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SOUTHEAST ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

PUBLIC MEETING

VOLUME IV

Petersburg, Alaska
February 25, 2005
8:00 o'clock a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- John Littlefield, Chairman
- Bertrand Adams
- Michael Bangs
- Michael Douville
- Dolly Garza
- Donald Hernandez
- Eric Jordan
- Harvey Kitka
- Floyd Kookesh
- Patricia Phillips
- Michael Sofoulis
- Richard Stokes
- Regional Coordinator, Robert Schroeder

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

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3 (Petersburg, Alaska - 2/25/2005)

4
5 (On record)

6
7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I'd like to call
8 the meeting back to order. We're on Item 14C, National
9 Park Service, Mr. Capra.

10
11 MR. CAPRA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
12 Members of the Council. My name is Jim Capra, I'm with
13 the National Park Service. I work for Glacier Bay and
14 Wrangell-St. Elias out of Yakutat.

15
16 And just one comment, I know why Bert
17 covets the Chairmanship of the SRC so much because we
18 told him it pays twice as much as the Chairmanship for
19 the RAC.

20
21 (Laughter)

22
23 MR. CAPRA: I really only had two things
24 to update the Council on. One is the Park Service
25 nationwide has been updating the regulations, changing
26 the regulations that we call the Superintendent's
27 Compendium, which are meant to be temporary regs on a
28 year-to-year basis, individual little closure areas or
29 problem sites. And the State of Alaska and other states
30 have had a problem with the Park Service managing long-
31 term with those compendium regulations. And in some
32 cases we've gotten maybe a little bit behind and used
33 those compendia for up to 20 years where they should just
34 be temporary regs. So in the last two years we went
35 through, in this region, in the state of Alaska, they
36 listed their problem areas they had with our regulations
37 and we sat down with them and noted which ones they were
38 and we picked the easiest ones to fix. And in the first
39 year we fixed those. And for the most part that's
40 compendium regulations that were oversights and had just
41 kind of through inertia gotten locked into the compendium
42 system for 15 to 20 years and should have been regulation
43 a long time ago.

44
45 And what we called Phase I, the news I
46 have for the Council is that the allowance to take goat
47 hair from Glacier Bay National Park, which is not Title
48 VIII Federal subsistence lands came through as one of
49 those easy ones from the compendium regs. We put that
50 one in as a new reg and it's now allowable with a permit

1 from the Superintendent to take goat hair out of the
2 Park. And the permit's intended to be for, or the use
3 we've seen for it so far has been for the people of
4 Hoonah to harvest goat hair for weaving. I mentioned
5 this to the Council in Sitka, at our meeting there, and I
6 honestly thought this would take a lot longer but it
7 became final rule in the regulations January 4th. So the
8 first step is taken with Hoonah and it's actually in
9 regulation.

10

11 I've heard Bert and a few others mention
12 the East Alsek River, we've had a lot of proposals for
13 stock assessments there and we've always missed the cut
14 on the FIS funding so in the past two years we've pursued
15 some funding with the USGS with some Park Service
16 matching funds and starting this year we'll have a
17 student with a Master's program taking a look at the
18 conditions, historically and presently on the East Alsek
19 River. It's a very young system. It was really fertile
20 for 20, 25 years and supplied a lot of food and a lot of
21 commercial and sportfish for the people in Yakutat and it
22 crashed. And hopefully by looking at these conditions,
23 we won't get a full stock assessment but we did get a
24 study paid for to look at the past and current conditions
25 and find out what's changed and maybe that may answer
26 what's happened to the stocks there. It's not a stock
27 assessment program, quite, you know, the USGS doesn't do
28 those but hopefully we'll get most of what we're looking
29 for out of this.

30

31 And with that, does the Council have any
32 questions, I'd be ready to answer.

33

34 MR. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams.

37

38 MR. ADAMS: Got a new Ranger coming in,
39 maybe you can elaborate on that a little bit.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 MR. CAPRA: In Yakutat, I've been filling
44 in as the District Ranger for the last two years for both
45 Parks, my job is actually the back country ranger for the
46 outer coast Dry Bay, and the subsistence coordinator for
47 the Park. In less than three weeks we'll finally have a
48 District Ranger in Yakutat and his name is Cody Murphy,
49 and hopefully he'll be attending the next meeting with
50 me. I'm sure if you accept Mr. Adams' invitation and

1 come to Yakutat you'll meet him there.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.

4

5 Dr. Garza.

6

7 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It
8 was very nice to hear about the news to be able to
9 collect wool. Is the ability only for Hoonah residents
10 or is it Southeast-wide?

11

12 MR. CAPRA: The regulation is written so
13 that it just requires a permit from the Superintendent.
14 But the only reason that it was discussed beforehand to
15 allow that permit was for, you know, customary purposes
16 for weaving, we didn't specify a community, but obviously
17 Hoonah's the one community that drove that.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other questions
20 for Mr. Capra.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you for your
25 report, and you always stick with us to the very end and
26 we appreciate you sticking with us.

27

28 ADF&G. Mr. Turek.

29

30 MR. TUREK: Good morning. I'm Mike
31 Turek, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of
32 Subsistence. I can be very brief this morning. The
33 things I wanted to discuss with you we've already gone
34 into some depth, the Prince of Wales Island steelhead
35 project. And then earlier I did discuss the harbor seal
36 survey and the subsistence halibut survey.

37

38 So the only thing I have to add is to
39 remind you that the Board of Fisheries is meeting in
40 Southeast Alaska next year, January or February, and the
41 proposal deadline is April 2005. So if you're thinking
42 about putting in a proposal, you want to start working on
43 it, and if you need any help just give me a call. But
44 the deadline for proposals is April 2005, I believe it's
45 the 15th, but I didn't write that in my notes, what the
46 date is for the deadline, so to be safe just plan on
47 April 1st to having your proposals ready.

48

49 If you have any questions I can answer.

50

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: April Fool's Day,
2 uh.

3
4 (Laughter)

5
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Council questions.

7
8 (No comments)

9
10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I don't see any.
11 What about the wildlife conservation, did you have
12 anything to add for Mr. Larsen?

13
14 MR. TUREK: No, I don't have anything to
15 add. So if you have any questions, maybe I can help you
16 or direct them to Doug, but I don't have anything to add.

17
18 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All right, thank
19 you, Mike. I'd like to let you know that we appreciate
20 these reports, and also the Prince of Wales steelhead,
21 those are all timely issues, and, of course, you did a
22 good job and we appreciate it. So thanks for your -- Mr.
23 Adams.

24
25 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
26 just want to demonstrate my appreciation for Mike in his
27 dedication, you know, to coming down here and staying to
28 the end every meeting. He has been a great help to us
29 and it's a pleasure having you work with us, and,
30 hopefully, you know, the State will come into compliance
31 but it doesn't look like it.

32
33 But thanks again.

34
35 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, thank you,
36 Mike. We're at Item 15, and the first thing I have on
37 Item 15 is the deferred annual report items right before
38 the Council topics for 2005 Board meeting.

39
40 So the annual report items, Dr.
41 Schroeder, do you have a list of those?

42
43 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, I don't
44 have a list of those. The way I think we should approach
45 this would be to put annual report items, the annual
46 report items that you wish to be included on the record
47 and I can pull out some of the details concerning those
48 from the transcript. I believe quite a number of things
49 have been touched on at this meeting. That would be my
50 suggestion.

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: At a minimum the
2 annual report should include all of the items that we
3 have resolutions for because they're obviously problems
4 that we need resolved.

5
6 Any other Council requests for inclusions
7 in the annual report.

8
9 (No comments)

10
11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Great. Well, we
12 have a list of about six items anyway that will be in the
13 annual report from our resolutions and anything else that
14 may come up here in a minute.

15
16 Under Item A, Council topics for the May
17 2005 Board meeting. Dr. Schroeder.

18
19 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, the purpose
20 of this agenda item is to solicit items from the Council
21 that they wish you to bring forth before the Board at the
22 Federal Subsistence Board in May.

23
24 By way of history there, some years ago
25 Council Chairs would meet independent of the Board and
26 then have a separate meeting of Council Chairs with the
27 Board to discuss other items that may not be proposal
28 items before the Board. Because of Federal Advisory
29 Committee Act concerns, that hasn't been able to be
30 accomplished in last years. The Federal Subsistence
31 Board procedure now is to set aside a time in the openly
32 noticed Federal Subsistence Board meeting when Council
33 Chairs can bring up basically any matter that is of
34 concern to them. So it's one opportunity when a Council
35 gets to speak directly to the Board, and also have a good
36 record of what's said and any questions or comments that
37 may come from the Board. So that's the purpose of this
38 item.

39
40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, thank you.
41 At the last meeting I brought up issues that we'd taken
42 action on before or things that the Council had been
43 concerned about either in their annual reports or
44 discussions. And certainly I'd be willing to bring up
45 anything that the Council wants me to talk about, we
46 could bring those up.

47
48 Mr. Adams.

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

1 letter that the Governor wrote to the Secretary in
2 regards to dual management, are we going to talk about
3 that any time today, I suppose we would, but I would like
4 to send a message to them that we probably don't have any
5 reason to respond to that letter until Alaska comes into
6 compliance with ANILCA, simple as that. I think that
7 should be a real strong message you can give.

8

9 Thank you.

10

11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Let me ask Mr.
12 Knauer process on letters to the Governor. He's not
13 exactly a legislator, so if you could clarify what we can
14 do there.

15

16 I know I can talk about it in the
17 meeting, but I mean in process here, we may want to go
18 ahead and send a letter on that.

19

20 MR. KNAUER: Again, that's a situation
21 where it's an elected official and so the appropriate
22 mechanism would be to send a letter through the Federal
23 Subsistence Board.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All right, thank
26 you. So the process would be that we could do it now or
27 in the next one when we're doing resolutions, if it's the
28 will of the Council, we can go ahead and direct a letter
29 -- or write the letter to the Federal Subsistence Board
30 Chairman asking him to relay our thoughts.

31

32 Mr. Kookesh.

33

34 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Littlefield. Yesterday
35 we talked about subsistence use amounts, that protocol,
36 could you bring that discussion onto the floor so we can
37 put it into our forum, that way we can carry it forward
38 because most of us have a problem with process as it's
39 currently laid out.

40

41 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes, I will, and
42 that's an item, Dr. Schroeder that needs to be -- or the
43 discussion we had on subsistence use amounts, needs to be
44 in our annual report so that the will of the Council is
45 clear and I will bring it up and speak on that item.

46

47 Other Council.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: They'll be very
2 happy if I only talk about two things at the meeting.

3
4 (Laughter)

5
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Plus all the other
7 resolutions in our annual report. So I guess we'll bring
8 those two up for sure. The Governor's letter we're
9 probably going to handle here in a minute.

10
11 Okay, so we're at Item B, which is the
12 review of the Council resolutions. And so far yesterday
13 we were given a list of -- actually I'll let Dr.
14 Schroeder take care of that.

15
16 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, my running
17 list has a number of things. I'd like the Council to
18 provide some direction on whether these should come
19 through as letters or resolutions attached to letters, et
20 cetera.

21
22 First, let me run through what I have and
23 then perhaps we can discuss them individually. I think
24 some will go pretty quickly.

25
26 I've got them on the screen there, and
27 they're not in any particular order.

28
29 One item concerned licenses. And there
30 were two things that the Council discussed about
31 licenses. One had to do with the license increase fees
32 and Chairman Littlefield provided the Council with some
33 background information on that and we'll note for the
34 record that Division of Wildlife Conservation was willing
35 to talk about that issue, however, Mr. Larsen had to
36 leave.

37
38 The second was the question concerning
39 whether or not hunting licenses needed to be required for
40 subsistence hunters using resources -- hunting resources
41 on Federal public lands.

