

1 SOUTHEAST ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6 VOLUME III

7
8 Juneau, Alaska
9 September 25, 2008
10 9:00 o'clock a.m.

11
12
13 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

14
15 Bertrand Adams, Chairman
16 Michael Bangs
17 Donald Hernandez
18 Harvey Kitka
19 Floyd Kookesh
20 Richard Stokes
21 Lee Wallace
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23 Regional Council Coordinator, Robert Larson

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Juneau, Alaska - 9/25/2008)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Everyone please take your seats, we're going to get started here.

(Pause)

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: (In Tlingit)

Good morning everyone.

We're going to get started here. We're hoping maybe we can get done here by noon, we hope. If we don't have too many long-winded people.....

(Laughter)

CHAIRMAN ADAMS:you know, I think we can make it.

(Laughter)

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Before we get started I want to share with you a card that came from the cheerleading group, and they all signed it and they said here, to the Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council, Staff and guests. Thank you so much for your generous support for the Crimson Bears Varsity and Jr. Varsity cheer team. We raised \$640 which helps us get to the playoffs, go Bears. So we did a good job. I think last year in Sitka, for the Girl Scouts, we raised 400 and some dollars and we topped this off even without the fines.

(Laughter)

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Great, we'll get started here. So, Mr. Barton, are you here, sir, all right, come on forward and we'll put you first on the agenda. I didn't see you, you were hiding behind someone else back there.

Go ahead, sir.

MR. BARTON: Good morning. My name's Neil Barton, I am the newly the area Region 1 management

1 coordinator with the Douglas Office in basically Region
2 1. I was the area biologist out of Douglas for the 10
3 previous years.

4
5 Anyway, I've been asked to come here to
6 -- it's probably going to be more of answering questions
7 than give a presentation, you know, regarding the Unit 4
8 Northeast Chichagof Controlled Use Area doe closure that
9 we're thinking of doing. And I'll just kind of, in a
10 nutshell, as you all recall a couple years ago we had a
11 tremendously hard winter, really put the hurt on a lot of
12 deer, especially in some areas of northern Southeast
13 Alaska. Last year we ended up closing the doe season on
14 Northeast Chichagof and then later in all of Unit -- or
15 a larger area, including Unit 1C even because of our
16 concerns with harvest of does when the population was
17 really low from the previous winter's snow load and a lot
18 of natural die off. Well, this year Phil Mooney, who's
19 the area biologist in Sitka, has been doing a lot of
20 recon, especially in Northeast Chichagof and Northeast
21 Southeast in Unit 4 and boating around and spent -- I
22 think he and a couple other colleagues spent about a week
23 on the Chichagof road system in late August driving the
24 roads, hiking in, looking for pellets, looking for
25 browsing sign and just looking for deer in general, and
26 also doing a survey or two from the air.

27
28 But anyway as we kind of all know there's
29 still low deer numbers in some areas, that area with the
30 road system is extremely vulnerable to hunting and it
31 seems to have been extremely hit hard a couple of winters
32 ago with winter kill and the Department of Fish and Game
33 is still considering going forward with a closure of the
34 doe season for this year under State regulation because
35 we're concerned about really harvesting does at a time
36 when we think we need just about every reproductive
37 female to kind of help this population rebound. And
38 Steve and I were talking in the back and he has, you
39 know, things to say about the Federal season as well.

40
41 But, anyway, so that's kind of, in a very
42 general sense, I just wanted to come and, you know, let
43 you guys know where we are with it. Phil Mooney, even at
44 this time is boating around again in the Hoonah area
45 looking at different places and hiking around and he's
46 going to have a public meeting in Hoonah tonight at 6:00
47 p.m. and it's been on the radio and I've got a flier here
48 with a teleconference phone number people can call into
49 if they want and he's going to have the community of
50 Tenakee patched in and also I'm sure a number of private

1 folks who are going to call in and try to pick up on
2 what's really happening here. And the meeting's going to
3 basically be on, you know, what he's been seeing for deer
4 and our concerns about the deer population and then
5 talking about the Federal and State issues and basically
6 the closure of a doe season under State regs.

7

8 So with that, I guess I'll, you know,
9 maybe let Steve talk and then we can ask questions or
10 however you want to do it.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Can I ask a question
13 before Steve.

14

15 MR. BARTON: Yes.

16

17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Do you have some data
18 that's available now as a result of last winter's
19 snowfalls and so forth?

20

21 MR. BARTON: Yeah, Bert -- Mr. Adams. We
22 didn't have any opportunity really to do deer pellet
23 transects on Northeast Chichagof just because the snow
24 stayed so long this spring it kind of cut into our
25 ability to do transect. But Phil does have a bunch of
26 information, some of which I could get you -- not, you
27 know, I can't really quote you right here other than when
28 he was on Northeast Chich road system in late August they
29 did cover 340 or 350 miles of road system looking for
30 deer and I guess they saw 20 animals. And then more than
31 that, in more of a subjective manner they spent a lot of
32 time hiking around looking for signs of deer, deer
33 browsing on the vaxinium as well as some of the forges
34 and looking for pellets and they saw very little sign of
35 deer there, so it's not so much -- there's not a lot of
36 hard quantity data other than last year, you know, two
37 years ago we know we lost a lot of deer because there was
38 a lot of mortality in some of the areas in Northern
39 Southeast. And then this year his kind of more
40 subjective analysis based on spending a lot of time on
41 the road system where a lot of hunters are going to hunt,
42 not seeing much sign at all.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, thank you. And
45 since I started off the question, is there any member of
46 the Council would like to pose a question and then we'll
47 have Steve do yours.

48

49 Go ahead, Donald.

50

1 MR. HERNANDEZ: Is the State looking at
2 a unit-wide doe closure or are you looking more towards,
3 you know, specific areas of the units?

4
5 MR. BARTON: Yeah, this time, I think for
6 the most part just Northeast Chichagof and a big part of
7 the reason, again, is that area seems to get extremely
8 hard with deep snows and then the road system puts some
9 deer in that area in a higher state of vulnerability just
10 because of the access.

11
12 Now, we have talked during meetings this
13 summer about if in late October we start seeing snow
14 piling up on the beaches again like we did two years ago
15 and by early November when the rut's going on, you know,
16 we see deep enough snow that forces deer onto the
17 beaches, I personally think some of the areas like
18 Seymour Canal, Northern Admiralty would be areas that we
19 should seriously consider closing the doe season as well
20 because those areas really get hit hard from Juneau
21 hunters and I think they could really have an impact
22 because they could skiff out and if the deer are on the
23 beaches, the few remaining deer we have, I think, would
24 be very vulnerable to overharvest. So I think we should
25 watch that but at this point we're only talking Northeast
26 Chich.

27
28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Anyone else. Floyd.

29
30 MR. KOOKESH: I'm going to wait until
31 both of them are finished.

32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Great. Steve, go
34 ahead.

35
36 MR. KESSLER: Thank you Mr. Chairman.
37 Steve Kessler with the Forest Service.

38
39 The Hoonah Ranger District, in
40 particular, is very concerned about this situation also
41 and he, of course, has been in almost constant contact
42 with Phil Mooney and they've talked with a number of
43 local hunters and the local hunters are concerned about
44 the situation, particularly in Northeast Chichagof.
45 Given that, the Forest Service recognized that we would
46 probably need to take some sort of special action in Unit
47 4 and, in particular, in the Northeast Chichagof
48 Controlled Use Area this year. And so we ended up
49 putting forward a special action request to the Office of
50 Subsistence Management giving us the -- asking for the

1 authority to manage in-season for Unit 4 this year as far
2 as closing the antlerless deer season.

3

4 That actually ended up being withdrawn
5 and another tact was taken. And what that was, is that
6 the Forest Service, Regional Forester, Denny Bschor,
7 requested that the four district rangers who have
8 authority in Unit 4 be granted delegated authority to
9 manage the deer in Unit 4. So this is the same thing
10 that was done last year for Units 1C and 3. If you
11 remember, as part of your action on those proposals,
12 there was words added to the regulation to provide
13 authority to the Petersburg District Ranger to manage
14 deer as needed so the Petersburg District Ranger could
15 take special actions and do in-season changes as
16 necessary in order to conserve deer and provide for
17 subsistence uses.

18

19 So we did the same thing for Unit 4 but
20 a slightly different way.

21

22 Wrote a letter to the Federal Subsistence
23 Board asking for that delegated authority per the
24 regulations that allow for delegated authority, the Board
25 has granted that, so now we will have delegated authority
26 for our rangers in Unit 4.

27

28 Now, to deal with the current situation,
29 we have a special action request that now has gone in to
30 close the antlerless deer season for the Northeast
31 Chichagof Controlled Use Area in parallel with the State
32 and tonight the public meeting at 6:00 o'clock is also
33 the hearing that is needed in order to have a closure
34 that is greater than 60 days, or have a special action
35 that's greater than 60 days.

36

37 And that's about it -- I guess that's all
38 I have on this topic. We're trying to work together with
39 the State, recognizing, again, that just like what Neil
40 described, is that it's not all of Unit 4, it's just
41 targeted areas where there are deer concerns and there is
42 heavy use.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Steve. Mr.
45 Bangs, please.

46

47 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If
48 there is a closure for the antlerless deer, is there
49 going to be a change in the dates of the season, you
50 know, in regards to antlers falling off in late December?

1 MR. BARTON: Yeah, the State season ends
2 at the end of December and, you know, last year when we
3 did close the doe season, you know, it basically meant if
4 you went on and it didn't -- you couldn't see antlers or
5 pedestals you simply couldn't harvest the deer so we
6 don't have any intent on changing the closing date from
7 December 31st to anything else but obviously if someone
8 goes out and harvests a deer that doesn't have antlers
9 they better make sure it has pedestals so it's a male and
10 not a female deer.

11

12 MR. BANGS: Thanks.

13

14 MR. KOOKESH: That begs a question.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead.

17

18 MR. KOOKESH: I've had more than once
19 where you -- where you shoot a deer with a rack and you
20 hit it in the head it slaps its head right to the ground
21 and busts the rack off, are you guilty?

22

23 MR. BARTON: Oh, no, in that case, again,
24 it's still a buck.

25

26 MR. KOOKESH: How do you know. How do
27 you know.

28

29 MR. BARTON: Well, you can see the
30 pedestals and it's -- obviously it's going to have male
31 sex organs but, you know, so you can kill an antlerless
32 deer it just has to be a male. So if the antlers fall
33 off, you know, you can still prove it's a male deer. But
34 that's a good question, yeah.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Hernandez.

