet new people and see new people and appreciate all  
39 what was done here. I remember the first meeting I gave  
40 a report on Glacier Bay and Patty couldn't stop crying,  
41 she was soft, we had the meeting at the Centennial Hall  
42 down there and I gave a report on Glacier Bay and she was  
43 so moved by the whole thing and I'd never thought I'd  
44 ever be serving on this Council as long as I did so each  
45 one of you will be deeply missed after I finish my next  
46 meeting.

47

48                   Thank you.

49

50                   DR. GARZA: Mr. Douville. Mary.

00457

1 MS. RUDOLPH: I was talking to Floyd and  
2 he shook my hand and said he was really going to miss me  
3 and he said I want to let you know that we're going to  
4 really miss seeing you at the meeting and then he turned  
5 to me and asked me what my name was.

6  
7 (Laughter)

8  
9 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Madame  
10 Chairman. I'd like to thank Sitka Tribes and John  
11 Littlefield and the people of Sitka for having us. It's  
12 always a pleasure to be here.

13  
14 You know, like I said at the beginning of  
15 the meeting, you set the standard for Native  
16 organizations, I'm always impressed.

17  
18 One of the issues here is community  
19 involvement and it's one of the most difficult things  
20 that you're going to do is to try to get a community  
21 involved, it just doesn't happen that way, I don't know  
22 why. And I am a prime example. I wouldn't even consider  
23 being here or getting up and speaking in front of anybody  
24 until some issues came up concerning Prince of Wales or  
25 U-2 deer that no one was going to fix unless I got  
26 involved, and that's the Gospel's truth and that's the  
27 reason I'm here because people who were dealing with it,  
28 that in reality, I knew more customary, traditional,  
29 subsistence things than they did and that's why I am  
30 here.

31  
32 But it has bared some fruit and I  
33 appreciate your support on some of the proposals that  
34 have had a positive effect on subsistence users on Prince  
35 of Wales, early opener is one and perhaps this committee  
36 to deal with the deer down the road will be a filtering  
37 process for some of the more radical proposals we see  
38 come out of there and we could deal with them more on an  
39 educated level, you know, educate the people that are  
40 making these and make our job and Staff and everybody  
41 else's a little easier.

42  
43 I think that's about all I have to say  
44 for now, I appreciate your help.

45  
46 DR. GARZA: Mr. Littlefield.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Madame  
49 Chair. First I'd like to thank the Council because I  
50 know personally that each of you is serving without pay

00458

1 and that, I think, is unfair and I think that we should  
2 be paid. They consider us temporary employees and that's  
3 how the OSM tried to put a muzzle on us but if we're  
4 temporary employees we should be paid and not just per  
5 diem, so that's one of the things.

6  
7 So I really appreciate your dedication to  
8 sit here to almost 6:00 o'clock at night, it will be 6:00  
9 before we get out of here and that takes dedication. And  
10 as Chairman Bill said, that dedication should be to  
11 providing the subsistence priority for rural residents,  
12 that's our charge. It's pretty simple. And each of  
13 these members I've found have done that exceedingly well.  
14 I think the actions that you've taken are positive for  
15 the subsistence users and I appreciate that.

16  
17 I'd also like to thank the Staff that  
18 assisted us, Dr. Schroeder, Mr. Suminski, Roadkill  
19 Johnson and others who also spent the time with us and  
20 help us doing our job by providing enough information for  
21 us to make a decision. It's pretty hard for us to make a  
22 decision without that data and we appreciate that.

23  
24 I, especially want to thank the Council  
25 and the members of the community that helped and from out  
26 of town to support Mr. Thomas' fundraiser. It was a, in  
27 my opinion, a very good success, we raised over \$2,000 to  
28 help and anyone that's ever had any kind of a sickness  
29 knows it's really nothing but it is our way of saying  
30 thank you to the Chairman Emeritus and I appreciate the  
31 support that the community, as well as Staff and Council  
32 gave.

33  
34 So I guess that's probably all I've got  
35 for now so thank you very much for coming to Sitka. The  
36 new Council members, I hope you learned something, I'm  
37 sure you did, and I'm glad to see, I think you're going  
38 to do just fine and I know this Council is going to do  
39 the right thing.