42
43 The second item concerned the BLM land
44 planning report and Mr. Adams has reviewed a draft letter
45 with -- it was prepared with suggestions from Elijah
46 Waters. I think that's in pretty good shape, ready to
47 go.

48
49 Third had to do with Council intentions
50 with respect to enforcement spending on subsistence. We

1 heard a presentation from Law Enforcement and from Mr.
2 Kessler. And what my notes have is that the Council
3 appreciates the good work that Law Enforcement's doing
4 and that they come to our meetings and assist us a great
5 deal. There was some concern about further spending on
6 law enforcement, should this mean decreases in other
7 activities that can be funded by the subsistence program.
8

9 The fourth item I believe is fairly
10 straightforward. That concerns sending on the
11 Subcommittee recommendation concerning second growth
12 management. That recommendation strongly requested
13 Forest Service to do a number of things, of actions and
14 program directions to restore and rehabilitate the
15 Tongass essentially to its -- I don't know if the Council
16 used natural state, but it's original productivity.
17

18 The fifth item concerned a discussion
19 about Wildlife Information System priorities. I believe
20 the Council clearly expressed its interest in two
21 priorities, and I think we also have an education
22 component that was discussed at that time. And that
23 should probably also be added into this so the Council
24 could clarify this.
25

26 The sixth item followed on discussion of
27 subsistence use amounts. And the Council discussed
28 forming a subcommittee that would address subsistence use
29 amounts for Southeast Alaska. The way to do that would
30 be to request the authorization to form such a
31 subcommittee from the Federal Subsistence Board. This
32 would be similar to what was done with Unit 2 deer, and
33 it would be useful to have some discussion about what
34 that subcommittee would look like, what it is that'd we
35 want from the -- wanted to be authorized to do from the
36 Federal Subsistence Board.
37

38 And I think I'm getting close to the
39 bottom of my list if I can move this down.
40

41 The seventh item, I'm not sure we have a
42 Council action there, Mr. Turek did mention that we're
43 approaching a proposal deadline for proposals to the
44 Board of Fisheries for next year. The main item that I
45 heard under discussion was some interest in State
46 personal use or subsistence fisheries being authorized
47 for the Stikine River. There may be other items.
48

49 And then the final item was whether we
50 wanted a response to the Governor's letter or not.

1 Those were the items that I had, Mr.
2 Chairman.

3
4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Dr.
5 Schroeder. What I would suggest is that we're going to
6 proceed with the understanding that the Staff is going to
7 prepare these resolutions as was recommended earlier with
8 the correct language in them, format that we desired to
9 use, so we're going to ask them to take care of that.
10 What we're looking at now is the whereases that are going
11 to go in the body, and I think what we're looking at here
12 is we can ask Dr. Schroeder to either put those on there
13 like he has them and we can add them if the Council
14 wishes or subtract some of those.

15
16 So what I'd like to do is we'll discuss
17 No. 1 up there and first I'll go to Mr. Hernandez.

18
19 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
20 Bob, in relation to the Unit 2 Deer Planning, we had one
21 other which you failed to put up there that was approved
22 by the Council, the resolution on access and travel
23 management for Prince of Wales Island.

24
25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, we'll go
26 ahead and add that under the appropriate item, access.
27 So what about Item 1 here, the licenses, what's the
28 Council's wishes.

29
30 (No comments)

31
32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: When we look at
33 that, just make sure those issues are what the Council
34 would like to express in its resolution or not, so we
35 need to okay this.

36
37 (Pause)

38
39 DR. SCHROEDER: And, Mr. Chairman, we do
40 have a transcript that provides the detailed discussion.
41 What would be useful for Staff would be if a Council
42 member would be identified as the review contact, and
43 obviously these go through the Chair as we send them out
44 in any case, but that would be useful as well, if we
45 could identify someone for each of these items that would
46 work with Staff on wording.

47
48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. As he said,
49 I look at everyone of these before they go out and we do
50 a couple drafts. If anybody wants to be involved in any

1 of these issues raise your hand and you can certainly run
2 them -- I'll be more than happy to run them through you.

3
4 (Pause)

5
6 MR. KOOKESH: Which hand?

7
8 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: You can raise
9 either hand you want.

10
11 MR. KOOKESH: I'd like to follow this
12 process.

13
14 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, Mr. Kookesh
15 will be included in process number 1.

16
17 MR. ADAMS: I will.

18
19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams. Any
20 others.

21
22 (No comments)

23
24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Of course, they go
25 together, those two, I should have just said them.

26
27 (Laughter)

28
29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Jordan.

30
31 MR. JORDAN: Yeah, I'd like to be
32 included, too, especially so I can find out what happened
33 between the time I was told to be here and what time you
34 guys started.

35
36 (Laughter)

37
38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: You left early
39 that's why you missed it.

40
41 Anyway, I think that's adequate. Let's
42 use these -- unless somebody else wants to be on here,
43 these three Council members will help with the drafting
44 and make sure that it captures the Council's intent.

45
46 Anything else on this licensing.

47
48 (No comments)

49
50 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, let's go to

1 No. 2, which is the BLM, and I think Dr. Schroeder, we
2 have a copy on the table, I believe.

3

4 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, we had some
5 rough notes yesterday and I worked with Mr. Adams and
6 prepared a rather complete description -- a more complete
7 description saying -- that's on the screen, I don't think
8 it would be useful to read it in. I could summarize what
9 was going on.

10

11 As we heard from Mr. Waters, the
12 preferred alternative in the current plan would take land
13 that was withdrawn from selection under PLO 5150, in
14 other words it was not subject to State selection and it
15 would allow that land to be selected by the State of
16 Alaska. It could be selected as an over selection. Once
17 -- my understanding from Mr. Adams is that once that land
18 would be selected, that it would no longer be under
19 Federal subsistence management and the ANILCA protections
20 that are presently afforded to subsistence users in that
21 area of our state would no longer apply. And for a
22 number of reasons that the Council opposed that and
23 supports the alternatives it would essentially maintain a
24 status quo as well as provide a good environmental
25 management for some access issues in that area.

26

27 Mr. Adams, I believe that summarizes the
28 things correctly.

29

30 MR. ADAMS: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

31

32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, just as a
33 matter of process, this particular resolution would be
34 addressed to Mr. Bisson, as far as I know, is that
35 correct, and the BLM?

36

37 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, this would
38 be directed to Director Bisson who heads Bureau of Land
39 Management for Alaska as well as to the Field Office
40 Manager who has direct responsibility over this plan in
41 Glennallen and that's Ramon McCoy.

42

43 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, because it's
44 an agency of the Interior Department and Mr. Bisson also
45 sits on the Federal Subsistence Board, is there any
46 conflict here, Mr. Knauer?

47

48 MR. KNAUER: I'm sorry?

49

50 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there any

1 conflict to address this second resolution to Ramon McCoy
2 and Mr. Bisson?

3

4 MR. KNAUER: I'm not sure on that. Your
5 coordinator will have to work with Ann Wilkinson on that
6 to be sure that he has the procedures correct.

7

8 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, as the
9 Council's aware, we had frank and open discussions to
10 develop a correspondence policy within Office of
11 Subsistence Management last year over some issues that
12 were raised by the Council. That policy successfully
13 resolved certain issues. Our correspondence policy
14 allows us to write directly to the Board of Fisheries and
15 Board of Game and to, I believe to land managers such as
16 Forest Service to provide comments. Our other
17 correspondence routes through the Office of Subsistence
18 Management. In practice I believe that it's a good
19 practice for us to work with OSM on correspondence to
20 ensure that it accurately reflects what the Council
21 wishes to say and doesn't include misstatements or things
22 that would be problematic for the program.

23

24 So in point of practice, we route our
25 correspondence through Office of Subsistence Management
26 and Deputy Director Boyd has made sure that these things
27 go out very quickly. So I think we don't have any
28 problem with this letter.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. And then
31 let me just go back to licenses real quick, we're going
32 to send that to the Federal Subsistence Board as well as
33 the director of Fish and Game, or Division of Wildlife of
34 Conservation and also the Sportfish Division. And also
35 in process we definitely want these to go OSM, we're not
36 trying to hide anything from them of what we do and they
37 may have an idea that could help us. So that will be how
38 this will go forward.

39

40 Mr. Adams.

41

42 MR. ADAMS: Just a matter of information
43 here. We got the same presentation that Mr. Waters
44 presented here, only it was a little bit more clear here
45 because he had it on a powerpoint and he just used maps
46 at our SRC meeting. And we didn't take any action on
47 that. So the feeling was that -- from them, after we
48 talked about it, after the meeting, is that, maybe we'll
49 let the RACs handle it.

50

1 The other thing that I wanted to point
2 out was that these selections, you know, as a result of
3 the Land Claims Settlement where the State and
4 Corporations still had land that had to be turned over to
5 them. And Senator Murkowski, you know, submitted a bill
6 last summer, I guess it was, and it passed in October to
7 accelerate those land transfers in the past, and right
8 now we're dealing with that. And right now it's under
9 Federal jurisdiction and if some of those lands, you
10 know, get turned over to the State and to Corporations
11 then it would be private land, whereby it would be under
12 State regulations.

13
14 So we felt up there that it needed to
15 stay the same but left it up to the RACs, you know, to
16 deal with it and work its way up.

17
18 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

19
20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Would you like to
21 read this.

22
23 (No comments)

24
25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, we need to
26 have on the screen, that reflects that and we'll run
27 through it real quickly. We should probably read it and
28 see if any Council members have any changes, errors,
29 omissions or something to add here.

30
31 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, would you
32 like me to read this letter into the record.....

33
34 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes.

35
36 DR. SCHROEDER:that's on the
37 screen?

38
39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes, please.

40
41 DR. SCHROEDER: It's addressed to Mr.
42 McCoy and Director Bisson. The Southeast Regional
43 Advisory Council met in Petersburg February 22nd through
44 25th, 2005. The first paragraph simply talks about what
45 the Council is and what it's authority is.

46
47 At our recent meeting, Council members
48 were concerned with the potential land
49 management decisions that may be made in
50 the East Alaska Resource Management Plan.

1 During our meeting, Elijah Waters, Staff
2 from the Glennallen Field Office
3 presented an overview of the East Alaska
4 Resource Management Plan. The Council
5 would like to thank Mr. Waters for his
6 clear and succinct presentation of
7 features of the plans and for his
8 participation in our meeting. The
9 Council further commends the active
10 participation of Bureau of Land
11 Management Staff in the Federal
12 Subsistence Management Program.

13
14 The Council reviewed the plan and
15 appreciates the opportunity to provide
16 comments and recommendations. The
17 Council recommends selection of either
18 Alternative C or Alternative D of the
19 East Alaska Resource Management Plan.
20 These two alternatives strike an
21 appropriate balance between protection of
22 important common property resources and
23 allowing use of renewable resources to
24 take place. We note that subsistence
25 harvest from Federal public land within
26 the plan area are essential to the
27 cultural and social well-being of the
28 rural communities of this part of Alaska.

29
30 Since 1990 subsistence fish and wildlife
31 harvest taking place on the Federal
32 public lands of the planned area have
33 been managed by the Federal Subsistence
34 Board. Under Federal management
35 subsistence uses are protected under the
36 Alaska National Interest Land
37 Conservation Act. These lands and waters
38 provide a large portion of the
39 subsistence harvest of the rural
40 communities in this area. In our
41 judgment, Alternative C and D will allow
42 customary and traditional subsistence
43 practices to continue.

44
45 Other alternatives would be detrimental
46 to subsistence uses. Alternatives that
47 curtail access would adversely affect the
48 ability of Federally-qualified
49 subsistence users to meet their needs
50 through harvest taking place on Federal

1 public land.