37

38 MR. HERNANDEZ: Are we hearing from the
39 affected residents, say, in particular, people of Hoonah,
40 that maybe as of last year their needs were not being met
41 for deer and do we need to be looking at some kind of a,
42 you know, meaningful priority for this year to be in
43 compliance with Title VIII, are we looking at matching
44 seasons between State and Federal or are we providing
45 some kind of priority here if we're hearing that needs
46 haven't been met in the area.

47

48 MR. KESSLER: Well, first of all the
49 regulations are different for Federal than non-Federally-
50 qualified. If I remember correctly the limit is six for

1 Federal, four for non-Federal and the season is longer
2 for Federal through January 31st. So there's certainly
3 still a preference.

4

5 As far as actually getting and finding
6 your deer, obviously, is going to be more challenging and
7 nobody has proposed, for instance, maybe what you're
8 implying, that there be a closure of Federal public
9 lands, that has not been proposed as of now.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Kitka.

12

13 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm
14 still curious like what Don asked, is whether the
15 affected communities have -- and we don't really have a
16 means right now to know what they're saying, all we got
17 is what you guys are telling us, and without the public
18 input to us we -- it's really hard to act on this type of
19 thing.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Steve, go ahead.

22

23 MR. KESSLER: I think that if you've got
24 the time and you're available to listen to the discussion
25 this evening at 6:00 o'clock on the teleconference,
26 that's exactly what this is all about, is talking to
27 locals, it's a public meeting and hearing to discuss
28 these topics. And I haven't actually heard much about
29 whether needs are being met but I have heard through our
30 ranger there, that people are very concerned about the
31 deer populations and that the locals want to see this
32 regulation put into effect and we'll hear more about that
33 tonight.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: The teleconference,
36 where can we tap into this, just call in, is there a
37 number we can call in from our room?

38

39 MR. KESSLER: Yeah, there's a phone
40 number there to call in.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

43

44 MR. KESSLER: And if people.....

45

46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: All right.

47

48 MR. KESSLER:want to get together
49 some place I'm sure your coordinator could figure
50 something out maybe with a speaker phone or something.

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. All right.

2

3 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah, 1-800-night-hunt.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Night-hunt. Did you
6 have another one. Okay.

7

8 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah, I'm hoping that this
9 is -- you're not going to base all your decisions on this
10 one meeting, am I correct, because if I don't make the
11 meeting and I want to input and this is just keeping this
12 process fair, and hopefully you're not just going to do
13 one meeting and say, well, all five people on the
14 teleconference, this is what they said, you know, so this
15 is what we're going to do. And when I first saw this
16 analysis, you know, this analysis -- I noticed -- just
17 noticed -- one of the things that struck me was that it
18 was that -- was that it was -- it was -- when I was
19 reading the dial -- the -- the material, saying various
20 portions of Chichagof and language like that is too vague
21 for me if I was -- if I was -- I'd have liked to have
22 seen a chart to -- to -- you know, a map or something to
23 know specifically what you're talking about. Because I
24 think that would be really -- you know, because you say
25 various portions, that's like giving somebody a blanket
26 easement or something, where they can do whatever they
27 want all over the place.

28

29 But one of the things I'd like to know is
30 that -- is if -- I know there's -- we have the sport and
31 the Feds sitting right here, so -- but have they ever
32 thought about if there's a -- if there's a problem, about
33 shortening the season and about changing bag limits. Has
34 that ever -- hopefully that will be part of the
35 discussion, ongoing discussion. And for someone who
36 lives in Unit 4, you know, coming from Angoon, we don't
37 have a road system, and I'm noticing that this discussion
38 is being tailored to that one portion of Chichagof. But
39 the dialogue that I had with Mr. Larson was -- the other
40 day was talking about breaking Unit 4 up because last
41 year when I -- when I was going through this process of
42 -- of crying wolf with the State and trying to close the
43 season early, I wasn't in support of it, but they were
44 basing, from my reading of the material, they were basing
45 their decision on what the residents of Chichagof were
46 saying and on the -- the -- the cold winter season you
47 mentioned that happened two years ago and -- but they
48 were trying to apply the concerns from the Hoonah area,
49 which is a road system, to the Angoon area, which isn't
50 a road system, totally two -- two totally different

1 things, so my request was to -- we maybe should start
2 think about breaking out Unit 4 into the ABCC Islands,
3 the extra C is for Catherine. Yeah, there's two C's in
4 Unit 4 here.

5
6 But to break it out a little bit so we're
7 not segregated because things have -- times have changed,
8 things have changed, and this arbitrary design of the
9 unit system for our area, maybe you need to review it.
10 If it's rocket science then, well, we'll get past that
11 one, because we do need to get to the point of where if
12 we're going to start segregating out areas like you
13 talked about, the eastern side of Admiralty Island, maybe
14 we need to start drawing lines around there. Because,
15 you know, if there's going to be -- that's just my
16 opinion because I think this needs to be done like that.
17

18 I know that when we had our RAC meeting
19 -- informal RAC meeting, the decisions being made by the
20 RAC requested that we close Unit 4 because of the
21 previous winter and I was -- I was -- what bothered me
22 was why aren't people basing their decision on an
23 affected user, the Angoon area, we're basing it on the --
24 is my -- is my opinion, on what was going -- coming out
25 of Hoonah, and one of the members from down around the
26 Craig area, which goes to this issue of when -- I -- I
27 emailed to Bob, I said to Bob, Bob, when you make these
28 decisions on Chichagof, make sure that the affected users
29 are the ones that make their own decisions about what's
30 going to happen to them, don't be coming in from
31 Anchorage and deciding what's best for Chichagof, let the
32 people in Tenakee and Hoonah and -- and Juneau -- that
33 are affected, make the -- let them make those decisions
34 because they're the ones that have to live with what
35 little they get or don't, you know.
36

37 And I do know that you're talking about
38 subjective analysis and one of the things that I'd like
39 to know is the most successful hunters in the Angoon area
40 are the night hunters, you know, it's not subjective,
41 it's a fact, it's not -- just -- but -- I was wondering
42 if your -- if your -- Mooney, is it Mooney -- Phil
43 Mooney's going out in the evening time and doing that
44 along the shores, too, and making sure because you can
45 fly over them, I -- I know planes don't fly slow so but
46 -- but I'm just wondering if you're doing -- how many --
47 how many -- how many types of views you're taking, are
48 you going through a night hunting thing, I know a deer
49 could stand in one place and have -- go to the bathroom
50 all over the place and you can count, oh, that's a lot

1 there, pellets, but -- and -- personally, my brother,
2 Matt and I, we never agreed with pellet analysis because
3 they all have to go to the bathroom more than once so I'm
4 just wondering how many -- how many -- how many night
5 hunting, driving on the road, flying over, you know, just
6 making sure you cover all your bases before you really go
7 there.

8

9 But I really want us to make sure that we
10 start considering breaking Unit 4 up for our area, it's
11 time, and if it's rocket science and it's too complicated
12 for high paid people maybe we -- I won't go there
13 anymore.

14

15 But I was just seeing what Mooney and
16 them are up to, but I'd really like you to make your
17 decision based on their input, for those that are in the
18 affected area. Because I did go to Angoon, when I was in
19 Angoon last -- last year, last winter, Dianne's husband
20 and I, we saw -- we saw 33 deer in two days on less than
21 like two miles of shore. And then we do know that the
22 lack of take last year was based on -- on the fact that
23 winter never happened that fast and a lot of people were
24 waiting for winter. And the price of fuel at that time
25 was over -- almost 4.50 a gallon, so you just don't jump
26 up and run out there, you know, we don't have a blue
27 light special going all the time. I'm making fun of you
28 by the way, the Wal-Mart guy.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Floyd. I
31 think his points are well taken, you know, when you close
32 a whole area as what happened last time, it seemed to me
33 like there was good deer hunting down in his area, so if
34 that's possible I think it's worth looking into.

35

36 So any other questions.

37

38 Mr. Bangs.

39

40 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
41 Along the lines of what Mr. Kookesh is talking towards,
42 the division of the unit, which I think is a really good
43 idea, but it was interesting to me, I don't know if you
44 received this, but Mr. Larson sent us emails, I think I
45 even received it in the mail or at one of our meetings,
46 it was the snowfall accumulation. And it showed where
47 the heavy accumulation of snow and it was on the east
48 side of Admiralty Island and it went up through around
49 Juneau and then it went through Icy Straits across the
50 northern part of Chichagof, and if there is going to be

1 a division, I would like to see it based on where, you
2 know, the heavy mortality was because that was definitely
3 where there was a lot of winter kill was the, you know,
4 opposite side of where Floyd lives there. And I don't
5 know if that's possible but it was a distinct division of
6 snowfall is where it happened. I don't know how that
7 could work into the scheme of breaking that unit up to
8 where you could have closures based on where the
9 mortality's occurring.

10

11 But anyway I just wanted to make that
12 point, that was something that stood out in my mind.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Donald.

15

16 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
17 This is kind of difficult because it kind of forces us to
18 speculate a little bit. We have this meeting scheduled
19 for tonight and the Council's meeting here today and it
20 seems like, you know, if there's any action that needs to
21 be taken we'd have to kind of, you know, speculate about
22 what may happen here but, you know, I can speculate that,
23 you know, we may hear from local residents that their
24 needs have not been met and they may not be satisfied
25 with just having a doe closure for State residents. I
26 can certainly see the situation arising where they think
27 that's kind of an inadequate measure. They may object
28 to, you know, people from Juneau coming over on the ferry
29 to Hoonah hunting the road system and having a four buck
30 -- still be allowed to take four bucks, I think that's
31 very plausible. And I just -- you know, having this
32 opportunity now to kind of discuss what we would do if
33 that is the situation, are we satisfied by delegating in-
34 season management to the local managers, that they would
35 deal with that situation or does the Council maybe want
36 to say more about what we think could be the situation,
37 if that is what we hear.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: It looks like Floyd
40 wants to say more.

41

42 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman. Kind of
43 going along the lines that you're talking about there,
44 Mr. Hernandez, I was curious about Unit 2 when you have
45 only buck season, do you design it so the rut happens and
46 then you close it or do you -- how -- how does that work
47 -- how do you continue to have deer multiply when you
48 have an only -- a buck only season and there's no bucks
49 around -- no bucking bucks, you know, to take care of the
50 does, how does that work? Has that worked very

1 successful in Unit 2 where you take all the bucks out and
2 the does have no one to mate with and, if anything, a
3 smaller buck with smaller little nubbers that creates a
4 more inferior deer kind of thing.

5

6 MR. BARTON: That's a very good question.
7 I mean, you know, and I personally haven't spent much
8 time at all on Unit 2 and, you know, I can only presume
9 that through some, if not literature, some -- I know Dave
10 Persons done a bit of work down there on deer but I don't
11 think he specifically looked at that question. So I'm
12 assuming based on literature the managers down there are
13 pretty comfortable that even with the bucks only season
14 there's enough bucks to breed the does during the rut
15 but, you know, I don't know if there's any hard data from
16 Unit 2 specifically that shows that but I'm presuming
17 that through the literature they've determined that,
18 indeed, that isn't a major cause of concern but that's
19 about all I can say.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Anyone else. Mr. Kitka.