40  
41 Thank you, very much.

42  
43 DR. GARZA: Mr. Stokes.

44  
45 MR. STOKES: I want to say thank you to  
46 the Council for putting up with me. I know when I  
47 get.....

48  
49 (Laughter)

50

00459

1 MR. STOKES: .....a strong feeling on  
2 certain things I get carried away. And I was --  
3 hopefully I'll get cut off some way.

4

5 (Laughter)

6

7 MR. STOKES: But I want to thank the  
8 Council for their continued support, the Staff, and  
9 especially Dr. Garza on our Stikene proposal.

10

11 While it was a victory, it was a  
12 bittersweet victory to get the Stikene fishery. I was  
13 told that they were going to open, that the State was  
14 going to open a lower river for commercial fishing. Now,  
15 I wanted to say something before when we had the  
16 Department of Fish and Game here but I didn't get an  
17 opportunity, but I hope that's not true, but this came  
18 from a good source. It came from Doug Flemming, he said  
19 it was a well kept secret and he just found out about it  
20 when he called over and talked with my son-in-law, so  
21 hopefully it's not true, because if they do that, why,  
22 they'll blame the subsistence people for not having any  
23 fish.

24

25 Thank you for this opportunity. I thank  
26 the Sitka community for putting up with this.

27

28 DR. GARZA: Mr. Jordan.

29

30 MR. JORDAN: Thank you, Dr. Garza. Well,  
31 this ends the season meeting for me. I thought about  
32 this meeting this week, on the one hand I could have gone  
33 trolling or watched the NCAA basketball tournament or  
34 listen to the State 3A/4A basketball tournament. On the  
35 other hand I have a whole bunch of work to do on taxes,  
36 and I'm supposed to see the doctor about my cholesterol  
37 and take a cardiac stress test. So somewhere in between  
38 there is where this meeting came out for me. And I have  
39 to say there's a couple impressions I have that I want to  
40 share.

41

42 The knowledge of, the commitment to and  
43 the caring about the needs of Southeast subsistence are  
44 truly inspiring by this Council.

45

46 I greatly appreciate the warmth and the  
47 inclusion by all the members.

48

49 For this old Viking to be included  
50 amongst the Tlingits and the Haida's here would have made

00460

1 my father and my mother really proud. I think of all the  
2 stories David Statinic (ph) told on the back of my boat.

3

4 I'm actually pretty moved. I think of  
5 all the times my mother packed me into and I traipsed  
6 around her behind in practically in every Native  
7 graveyard in Southeast Alaska and I think all that  
8 contributed to why this is so important to me in how I am  
9 really moved to be a part of this.

10

11 But having said all those nice things I  
12 also have a little bit of levity. I just want to inform  
13 all the Council members that John Littlefield is way  
14 better behaved here than he ever was on any of the task  
15 forces that I've facilitated.

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 MR. JORDAN: And for the other person who  
20 served as Chairman here, Dolly Garza, I have not forgot  
21 that you got me named as a highliner in Pacific fishing  
22 years ago and I've had to suffer the torment of my peers  
23 and partners ever since, so be advised Dolly I'm waiting  
24 for a chance to even that up.

25

26 I also want to point out that I was very  
27 well behaved for me here. I only voted in the minority  
28 once and that vote was 11 to one.

29

30 Thank you a great deal.

31

32 MR. STOKES: You've grown a little since  
33 I first seen you.

34

35 (Laughter)

36

37 DR. GARZA: I'm not sure it was clear on  
38 your application that you're part Norwegian, either, that  
39 might have an affect.

40

41 Ms. Phillips.

42

43 MS. PHILLIPS: (In Tlingit) Dr. Garza.

44

45 Our connection to our ancestors guides us  
46 in who we are. And I recently found out after our last  
47 meeting that via 1923 census record that my great-  
48 grandmother's father was Tlingit from Sitka and her  
49 mother was Aleut from Kodiak. So I have a lot of  
50 characteristics within me that helped to form who I am.