2
3 Alternative B would revoke PLO 5150.
4 This Act withdrew some Federal public
5 lands from selection by the State of
6 Alaska. This would allow future transfer
7 of ownership of Federal public lands to
8 the State of Alaska. This would
9 effectively eliminate the applicability
10 of the ANILCA protections that currently
11 ensure the continuance of customary and
12 traditional subsistence cultural and
13 social practices.

14
15 We strongly oppose these alternatives
16 because of their adverse effects on
17 subsistence users.

18
19 Finally, the Council would like to be
20 included in your mailing list and to
21 receive a copy of the draft plan when it
22 is available for review.

23
24 Thank you.

25
26 Et cetera.

27
28 Mr. Chair.

29
30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We should make
31 sure the Council knows what Alternative C and D are. I
32 think I remember them but let's make sure that everybody
33 is aware of what we're endorsing.

34
35 DR. SCHROEDER: Alternatives C and D
36 basically maintain the status quo with respect to
37 subsistence. I believe the differ slightly in terms of
38 their access management. Mr. Adams could correct me on
39 that if I'm wrong.

40
41 MR. ADAMS: I'm just nodding my head and
42 agreeing with you, Bob, you're doing a good job.

43
44 Thank you.

45
46 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

47
48 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, thank you. Mr.
49 Elijah did give me a copy of the powerpoint so I have the
50 C and D if anybody wishes to see it.

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Could you please
2 repeat that? Let's just make sure the Council knows
3 what's going on here so that they understand what these
4 alternatives are.

5
6 Thank you, Dr. Garza.

7
8 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman. Dr. Garza
9 provided a copy of the presentation.

10
11 Alternative C is called the Resource
12 Conservation Alternative. And it basically talks about
13 some limited control of access of OHVs. It also
14 designates some recreation sites. Important to our
15 concern is that it maintains the current withdrawals, so
16 that's the important point of that alternative, and some
17 subsistence is managed as it is under this alternative.

18
19 Alternative D also has some travel
20 provisions. It provides for recreation sites. It does
21 allow possible land disposal in the Slana area. And it
22 maintains most of the withdrawals that are in place. The
23 Pipeline Utility Corridor is maintained. I believe it
24 allows a small portion of the area to be withdrawn from
25 certain small areas within the larger plan area.

26
27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Dr.
28 Schroeder.

29
30 I'm comfortable with C and D. Is there
31 any Council member that wants to address this or anything
32 else on Item 2, the BLM lands, are you comfortable with
33 that we've captured the thoughts of the Council?

34
35 (No comments - Council nods
36 affirmatively)

37
38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Dr.
39 Schroeder.

40
41 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, and as with
42 other draft material, this would benefit from a little
43 bit more review and I believe Mr. Adams is willing to do
44 that before a final goes out on this.

45
46 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, Mr. Adams,
47 are you willing to review this before it's sent out?

48
49 MR. ADAMS: You bet, Mr. Chairman.

50

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, thank you.
2 Dr. Garza, are you willing to take a look at this?
3
4 DR. GARZA: (Nods affirmatively)
5
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are there any
7 other Council that wants to look at this resolution
8 before it goes out in its final form?
9
10 (No comments)
11
12 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, that should
13 be adequate. Let's do the next one, Law Enforcement
14 issues.
15
16 Mr. Adams.
17
18 MR. ADAMS: It would be a pleasure to
19 have Dr. Garza look that over with me.
20
21 Thank you.
22
23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Are you sure you
24 can be split up from your partner?
25
26 (Laughter)
27
28 MR. KOOKESH: BS Adam and Dr. Garza.
29
30 (Laughter)
31
32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Schroeder.
33
34 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, the third
35 item on our list here concerned Council wishes on Law
36 Enforcement expenditure. As I mentioned in the brief
37 summary, we received a good overview of law enforcement
38 activities in Southeast Alaska. And the Council is aware
39 that adding law enforcement activities need to be paid
40 for. The Council reviewed a priority list of possible
41 additional -- excuse me. Reviewed a list of law
42 enforcement activities that take place within our region,
43 and a first cut at priorities for those law enforcement
44 activities.
45
46 There was some discussion on the level of
47 funding for law enforcement, recognizing that law
48 enforcement for subsistence is funded basically from two
49 sources. One is regular budget items where
50 appropriations support law enforcement activities in the

1 region, and then the subsistence program has been
2 providing additional money to help defray the cost of law
3 enforcement activities that are closely related to
4 subsistence.

5
6 So I'd just like to get the Council's
7 wishes very clear on this item.

8
9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: And it's my
10 understanding that this particular resolution will be
11 addressed to Mr. Bschor; is that correct?

12
13 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, yes. Mr.
14 Bschor, we may also wish to direct it to the Forest
15 Supervisor as well because the Forest Supervisor works
16 very closely with law enforcement officers at the Forest
17 level.

18
19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, I agree it
20 should go to both of them. One of the things I think I'd
21 like to have added here is my displeasure with the amount
22 of money that we're getting for the FIS project. I don't
23 know exactly where it goes in here but I think a
24 statement might be in order that the subsistence funding,
25 the \$2 million a year is inadequate. And in any way we
26 can get some money into the FIS projects I think would be
27 really helpful because we've seen in the past couple of
28 years we were only given out a few dollars now.

29
30 Dr. Garza.

31
32 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
33 did appreciate the report that we received on law
34 enforcement, however, we did not, as a group, decide to
35 write a resolution in regard to what is there because we
36 didn't speak to it as a group. And while you have
37 concerns about that 100,000 extra, I have absolutely
38 none. We have argued forever that we need additional
39 enforcement, in my eyes I see enforcement as also
40 protecting subsistence. It's absolutely necessary for U2
41 if we're going to see some change in patterns from
42 Ketchikan versus Prince of Wales hunters. And so while I
43 think that we have the opportunity to give information on
44 how we think that extra 100K should be spent, I have no
45 regrets that that 100,000 is being used for enforcement.

46
47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. For the
48 record these are possible resolutions. If the Council
49 does not want a resolution on any of these items, their
50 wishes are our command, that's what we'll do.

1 Other Council.

2

3 Mr. Kookesh.

4

5 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman. I believe at
6 some point we should, I have no problem, like Dolly said
7 with money going for enforcement, but if the requests
8 continue to rise we should know why they're rising, I
9 mean we have concerns -- you know, we want 100,000 more,
10 okay. I mean if our children want money we say why, you
11 know? It's not unusual to make that request. If we know
12 how the program's going and how it's structured that
13 would be good, but if you want money just to have more
14 money then I'd like to know why.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Perhaps we could
17 ask Mr. Kessler. It's my understanding that the money
18 goes into law enforcement and that's all we know and we
19 don't have any accountability like we do on the FIS, so
20 Mr. Kessler if you'd like to comment on this, please, and
21 then we'll go -- go ahead, Mr. Jordan, while Mr.
22 Kessler's coming up.

23

24 MR. JORDAN: Well, I would remind my
25 fellow Council member, Mr. Kookesh, that it might take
26 them quite a bit of resources to find where Angoon is.

27

28 (Laughter)

29

30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kessler.

31

32 MR. KESSLER: The amount of resources
33 that goes into enforcement for fish and wildlife and
34 subsistence-related activities is far more than the
35 \$500,000 that this program actually provides. I mean
36 even if this program weren't part of the Federal program,
37 then law enforcement still has a sort of, if you
38 remember, what we call the general patrol, and they --
39 they would do fish and wildlife enforcement as part of
40 all that other list of things that they do.

41

42 So the \$500,000 is what the Forest
43 Service felt that of the dollars that we receive right
44 now would be a reasonable amount to provide to law
45 enforcement at this point. They asked for considerably
46 more than that, and I think to do a really credible job
47 they do need more, and that's part of what led to the
48 additional \$100,000. We're relatively flush this year,
49 and that has to do with a number of things, not only the
50 \$500,000 increase that we received in fiscal year 2005,

1 but also some of our overhead costs went down this year
2 and a number of other things, and it just became apparent
3 that we could increase that dollar amount.

4
5 Denny Bschor, the Regional Forester, was
6 very interested in providing additional funds to law
7 enforcement for priority areas. So he asked for what are
8 those priority areas, and that's -- in part, that's why
9 that list -- we provided that list. Law enforcement
10 developed that list and then we said, well, what are the
11 priorities to management and also we thought it would be
12 reasonable to ask what are the priorities to the Regional
13 Advisory Council. They would be more than pleased to
14 have additional funds beyond that and think that they
15 could do a more credible job for the program and for the
16 Federally-qualified subsistence user.

17
18 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

19
20 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, thank you. So
21 is this extra \$100,000 a -- it's not a permanent
22 increase, it's because there are some extra funds this
23 year and they wouldn't be guaranteed it in the future?

24
25 MR. KESSLER: Chairman. Dr. Garza. Yes,
26 that is correct. At this point we're viewing that as a
27 \$100,000 increase for this year only.

28
29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: And I think Mr.
30 Kookesh's question was where does that \$600,00 go? I
31 think that's what he was saying, probably don't mind
32 giving it to you, but where does it go when it goes into
33 that law enforcement budget?

34
35 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Kookesh.
36 Those dollars go to pay salaries, to pay for boats, to
37 pay for maps, to pay for airplanes.....

38
39 (Laughter)

40
41 MR. KESSLER:to pay for overhead
42 salaries, on and on and on. \$600,000 probably roughly
43 pays for, I would guess with the types of overhead and
44 types of expenses that law enforcement has, I would guess
45 that that probably pays for three or four personnel
46 across the National Forest and that's Tongass and
47 Chugach.

48
49 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Do you want to
50 follow up on that -- Mr. Kookesh.

1 MR. KOOKESH: I believe probably this
2 would be a good question to ask Mr. Marty Myers when he
3 becomes available for our next meeting. And I was also
4 curious, I note that I didn't cross out law enforcement
5 priorities yet, does that mean we're still going there?
6

7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We're on law
8 enforcement issues right now, not necessarily priorities,
9 and whether we write a resolution or address them in a
10 letter, that's the Council's wishes.
11

12 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman.
13

14 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kookesh.
15

16 MR. KOOKESH: I was under the impression
17 that we were going to go and put in requests. When Mr.
18 Pearson was here he was asking us what our requests were
19 for the 100,000 and I believe items came up such as
20 posters and an educational program and a Safety Bear
21 thing, and 10 maps.
22

23 (Laughter)
24

25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yeah, Mr. Kessler,
26 could you address that. It was my understanding that Ms.
27 Clark from OSM said that they thought that they could
28 handle that, you know, within house, not from the law
29 enforcement budget.
30

31 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman. I don't want
32 to speak for OSM, but I believe that the educational part
33 are something that OSM and law enforcement and the Forest
34 Service would be able to handle. I think there's some
35 expenses associated with just producing things, but
36 there's also a lot of expenses with actually getting out
37 and providing these to the public, doing presentations
38 and other things, and I think that that would have to be
39 a combined effort.
40

41 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Ms. Clark.
42

43 MS. CLARK: And maybe I should get a
44 little clarification from the Council. My understanding
45 was that the Council wanted public information products,
46 posters, brochures and other materials specific to ANILCA
47 and subsistence, but I wasn't sure there was any law
48 enforcement issue that would be addressed by what we were
49 doing.
50

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Garza.

2

3 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, thank you. I
4 think the intent was that by providing that type of
5 information it would lead to improved communications,
6 dialogue, people would better understand and less likely
7 cause issues in regard to enforcement or subsistence
8 priorities, particularly with U2. But I do remember when
9 we asked you about, although those materials could be
10 developed, there was also concern about just who would
11 pay for travel for presentations, and I see that coming
12 out of this particular pot because I mean there's one
13 thing to just, you know, come up with 5,000 brochures and
14 send them out but, you know, it takes face-to-face, it
15 takes meetings, it takes people sitting down and
16 listening and to get an idea of what's going on, I mean
17 we see brochures all over and very few people pick them
18 up. So I do see it as, if we want it to be effective, as
19 an added cost.