22

23 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Being
24 that I've been around the hunting portion of this along
25 with my dad and my grandfather and my dad and them at one
26 time petitioned the US Forest Service, that was before
27 statehood to allow the taking of does within the area.
28 At the time the does had multiplied to a point where the
29 browsing which they take part in the lower portions of
30 the valleys and things and when the bucks come back down
31 off the rut from the mountaintops to browse and then the
32 winter sets in on them there'd be no food for them, and
33 this is one of the reasons they asked for a doe season in
34 our area.

35

36 Realizing that Prince of Wales is
37 different than the islands on this northern parts where
38 we have higher mountains than they do and theirs is more
39 of a lower type mountains, but it might survive different
40 but up here, the reason for taking does was that the
41 browse was disappearing and they were dying.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Anyone else.

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Steve, go ahead.

48

49 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Adams. I do
50 want to respond to Mr. Hernandez about the delegation.

1 The way this delegation is being crafted
2 right now, it's not final, is that delegation to the
3 local manager would be to allow for the managers to close
4 the season completely to everyone but would not be a
5 delegation to close just to non-Federally-qualified, that
6 would have to come back to the Board.

7
8 So if there was a desire to close Federal
9 public lands on Northeast Chichagof to non-locals to the
10 Juneau hunters, essentially, that would actually have to
11 be another special action request that would go
12 specifically to the Board because closures like that need
13 a lot of documentation and there's a concern that those
14 types of closures, which the State might be very
15 concerned about, follow a very rigorous process.

16
17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Donald.

18
19 MR. HERNANDEZ: In that instance, is
20 there consultation between the Board and the Advisory
21 Council members?

22
23 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
24 Hernandez. In all cases on special actions, unless it's
25 such an emergency that has to be done instantly there's
26 always supposed to be local consultation and consultation
27 with the Chair -- at a minimum with the Chair of the
28 Council, and that's written right into the delegation
29 letter also.

30
31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Anyone else.
32 Donald, some more.

33
34 MR. HERNANDEZ: I was just going to ask
35 the Chair, you know, if you think that's adequate to deal
36 with a situation like that?

37
38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh, yes, definitely.
39 But one of the things that we did in this last instance,
40 you know, was Robert emailed everyone and we got a poll,
41 you know, and it was difficult to get a hold of Floyd,
42 you know, he was out -- he was out hunting and so, you
43 know, we didn't get a consensus from all of the Board
44 members but, you know, a majority and that's the basis on
45 which I was able to help make the decision so it's
46 effective.

47
48 Floyd, go ahead.

49
50 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, based

1 on the way that process went down last year, I'd prefer
2 that -- I'd prefer that if the special action is going to
3 occur, that it occur between the affected -- the affected
4 group, like example, Unit 2, the consultation with the
5 Unit 2 members and with the Chairman, because that body's
6 more knowledgeable when it comes to what's going in their
7 backyard as opposed to asking somebody in Unit 4 to
8 decide a fate of something they don't even know about.

9
10 Which gets me back to this point of -- of
11 he said, whatever -- whatever -- I talked to -- there's
12 a kid that works in our office, his name is Kamal, and I
13 said, hey, Kamal, you know, because, you know, I'm on the
14 RAC and you have to talk to people, right, that's how
15 this process evolves and stays effective, I said, hey,
16 Kamal, how did it go over in Hoonah, he said it didn't go
17 over very well and I said, well, what was the problem and
18 he said well the problem, he said people just had it too
19 good for too many years, because of the road system, it
20 was just such a wonderful thing that came to a head. But
21 he did say that there was -- it was tough out there and
22 Kamal's a young kid, he goes out and -- and he's not
23 afraid to walk up the mountain there. And that -- but
24 that was Kamal telling me the -- what was going on.

25
26 But the one thing that -- that -- that I
27 -- I talked to -- I have to say this, my brother, Matt,
28 I said, what do you think about what Fish and Game is
29 doing about closing, you know, the sky is falling, the
30 sky is falling and wanting us to run with them and yell
31 the same thing, this was when the closure was going down
32 and we had a four day notice and my brother recommended,
33 he said, if they're going to do it right, then do it
34 right, and he said the best way to do it is close it on
35 August 1st and say the season's closing December 14th,
36 you know, start a good management style plan going and
37 say -- and give us all a head's up and say the season's
38 closing earlier, we're reducing the take by one, I mean
39 to -- instead of waiting for December 14th and say we
40 want to close it and we want you to close it with us
41 right now. That's -- that's not the way to manage,
42 that's -- that's reactive. You need to take a good
43 management, you know, like sound management principle
44 kind of stuff and -- and, yeah, but I -- the -- but the
45 main thing, though, I think is -- is if you're going to
46 close the road system for Unit 4 and -- and Chichagof,
47 call Frank Wright and the Chairman.

48
49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: All right. Neil, I
50 think.....

1 MR. BANGS: A question.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, go ahead, Mr.
4 Bangs.

5

6 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
7 tend to disagree with Mr. Kookesh on a couple points.

8

9 I know I spoke earlier about the snowfall
10 and I think that when I was notified about it, I had
11 heard from a large number of people, because where we
12 take our deer is mostly from the eastern side of
13 Admiralty Island, that's where people of Petersburg have
14 always went to hunt and everyone was very concerned about
15 what was happening and it was an emergency thing, and it
16 was better -- it's called in-season management. I mean
17 that's the way I felt about it. It wasn't like you
18 decide now, well, we might have a bad winter, let's close
19 it down December 12th or 15th or something, it was in-
20 season, emergency order, that's the way I viewed it. And
21 when I was contacted, I thought I've heard a lot of
22 concerns about the heavy snowfall on Admiralty Island,
23 okay, well, it wasn't that bad on the western side where
24 Angoon is, okay, that's where I come to this difficulty
25 about closing the whole unit but, yet, it's an emergency,
26 we've got to do something. And maybe dividing it up is
27 the way to go but I'm confident that I'd rather see err
28 on the side of caution when we're talking population of
29 wildlife.

30

31 And I was all for the closure just
32 because I knew what the people that I, you know, my
33 community was concerned and I thought it was a good thing
34 to do, was to close it, but on the other hand, you know,
35 you have to take all these other things -- the road
36 system on Chichagof, you know, that's a separate area,
37 that's not my -- but we heard at the beginning of this
38 meeting, we heard Frank address that, that you got to
39 leave those does alone and we need to do something about
40 it to make that population rebound.

41

42 So, anyway, I just wanted to make that
43 point that there is a lot of micro-climates, so to speak
44 in that unit and you can't just -- you have to err on the
45 side of caution.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. I'm going to end
50 the conversation here. Neil, I think you've heard from

1 the Council.

2

3 MR. KOOKESH: One more comment.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We've got to move on, we
6 got to get out of here by noon.

7

8 MR. KOOKESH: One more comment.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Pardon?

11

12 MR. KOOKESH: One more comment.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: One more comment, Mr.
15 Kookesh.

16

17 MR. KOOKESH: I believe that Admiralty is
18 probably broken into two units -- into two ranger
19 districts, the Petersburg Ranger District and.....

20

21 MR. LARSON: No.

22

23 MR. KOOKESH: No. Juneau Ranger

24 District.

25

26 MR. LARSON: Juneau and Sitka.

27

28 MR. KOOKESH: Juneau and Sitka. We're
29 broken out a little bit. But my discussion -- my comment
30 on -- on -- on the breaking up of the ABCC islands is
31 that -- is that we also have to break -- continue to
32 further break out the island. I never talked about that
33 because we weren't getting into the -- into those -- into
34 the details of this thing. But it has to keep being
35 broken out because Unit 4 is a big unit by the way.

36

37 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Uh-huh.

38

39 MR. KOOKESH: It's not a.....

40

41 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

42

43 MR. KOOKESH: Okay.

44

45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Mr. Kessler.

46

47 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
48 I don't -- I think we're done with that topic but we do
49 have another one also for you and that is the moose in
50 Yakutat, and can we cover that briefly?

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes. Let me just make
2 a comment.....
3
4 REPORTER: Bert. Bert.
5
6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:first.....
7
8 REPORTER: Bert.
9
10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I think you heard, you
11 know, what the Council's position here is and I think you
12 got some, in my opinion, pretty good tools to start
13 working on, you know, as far as, you know, in the future.
14 Let me share with you my perspective of it.
15
16 You know, this Council really supports
17 local knowledge, correct.
18
19 (Council nods affirmatively)
20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So when I hear of a
22 situation like this, like the last time, you know, as I
23 said Bob polled the Council and a majority of the people
24 that called in or responded, you know, was in favor of
25 the closure. I live in Yakutat, okay, and so I don't
26 know actually what's going on here and that's why I
27 thought your comment would have been really important and
28 so had to move in that -- with the information that we
29 had, I had to, you know, make a decision and support the
30 closure.
31
32 But, you know, I agree with Floyd, you
33 know, in that if you can section these out and deal with
34 the people that are most affected by it. And, you know,
35 if there's something going on in Hoonah that causes
36 concern then, you know, Mr. Wright is the person to talk
37 with me about it and also, you know, Mr. Larson will get
38 the information out to the other Council members.
39
40 So, you know, that to me, is going to be
41 a lot more proactive than reacting the way we did the
42 last time.
43
44 So, thank you, and Mr. Kessler you have
45 something on moose, uh?
46
47 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
48 Yes, we do have something on moose.
49
50 We have a special action request to

1 modify the regulations in Yakutat, Unit 5A, except the
2 Nunatak Bench to go from a quota of 60 bulls for the
3 unit, 30 west of the Dangerous River and to change that
4 to 50 bulls total and 20 west of the Dangerous River.

5
6 The Alaska Department of Fish and Game
7 has already taken that action and Mr. Barton can talk
8 about that a little bit more, he's very familiar with all
9 the details of that area.

10
11 But the action -- that request has gone
12 to the Federal Subsistence Board, that analysis is
13 essentially done, we would expect that we would have an
14 action from the Federal Subsistence Board to match that
15 quota change, it's for conservation concerns, biological
16 need. IT does not affect, in any way, the seasons which
17 give local residents of Yakutat a preseason -- or, well,
18 a seasonal preference over all other hunters.

19
20 Now, I suggest that if you're interested
21 in more of the biology of it that Mr. Barton can address
22 it.