00461

1 I've been on this Council since inception  
2 and it's been a healing process for me because I was  
3 denied my cultural history of who I am. And it's been an  
4 education process for me along the way and this program  
5 has benefited from that education that I've learned and  
6 it's the reason why I've chosen to reapply for another  
7 term because that level of knowledge in a youth such as  
8 I.....

9

10 (Laughter)

11

12 MS. PHILLIPS: .....can still be put to  
13 use for the benefit of the subsistence program.

14

15 I also really appreciate the education I  
16 get from the science that's shared with us through this  
17 process. There's been a capacity building in me and us  
18 because of it. And the cultural and traditional  
19 activities that we get from the communities that we have  
20 our meetings in have really meant a lot to me. And I  
21 want to correct a statement that I made earlier, in that,  
22 the knowledge that I've obtained is the reason I  
23 reapplied, but the cultural and traditional activities is  
24 the first and foremost reason that I am here.

25

26 I'd like to request CD-rom disks of  
27 transcripts and of the previous annual reports. I have  
28 quite a collection of paperwork and I would like to  
29 whittle it down.

30

31 As far as travel goes, I could have been  
32 here Wednesday morning and participated in the Wednesday  
33 meetings if the Subsistence Program had chartered me on a  
34 45 minute flight from Pelican to Sitka. I am in an  
35 isolated community, I live there year in, day in and day  
36 out, I do not leave Pelican in October and come back in  
37 March like much of our population. I serve on the city  
38 council, I take stands and I live with the consequences  
39 of those stands within my community which can sometimes  
40 be difficult. I have very valuable time -- I value my  
41 time and often times I have to leave my community a day  
42 before the rest of you have to leave your communities  
43 because of my remote location. I've asked on numerous  
44 occasions that charters be arranged for me to fly out of  
45 Pelican so I can connect with jets that would get me to  
46 the annual meeting locations at about the same time as  
47 you folks. I don't need a charter flight going back to  
48 Pelican because that schedule accommodates me. We only  
49 have one scheduled flight a day and it leaves Pelican at  
50 11:30, that is too late to connect with the jets. I

00462

1 understand weather is going to contribute to my not  
2 attending meetings and it has on several occasions but I  
3 would request that OSM reconsider their policy on trying  
4 to get me out of Pelican so I can participate in these  
5 meetings.

6

7 Thank you.

8

9 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Patricia. We'll  
10 add that to the annual report and see what we can do  
11 about that. And while you, I think, are probably our  
12 youngest member you certainly have grown because in the  
13 past you would have been crying instead of almost crying  
14 by now.

15

16 (Laughter)

17

18 DR. GARZA: Mr. Kitka.

19

20 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Madame Chair. It's  
21 always good to come to these Council meetings. I am in  
22 the process of learning. I have years of experience with  
23 my father as part of subsistence but to articulate it to  
24 the rest of the people is something I have to learn.

25

26 I also wanted to thank a person on this  
27 Council and I believe Sitka Tribe should come forward and  
28 thank John Littlefield for a big part of it, because he  
29 was a big part of the reason the goats came about for the  
30 fur.

31

32 I also know communication within the  
33 communities is hard to do. On numerous occasions at  
34 meetings where I've gone I've recommended that somebody  
35 from those communities come to these meetings and address  
36 them, and so far only Sitka Tribe has come. And these  
37 were not just communities within my town, these were  
38 communities across the state. I know this is important  
39 and I know we wrestle with how to get them to come and we  
40 still need to find a vehicle to address them a little  
41 more.

42

43 And this is all I have to say, thank you.

44

45 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Kitka. Mr.

46 Bangs.

47

48 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Ms. Garza. I'm  
49 just blown away at all I've learned and I just want to  
50 thank the Council for being so patient in helping me

00463

1 through learning, making me feel so welcome and being so  
2 kind for the learning process.

3

4 I know that there's an unbelievable  
5 amount to learn and I'm really looking forward to  
6 participating on this Council and I'd really like to  
7 thank the Sitka Tribe for making me feel comfortable as  
8 well and welcome. It's a really, really enlightening  
9 experience for me and I'm looking forward to the next  
10 one.