20

21 Thank you.

22

23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Council. Ms.

24 Phillips.

25

26 MS. PHILLIPS: Chairman Littlefield. I
27 agree with Dolly. I would rather see a more positive
28 progressive movement to get education out and I think the
29 publications were on two different issues. We had the
30 Unit 2 educational awareness issues, and then the impact
31 of enforcement on some of those issues.

32

33 I did get a chance -- as a side note I
34 got to read part of the Prince of Wales Subsistence
35 Steelhead Harvest Use Pattern Draft Review -- Review
36 Draft, and in it it says, the 1994 regulations caused a
37 decline particularly in the Craig, Klawock steelhead
38 harvest. Many Craig and Klawock steelhead fishers
39 stopped fishing in the Klawock River due to enforcement
40 pressures. Now, I wouldn't want additional funds going
41 to enforcement if it's going to reduce the wantingness of
42 subsistence harvesters to go out and do what they
43 traditionally do. I would prefer to see enforcement be
44 more positive.

45

46 And let's see, in previous public comment
47 at other meetings expressed concerns about subsistence
48 users being targeted for enforcement while other users
49 are taking their harvest under other uses without this
50 heavy-handedness approach. So that's kind of the

1 direction I'm going.

2

3 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thank you, Ms.
6 Phillips. Mr. Kookesh.

7

8 MR. KOOKESH: I believe that when we
9 addressed the issues of night hunting, I believe that was
10 one of the requests I had made. But when we're talking
11 about it, it's not necessarily always focused on
12 subsistence users, it's focused on sports hunters also.
13 It's not just the subsistence user that we're -- I wanted
14 an educational program where we let them know what the
15 penalty was and that was one of my requests I had made
16 for law enforcement.

17

18 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. And one of
19 the things I had complained about was I don't want them
20 spending any more money on shooting from a boat and the
21 law enforcement should be aware, they weren't aware that
22 you could shoot from a boat in Unit 4, so I hope they
23 didn't spend \$50,000 on a new boat to run around and try
24 to catch people shooting from a boat in Unit 4.

25

26 Other Council.

27

28 Ms. Phillips.

29

30 MS. PHILLIPS: Chairman Littlefield, my
31 other thought was to go into the classrooms or somehow
32 with the youth of Alaska. It's the youth of Alaska that
33 is an increasing population and they're going to be grown
34 ups someday, and we're having the current population that
35 is not aware of what ANILCA issues are or what
36 enforcement issues are so if we start -- you know, 12
37 years ago is when Federal subsistence started so if we
38 would have started then those 12 year olds would now be
39 24 so, you know, let's start with our youth -- include
40 our youth in our education awareness.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: What's the
45 Council's wishes, do you want a resolution, you want a
46 letter, do you want to just let it die, what do you want
47 to do?

48

49 Dr. Garza.

50

1 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2 Just as a point of clarification, I guess I would wonder
3 whether or not Ken Pearson and whoever was sitting with
4 him yesterday got a feel for what our priorities were or
5 if we need to do that through resolution. I mean we did
6 all tick off what we thought -- how we thought it should
7 be spent and I kind of had the impression that he was
8 saying, okay, okay, okay, okay, but I don't know if that
9 needs to be solidified.
10
11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kessler, that
12 was you, go ahead.
13
14 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman. Dr. Garza.
15 What I wrote down was there were two things that were of
16 the greatest interest, was night hunting and education,
17 that's what I wrote down. But I also -- as far as I
18 remember the discussion here, I thought you were going to
19 come back to that list that we had provided and take a
20 look at that list and see there were some priorities
21 within that list or even some other priorities that
22 aren't on that list, that's how I remember the
23 discussion.
24
25 But for right now, the only things that I
26 wrote down that I heard was the night hunting and
27 education.
28
29 Mr. Chairman.
30
31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. I'd like to
32 take five minutes and everybody come back with that list
33 in front of them and we may as well take care of this
34 right now, grab a quick cup of coffee and come back.
35
36 (Off record)
37
38 (On record)
39
40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Let's come back to
41 order, please. We don't have much time here.
42
43 (Pause)
44
45 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I'd like to call
46 the meeting back to order, we've got about an hour or so.
47 Melinda's going to check and see when the northbound
48 people have to be on the plane and when we have to be out
49 of here.
50

1 What I have left is the law enforcement
2 issue, second growth priority, WIS, subsistence use
3 amounts, the Governor's letter. We also have on the
4 agenda Council review of the operations manual by Dr.
5 Schroeder. And a former member, Mr. Harold Martin, would
6 like to give us a short presentation on Marine Mammal as
7 well as several Council members want to give us updates
8 on some possible action as well as actions of the Fish
9 and Game Advisory Council last night here in Petersburg.

10
11 So we can't spend too long on these but
12 everybody should have now the subsistence enforcement
13 ones with the half stars and stars. And I guess where I
14 was coming from is I don't mind giving the \$100,000, you
15 already did it. But if we adopt all of these and say,
16 yeah, this is cool, it might take \$500,000 and I got a
17 real problem where that money's coming from.

18
19 So I'm just going to say the only one I'm
20 going to say I don't like is I don't want any more money
21 spent on Unit 4 deer, shooting from a boat.

22
23 We'll just let the Council run through
24 these. Let's just start on -- any of them are up, if any
25 Council member doesn't want to spend any money on this or
26 they want more, say so.

27
28 Dr. Garza.

29
30 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, thank you.
31 It's my understanding that the \$100,000 is a done deal
32 and I certainly applaud it because I think there's some
33 benefit.

34
35 One other item I would like to add to
36 that list, in terms of the sort of education and
37 outreach, I think a curriculum should be developed on
38 ANILCA and subsistence rights. If we are to educate our
39 youth as Patricia had mentioned, that's the easiest way
40 to do it. To make it available to teachers.

41
42 Having said that, I agree with you that
43 -- I mean the \$100,000 is not debatable, but I think in
44 terms of accountability that Mr. Kookesh was talking
45 about, that we should limit the increase to the 100,000
46 so that if we come up with a list of \$400,000, that that
47 isn't increased next month because all of a sudden we've
48 come up with a huge list and that if any further
49 increases come back to the Regional Council so that they
50 can figure out how it may impact other subsistence

1 programs.

2

3

Thank you.

4

5

6

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council
comments. Anything they wanted included or excluded off
of here.

7

8

9

10

Mr. Jordan.

11

12

13

14

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20

MR. JORDAN: I disagree with the Chair.
I'd really like to see a priority of dealing with that
night hunting from boats in the Sitka area. And I think
that maybe the Chairman meant he doesn't want us to deal
with shooting from boats in the daylight, but I'm sure he
would also appreciate some more enforcement on the night
hunting from boats.

21

22

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.

23

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37

Mr. Kookesh.

MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman. In all
seriousness, in my discussion yesterday we did talk about
where the city of Angoon was, and the request that I had
made. In talking to Mr. Pearson, one of the issues that
came up was, we know enforcement covers all of Southeast,
and if enforcement has a problem locating the city of
Angoon then in talking to Mr. Pearson the request was to
give them all new GPS's, ones that cover their whole
enforcement area. And I don't know what their equipment
status is but I was going to put in a request for all of
their vessels to have new GPS's and one for Eric.....

(Laughter)

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

MR. KOOKESH:if that is possible.

(Laughter)

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams.

MR. ADAMS: I have to Tlingit names. One
is Kadashan, and then the other one is Naats' Keek.
Naats' Keek means he never gets lost. And so I'd be
happy to take Eric down to Angoon any time.

(Laughter)

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Bangs.

2

3 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'd
4 like just a point of clarification. I don't want
5 confusion with this night hunting thing, it is legal so
6 we need to clarify that it's spotlighting.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Right. Right,
11 it's not illegal to have a spotlight at night. You can
12 spotlight the shore all you feel like and that's not
13 illegal. It is illegal to use artificial light to shoot
14 a deer under Federal regulations as well as State
15 regulations. My issue is it is legal to shoot deer from
16 a boat in Unit 4, something we fought hard for and I'm
17 not willing to have extra enforcement go around to
18 address a State issue of shooting from a boat during
19 daylight hours. Shooting from a boat is legal. Night
20 lighting is a separate issue, we all know it's illegal,
21 but I'd like to see the State more involved in this.

22

23 Again, like I said, the \$100,000, as Dr.
24 Garza says is a done deal, I'm not in favor of spending
25 any more money on that unless they come to us with a
26 request and then we would give them our recommendation.
27 Of course the Forester can do whatever he wants.

28

29 Mr. Douville.

30

31 MR. DOUVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
32 would just like to express my agreement with Dr. Garza's
33 curriculum suggestion, I think it's excellent. Education
34 goes a long ways.

35

36 And also, you know, this night hunting
37 issue is always here and it will never go away no matter
38 how much money you spend on it. And I would be cautious
39 about spending more than is necessary because it's always
40 been here and you've never been able to make it go away
41 no matter how much money you spend. There isn't that
42 many people that do it, but it always is a strong issue.

43

44 And on the other hand, Mr. Jordan should
45 be thankful that his eyes don't shine.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.

50

1 Mr. Kookesh.

2

3 MR. KOOKESH: One last comment on night
4 hunting. I am aware of its impact and the higher take is
5 from the night hunters and it is not all for personal
6 consumption. I know that it's becoming a business in a
7 sense and I'd like to see us focus on it. I think it's a
8 -- it's a priority for me, and I believe it should be a
9 priority for everybody, and I would like to see it go
10 away and I believe it will. Because people don't realize
11 what the penalty is for getting caught, and one good
12 example is all we need.

13

14 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Other Council.
15 What's the Council's wishes here, do they want to --
16 we've talked about these, and I don't know if anything's
17 clear to you or not, Mr. Kessler.

18

19 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman. Night
20 hunting, spotlighting is clear to me. And I can pass
21 that along. As far as developing curriculum, that type
22 of thing, I'm not sure that that's really in the role of
23 enforcement, they would have a complimentary role in
24 there, but I think that that's more on the management
25 side to take care of that.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, I didn't
28 hear anybody say anything against that and I think it's
29 clear that the Council would like to have that, and,
30 you're right, I don't see that coming out of enforcement,
31 but out of the Tongass or OSM.

32

33 Other Council.

34

35 Ms. Phillips.

36

37 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Chairman
38 Littlefield. Mr. Kessler, we got this document,
39 subsistence related enforcement on the Tongass National
40 Forest and the mission is to protect fish and wildlife
41 resources under Federal jurisdiction and to protect and
42 provide for the subsistence priority for rural Alaskan
43 residents established by ANILCA Title VIII. Then it goes
44 on to say, in order to accomplish the mission, education,
45 patrol and special enforcement occur. So it is in the
46 mission statement.

47

48 It doesn't define what that education
49 will be, but it is part of the mission statement.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 MR. KESSLER: Chairman Littlefield. Ms.
4 Phillips. That is true. Education is a part of what law
5 enforcement does, and as I said they do have a
6 complimentary role. A lot of the education that they do
7 is when they're out in the field and have user contacts,
8 talking to people, they're providing education to the
9 people that they see. And as I see this, the majority of
10 their education that they provide is really a one-on-one
11 type of relationship. They also do have -- it's
12 interesting, I've talked with Ken Pearson and Marty Myers
13 of doing more than that, and providing at a higher level
14 where they can outreach to more people at once.

15

16 As far as, I think, what the question
17 was, develop curriculum and that type of thing, I think
18 that does go beyond the education that they normally
19 provide, but it's certainly within the realm of what the
20 Federal program can take on.

21

22 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I just took
23 advantage of my priority button and pushed it. We need
24 to wrap this up or we're never going to get out of here.
25 So Dr. Garza, I'll give you the final word.