23
24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Excuse me. First, I
25 want to recognize Representative Bill Thomas, he just
26 stopped in, he's probably on his way somewhere else and
27 appreciate you stopping by Bill and have a safe trip
28 home.

29
30 REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS: I'm going to
31 Craig.

32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Going to Craig.

34
35 REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS: Can I make a
36 comment?

37
38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Sure, you bet. Come on
39 up. Come on up here.

40
41 REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS: Do I have to --
42 oh, okay.

43
44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I was going to call on
45 you anyhow but it looked like you were leaving, so, go
46 ahead.

47
48 REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS: Thank you, Mr.
49 Chairman. Members of the Committee. Representative
50 Thomas here with District 5.

1 I just wanted to point out that I went to
2 an Advisory Fish and Game meeting here several years ago
3 and I think Ben was recommending a Kanalku ladder, well,
4 we kept listening and hearing about it so I worked with
5 Cora Crome (ph) in the Governor's office and funded that
6 project, but it did come from this Committee's
7 recommendations of trying to get more sockeye up the
8 Kanalku, so just to let you know some other people are
9 listening to you, that's why I stopped in here today.

10
11 Especially, you know, the impacts of
12 Hoonah and I was sitting here and listening, and if it
13 was up to me I would make it a local hunt only because I
14 spend a lot of time in Hoonah and that is their primary
15 food source. To me, I live in Haines, if I want
16 subsistence I go to the food houses, if I lived in Juneau
17 it'd be Fred Meyer, but that is their Fred Meyers to
18 them.

19
20 So I just to let you know that some
21 people are listening to what you do. I met with Mike in
22 Haines the other day, he was touring through. I wrote
23 you letters. So, Mr. Chairman, just thank you, I got to
24 catch a flight.

25
26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, thank you for
27 taking a few minutes to come here, we appreciate that,
28 very much.

29
30 Gunalcheesh.

31
32 REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS: Gunalcheesh.

33
34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Kessler, you're back
35 on.

36
37 MR. KOOKESH: Did you write that down,
38 Neil, local hunt.

39
40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, go ahead.

41
42 MR. BARTON: Members of the Board. This
43 whole issue -- this issue with the request for a change
44 in the allowable harvest on the west side, basically the
45 Yakutat forelands, but changing from 30 to 20 on the west
46 side, you know, I have to apologize, Susan Oehlers is the
47 biologist up in Yakutat and we've been talking about this
48 for the better part of six months and we completely
49 forgot to go through this process that we're going
50 through right now. Never thought about it, you know, we

1 have -- we work very well together with the Forest
2 Service up there with the joint permit that's a Fish and
3 Game and Forest Service permit that we got going a few
4 years ago, I think, with your help, so it works very well.

5
6 But basically what we're -- the reason
7 I've asked for this change is because in the last five or
8 six years we've been starting to get some pretty good
9 comp surveys, composition surveys on the Yakutat
10 forelands. Our moose herd up there, as far as I'm
11 concerned is very strong. I mean we've got better, you
12 know, last year we counted almost 700 animals on the
13 forelands which is the most we've counted in 30 years,
14 partly because I think our counting methodology is
15 getting better, but just the same, you know, we're seeing
16 70 percent of the moose or so we probably got, you know,
17 at least 800 plus moose out there so we've got a good
18 herd of moose out there. But we're seeing in our
19 composition surveys is kind of a bit of a depletion of
20 bulls on the west side of the Dangerous River, where
21 access is so good, you know, you've got the road system,
22 you've got the Situk River, the Ahrnklin, those rivers
23 where people can really access. So in our surveys, the
24 past, you know, six or seven years, we've gotten three
25 comp surveys and we're looking at maybe 10 to 12 bulls
26 and maybe 15 per 100 cows on the west side of the
27 Dangerous, much better on the east side and then the --
28 most of the bulls are young bulls, you know, one and a
29 half to two and a half year olds that are being taken by
30 hunters where on the east side they're generally a little
31 older than that.

32
33 And what I want to do is just arrest, or
34 slow down the harvest of bulls for maybe one year, maybe
35 two years, instead of taking what we've been averaging,
36 about 25 bulls a year the last five years, get up to 20,
37 close the season and we might end up with 22, we might
38 end up with 20 or 23, but just last year we went all the
39 way to 31, and I don't want to see that happen for the
40 next year or two and try to stop the hunt between 20 and
41 25 for a couple years and just see if we start getting,
42 which we should, we should see a reaction or a response
43 in the survey data, to boost the bull to cow ratios a
44 little bit and hopefully get a few more older bulls in
45 that area which are better for breeding purposes.

46
47 And so it's just kind of a tool that I
48 want to implement to try to just preserve a few more
49 bulls on the west side where they're more vulnerable to
50 harvest and hopefully increase the productivity or the

1 situation of the moose herd where we increase that bull
2 to cow ratio on the west side of the Dangerous River.

3

4 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. You know, I
5 think this is a perfect example of what you can do with
6 the deer as well. Because we have in Yakutat, you know,
7 the Yakutat forelands and it's divided by the Dangerous
8 River and there's an allocation amount, you know, for the
9 west side of it and there's an allocation amount for the
10 east side and if, you know, I guess it used to be 25 or
11 so -- was it 30?

12

13 MR. BARTON: (Nods affirmatively)

14

15 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: 30 moose, and when it
16 reached that then they cut it off, even before the season
17 ends and vice versa on the other side. So he's got a --
18 identifying a problem here that I think we need to
19 address and the fact that there's -- because it's so easy
20 to get them on the west side of the Dangerous River
21 because of the road system and ATVs and all that, the
22 bulls are kind of suffering.

23

24 So thanks, what's -- any questions by the
25 Council on this.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Kessler.

30

31 MR. KESSLER: I just wanted to make a
32 comment that this is one of those places that we have the
33 actual quota in regulation and we see that as a problem
34 and we'll probably be coming back during the regular
35 wildlife regulatory cycle to eliminate this quota. In
36 most cases in regulations we have a statement that the
37 quota is set by the local manager working with the Alaska
38 Department of Fish and Game, or something on that order
39 and we expect to do this because we don't want to have to
40 come do a special action every single time that we need
41 to change the number of bulls or the total harvest or
42 anything else.

43

44 MR. KOOKESH: Comment.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Comment, Mr. Kookesh.

47

48 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah, I know, I know we
49 need to move on. But this is a good example where you
50 need to refer back to the -- to the -- to the Council

1 member that's in the affected area and -- and depend on
2 their decision.

3

4 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: And -- yeah, point well
5 taken. Another thing I'll just make you aware of, when
6 I was on the tribal council, the State and the Feds
7 worked real well with the tribal council when there had
8 to be any type of special action, I don't see that
9 happening now, Neil, so you might want to, you know, put
10 that back on the table.

11

12 I'll just use goat as an example on the
13 Nunatak Bench. Seen a lot of problems up there in the
14 past few years because of maybe overhunting and so forth
15 and, you know, the population has gone down below the,
16 you know, what they were looking for and whenever there
17 was any kind of special action that needed to be taken,
18 you know, to address that, why they always called me,
19 myself as the tribal president and we had a Fish and Game
20 there as well as a Forest Service person and we talked
21 about it and came to consensus and agreed with it and
22 moved on from there. Tricia was there and experiencing
23 those same kind of meetings. And I don't see that
24 happening now, and I mentioned it to the tribal council
25 that they need to assist that they be included, but maybe
26 from your end, too, maybe we need to, you know, make that
27 a part of the process as well.

28

29 So any other questions by anyone.

30

31 (No comments)

32

33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So what you're asking
34 from us here is to go ahead and support this proposal, or
35 is it just something that you're going to do?

36

37 MR. KOOKESH: I thought it was a special
38 action.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: A special action.

41

42 MR. KESSLER: This is a special action,
43 we do not need your support on this, if you would like to
44 take action to support it that would be fine, too. But
45 special actions are ones that we -- that the Federal
46 managers take with the consultation with -- with the
47 Regional Advisory Council, which we have just done for
48 sure and with the Department of Fish and Game. So it's
49 up to you whether you want to make a recommendation.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. No, I think we're
2 fine, just let it go.

3
4 MR. KOOKESH: Just look for feedback,
5 give a report.

6
7 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. A report
8 back. And then, of course, include the tribal council
9 because, you know, that's their area as well.

10
11 Thank you. Thank you, Neil and Steve.

12
13 MR. BARTON: Yeah, thanks for your time,
14 guys.

15
16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Dave Johnson,
17 please. We're going to go over the Board of Game
18 proposals, he's going to give a report on that.

19
20 Good morning, Roadkill.

21
22 MR. JOHNSON: Good morning, Mr. Chairman
23 and Council. I'll be very brief this morning, I
24 understand that's the direction from the Chair and I
25 support that direction.

26
27 Before you are there several proposals
28 that are from the Board of Game book that will be dealt
29 with at the upcoming Board of Game meeting here in Juneau
30 later in November. And there's a total of 56 proposals
31 in the book, some of which are deferrals from last year,
32 some are statewide proposals, and, of course, the rest
33 are from Southeast.

34
35 I took a look at all of those proposals
36 and tried to make a cut of proposals that may be of some
37 importance or may have some effect with regards to the
38 Southeast Regional Advisory Council on the Federal side
39 so what you have there before you is the listing of the
40 proposal as it's listed in the Board of Game book, the
41 proposed change, and also the current existing Federal
42 regulation. And there's some of my personal comments for
43 the Council to consider. So you may decide to take
44 action on any or none or any that you'd like.

45
46 I don't know that there's a need to read
47 each one but if there's individual ones you want to
48 address that's up to the Council.

49
50 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Questions or comments by
2 the Council.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: What's your wish on
7 these.
8
9 (No comments)
10
11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Johnson, I wish we'd
12 had more time to have gone over -- if this would have
13 been given to us, you know, earlier, I think we would
14 have had more time to go over them and maybe make some
15 comments but right now I hate to react to these things.
16 I don't know how the other Council members feel but
17 that's the way I feel at this point.
18
19 (No comments)
20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you for the report
22 and Bob just explained to me that it's not appropriate
23 for us to make any comments on these issues as well so
24 thanks for the report.
25
26 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
27 Council.
28
29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: But, you know, it'd be
30 a good idea if we had this beforehand in the future.
31
32 MR. JOHNSON: Just one other comment, Mr.
33 Chairman, of course, once the Board of Game does take
34 action we will have a meeting next spring again and we
35 will be reviewing what changes were made by the Board of
36 Game and then we will be looking at Federal regulations
37 to see, what, if any, actions may need to be taken on the
38 Federal side and, of course, the Council would weigh in
39 on those and there would be analysis for that.
40
41 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Sure, we'll look forward
42 to that, Mr. Johnson. Thank you.
43
44 (Pause)
45
46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Moving on here. Cal,
47 please, come forward. Okay, I was told that this was
48 very similar so it's appropriate, go ahead.
49
50 MR. CASIPIT: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1 Melinda's about to distribute a couple handouts for you.
2 One is a one-pager -- excuse me -- there's a one-pager
3 that Melinda's handing around. I've gone through this
4 big green book of all the proposals before the Board of
5 Fish. I've provided at the top there, it tells you when
6 they're going to meet, they're going to meet in Sitka,
7 February 17 through 26, the deadline for public comments
8 is February 3rd. There's the address of where to address
9 your comments. And then what I've done is I've gone
10 through the green book and I've kind of pulled out the
11 proposals that I thought the Council might be interested
12 in so that you might hone down on where you want to look
13 in that big green book.