11

12 Thank you all.

13

14 DR. GARZA: Mr. Hernandez.

15

16 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Dr. Garza.  
17 I'd also like to sincerely thank the Sitka Tribe for  
18 hosting us here. I think it was just a really enjoyable  
19 meeting. I also would really like to thank the  
20 Kaagwaantaan dancers for performing for us, I just really  
21 enjoyed that. And I'd like to thank the National Park  
22 Service for opening up their museum to us for a private  
23 tour and having the local Elders there to explain some of  
24 the exhibits to us was just a rare opportunity, and I  
25 just really appreciate that.

26

27 And I also wanted to say that I really  
28 don't have any problem at all devoting my time to these  
29 meetings because I know that I take away from these  
30 meetings far more than I ever give back. I really  
31 appreciate the knowledge that I gain and the learning  
32 about cultural and traditional ways as well as some of  
33 the science that goes along with it. I look forward to  
34 our next meeting.

35

36 DR. GARZA: Dr. Schroeder.

37

38 DR. SCHROEDER: Dr. Garza, I thank you  
39 for the honor of speaking last, if I am last.

40

41 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Over here.

42

43 DR. SCHROEDER: Oh, I'm not last.

44

45 (Laughter)

46

47 DR. SCHROEDER: I was close. It's always  
48 an honor to work with this Council and it's clearly very  
49 important to me. It's the high point of my year to have  
50 these meetings with you.

00464

1 I particularly appreciate the hard work  
2 that you do as volunteers because I realize, especially  
3 since John forces me to sit up at this table and started  
4 that tradition a few meetings ago, that it just takes a  
5 lot of diligence, it takes a lot of energy to stay with  
6 it for a three day meeting and to do the prep work that  
7 you have to do in advance to follow these issues through.  
8 And I really recognize that you're volunteers at this and  
9 there are many other demands that life puts on all of  
10 you.

11  
12 I really felt Bill's presence, not only  
13 because he's in the hospital right now and we had a  
14 fundraiser for him, but I feel the traditions that he  
15 helped established for this Council are with us. Bill  
16 also noted, when we were talking about getting these  
17 devious commercial and sport representatives on the  
18 Council, Bill said, well, wait a minute if you get good  
19 people and they read ANILCA they're going to follow the  
20 law, they're going to be right in there on these issues  
21 and I think he's definitely right on that, in that this  
22 time through we do have new members and they don't feel  
23 like new members in their discussion or their  
24 understanding of ANILCA.

25  
26 I'd like to say that we go through these  
27 things and the Council spends hours deliberating tough  
28 questions, I'd like to focus on some real successes that  
29 the Council has had in the last year. As Dick mentioned,  
30 the Stikene salmon issue that he's been fighting for for  
31 years and years and years and we have a fishery this  
32 year. I really enjoyed Judy Ramos' presentation. That  
33 took place because you guys stuck your neck out there and  
34 said, we want TEK projects, and now you're seeing the  
35 fruit of that and you've heard presentations from Sitka  
36 Tribe on its TEK work.

37  
38 There will be some goats harvested,  
39 hopefully, in a few weeks in Sitka and a tradition will  
40 get some new breath put into it, some new life will come  
41 into it. I could go on.

42  
43 I think establishing the designated  
44 hunter program that this Council was instrumental in  
45 establishing in Southeast is just really important.

46  
47 I also really love having contact with  
48 the Sitka Tribe and feeling that on the one hand we're  
49 dealing with age old traditions from this time immemorial  
50 that anthropologists just love to think about but we're

00465

1 also dealing with something that's very much alive and  
2 not an endangered species and will continue in the future  
3 if people like you continue the great work that you're  
4 doing.

5  
6 Thank you.

7  
8 DR. GARZA: I should have gone before you  
9 because you covered some of the things I wanted to.