26

27 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, I certainly
28 understand that argument. And I think that if you can
29 take the request for a curriculum forward and if Maureen
30 can also take that forward and just make sure that it's
31 understood that it is a priority for the Southeast
32 Regional Advisory Council, perhaps something could be
33 done.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Mr. Jordan,
36 real quickly, and then Dr. Schroeder will take care of
37 it.

38

39 MR. JORDAN: Thank you for a special
40 privilege here, Mr. Chairman. It's come to my attention
41 that you're in consultation with the Department on a
42 whole bunch of new steelhead and trout rules and we're
43 probably going to have -- just speculating, of course,
44 we're probably going to have a variety of different
45 rules, depending on whether you're a sport user or a
46 subsistence user and probably depending on whether the
47 creek has conservation concerns or not, there's going to
48 need to be an educational effort on that or you're going
49 to have a lot of enforcement difficulties.

50

1 So that would be another priority to
2 think about.

3
4 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yeah, I think
7 we're doing that. Dr. Schroeder.

8
9 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, just in my
10 coordinator role I just have to say we need to move on
11 otherwise we will not have actions on other items on the
12 agenda. I think you have a very good record on
13 discussing this issue. The question would be whether
14 you'd like Mr. Kessler and I to work from the record to
15 express the Council views in these funding negotiations
16 or whether the Council would like to send a letter to Mr.
17 Bschor and Forrest Cole covering this discussion. And if
18 we're sending a letter, if the summary points are clear
19 as in three right there, with respect to funding levels,
20 so we could bring it back to funding levels and get the
21 wish of the Council at this time then we could move on to
22 our next item.

23
24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Everybody in favor
25 of sending a letter to Mr. Bschor and Forrest Cole
26 expressing all of the things there shown in Item 3 on the
27 screen raise your right hand.

28
29 (Show of hands by Council)

30
31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, you'll
32 capture the thoughts that we have on the board and our
33 discussion and forward those.

34
35 Dr. Schroeder.

36
37 DR. SCHROEDER: And do we have a
38 volunteer to be the review on this?

39
40 MR. JORDAN: (Raises hand)

41
42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Jordan. Any
43 others. We probably need two here, if someone else would
44 help out.

45
46 MR. KOOKESH: I'd like to do that.

47
48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kookesh. Mr.
49 Kookesh and Mr. Jordan will review this letter. Mr.
50 Kessler, final word.

1 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman. I would
2 suggest that this letter also go to Mr. John Herrick who
3 is in charge of law enforcement in the Alaska region for
4 the Forest Service.

5
6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes, good
7 suggestion. Ms. Phillips, did you want to be on there,
8 too?

9
10 MS. PHILLIPS: I just want to clarify that
11 the show of hands doesn't show up on the transcript.

12
13 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes, it did,
14 didn't it Tina?

15
16 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)

17
18 (Laughter)

19
20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: And I said we were
21 going to write a letter, didn't I.

22
23 MS. PHILLIPS: Okay.

24
25 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. That's
26 shown on the transcript right Tina.

27
28 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)

29
30 MS. PHILLIPS: All right.

31
32 (Laughter)

33
34 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: If it hadn't
35 showed up correctly we wouldn't write the letter. So the
36 show of hands was present and they were all in favor.

37
38 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, our next
39 item is Item 4. I'm not sure if we require action on
40 this item at this time. The Council did accept the
41 report of the Deer Management Subcommittee. It included
42 a recommendation concerning second growth management. I
43 believe that I could work with Mr. Hernandez and if
44 there's another volunteer reviewer for that we could
45 dispense with that item.

46
47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That's my
48 recollection, that we did accept their report and
49 specifically talked about sending resolutions on 3 and 4,
50 I believe, Mr. Hernandez would be perfect. Is there

1 another member of the Subcommittee that would like to
2 work on it?

3

4 MR. BANGS: (Nods affirmatively)

5

6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Bangs.

7 Anybody else want to be on this review?

8

9 (No comments)

10

11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, you guys

12 will generate the resolutions based on Items 3 and 4.

13

14 Dr. Garza.

15

16 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, we did accept

17 the report but we did also add ANILCA education, and

18 something else.

19

20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I think ANILCA

21 education is in the mission statement if I remember

22 right, is that not correct, Mr. Hernandez?

23

24 MR. HERNANDEZ: That is correct, Mr.

25 Chairman.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, we want that

28 stressed in these resolutions wherever you can, any

29 resolution you do that we believe ANILCA education is a

30 priority and it's always been that way for this Council

31 and we need to express that whenever we can.

32

33 Dr. Schroeder.

34

35 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, our fifth

36 item concerns whether or not the Council wishes to pass a

37 resolution or express in resolution its desires

38 concerning Wildlife Information Service priorities.

39

40 The two priorities that I have down were

41 Priority 1 was subsistence uses and needs. The second

42 priority was deer population and trends. And I believe

43 that the education component was also discussed. I'd

44 just like to clarify that. And this would be supporting

45 the WIS project. Mr. Kessler, I believe has suggested

46 that we'll be going to an RFP on items that we, meaning

47 the Council and Staff, believe should be investigated

48 using the available funding.

49

50 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That's my

1 recollection and we had some discussion on this. Is
2 there any members of the Council who would like to
3 clarify that and I need a couple volunteers to look at
4 this WIS.

5
6 MR. ADAMS: I quit.

7
8 (Laughter)

9
10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Hernandez,
11 what's your feelings here on WIS.

12
13 MR. HERNANDEZ: Mr. Chairman, the Unit 2
14 Deer Subcommittee dealt with the WIS funding question.
15 Maybe they would be the ones to -- the Council members
16 sitting on that committee would be the ones to be
17 involved with that.

18
19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. If there
20 are a couple members or all that want to be involved with
21 developing those priorities, I think that's appropriate
22 for the Subcommittee. I need a couple volunteers.
23 You're pointing to everybody but yourself, okay, as the
24 Chair, Mr. Hernandez, of course, you'll be involved, is
25 there another member that will help him look at these?

26
27 DR. GARZA: (Raises hand)

28
29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, Dr. Garza,
30 as well as Mr. Bangs and Mr. Douville, that's the whole
31 Subcommittee.

32
33 DR. SCHROEDER: And Mr. Chairman. Mr.
34 Kessler, if the Council was expressing itself on this,
35 who would it be best to address this to in addition to
36 yourself, would this be to a Forest Supervisor question?

37
38 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman. Dr.
39 Schroeder. The final decision on where those dollars
40 will go to will rest with the Regional Forester, so if
41 you do want to send a letter or something it probably
42 would be best to go to the Regional Forester.

43
44 I might add that we do have the WIS group
45 that was identified previously of Dr. Garza, Mr. Kookesh
46 and Mr. Kitka. So it seems to me that what we're talking
47 about is sort of a mega-group of the folks working on the
48 Subcommittee for Unit 2 as well as those previously
49 identified for assisting with development and priority
50 setting for the overall Wildlife Information Services.

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: All right, thank
4 you. Dr. Schroeder, is there anything else we need to
5 clear this up?

6

7 DR. SCHROEDER: I think the intent is
8 clear here. I do have a question on, we've discussed
9 education and outreach in a number of context and we want
10 to make sure that's covered. I'm not really, really sure
11 that this is appropriate for WIS, I just put it in there
12 as a placeholder.

13

14 I think perhaps my inclination would be
15 to make sure that we express that someplace else. I'm
16 not sure there's a legitimate WIS project around
17 education.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kessler.

20

21 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman. Well, we're
22 still developing -- we'll be developing the guidelines
23 for the WIS. If as we develop those guidelines if we
24 want to have an education component in there we could.
25 It would dilute the other monies spent on different
26 inventory, monitoring, TEK projects or whatever others
27 that we might want to do. And I guess my thought is, is
28 that the education component would be probably better
29 paid for out of the normal Forest funds that are received
30 and working with OSM.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. And then we
33 can hire a manager that will incorporate the education
34 because that's a high priority for the Council.

35

36 Mr. Kookesh, did you want to decline off
37 one of those?

38

39 MR. KOOKESH: From the WIS, yeah. I
40 believe the Unit 2 Subcommittee can cover that very
41 effectively.

42

43 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. I think
44 they can take care of it, too.

45

46 Dr. Schroeder.

47

48 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, so just for
49 clarity, do we wish to have an educational component that
50 we'd include in WIS, is that the recommendation of the

1 Council.

2

3

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes.

4

5

DR. SCHROEDER: Okay.

6

7

8

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The subsistence use amounts.

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DR. SCHROEDER: Our sixth item, late in the day yesterday we heard a presentation concerning subsistence use amounts. And the background there was that there was significant Council involvement early on in this Office of Subsistence Management sponsored protocol group. Dr. Garza and Mr. Kookesh were scheduled to work with this protocol group. Because of Federal Advisory Committee Act concerns, no Regional Council members, Chairs or members, are able to participate in protocol groups as they're currently structured.

The suggestion yesterday was that the Council request that a subcommittee be formed to deal with the question of subsistence use amounts for Southeast Alaska.

By way of background, subcommittees of the Council meet the Federal Advisory Committee Act standards and a subcommittee of the Council can include any membership that's appropriate and members of a subcommittee do not require Secretarial approval. To have a subcommittee requires direction from the Federal Subsistence Board. The Unit 2 Deer Subcommittee was approved by the Federal Subsistence Board in an administrative action. So the Federal Subsistence Board has the authority to say yes, you may have a subcommittee.

So I'd like to know the Council's wishes in this respect. I've just provided a brief note, I believe that the intention of the Council was that a subcommittee looking at subsistence use amounts would include State, Federal and user representatives in addition to Council members.

45

CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Tribal.

46

47

48

49

50

DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Littlefield mentioned tribal. And that as with any subcommittee of the Council, it would report back to the Council. If that's the intention of the Council please make that clear and

1 suggest who might serve on this, and, again, this would
2 be a formal request to the Federal Subsistence Board for
3 action at a work session.

4
5 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That would be my
6 recommendation and I think we can make a draft
7 recommendation on the number of Council members, we did
8 that last time for the U2. The Federal Subsistence Board
9 will either say yea or nay and they'll weigh in and say
10 we think you should expand it or you're choices or find
11 and I guess we should look at -- I would think probably
12 about three Council members, three tribal members, three
13 public and State and Federal advisors or something real
14 close to what the subcommittee U2 Deer is.

15
16 So any Council want to weigh in on this?
17

18 I do think we need to ask the Federal
19 Subsistence Board, is that okay to do that, that we ask
20 the Federal Board if we could set this up?

21
22 (Council nods affirmatively)

23
24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. So then we
25 need some suggestions on how it would be formatted.

26
27 Mr. Kookesh.

28
29 MR. KOOKESH: The original subcommittee
30 was Dolly, Dr. Garza, and myself, correct, before you
31 were removed?

32
33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Well, what's going
34 to happen is, all we can do is make a recommendation to
35 the Federal Board, and if you'd like to be on there,
36 that's great, as well as Dr. Garza and -- I think we
37 should have about three, and then -- Dr. Garza, would you
38 serve on there?

39
40 DR. GARZA: (Nods affirmatively)

41
42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there another
43 member that's willing to serve on the subsistence use
44 amounts?

45
46 DR. GARZA: How about Frank.

47
48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Pardon me?

49
50 DR. GARZA: How about our Hoonah guy?

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I'm reluctant to
2 ask him to serve if he's not here, I don't want to do
3 that.

4
5 MR. KITKA: (Raises hand)

6
7 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kitka. So
8 those would be three, and I just threw it out there for
9 discussion. I thought it should maybe be three. It
10 would be formulated real close to what the U2 Deer
11 Subcommittee is because we know that did a -- they did
12 kick that back to us and say form it like that and I
13 think if we stayed close to that format and made sure we
14 included other people they would feel it was okay.

15
16 Dr. Schroeder.