14
15 I also wanted to call your attention to,
16 and you have a copy of them there, are the two proposals
17 that Peter Naoroz was talking about yesterday, about the
18 Chatham Straits issue and his proposal for a revision of
19 the ANS amounts for salmon throughout Southeast Alaska so
20 I thought the Council may want to comment on those as
21 well.

22
23 The other proposal that Mr. Naoroz has
24 there is some very specific amendments to the Northern
25 Southeast Seine Salmon Fishery Management Plan to protect
26 Kanalku bound sockeyes, Kanalku and other sockeye systems
27 around Angoon there and important to Angoon.

28
29 So anyway that's there for you to look at
30 and comment on if you choose to. I'd be happy to answer
31 any questions about any of these proposals. Like I said
32 I kind of read through them real quick and I can give you
33 kind of a briefing of what's requested for all those
34 proposals on your list there.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Cal. I
37 understand the Staff analysis for these aren't ready yet
38 and if that's the case then, you know, there's not very
39 much information that we can comment on here.

40
41 MR. CASIPIT: Correct. The Staff
42 analysis will be prepared by Department of Fish and Game
43 personnel. This is a Department of Fish and Game Board
44 of Fish issue so -- and as the Chairman knows in the past
45 we've provided travel funds for the Chairman to attend
46 these meetings and represent the Council if he's so
47 interested and I'm assuming that will continue into the
48 future.

49
50 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

1 MR. KOOKESH: Question.
2
3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Kookesh.
4
5 MR. KOOKESH: When -- I know that these
6 are Kootzoonwoo proposals. I see Peter Naoroz in the
7 back, is he going to be part of this format thing?
8 Peter, are you going to be -- I don't know what you said
9 I didn't write down what you said -- what part of the
10 agenda he was going to be on to talk about his proposals.
11
12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: He sure could be.
13
14 MR. KOOKESH: What part of the agenda, he
15 -- those two -- what part of the agenda?
16
17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Is this what he wants to
18 talk about - we have this in front of us now, so go ahead
19 Peter, do you want him to talk?
20
21 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah.
22
23 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We have your proposal in
24 front of us Peter, so unless there's any questions for
25 Cal at this point.
26
27 (No comments)
28
29 MR. NAOROZ: I need a minute.
30
31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Why don't we take a five
32 minute break here while they set up the PowerPoint.
33
34 MR. NAOROZ: I don't need five minutes.
35
36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: A fine minute at ease.
37
38 (Off record)
39
40 (On record)
41
42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Peter.
43
44 MR. NAOROZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
45 can't move the cursor, I need someone to do that -- is
46 there -- or I could just join you up there, I could steer
47 from there, I mean it's either way.
48
49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, you could do it up
50 here.

1 (Pause)

2

3 MR. NAOROZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
4 Members of the Council. I'm here to talk about two Board
5 of Fish proposals that Kootznoowoo submitted and in the
6 context of which we did that. So we'll talk about the
7 proposals themselves.

8

9 The context is really -- we did this in
10 the context of our work with the Forest Service on the
11 long-range plans and some other tools that are available
12 to us.

13

14 What I could conclude with is really an
15 offer for Kootznoowoo to continue to support the work of
16 this Council and any other group, you know, that can help
17 us in our desired outcomes.

18

19 The Board of Fish proposal really didn't
20 originate this year, it started in 2006. That was a
21 proposal that was submitted by Floyd Kookesh, a member of
22 the Council and the Board of Fish did not directly act on
23 it. The language is almost identical. So this is old
24 work and I know there needs -- there's another step where
25 the biologists need to get involved, but I would just say
26 there's a file already out there on it and I'd like to
27 request the Council to look at that as part of the work
28 that could be done in the future.

29

30 As part of our concerns, we had a meeting
31 with the Board of -- the State ADF&G in January, that
32 resulted in a letter to the Governor, the new Governor at
33 that time, and in March of '07 she responded to
34 Kootznoowoo, all that information's in your packet that
35 I provided you. The two proposals, I believe, are in
36 there and they're in the same format that I submitted
37 them.

38

39 We're going to talk about Central
40 Council's support of this resolu -- through a resolution
41 they entered into this year and we may have short
42 circuited things but we did send a letter in April to the
43 Office of Subsistence Management with all this
44 information.

45

46 So to the two proposals.

47

48 What we're basically asking for, as was
49 mentioned earlier, is additional constraints on the
50 commercial efforts and then, two, the Board of Fish to

1 follow their own regulations and I guess it's the law and
2 make some subsistence findings at the local level, at the
3 stream level and not at the regional level. This is
4 something we talked about two days ago.

5
6 So the additional constraints on the
7 commercial efforts are basically in only Upper Chatham
8 Straits and Icy Straits. What we're asking for is the
9 constraints occur in very highly mixed areas and the plan
10 is to push the effort to less mixed areas. So what our
11 intention is and this is, I think, backed by very good
12 science, at least that was available to me three years
13 ago, and hasn't been since, is really to provide
14 additional subsistence foods in Kanalku, Basket Bay,
15 Sitkho Bay, Excursion Inlet and Neva.

16
17 So unless there's questions about the
18 constraints in that particular proposal I'm ready to move
19 to the second proposal.

20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Question's anyone.

22
23 (No comments)

24
25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Peter.

26
27 MR. NAOROZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And
28 the second part -- and I -- and I just clipped this from
29 the actual submission we made and so in terms of the
30 solutions we suggested is we really followed the language
31 of the current regs, which says that there needs to be
32 some effort to identify the subsistence needs of these
33 systems right here. So what we're just suggesting is in
34 terms of sockeye salmon, these are known sockeye streams
35 and subsistence areas, please provide a number. That's
36 not out there. I don't know how you can manage if you
37 don't know what you're managing to. So I don't know how
38 much analysis you need in terms of a biologist, you
39 might need some analysis by a lawyer or by common sense.
40 But the fact is we need to have a number for Kanalku,
41 lake -- you know, Kanalku Bay and the stream and so I
42 won't bother anyone with much more data than that.

43
44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Excellent. I really
45 back up and support common sense.

46
47 (Laughter)

48
49 MR. NAOROZ: Thank you. Just quickly
50 this is a copy of Central Council's resolution or the

1 General Assembly's resolution and it was brought by the
2 community.

3

4 Just real quickly in follow up of some
5 comments I made earlier, but how it ties together, is Mr.
6 Loescher's comments yesterday were so instructive and I
7 mean every time I hear the man speak it's like a new
8 lesson and I would ask the Board, as part of it's annual
9 business or annual plan, to adopt some of what he said as
10 a real concern, these are open issues.

11

12 We'd like to support the Sitka Tribe,
13 because not only do they do good work but they're doing
14 the work at the right level, which is the community
15 level. And the opposite of that is, you know, in terms
16 of the implementation of Title VIII and Title XI rights,
17 which are, you know, unique to this state. You know, we
18 need to have plans that incorporate those. We really
19 feel that. And so there's a long -- I think the planning
20 cycle that the Forest has to go through has a long way to
21 go before it's acceptable.

22

23 Examples.

24

25 There is no mention of Kanalku sockeye,
26 Mitchell Bay coho concerns or Southeast herring stocks as
27 concerns in the TLMP.

28

29 Areas that -- we think that the way you
30 deal with that is you put in better maps, particularly
31 areas that are potentially dual management areas.
32 Chatham Strait sockeye returns need to have maps that
33 show big arrow, little arrow studies. If those maps were
34 available you wouldn't be asking your biologist to look
35 at our proposal. You would know what our proposal was
36 saying, it'd be an intuitive thing. Mitchell Bay coho
37 returns in commercial fishing harvest areas, they need to
38 be -- I mean we have boats that just sit right in front
39 of Angoon and take our -- we know when the cohos are
40 coming, there are the boats, they intercept them.
41 Southeast herring stocks, this was originally written for
42 our board that said Sitka area herring stocks, but our
43 board, thankfully, has a lot longer memory than I do and
44 so I mean their concern is all stocks in Southeast.

45

46 And I just put this in real quickly
47 because I haven't heard it mentioned here but we think
48 agriculture, the old camp sites, you know, that's part of
49 subsistence in our community and we're working with the
50 Forest Service to try to come up with regs on that and I

1 don't know if this is the right venue but in the near
2 term you'll see those.

3

4 And then one of my last slides, and this
5 is -- this is the map that we settled ANILCA under and
6 you'll look at the outside boundary, it's well offshore.
7 The Monument and Wilderness area is not high tide on
8 Admiralty Island and that -- you know, that's just a fact
9 of life right there and that's what Mr. Loescher started
10 to talk about -- scratch about, and we just have to
11 follow through with this and it's an open issue and I
12 think it's -- you know, it's going to be hard to finesse
13 but it's just going to have to be dealt with at some
14 point.

15

16 So helping -- we're asking for the
17 Council's help to implement our local management plans.
18 We really think that helping communities take care of
19 themselves is the key, you know, help us establish plans
20 like Sitka has, like Angoon has tried, help us enforce
21 the plans. And we're really optimistic that given the
22 chief's decision to enter into a management agreement
23 with the Governor, where every single community is taken
24 care of in Southeast as part of the ongoing effort to
25 implement the TLMP, that that's going to be a -- this is
26 going to be a critical part of that. And her commitment
27 to new ethics and transparency in government is going to
28 be part of the background to getting that done.

29

30 That concludes our presentation. I'm
31 glad to speak to either one of those proposals or any of
32 our context here.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Well, we're glad that
35 you're able to give this to us Peter and is there any
36 questions from the Council.

37

38 (No comments)

39

40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Appreciate it.

41

42 MR. KOOKESH: Support it.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, I think we can
45 commit ourselves to supporting your proposals there and
46 this will be, of course, brought up at the Department of
47 Fish and Game and, you know, if the Chairman goes to that
48 meeting, you know, will be -- will talk about this and
49 talk about how we can support you on that.