10  
11 I do want to thank the Council and  
12 particularly STA for just jumping right in in regards to  
13 Bill Thomas' fundraiser. I know an amazing amount of work  
14 was put together in a week, thank you to Robi Craig, to  
15 Helen Dangel, to Jack Lorrigan, to Ray Nielson, to all  
16 those guys who just, without hesitation said, yes, we'll  
17 do this for Uncle Bill. And I know just the fact that we  
18 did that will mean a lot to him. Of course we have to  
19 thank our Council members, Mike, who donated the halibut  
20 hook that caused everybody to buy the tickets because  
21 they wanted it and also for Robi's drum because that was  
22 quite phenomenal and all the contributions that were just  
23 easily given to this raffle. It just spoke immensely how  
24 much we still care for Bill and we know that he will  
25 continue to impact our thought process and reasoning as  
26 we go forward and I think that as he gets healthier he  
27 will probably impact us more physically because he'll  
28 probably be in front of us and demanding things. I look  
29 forward to that.

30  
31 And I do want to reiterate how important  
32 Sitka Tribe is to this process. And I know in talking to  
33 the other tribes, particularly the ones from Prince of  
34 Wales is that they do look up to Sitka Tribe as the lead  
35 in protecting subsistence and advancing new ideas. I  
36 know you receive direction from Herman Kitka, from Mark  
37 Jacobs, from a variety of Elders that are very precious  
38 to Sitka Tribe, from John Littlefield and that directs  
39 you and it also is very important to the other tribes to  
40 see what can be done and we appreciate that you're so  
41 willing to share your information with the other councils  
42 because I do hear that over and over when I travel to  
43 different villages, that they've called you and that  
44 you've responded willingly and eagerly.

45  
46 I know how important the goat hair was to  
47 Teri Rofkar and I was surprised she didn't go into tears,  
48 but as you saw clearly she just couldn't stop smiling.  
49 And I have been around her, I am one of her students in  
50 weaving as is Helen Dangel and if you've been around

00466

1 untanned goat hair that's ready to slip it's not a  
2 pleasant experience and I will not be one of her  
3 apprentices for that project.

4

(Laughter)

6

7 DR. GARZA: But it is because of the true  
8 dedication on her part that that will come back to life  
9 and her hope is that she will continue to do that in  
10 other parts of Southeast Alaska and perhaps Glacier Bay  
11 will be the next area. But it is marvelous for us to do  
12 things or to support things that are just so obviously  
13 the right thing to do and require so little effort in  
14 comparison to things like U-2 deer.

15

16 And, Mary, while we may consider you for  
17 emeritus, you still are on the Council and so you will be  
18 at our next meeting and we look forward to seeing you  
19 then.

20

21 To the new members, I do appreciate your  
22 commitment. We were wondering who we would get and what  
23 they would be like and how we might have to whip you into  
24 shape but that doesn't appear to be necessary and it is  
25 good to see you and your commitment, not only to your  
26 livelihood but also to realizing the importance of  
27 subsistence as a community and a cultural lifestyle.

28

29 And I just will close by saying, you  
30 know, we just have to continue supporting Ketchikan being  
31 rural because we are.

32

33 And Mr. Littlefield is going to take the  
34 Chair back from me.

35

36 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Only because I  
37 have two thank you's. I'd like to thank the Council for  
38 the kind words, especially Harvey. Just doing what I  
39 think is my job and I don't mind doing it. Just like  
40 Don, I gain from that.

41

42 And I also wanted to thank Dr. Garza for  
43 helping me Chair this meeting, as you well know she does  
44 a superb job and I appreciate the help because I was  
45 running out of steam and I she got me out of trouble.

46

47 So with that, a motion to adjourn is in  
48 order.

49

50 DR. GARZA: We want to stay.

00467

1 (Laughter)

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Nobody wants to.

4

5 MR. DOUVILLE: So moved.

6

7 DR. SCHROEDER: Did we hear from Terry.

8

9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Terry who, he  
10 talked already, we won't want to hear from him again.

11

12 (Laughter)

13

14 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We are adjourned  
15 until Juneau.

16

17 DR. GARZA: Audioconference.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We have an  
20 audioconference in two weeks, we'll get that notice out  
21 to you. Thanks a lot everybody.

22

23 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

00468

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 288 through 467 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the VOLUME III, SOUTHEAST FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically by Salena Hile on the 18th day of March 2004, beginning at the hour of 8:00 o'clock a.m. in Sitka, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by under my direction and reduced to print to the best of our knowledge and ability;

THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 2nd day of April 2004.

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