17
18 DR. SCHROEDER: The purpose of this group
19 would be to address the subsistence use amounts as being
20 discussed in the overall protocol between the Office of
21 Subsistence Management and the Federal Program and the
22 State. This group may also wish to take on the ANILCA
23 responsibility of the Council to evaluate subsistence
24 uses and needs and whether needs are being met in
25 Southeast Alaska. We've discussed that a number of times
26 at our Council meetings as being an item that is part of
27 our responsibility under annual report, and this would
28 also be a good task to put on this subcommittee.

29
30 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I agree. That's
31 something we're charged to do. Dr. Garza.

32
33 DR. GARZA: Mr. Chairman, thank you. And
34 following the same format of the U2 Subcommittee, the
35 State and Federal reps would be non-voting is my
36 understanding and we have an excellent public sitting
37 right in front of us so perhaps we could throw Harold
38 Martin's name in now.

39
40 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I have no problem.
41 Mr. Martin, would you be willing to serve if this
42 subcommittee were formed and you were asked to serve on
43 subsistence use amounts? Because we did recommend names
44 last time so it would be appropriate to recommend your
45 name if you're willing to serve?

46
47 MR. MARTIN: No problem.

48
49 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. And then we
50 would need a couple others. I think this is, because

1 it's subsistence use amounts, the public that
2 participates should be from rural communities because
3 we're discussing what's needed in the rural areas. But
4 we may be overruled.

5
6 Mr. Bangs, and then Dr. Garza.

7
8 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
9 nominate our BS specialist for an alternate.

10
11 (Laughter)

12
13 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We did have an
14 alternate on the other one, so.....

15
16 (Laughter)

17
18 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD:Mr. Adams are
19 you prepared to serve as an alternate?

20
21 MR. ADAMS: (Nods affirmatively)

22
23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, we
24 appreciate all of your volunteerism because we know that
25 this is all done for free.

26
27 Dr. Schroeder.

28
29 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, I think
30 we've dealt with item six.

31
32 Item seven may or may not be an action
33 item at this time. We heard from Mr. Turek that the
34 Board of Fisheries is soliciting proposals for the coming
35 Board of Fish cycle for Southeast with a deadline of
36 April 1. If there are proposals that the Council wishes
37 to submit to the Board of Fisheries we should discuss
38 those.

39
40 Also I'm not clear whether -- my
41 recollection's imperfect on whether the Council expressed
42 any feelings concerning the establishment of a personal
43 use/subsistence fishery for salmon on the Stikine River.

44
45 So those are the issues to address under
46 Item 7.

47
48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, we need to
49 be out of here, according to Melinda by 10:15, and then
50 we will be okay if we get out of here, so we've got a few

1 minutes. We still have a few things to cover. I'd like
2 to make sure that Mr. Bangs is added to the agenda, okay,
3 and then let's go over to this Board of Fish issues.

4

5 Before we do that, Dr. Garza had
6 requested the floor and then we'll go to Board of Fish
7 proposals.

8

9 DR. GARZA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just
10 one final item on Item 6, if we are forming that
11 subcommittee, I would recommend that if it is done,
12 expeditiously, that the first meeting be prior to our
13 Wrangell meeting in the fall.

14

15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kessler, can
16 that be done, could we have this in a work session, do we
17 have to -- how long would it take?

18

19 MR. KESSLER: I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman,
20 you're going to have to ask me the question again, I was
21 paying attention to something else.

22

23 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We wanted to know
24 how long it would take you to get to the front.

25

26 (Laughter)

27

28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Actually no -- we
29 were timing it.

30

31 (Laughter)

32

33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: No, we would like
34 to do this as soon as possible, the subcommittee and we
35 want to make sure it goes through at the fastest speed we
36 can make it so how would we request this to the Federal
37 Board and make sure that it goes very timely?

38

39 MR. KESSLER: I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman, I
40 don't even know what you were talking about, sorry.

41

42 (Laughter)

43

44 MR. KESSLER: I was working on something
45 else back there.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Dr.
48 Schroeder.

49

50 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman. Supervisor

1 Kessler.....

2

3

(Laughter)

4

5 DR. SCHROEDER:the question was the
6 Council wants to form a subcommittee to address
7 subsistence use amounts, and this would require
8 administrative action by the Federal Subsistence Board,
9 if this could be passed at a work session of the Federal
10 Subsistence Board, and the question was, how quickly
11 could that be done?

12

13 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure
14 I know the answer to that. The Federal Subsistence Board
15 meets every few months. They have a work session coming
16 up next Friday, that's their next meeting. I believe the
17 next meeting after that isn't scheduled until July. So
18 there could be other meetings scheduled between now and
19 then, I just don't really have an answer for you.

20

21 I do know that the Office of Subsistence
22 Management and the Federal Board tries to take up issues
23 as rapidly as they come forward, and that's probably as
24 much commitment as I can give. Mr. Knauer might have a
25 different answer.

26

27 MR. KNAUER: (Shakes head negatively)

28

29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Knauer does
30 not have a different answer he says.

31

32 Okay, well, the answer is soon. We would
33 like it done as soon as possible, and hopefully with your
34 help we can get this done quickly.

35

36 Okay, we're back on Board of Fish
37 proposals.

38

39 Mr. Jordan.

40

41 MR. JORDAN: Mr. Chair. I want it
42 clarified, I thought the deadline for proposals was April
43 8th, did I hear that wrong?

44

45 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: April Fool's Day.

46

47 MR. TUREK: Mike Turek, Fish and Game.
48 Chair. Council member Jordan, you're probably right. I
49 didn't know the exact date so I said just to be safe
50 April 1st. But if it's April 8th then -- one thing I'd

1 like to say while I'm up here and have the opportunity, I
2 really stress that the RAC submit some proposals to the
3 Board of Fisheries and have some people -- have someone
4 planning to attend because as you're probably well aware
5 the Board of Fishery has a lot of people attending,
6 representing organizations, both national and local and
7 international and there's no organized body from
8 Southeast Alaska representing subsistence users. So it
9 would really be good to have the RAC be involved with the
10 Board of Fisheries, both with proposals and attending the
11 Board of Fishery meeting.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, thank you.
14 Proposals. Anybody. Mr. Hernandez.

15

16 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
17 I would make a request that the Council consider a
18 proposal that would deal with the problem, which was
19 something brought to me by my community members and it
20 may also be a problem in other communities and that is
21 with the proliferation of lodge operations in the rural
22 communities. There is a lot of use by lodges utilizing
23 fish taken in areas that are designated as subsistence
24 and personal use areas for their customers at the lodges.
25 And we feel that this should constitute a commercial use
26 and not be allowed in areas designated for subsistence
27 and personal use only.

28

29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Council comments.

30

31 DR. GARZA: I'll second that.

32

33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. What's the
34 wishes of the Council, discussion here.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any objection.

39

40 (No objections)

41

42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We need to -- or
43 do you have enough to craft something with this, Dr.
44 Schroeder.

45

46 DR. SCHROEDER: (Nods affirmatively)

47

48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, is there any
49 objection from the Council to submitting this as a
50 Council generated proposal.

1 MR. KOOKESH: This is to the Board of
2 Fish.
3
4 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: The Board of Fish.
5 Mr. Jordan.
6
7 MR. JORDAN: I'm not sure how you would
8 word a proposal such as that but I'd sure be willing to
9 work with somebody in trying to get the language right,
10 or even if it takes multiple proposals to accomplish what
11 you're talking about.
12
13 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I think our expert
14 is Mr. Casipit and he could develop Federal or State
15 proposals, you know, to meet the guidelines that are
16 required and as well as Mr. Johnson on the wildlife side,
17 so I think that's where we could depend on the expertise.
18
19 Any other Council, have any objection to
20 this.
21
22 MR. KOOKESH: I have a question.
23
24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kookesh.
25
26 MR. KOOKESH: How does it work if you're
27 a lodge, you know, if you're a charter boat and you have
28 an issue with this? Because I'm seeing this as a -- the
29 lodges are coming, the non-resident issue is big and I'm
30 just wondering, should we charter boats be voting on this
31 thing, too, or are we in conflict?
32
33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Well, I'm just
34 asking if there's any objection to go ahead and do this,
35 I guess you could then say you were or wanted to not be
36 included or if anybody felt uncomfortable with it. But
37 this is a Council generated proposal, so if the majority
38 of the Council wants to do this then it would just go
39 forward, if they're opposed, then we won't do it.
40
41 If there's no objection, I guess Dr.
42 Schroeder and Mr. Casipit will craft this so that it
43 meets the State requirements.
44
45 (No objection)
46
47 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, I heard
48 that the proponent, Mr. Hernandez and Eric Jordan would
49 work with Staff on this?
50

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That's my
2 understanding.

3
4 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, are there
5 other issues that the Council would like to raise as
6 proposals to the Board of Fisheries, either in coming
7 cycle or in connection with the implementation of
8 fisheries on the Stikine River.

9
10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Bangs.

11
12 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
13 Could I address Unit 2, briefly, is that what you want me
14 to do, give the report?

15
16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes, go ahead.

17
18 MR. BANGS: Okay. Last night we did
19 meet, the Fish and Game Advisory and it was, after a
20 brief presentation for the State/Federal harvest
21 reporting ticket that goes along with the deer tags in
22 Unit 2, it was passed unanimously so we do have the
23 support for that. And I might add, quickly, that we were
24 there until after midnight discussing the overabundance
25 -- or not overabundance, but the large runs of king
26 salmon on the Stikine and it went so late because we
27 couldn't come to an agreement on how to effectively stop
28 those fish so I strongly urge the Council to address this
29 State subsistence fishery on there. Because there is
30 going to be a lot of fish and everyone's afraid that if
31 we do allow those fish to pass into Canadian waters that
32 we may not get a chance at them again.

33
34 So that was one of the concerns.

35
36 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is it correct in
37 saying that you would like us to develop a proposal to
38 support a State subsistence fisheries in the marine
39 waters?

40
41 MR. BANGS: That's correct.

42
43 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Any Council
44 thoughts on this.

45
46 (No comments)

47
48 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: As a matter of
49 record we did support, after Yakutat, when we developed
50 the coho fishery, we did support at the next Board of

1 Fish meeting the development of the coho fishery that the
2 State has instituted Southeast wide, so, you know, the
3 precedence is there, we've developed a Federal fishery
4 and I think it makes good sense to develop a marine
5 fishery.

6
7 Dr. Garza.

8
9 DR. GARZA: If that was a motion I would
10 second it.

11
12 MR. BANGS: Yes.

13
14 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: We have a motion
15 on the floor, is there any objection to doing this?

16
17 (No objection)

18
19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there any
20 Council member that objects?

21
22 (No objection)

23
24 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Dr. Schroeder.

25
26 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, I had some
27 side discussions with Mr. Bangs and I believe there was
28 an interest in this particular fishery being abundance
29 based, and perhaps Mr. Bangs could clarify that because
30 that may be part of the Council proposal.

31
32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. But I
33 believe the fishery is already abundance based on the
34 Stikine. Mr. Bangs.

35
36 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
37 Yes, as far as the State side when we talked to the
38 Department about it, they suggested that that's the way
39 they operate their fisheries on abundance base and it
40 would fluctuate. And I brought the proposal to them as a
41 freshwater fishery as well so that we could possibly
42 execute a fishery in freshwater for subsistence.

43
44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there any
45 objection to that, to not just marine waters, it would be
46 a fishery and wherever it happened it happened, I think
47 the appropriate members would be Member Stokes, if you're
48 willing, and member Bangs, at least we would have one
49 from each of the two communities directly involved, any
50 others?