50

1 MR. NAOROZ: Thank you very much, Mr.
2 Chair, we really appreciate that.

3
4 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You're welcome, thank
5 you. And just a matter of information, too, I like the
6 idea of local management controls, you know, I think it's
7 better because people in the local areas know their areas
8 better than somebody from the State or Washington or
9 anywhere else and so they can address those issues a lot
10 better and maybe even cheaper, and, you know, I would
11 sure like to see you, you know, your organization support
12 that, and I think Tlingit-Haida can also, you know,
13 gather those small tribes together and also, you know,
14 embrace that concept because I think it's very important.

15
16 MR. NAOROZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17
18 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Very important. You're
19 welcome.

20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I almost gave your job
22 away Bob,

23
24 (Laughter)

25
26 MR. NAOROZ: It's a tough job.

27
28 (Laughter)

29
30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

31
32 MR. LARSON: i was attempted to ask if
33 that was forever and a promise.

34
35 (Laughter)

36
37 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You know after Neil
38 Barton and Steve Kessler gave their presentation on the
39 deer and the moose, I would just like to put this out on
40 the table as a -- and I think I'm going to insist on it,
41 that these special actions be transparent as possible,
42 you know, so everyone knows what's going on, put it on
43 the internet or announcements or whatever, you know, so
44 that the general public will be aware of this and have an
45 idea of what's going on and where it came from. I just
46 wanted to bring that out as a matter of interest and see
47 if you could make it happen, Mr. Larson.

48
49 MR. KOOKESH: Is that going to make us
50 more proactive than reactive.

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: More proactive actions,
2 you bet, uh-huh, yep. Okay. Let's see where are we at,
3 are we on No. 13 now, sir, Resource Monitoring Program.

4

5 Steve Kessler, please.

6

7 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
8 Steve Kessler with the Forest Service. I'm just going to
9 give an introduction to this section and then we will
10 have others that will follow me that will be talking
11 specifically about the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
12 Program and the Wildlife Monitoring Program.

13

14 A little bit of background, and I think
15 most of you are familiar with this but just a small
16 amount.

17

18 Since 2000, the year 2000 we've had the
19 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program. And that program
20 has funded a lot of projects that you all are very aware
21 of. With additional funds from Congress starting in
22 about 2005 we instituted a parallel Wildlife Resource
23 Monitoring Program. We received about \$500,000 extra in
24 our appropriations from Congress and put that program
25 into place. Unfortunately that increase funding was
26 short-lived and only for one year.

27

28 For both fish and wildlife we have gone
29 through a strategic planning process. Now, for both
30 programs, all current project contracts will end in 2009.
31 And I do want to remind you that the fish program is a
32 statewide program overseen by the Office of Subsistence
33 Management, and the Wildlife Program only affects the
34 National Forests, so, we, the Forest Service, oversee
35 that entirely. We're now putting together requests for
36 proposals for both programs for additional high priority
37 monitoring and research areas. We will consider the
38 highest priority items from both areas as we decide where
39 to spend the money. So there's limited money, we're
40 going to take a look at priorities across the entire
41 program to see the best use of those funds.

42

43 As far as the actual amount of money, in
44 the early years of the program we had about \$2 million a
45 year, maybe slightly more, and then that became \$2.5
46 million when we actually instituted the Wildlife
47 Monitoring Program. Now, we have somewhere around \$1.6
48 to 1.7 million for both programs and that just seems to
49 be diminishing at about five to 10 percent a year, sort
50 of along with inflation and other costs.

1 So Dennis Chester for wildlife and Pippa
2 Kenner and Terry Suminski for fish will present our Draft
3 Monitoring Plan priorities for your review. We will use
4 these priorities for issuing the request for proposals
5 and then later, with your help, we'll look at the actual
6 proposals that we've received and decide which projects
7 are the highest priority for wildlife and fish
8 monitoring.

9
10 So just a little bit of an introduction.
11 They're going to tell you what would come out in these
12 requests for proposals. The fisheries part is actually
13 in your book and the wildlife portion, you should have
14 received a handout yesterday. So with that I think we've
15 got Terry and Pippa going first; is that right?

16
17 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My
18 name is Pippa Kenner, cultural anthropologist with the
19 Office of Subsistence Management in Anchorage and beside
20 me is Terry Suminski, subsistence biologist with the
21 Forest Service in Sitka.

22
23 Steve covered quite a bit of what I was
24 planning to say and for the sake of brevity I'm just
25 going to pick through my presentation now.

26
27 For those of you, new to the Council, now
28 we're going to talk about another aspect of the Federal
29 Subsistence Management Program, the Fisheries Resource
30 Monitoring Program.

31
32 OSM has two functions. We work on
33 regulatory issues, changing the hunting and fishing
34 subsistence regulations as needed and we oversee
35 research, primarily fisheries research that provide
36 information needed for subsistence fisheries management.
37 The two parts are important because effective management
38 and regulations are dependent upon good information and
39 sound science.

40
41 This is not an action item for you to
42 vote on but we're looking for your ideas and suggestions.

43
44 The monitoring program -- oh, the Draft
45 Priority Information Needs document is on Page 137, I
46 also put a pile of them on the back table. Also on the
47 back table is a list of all the projects from this
48 program that have gone on in Southeast Alaska and I had
49 distributed them for you also.

50

1 I want to make sure you understand that
2 the Monitoring Program funds projects of two types;
3 stock, status and trends projects and harvest monitoring
4 and traditional ecological knowledge projects.

5
6 The first type of project stock, status
7 and trends focus on studies of fish, populations and
8 stocks. They can be weir projects to count fish, ASL
9 projects or age, sex and length projects that provide
10 information on fish population structure and genetic
11 studies of fish populations among other types of
12 projects. The second type of project category is harvest
13 monitoring and traditional ecological knowledge projects.
14 These types of projects provide information about
15 subsistence fish harvest that is needed for better
16 management of the fish. Why fish are harvested at
17 certain times and places, who harvests, what are
18 harvested, where they are harvested, when, how, et
19 cetera. This information is used to document harvest to
20 show how much a community depends on fish and how much is
21 needed and to document local observations about changes.

22
23 I handed out to you two nice examples of
24 this type of research. One was the Hoonah and Klawock
25 salmon study that was done by Steve Langdon with the
26 Central Council. And the other was the East Alsek River
27 Dry Bay sockeye salmon fishery study done by Judith Ramos
28 and Rachel Mason with the Yakutat Tribe.

29
30 The document in your Council book is a
31 summary of the priority information needs for all six
32 regions.

33
34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Pippa, may I just
35 interrupt you a little bit here.

36
37 MS. KENNER: Yes.

38
39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I just want to, you
40 know, emphasize that this is really a good example of TEK
41 and bridging Western Science together because the East
42 Alsek River, you know, had a crash a few years ago and
43 one of the very first proposals that we submitted to the
44 OSM was a TEK project. The idea for that was to -- and
45 you're going to appreciate this Walter, is that, we
46 needed to document ways and means that our people managed
47 their resources a long time ago. And once that was
48 documented then we can take that TEK and bridge it with
49 Western Science.

50

1 Sitka Tribes did a real good example of
2 that yesterday when they gave their report on the herring
3 stock. So I just wanted to emphasize that, you know,
4 this is a very good report and if you can get a hold of
5 it, I encourage you to find out where you can get it and
6 use it as a Bible right next to your elbow when you are
7 talking about these kinds of issues. Robert Schroeder
8 had a lot to do with this project as well as the Forest
9 Service sunk a lot of money into it to help complete the
10 project. Judith Ramos is a tribal member of Yakutat and
11 she went out and she got her degree in anthropology, got
12 a Master's Degree in anthropology and just as soon as she
13 came back home we snapped her up and gave her this job.

14
15 So I just wanted to make that, you know,
16 those comments about that particular project there
17 because it's excellent.

18
19 MS. KENNER: Thank you. Mr. Chairman. I
20 believe that all the projects that have gone through this
21 program are good and then some of them are quite good and
22 excellent, and I agree with you.

23
24 In the priority information needs
25 document, all the six regions of the state are covered
26 but we're only going to discuss your region today.

27
28 It's important to note that while
29 monitoring program project selections will not be limited
30 to information needs identified in the document but
31 proposals addressing other information needs must show
32 why the project is needed to better manage subsistence
33 fisheries here.

34
35 The specific priority information needs
36 for Southeast in this draft document begin on Page 141.
37 They include developing an index of escapement for
38 Yakutat forelands eulachon and salmon stocks including
39 Hetta, Klawock, Karta, Hatchery Creek, Redoubt, Gut Bay,
40 Falls, Red, Kasheets (ph), Salmon Bay, Klag, Lake Leo,
41 Sitkho, Kook, Kanalku, Hoktaheen and Neva, and
42 documenting in-season subsistence harvest of sockeye
43 salmon in Hetta, Klawock, Hatchery Creek, Gut Bay, Falls,
44 Red, Kasheets, Salmon Bay, Klag, Kanalku and Hoktaheen,
45 and the last priority information need that's noted in
46 this documented is to obtain reliable estimates of
47 steelhead escapement especially for systems on Prince of
48 Wales Island.

49
50 I'd also like to mention, and I'm almost

1 done, on Page 142, there is a priority information needs
2 for an interregional part of it. The interregional
3 category is for projects that include two or more
4 regions. While OSM is asking investigators submitting
5 proposals for any single region to consider examining or
6 discussing climate change effects, OSM is also interested
7 in projects that focus on understanding management
8 implications of climate change on subsistence resources,
9 uses and fisheries. The interregional 2010 requests for
10 proposals is focused on one priority information need and
11 that is research that documents effects of climate change
12 on subsistence resources and uses and determines how
13 subsistence fishery management can be better adapted to
14 deal with these effects.

15
16 Again, what we are looking for from the
17 Council is not a vote, but ideas and suggestions of
18 research that the Council feels should be a priority.

19
20 Mr. Chair, that concludes my presentation
21 and we're happy to answer any questions the Council might
22 have.

23
24 Thank you.

25
26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Questions, anyone.

27
28 (No comments)

29
30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Suggestions.

31
32 Okay, Donald, go ahead.

33
34 MR. HERNANDEZ: Well, I don't know, it
35 seems like just in my, you know, brief tenure here on the
36 Council, we've seen some drastic declines in subsistence
37 resources in our fisheries. I don't think I ever would
38 have believed that we'd virtually see the disappearance
39 of a whole eulachon stock on the Unuk River. I mean when
40 I came on the Council we were -- you know, we were
41 discussing that fishery and how to manage it and now it's
42 gone and we don't know what happened.