1 (No comments)
2
3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: If there's no
4 objection to the motion we'll just note that it is passed
5 with no objection.
6
7 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman.
8
9 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kookesh.
10
11 MR. KOOKESH: I don't know how this
12 agenda is proceeding here but weren't we supposed to
13 discuss FP05-17.
14
15 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: At the next
16 meeting.
17
18 MR. KOOKESH: It's going to be at the
19 next meeting?
20
21 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes, Mr. Kookesh,
22 we will -- I told the Federal Subsistence Board that we
23 would probably adopt that as our own and that's for the
24 next meeting, that's correct, it would be the ceremonial
25 one that did not -- 17, the one that did not receive
26 Federal Subsistence Board approval; is that timely now or
27 is it at the next meeting?
28
29 MR. CASIPIT: If you want to re-bring up
30 17, it would have to be submitted by March 25th, the
31 proposal.
32
33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: By March 25th of
34 this year, is that for the ceremonial fish permits?
35
36 MR. CASIPIT: Yeah, the open period for
37 fisheries proposals under the Federal system is currently
38 open and that closes on March 25th, so if the Council
39 wants to put that into the hopper for next year it needs
40 to be done by the 25th.
41
42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Thank you,
43 Mr. Kookesh for bringing that up. I was under the
44 impression it was later. Let's dispense with this other
45 one first, is there any objection or it's a done deal
46 otherwise.
47
48 (No objections)
49
50 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, we'll go

1 forward on that. Let's take care of 17. 17, real
2 quickly, was the ceremonial permit that was requested by
3 Ms. Wanda Culp from Hoonah, and it took about four hours
4 for the Council to debate this at the last meeting. One
5 of the things that the -- I feel certain that the Federal
6 Subsistence Board was willing to accept was a verbal
7 report in lieu of the written report. I think it would
8 be okay to ask for no report, I tried to tell them that
9 if a person was to say I need to take 10 deer for this
10 potlatch or a hundred fish for this potlatch that they
11 could comfortably write down 100 fish are taken without
12 making the person that got these call back and say I got
13 98 fish or I got 90 or I got 11 deer. In other words,
14 the numbers were so small as to not be measurable.

15
16 So the Council's wishes. I'd like to put
17 this back in. There was a lot of discussion, there are
18 some sideboards that the Federal Board would accept. I
19 believe at least a verbal report. But I would say that
20 we go for no report, that they just write down the
21 numbers that the people say they're going to take and it
22 still requires them to come forward with the -- you know,
23 and identify what the potlatch is for.

24
25 Council wishes on this.

26
27 Dr. Garza.

28
29 DR. GARZA: (Thumb's up)

30
31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Thumb's up to
32 resubmit this?

33
34 DR. GARZA: (Nods affirmatively)

35
36 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Well, we'll
37 need to -- Mr. Hernandez.

38
39 MR. HERNANDEZ: Mr. Chairman, I think
40 this probably would be a good way to approach it, I just
41 might ask if you've consulted with Ms. Culp, the original
42 proponent on this?

43
44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes. I think we
45 will make sure -- the Staff is going to put this together
46 so that it looks proper, and Mr. Johnson, can you help us
47 here on that?

48
49 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, according to
50 the current regulations that are in place now, for

1 funerary, mortuary type harvest, the tribe just needs to
2 keep a list of the successful hunters.....

3

4 MR. CASIPIT: You're looking at the
5 wildlife one, we're talking about fish.

6

7 MR. JOHNSON: Oh, you're talking about
8 fish, I'm sorry.

9

10 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Let's go to the
11 fish man, Mr. Casipit.

12

13 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'd
14 be happy to work with our anthropologist, Dr. Schroeder,
15 you know, a subcommittee of the Council, people that are
16 interested and the proponent to pull something together,
17 that's no problem.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: As well as Ms.
20 Culp. And tell her we will try, you know, it's our
21 intent to try to get something of what she asked, but
22 that we couldn't get exactly what the Council did but I
23 think we owe another try on that.

24

25 Dr. Schroeder.

26

27 DR. SCHROEDER: I think we have enough
28 for that proposal. Mr. Casipit would be the main Staff
29 person as we go through Littlefield, anyone else who
30 would wish to be involved in this proposal?

31

32 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Floyd.

33

34 MR. KOOKESH: I'm raising my hand for a
35 different reason.

36

37 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Kessler.

38

39 MR. KESSLER: Chairman Littlefield. Just
40 a comment for you, I think as you said the Board would be
41 very willing to go along with the verbal report, but I
42 think that the Board also felt that that it's to your
43 benefit to actually keep track of these things and
44 actually have a report. That it's better for the
45 Federal Subsistence Board subsistence user to actually be
46 able to document what occurred.

47

48 Anyway, that's just a feeling that I've
49 got from the Federal Subsistence Board and the
50 InterAgency Staff Committee.

1 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. As long as
2 the Council understands, we're going to ask for no
3 report, but recognizing that I'm telling you that the
4 verbal report, as well as Mr. Kessler telling you is
5 where it may end up. I was unwilling to accept it last
6 time because we didn't have our say on it. They offered
7 that to us and I can't make deals with them.

8
9 So I want you to recognize that we may
10 only get a verbal report, which is still an improvement.
11 But I will try to make the case for no report because I
12 don't think the numbers justify it and that's been the
13 Council's past recommendations for at least three years.

14
15 Dr. Schroeder.

16
17 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, if we're
18 done with that proposal.

19
20 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes.

21
22 DR. SCHROEDER: There's another proposal
23 that the Council may wish to submit to the Federal
24 Subsistence Board, that concerns Southeast king salmon.
25 As you'll recall at your last fisheries meeting, we were
26 not able to get back in our agenda and reexamine action
27 taken on the king salmon proposal that was before us and
28 it died without review. I believe there is still some
29 issues there.

30
31 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Let's go to Mr.
32 Kookesh first.

33
34 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman, no
35 disrespect, but I believe that we took the proposal from
36 Wanda and we made it a Southeast proposal.

37
38 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's our proposal.

39
40 MR. KOOKESH: Is it our proposal?

41
42 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: It's our proposal.

43
44 MR. KOOKESH: Okay.

45
46 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Yes, and the
47 intent was that the proposal is coming from the Regional
48 Advisory Council but we're going to talk to Ms. Culp and
49 let her know what we're doing and if she wants to
50 contribute her thoughts she can do so.

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, the king
4 salmon issue. As I remember that was a tie vote, and it
5 was over the number of kings that were allowed, whether
6 it was two or more; is that correct. Mr. Casipit.

7

8 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The
9 proposal was t deal with a directed fisheries and as well
10 as for incidental take.

11

12 The proposal as originally written would
13 close freshwaters to directed chinook salmon fishing, but
14 allow for an incidental take. The Council was split. If
15 I remember, some of the concerns and discussions was
16 regarded the amount of hatchery strays in various streams
17 throughout Southeast and the ability to harvest them if
18 we were to close freshwaters to directed fisheries.
19 There were many different concerns and issues swarming
20 around that issue.

21

22 Since the Council had a split vote, the
23 Federal Subsistence Board rejected the proposal in its
24 entirety. Staff feels that, I think we can deal with
25 whatever the Council decides, whether you decide to
26 resubmit the proposal or just leave it lay and just see
27 what happens over the next couple two or three years to
28 see if a problem develops.

29

30 But otherwise Staff is prepared to do
31 whatever the Council wants.

32

33 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Recognizing
34 that we do have a directed fishery in freshwater on the
35 Stikine for chinook now, that has to be recognized, and
36 we're asking for the State to have similar. So I don't
37 mind debating it again. Anybody have any problem with
38 it. I know where I stand on it, but if we want to put
39 this forward and debate it again, it's certainly fair
40 game.

41

42 Mr. Jordan.

43

44 MR. JORDAN: Mr. Chair. I'm going to
45 abstain from that. A very substantial part of my living
46 is made targeting king salmon and I feel uncomfortable --
47 I'll just abstain for now.

48

49 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I eat a lot of
50 them so I'm going to abstain too, so -- if there's no

1 burning desire to do that I guess we'll just let it -- we
2 don't have to do it so.....

3

4 (No comments)

5

6 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Dr.

7 Schroeder.

8

9 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, I think
10 we're pretty much through our list. The final item had
11 to do with whether or not the Council had a response to
12 -- I have two more items. One is the response to the
13 Governor's letter, we haven't had time to discuss that
14 letter very clearly, very -- in detail.

15

16 And the ninth item, Mr. Hernandez
17 reminded me that the Council had accepted the Unit 2 Deer
18 Subcommittee report and recommendations concerning
19 access.

20

21 We don't need further discussion on the
22 access question. We do on the response to the Governor's
23 letter. If there's something that the Council wishes to
24 do with that.

25

26 Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, I have Mr.

29 Bangs and then Mr. Kookesh.

30

31 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In
32 talking with the Department about the possible
33 subsistence fishery in marine waters or freshwaters, I
34 was informed and reminded that this might be the time to
35 consider and if the Council wishes, that we make a
36 proposal to allow for legal gear being rod and reel for
37 personal use in subsistence fishing.

38

39 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Cool. Council

40 wishes.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Is there any
45 objection to submitting a proposal on allowing rod and
46 reel for the use of subsistence fisheries?

47

48 (No objections)

49

50 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I don't have any

1 objection. Certainly in the Federal system it's a
2 recognized pattern, and in only one State fishery in the
3 state and that's at Redoubt is it allowed, but it
4 certainly has been a customary and traditional use in
5 other areas.

6

7 So any objection.

8

9 (No objections)

10

11 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: You understand
12 what we're doing there, Dr. Schroeder.

13

14 DR. SCHROEDER: Got it.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay. Governor's
17 letter, real quick, I still want to get -- I want to do
18 Harold first because he's been sitting here patiently
19 since day one, and I'd like to give him a few minutes and
20 then we'll come back to the Governor's letter. And
21 hopefully, you know, you're not going to take more than
22 15 minutes, I hope, so former member Harold Martin,
23 please come forward. And before you start, I just want
24 to let you know how appreciative I was of the meal last
25 night, and the reception that you had for the Council
26 members, it was excellent.

27

28 MR. MARTIN: Thank you, Chairman
29 Littlefield. Members of the Council. My name is Harold
30 Martin. I'm retired. I was tired yesterday and I'm
31 tired again today.

32

33 For the record I am the vice-president of
34 the Southeast InterTribal Fish and Wildlife Commission.
35 The Commission is made up of the three tribes that occupy
36 Southeast, Tlingits, Haidas and Tsimshians. Our
37 membership is made up of every community in Southeast
38 with a tribal government, our membership is by
39 resolution.