43
44 Sockeye salmon in the last couple years
45 seem to be in a depleted state throughout the region,
46 almost all systems, I mean, you know, we're trying to
47 identify, you know, places where we should be doing
48 salmon escapement stock estimates and yet, at this point
49 it seems like totally inadequate to what the situation
50 is. I mean we're seeing regionwide declines. I think

1 there's a bigger picture happening out there and I don't
2 think focusing on individual systems is really adequate
3 to address this. And I don't think, you know, our little
4 area of jurisdiction here is even capable of, you know,
5 dealing with this situation. I think it takes a real big
6 picture look by, you know, a lot of people, starting with
7 us at the ground level going all the way up to National
8 Marine Fisheries and NOAA and, you know, looking at the
9 whole climate change, you know, what is happening, why
10 did the Unuk River eulachon disappear. Got a proposal
11 for determining the -- where was it -- Yakutat eulachon,
12 what's happening up there, that might be just, you know,
13 small -- a small look at a big picture.

14
15 So I don't know, you know, I think we
16 just have to be -- maybe just draw attention to this
17 fact, I mean we're just a -- however much money we have
18 seems totally inadequate to the problem that we're
19 dealing with. And I think we just need to maybe just
20 stress the fact that, you know, we're seeing these
21 situations, you know, those of us that actually use these
22 resources, we're seeing what's going on and we're worried
23 and just ask for help, I guess. We need more than what
24 we're capable of doing, I think, at this point.

25
26 And, you know, we can do what we can with
27 this limited amount of money but I think it's a much
28 bigger situation going on out there than maybe we
29 realize.

30
31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Donald. I
32 fully support, you know, your comments about the
33 eulachons in the Unuk River. I know when there began to
34 be a concern about it, before they even closed it, my
35 ears perked up because I could see the same kinds of
36 patterns, you know, working in Yakutat and then low and
37 behold, you know, there wasn't enough eulachons showing
38 up in Unuk so they closed it. And since then, you know,
39 the Yakutat stocks, in the Situk River, particularly,
40 used to be able to go out there and get our -- you know,
41 as many as you want and now it's dwindling more and more.
42 Most of our eulachons are coming from Aukeway, you know,
43 which is about 40 miles down, somebody has to fly out
44 there and trudge through snow and then carry all that
45 stuff to the airplane and then haul it in and distribute
46 it. But it used to be, many years ago, when our people,
47 you know, before we got the railroad track and other
48 stuff, means of transportation, they would haul their
49 sleds out to the Situk River in knee deep snow, you know,
50 in February or March and gather hundreds and hundreds of

1 pounds of eulachons and haul it into town and distribute
2 it to the community, we don't have that anymore.

3
4 And, you know, I, like Donald, am quite
5 concerned about that and if there's any way that we can
6 figure out what the heck's going on here, you know, maybe
7 we can better address the issues, you know, our concerns
8 better.

9
10 So, thank you, any other questions -- Mr.
11 Kookesh, please.

12
13 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman. I've been on
14 this Council since '99 and I've always said -- sat in
15 this position where it was difficult to sit here with the
16 State of Alaska and us representing Title VIII and we
17 never could get along. I mean even we sat here and said
18 can't we just get along. Remember this one guy came and
19 he said that, he said can't we just get along. That
20 apparently hasn't been working and I know what you just
21 made -- you made a comment about many years ago, you
22 know, you saw fish -- I mean it's going to -- probably
23 going to be the -- probably going to be the way we're
24 going to talk to our kids, you know, and say well there's
25 nothing but a long time ago -- you know, that's not how
26 it should be.

27
28 The -- the -- if you look at the proposals
29 -- probably the proposals, maybe if you look a little
30 further into Peter -- Peter's proposals and if they get
31 rejected and if you look at the Makhnati issue and it
32 continues to get rejected and we see the continued
33 declines, the -- the alternative is to ask for extra-
34 territorial jurisdiction and step up to the plate. Don't
35 talk about many years ago, I mean that don't do us any
36 good for this winter, you know, a long time ago, but --
37 so we need to -- I believe that the alternative is that
38 the Federal Subsistence Board needs to step up to the
39 plate and own up to what they're all about. But we just
40 need to exercise our jurisdictional right because that's
41 where the solution is.

42
43 Thank you.

44
45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: The Federal Subsistence
46 Board, I believe, would be doing their job if they gave
47 deference to the Council because we're the one that does
48 all of the groundwork. In the Makhnati Island issue,
49 Sitka, and that was perfect, they did all of the
50 groundwork and research and gathered the data for us to,

1 you know, take it up the ladder and they need to listen
2 to that is my opinion. But appreciate your comments,
3 too, you're right.

4

5 Anyone else.

6

7 MR. KITKA: Mr. Chair.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Kitka.

10

11 MR. KITKA: I agree with all that's being
12 said and I agree with Don about we need a bigger look at
13 this.

14

15 Looking at some of the books I get in the
16 fisheries business and one of the things was the people
17 off of California, they were surprised about the tide
18 currents and some of the stuff showing up down in their
19 country and supplying food to some of their stuff that
20 they never had before. And it makes you wonder whether
21 the study needs to go into the -- oh, almost
22 international type of thing, because the currents have
23 changed with this climate warming and whether it's good
24 or bad or whether it's going to affect everybody, we
25 don't know, but it would be nice to get more people to
26 step up to the plate and look at it and see what's going
27 on.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Thank you,
30 Madam. Terry, please.

31

32 MS. KENNER: Thank you.

33

34 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chairman. That was
35 all. The only thing -- were there any systems or
36 projects on here that you saw on here that shouldn't be
37 on here or didn't see on this list that you would like to
38 see, because this was sent out in late May. Hopefully
39 everybody got to look at it. I didn't receive any
40 comments at that point but this is another chance for you
41 to take a look at it and see if there's anything we
42 missed.

43

44 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Floyd.

47

48 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah, earlier we heard a
49 presentation by Peter Naoroz and he did mention the
50 Southeast herring stocks because I have seen a decline

1 around Angoon, something's tied to something. Halibut
2 are tied to -- halibut love herring by the way.

3

4 MR. KOOKESH: So do king salmon and
5 so.....

6

7 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Well, these are
8 all State issues and there's no way we can sink money
9 into these here particular issues, you know, other than
10 go to the Board and put our plug in for those proposals.

11

12 Go ahead, Terry.

13

14 MR. SUMINSKI: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
15 Kookesh. We do have one study that's dealing with
16 herring in the Makhnati area that the Sitka Tribe is
17 conducting this year and next, but outside of that
18 jurisdiction we don't have anything.

19

20 Thanks.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Terry, gunalcheesh,
23 thank you.

24

25 (Pause)

26

27 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Chester, please.

28

29 MR. CHESTER: Thank you, Bert and members
30 of the Council. My name is Dennis Chester, I'm a
31 biologist with the Forest Service here in Juneau. My
32 presentation today here is about the wildlife side of the
33 equation, the wildlife monitoring -- or the Resources
34 Monitoring Program. Steve kind of introduced it a little
35 bit and I'll go through a real brief history.

36

37 It started in 2005, as Steve said, and in
38 that time we've funded three projects. We put out an RFP
39 in 2005, we funded two projects, one on deer population,
40 estimation techniques on Prince of Wales Island and one
41 on black bear and mountain goats subsistence uses and
42 needs in Prince William Sound.

43

44 The Prince William Sound study has
45 completed and we have a final report on that. The POW
46 study, they finished their last year of data collection
47 this year and we expect the final report in 2009 on that.

48

49 We also put out an RFP in 2006 and we
50 funded one study off that, we actually funded it, I

1 think, in fiscal year 2008 so it's really just getting
2 started and Pat Petrivelli is kind of the lead on that
3 and if you'd like she can probably come up and give you
4 a little history on that.

5
6 So for 2007 and 2008 we have not produced
7 any request for proposals due to lack of funds but we do
8 anticipate or at least in anticipation of potential
9 funding in 2010. We'll be putting out an RFP in 2009
10 concurrent with the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
11 Program.

12
13 So the subject matter that we're looking
14 to address in that RFP is listed on the sheet that was
15 handed out yesterday and we would welcome any comments
16 that you have on that.

17
18 First off is Yakutat goats, Unit 5. As
19 I think you heard Bert mention earlier there's been some
20 concerns about the goat population status and trend
21 there, and we actually had a little bit of funding this
22 year to do some preliminary work. Susan Oehlers from the
23 Forest Service in Yakutat worked with Eileen Henniger
24 with the Yakutat Tribe as well as contacting other folks
25 in Yakutat and they've kind of done some preliminary work
26 to try and identify a little bit more accurately where we
27 want to go or more specifically.

28
29 So a two-pronged approach would be
30 increased surveys, do a little better job of estimating
31 the population size and particularly the composition,
32 which we haven't been able to do very well in the past
33 and then get some basic population data, such as
34 productivity, annual survival rates and that kind of
35 stuff so we can see maybe where the -- what the problems
36 with that population are and why it's not rebounding.

37
38 The next one is Unit 7 moose, this is, of
39 course, up in more of the Southcentral Council. When the
40 strategic plan was done in 2006, this was a little lower
41 priority but it has kind of risen because now there is a
42 subsistence hunt for these moose and there's just a real
43 lack of knowledge about them so there's several prongs to
44 this one. Population status and trend, habitat quality
45 and use as well as subsistence uses and needs.

46
47 The third one is tentative. It was
48 actually included in the 2005 RFP, we did not get any
49 proposals there. It's a continuing issue before the
50 Board and it's of particular interest to the Regional

1 Forester and that's how you identify technologies and
2 methods for identifying bear parts used in handicrafts.
3 It's very tentative because there are other agencies that
4 also have an interest in this subject and may work
5 through other channels to get this funded and get this
6 work done.

7

8 So with that I'll leave it to any
9 questions or comments you might have.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Questions, comments by
12 anyone.

13

14 MR. KITKA: Mr. Chairman.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Kitka.

17

18 MR. KITKA: I have a question on identify
19 and tracking the bear parts. I almost feel that is kind
20 of an unnecessary type expenditure. I don't see what the
21 reason would be for tracking what the bear parts are used
22 for.

23

24 MR. CHESTER: Yeah, I think you're right
25 from the subsistence user's standpoint. There's really
26 not been a call for this. It comes more from the
27 enforcement community and particularly the State is
28 concerned and a lot of it has to do, as well, with
29 International Treaty, the CITES treaty as far as brown
30 bears are a category II species, I believe it is, so
31 there are concerns about it's traffic worldwide and it
32 might lead to unethical use, not necessarily by
33 subsistence users but others who could harvest brown
34 bears and get it into the market under the guise of
35 subsistence use.