40

41 I was one of a team of five that
42 journeyed to Washington, D.C., on January 10th. Our
43 primary purpose to Washington, D.C., was to lobby on the
44 reauthorization of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The
45 Marine Mammal Protection Act was reauthorized in 1994.
46 We began to prepare for this in 1996 and it hasn't been
47 reauthorized yet. To get a good understanding of what
48 we're all about, the Indigenous People's Council for
49 Marine Mammals was organized in 1991 and its membership
50 is made up of all coastal communities, the Alaska Beluga

1 Whale Committee, the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission,
2 Alaska Nanook Commission, Alaska Native Harbor Seal
3 Commission, Alaska Sea Otter and Stellar Sea Lion
4 Commission, AVCP, Bristol Bay Native Association, Bristol
5 Bay -- Aleut Marine Mammal Commission, Cook Inlet Marine
6 Mammal Commission, Eskimo Walrus Commission, Inuit
7 Circumpolar Conference, Maniilaq Association, Sitka
8 Marine Mammal Commission, Southeast InterTribal Fish and
9 Wildlife Commission, North Slope Borough, Department of
10 Wildlife Management, Traditional Council of St. George,
11 and, again, membership is by resolution from tribal
12 governments, so we are a tribally authorized Alaska
13 Native Organization.
14

15 The reauthorization of the Marine Mammal
16 Protection -- the Marine Mammal Protection Act was
17 enacted in 1972 and has been amended and reauthorized
18 several times. It was last reauthorized in 1994
19 extending the provisions of the Act through fiscal year
20 1999. In recognition of the fact that Alaska Natives
21 have relied on marine mammals for food, clothing and
22 culture for centuries, Congress extended from the
23 moratorium on the taking of marine mammals, those taken
24 by Alaska Natives who dwell on Alaska's coast so long as
25 such takings are for subsistence or handicrafts and are
26 non-wasteful.
27

28 During 1994 Congress added Section 119,
29 which authorized co-management agreements between Alaska
30 Native organizations and the Federal agencies in order to
31 conserve marine mammals and to provide for co-management
32 of their subsistence uses by Alaska Natives. This
33 provision has resulted in a number of effective
34 partnerships between Federal agencies and Alaska Native
35 organizations. Recognizing the important role that
36 Section 119 has played in marine mammal management,
37 ITComm (ph) began working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
38 Service, National Marine Fisheries Service and Marine
39 Mammal Commission in 1999 to develop a joint proposal to
40 Congress that would enact co-management provisions and
41 authorize the parties to enter into enforceable
42 agreements that would allow for the management of
43 subsistence harvest before an affected marine mammal
44 stock is designated as depleted. Under the amendments
45 harvest management agreements between Native and the U.S.
46 Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries
47 Service would be enforceable by both parties and binding
48 on all members of Alaska Native Tribes or organizations
49 that are signatories to the agreements.
50

1 The joint proposal was an essential
2 element of a bill transmitted to Congress by the
3 Department of Interior and Commerce in 2000. When the
4 Bush Administration came to office in 2001, they
5 reassessed the proposal, while a few changes were made in
6 the language the amendments to Section 119 were essential
7 provisions of the bill transmitted to Congress in 2002.
8 During the 108th Congress a bill to reauthorize the
9 Marine Mammal Protection Act did not materialize. In
10 late 2004 Representative Gilcrest introduced House
11 Resolution 5104, the Prescott Marine Mammal Stranding
12 Program Amendment of 2004. Some of the non-controversial
13 provisions of the administration's bill were included in
14 House Resolution 5104 Section 16 of the bill contained
15 the package of harvest management amendments supported by
16 ITComm and the Federal agencies. Just prior to the mark
17 up the bill, however, the Legislative Council and
18 Governor's office raised questions about the amendments
19 to Section 119 of the MMPA causing Congressman Young to
20 agree to pull those amendments from the bill when it
21 reached the floor of the House. The bill that was
22 reported out of the House Resource contained the ITComm
23 support amendments. The bill never reached the House
24 floor for a vote. As reflected in AFN Convention
25 Resolution 03-09 and 04-10, the Native Community in
26 Alaska fully supports these amendments. AFN and ITComm
27 are ready to work with the agencies, the Alaska
28 Congressional Delegation and the Staff of the House
29 Resource Committee and Senate Commerce Committee to
30 resolve any perceived or real problems with the proposed
31 amendments in order to see enacted during Congress.
32 ITComm strongly supports enactment of amendments to
33 Section 119 that will enhance our ability to conserve
34 resources important to the subsistence way of life.

35
36 Number 2 is implementation of United
37 States/Russian bi -- oh, on the Marine Mammal Protection
38 Act, we met with the U.S. -- I'm trying to hurry Mr.
39 President [sic] -- we met with the U.S. Marine Mammal
40 Commission, three of our congressional delegations were
41 receptive to the new wording that they came up with,
42 which was also authorized by AFN. They saw no problem
43 with the new wording, there were concerns by the State on
44 the enforcement issues. They felt that enforcement
45 authorities should not be given to tribes but they had no
46 problem with authorizing regional organizations such as
47 ITComm with enforcement authority.

48
49 The indications are that the Marine
50 Mammal Protection Act reauthorization will be considered

1 this spring or summer. We felt that our trip down was
2 very productive.

3
4 We had some other -- but I'll skip
5 through that.

6
7 I also expressed an ongoing concern that
8 of over population of sea otters in Southeast waters.
9 We've struggled with this issue for a long time when I
10 served on the Sea Otter Commission, we brought that
11 before the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The U.S. Fish
12 and Wildlife Service said that only Natives are allowed
13 to take sea otters but the way we are taught as we grow
14 up we only take what we need and I don't have any use for
15 sea otters so I don't bother them, that's the way Natives
16 are, if we don't need something we don't bother it;
17 that's the way we're taught.

18
19 But the sea otters are normally an outer
20 coast animal. They weigh anywhere from 60 to 120 pounds.
21 They must consume at least one-third of their weight
22 every day to sustain themselves. And the concern is that
23 they feed on the same foods that we consider our
24 subsistence foods. They eat crab, they eat octopus, they
25 eat sea urchins, they eat the gumboots. I think back in
26 1995 when I became the subsistence director for Central
27 Council, I got a couple calls from two people here in
28 Petersburg, I remember one name, Mike Sheldon, was
29 crabbing either on Baranof Island or Kuiu Island, just
30 expressing concern that the sea otters were coming into
31 these bays that they were crabbing in. By now I imagine
32 those crabs are gone. I know out around Rowan Bay and
33 Bay of Pillars there's an island there, we used to go
34 through the pass, I used to get abalone, shelled abalone,
35 they're small, not real big, but they were there and they
36 were tasty, a lot of gumboots and there's nothing there
37 now, it's all been cleaned out. And years ago I remember
38 Frank See expressing concern on Indian Islands around
39 Hoonah saying that -- he referred to the gumboots out
40 there as Size 12s, they're all gone now, there's no
41 gumboots out there. I think Bob Sanderson in Hydaburg
42 says they're having to go further and further to get
43 their subsistence foods. So it is a concern.

44
45 I brought it before our U.S. Marine
46 Mammal Commission, they didn't know what to do about it,
47 and I talked to our Congressional Delegation, they didn't
48 know what to do about it. So if there's any ideas from
49 this Council on how to -- the big problem is these
50 animals are cute to the tourists so we have a big fight

1 with the tourists on the sea otters.

2

3 The other concern we had expressed was
4 the decline of seals in Glacier Bay. Glacier Bay is
5 closed to subsistence hunting yet there's a decline in
6 seal population in John Hopkins Bay, and we can't blame
7 this one on subsistence but there's a lot of charter
8 boats in there, there's a lot of kayakers, a lot of
9 cruisers in there. And also expressed concern about the
10 decline in seal in Disenchantment Bay around Yakutat, the
11 cruise ships -- it is felt that the cruise ships are
12 getting too close to the glaciers and separating the pups
13 from their mothers.

14

15 That's the extent of my presentation.

16

17 There is one other thing, it's been
18 seething in me, it's been a couple days, I've been trying
19 to get it out of my system but it's still irritating
20 there. I was offended by remarks made by one of your
21 Council members a couple days ago when he said that
22 because the take by subsistence users is very minimal,
23 that we feel that we have to be excused from conservation
24 and went on to say that we should be the standard bearers
25 for conservation. It just didn't sit right with me.

26

27 Our stories go back beyond the ice age
28 and the great flood. I'm sure the Haidas, and the
29 Tsimshians, the same stories. The stories are that when
30 we came over the ice or under the ice we settled in
31 Southeast Alaska and because we settled Southeast Alaska
32 we became the first stewards of this land. By becoming
33 the first stewards of this land we became the first
34 conservationists of this land. By becoming the first
35 conservationists, we had to learn the lifecycles of the
36 animals, the land, the plants and the fish from the sea.
37 We established seasons on when to take certain animals,
38 plants and fishes. We had ceremonies for our fish. We
39 used to have ceremonies on the banks of the river
40 welcoming the first fish back. We are taught to take
41 what we need. We believe the great spirit put us on this
42 earth as Native people, we believe they put the animals
43 there for our use, we prayed to a great spirit long
44 before the first missionaries came to this land.

45

46 (In Tlingit) In reference to a great
47 spirit above, religion is not something that the
48 missionaries came to tell us about. We talk about our
49 spiritual relationship with our environment. We believe
50 everything has a spirit. We believe that the rivers have

1 a spirit, the creeks have a spirit, the trees have a
2 spirit, plants have spirits, everything has a spirit.
3 That's our spiritual relationship, which is also our
4 religion.

5
6 Conservation is taught to us by our
7 parents. My dad taught it to me, his dad taught it to
8 him, I teach it to my children, I teach it to my
9 grandchildren, I taught it to my nephews.

10
11 So I'm offended when somebody says that
12 we should be excused from conservation because our take
13 is so small. I think when we refer to a non-conservation
14 issue, I think we're saying that we're not a threat to
15 any species.

16
17 Mr. Chairman, thank you for this time.

18
19 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Gunalcheesh, (In
20 Tlingit). Thank you for your words older brother and as
21 you well know this Council can accept comments on any
22 fish and wildlife resources in our region, and this is
23 appropriate as well as I want to acknowledge your past
24 participation in the halibut fishery because many of the
25 subsistence uses that we have in Southeast Alaska are
26 directly responsible -- directly come from Mr. Martin and
27 his involvement in other issues too, so I'd like to thank
28 you very much for your proposal and also waiting to the
29 very end.

30
31 I'm sorry we couldn't give you more time
32 to go through this but we're really rushed. So thank you
33 very much.

34
35 MR. MARTIN: Thank you.

36
37 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, we got one
38 item real quick, we're not going to do the Regional
39 Council manual unless somebody has a burning desire to do
40 so, but we do need to address the Governor's letter which
41 is the one item left, and first we'll go to Mr. Kookesh
42 and then try to take care of the Governor's letter.

43
44 MR. KOOKESH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
45 You mentioned that you had two items for your May
46 meeting, and I was wondering if, because it became such
47 an issue awhile back about the University Land
48 Selections, and I was wondering if when you go up north,
49 if this Board has no objection, if you could talk to how
50 those selections will pertain to areas that people

1 subsist in, if that's an issue or not.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Certainly some of
4 those land withdrawals will affect subsistence uses, and
5 even though those lands are State lands, in almost every
6 case they abut Federal property and if there's no
7 objection I can certainly bring that up to the Federal
8 Board and see if they will say something on our behalf.

9

10 Is there any objection to that.

11

12 (No objections)

13

14 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, Governor's
15 letter.

16

17 DR. SCHROEDER: Mr. Chairman, there was
18 some interest in responding to the Governor's letter. I
19 believe Mr. Adams may wish to address that.

20

21 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Mr. Adams.

22

23 MR. ADAMS: Just very simple. I don't
24 think that we have any issues to discuss with the
25 Governor until Alaska comes into compliance with ANILCA.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: I agree with that
30 statement so, therefore, we don't need to do anything
31 about it other than I think I agree with that statement,
32 that, the State, any time they want to have a high level
33 meeting they can have those high level meetings
34 themselves when they adopt .805 of ANILCA. So I think
35 we'll just leave that there. They know that we agree
36 with what you said.

37

38 Is that it. Dr. Garza, would you
39 summarize what's going on here for our last comments,
40 I'll give you the floor.

41

42 DR. GARZA: Heck no, I was going to move
43 to adjourn.

44

45 MS. PHILLIPS: Second.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: Okay, move to
48 adjourn, that was simple. But one thing first, Mr.
49 Lopez, and the other members of Petersburg, thank you for
50 your hospitality, we're sorry we can't give you some time

1 here at the end, we're really pressed. But I do want to
2 thank you for letting us enjoy your community and your
3 hospitality, thank you.

4

(Applause)

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CHAIRMAN LITTLEFIELD: That's it, let's

7 go.

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(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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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 466 through 524 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the VOLUME IV, SOUTHEAST FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically by Salena Hile on the 25th day of February 2005, beginning at the hour of 8:00 o'clock a.m. at Petersburg, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by under my direction and reduced to print to the best of our knowledge and ability;

THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 17th day of March 2005.

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