36

37 MR. KOOKESH: Comment.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Floyd.

40

41 MR. KOOKESH: I just had a little more to
42 that -- to what Mr. Kitka said, I know I talked about it
43 for a second, it's unnecessary for -- if enforcement's
44 insecure they should get counseling because, you know,
45 this begs the -- the issue that was brought out, I
46 believe even Representative Thomas brought it out, you
47 might as well just call us all a bunch of liars, cheaters
48 and thieves, you know, if you -- you can't get past that
49 issue, you know, because that's what it amounts to. The
50 subsistence part of it is -- it's been -- it almost

1 borders on our freedom of our religion, we should be
2 allowed to exercise that right. The Native people walk
3 around worried about putting a feather in their hat, you
4 know, an eagle feather, which is part of our culture.
5 This should be a practice that shouldn't even be put on
6 the table anymore, in Alaska it should be -- it shouldn't
7 even be an issue.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I agree with you, Floyd,
10 thank you. Any other comments, questions.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Dennis,
15 appreciate it.

16

17 MR. CHESTER: Thank you.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, what next Robert.
20 Right here, okay.

21

22 MR. LARSON: This is an information item,
23 it's on Page 143.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. On the bottom,
26 you know, US Fish and Wildlife Service Office of
27 Subsistence Management, it's just information that you
28 can read on Page 143, unless Council wants someone to
29 come up and speak to that, we'll just leave it for your
30 reading pleasure.

31

32 US Forest Service, update and status of
33 court cases, Mr. Kessler.

34

35 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
36 Steve Kessler with the Forest Service. As in, I think,
37 the last couple meetings I've been asked to update the
38 Council on the status of various court cases that the
39 Federal Subsistence Board or the Department -- the
40 Secretaries are involved in as part of this program.

41

42 I'll just give you an update on four
43 different court cases.

44

45 There's the Katie John case, which is the
46 consolidated case of a couple of different litigations.

47

48 Judge Holland, District Court Judge in
49 Anchorage had already made a ruling on what process, the
50 process that the Federal Subsistence Board followed in

1 determining fisheries jurisdiction was appropriate and
2 the big question now is, well, which waters does the
3 Federal Program apply to. All the briefs are done, there
4 were dozens of briefs in this situation, we have no idea
5 when the actual ruling from Judge Holland will come out
6 but after it comes out everyone is anticipating that it
7 will be appealed by someone.

8

9 Second is the Chistochina case, which is
10 a customary and traditional use determination case.

11

12 The District Court affirmed the Federal
13 Board on their decision, the State appealed that
14 decision, the District Court decision to the Ninth
15 Circuit Court of Appeals just this last Tuesday, the
16 Ninth Circuit ruled on that and affirmed the District
17 Court's judgment on that. It's an interesting decision
18 to read and if you want copies of that, I think the
19 simplest way to do that is your Council coordinator could
20 either send you a link to the decision or a copy of the
21 decision. I think you all will probably be interested in
22 reading that.

23

24 Third, Safari Club International, that
25 was the case that there was a lot of different aspects to
26 it, but sort of the final portion of that was the 70/30
27 distribution between -- for Council membership, 70
28 percent subsistence, 30 percent sport and commercial.
29 That case is over and done with, all the parties have
30 stipulated to the final decision of the Secretaries which
31 is now in regulation and the 70/30 distribution is in
32 place.

33

34 The final court case was brought by
35 Ninilchik and there were a number of different facets to
36 that case. The only one that is unresolved right now has
37 to do with the use by the Federal Subsistence Board of
38 executive sessions. We're in negotiation on that topic
39 and have agreed that we will rewrite the special action
40 regulations and that will probably satisfy all parties as
41 far as that litigation.

42

43 So where we are right now, unless there's
44 any appeal of the Chistochina case from the Ninth
45 Circuit, we really only have one major case out there
46 right now which is the Katie John case, which has to do
47 with fisheries jurisdiction.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Questions anyone.

50

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: While I got you up here,
4 Steve, maybe I can ask you to make a comment on this, it
5 has to do with the threshold for, I guess, you know, it
6 had to do with the threshold for C&T determination, like
7 for instance Ketchikan. And I think that went all the
8 way up to the Board, the Board sent it up to the
9 Secretaries and the Secretary came back down and said to,
10 you know, it's in your lap now, make a determination on
11 that. I was wondering if there was any kind of update on
12 that issue yet.

13

14 MR. KESSLER: I'd like Mr. Buklis to come
15 up and talk about that.....

16

17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

18

19 MR. KESSLER:since he's more
20 familiar.....

21

22 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, thank you, Steve.

23

24 MR. KESSLER:most familiar with
25 this particular issue.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Steve.

28

29 MR. BUKLIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
30 Larry Buklis, OSM. Mr. Chairman, I think you're
31 referring to rural/non-rural, not C&T.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: That's correct.

34

35 MR. BUKLIS: Thank you. Yes, in the
36 course of the rural/non-rural once in 10 year or
37 decennial review, the Southeast Regional Council raised
38 an issue by way of a letter, a petition to the
39 Secretaries regarding the presumptive non-rural threshold
40 of 7,000 and whether, in fact, it should be reset to
41 11,000 -- 11,300, I think it was, because of how one
42 looks at city of Ketchikan versus Ketchikan area. And
43 the Secretary, as you said, requested that the Board look
44 at the issue and develop an approach or advice to the
45 Secretary on how to address that concern. And the
46 decennial review concluded and the RFRs are done and the
47 Board has tasked us, as Staff, to develop information for
48 them to have them pursue an approach, so we are working
49 with the Board on that now.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Steve [sic].
2 Thank you. Okay, Tricia O'Connor, Tongass Travel
3 Management Plan, I bet you've been waiting all these days
4 to give your presentation.

5
6 (Laughter)

7
8 MS. O'CONNOR: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
9 Members of the Council. Tricia O'Connor, wildlife and
10 subsistence staff officer for the Tongass. I do have a
11 couple of updates and I thought what I would do, if this
12 works is go through the first one and then if there's any
13 discussion we can do it on the access travel management
14 planning.

15
16 As you're well aware the Tongass has been
17 working on access travel management planning or ATMs for
18 quite a while now, I just wanted to give an update on
19 where those are in the process.

20
21 As you may recall we're assessing travel
22 management focused on motorized access, primarily
23 vehicles and off highway vehicles, we aren't addressing
24 snowmachines winter access, it's focused on only those
25 issues so primarily roads and off highway vehicle. We
26 have chosen to go through each ranger district, this is
27 doing its own access travel management planning, so there
28 are 10 of those, so there are 10 different processes
29 going on. And the result of that will be a NEPA decision
30 about where motorized use will be authorized on
31 designated routes and those will either be roads or
32 trails. And then there will be a visitor map, a
33 motorized map produced that will tell the public where
34 it's appropriate to use motorized access and where it
35 isn't.

36
37 So just a quick status report of where
38 those are at by district.

39
40 Sitka Ranger District is completed. They
41 have both a decision on it and a map published.

42
43 Ketchikan actually has a decision made,
44 their map will be published by December.

45
46 Several ranger districts have not started
47 yet, Hoonah, Petersburg, Juneau and Admiralty have yet to
48 begin but we anticipate they will start this year and
49 have a map published by December of 2009.

50

1 And Yakutat, Craig and Thorne Bay, which
2 are doing theirs together on Prince of Wales and Wrangell
3 District are all -- have been working on theirs for a
4 couple years, they plan to have a decision here probably
5 within the next several months and then, again, a map
6 published by December of '09 and this December of 2009
7 date is pretty important because that's national
8 direction for us to have -- all of the Forest Service
9 nationwide has been directed to have these plans done by
10 then so we are working pretty hard to do that. And as
11 you can imagine and if you've been working with the local
12 managers on this there's a lot of issues related to
13 subsistence that are very important as we work through
14 these travel management plans and you, both, have the
15 subsistence access issues, but we also have the effects
16 to subsistence resources that are caused by things like
17 culverts that aren't designed properly, roads that aren't
18 designed properly and so we have that balance of
19 subsistence issues that are kind of on both sides of the
20 equation.

21
22 So each manager is working on that. I
23 know they're welcoming public comments on things like
24 access that are -- places that are important for access
25 and I'd encourage the Council to work with the local
26 managers as you see fit.

27
28 And that's all I had for access travel
29 management planning.

30
31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Questions anyone,
32 comments.

33
34 MR. KOOKESH: I have a question -- I
35 don't know if this really.....

36
37 REPORTER: Floyd. Floyd.

38
39 MR. KOOKESH:relates.....

40
41 REPORTER: Floyd.

42
43 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, go ahead.

44
45 MR. KOOKESH: I keep looking at Peter
46 Naoroz because it occurred to me a while back that the
47 Tongass -- the Forest Service had banned wood burning for
48 -- for all their camps; is that correct, Peter?

49
50 MR. NAOROZ: On Admiralty there's.....

1 REPORTER: Wait, wait, come on up,
2 please.

3
4 MR. KOOKESH: On Admiralty. I have a --
5 I have a question because it's kind of looking at what
6 you're talking about, travel and stuff, and we got struck
7 by the fact that why we stopped burning wood and all of
8 a sudden we started to bring in diesel into the National
9 Monument and I'm just wondering how -- how we're going to
10 work on this -- this idea of -- are we going to start
11 getting more environmental or less environmentally --
12 maybe Peter could talk to it.

13
14 MS. O'CONNOR: I think I can address it
15 and maybe Peter can help if I'm not quite getting there.

16
17 I do know that we, in our cabins, and
18 it's our recreational cabins, we have a mix of wood
19 stoves and oil stoves in those. And I think the issue
20 has been that we have been moving, in some areas, away
21 from wood stoves to oil stoves because of environmental
22 concerns, not so much with the wood smoke, but with the
23 access to wood and in some places, particularly on
24 Admiralty there is not a good wood supply and it's
25 difficult to bring wood in so we've switched over to oil.
26 I know this has been of interest to a lot of people. And
27 I think one of the things we did was try to develop
28 guidelines for district rangers to make decisions on what
29 kind of stove they have, based on the public need and
30 resource needs and that is -- I know we're making some
31 transitions but that's -- that's still a work in progress
32 as far as I understand.

33
34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Have anything to add
35 Peter.

36
37 MR. NAOROZ: No, I really don't. I think
38 the interest level was primarily with the territorial
39 sportsman and then we found about it in the newspaper so,
40 you know, we were concerned because we didn't know about
41 it ahead of time.

42
43 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, thank you. Any
44 other questions.

45
46 MR. KOOKESH: No, that's fine.

47
48 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: All done.

49
50 (No comments)

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You want to move on to
2 the next item there Tricia.

3

4 MS. O'CONNOR: Sure.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you -- thank you
7 for that report.

8

9 MS. O'CONNOR: The next item of interest
10 was land exchanges, particularly the Sealaska so I have
11 an update on the several pieces of legislation. There
12 are several things going on right now in terms of
13 legislation that has been introduced to Congress as well
14 as some other discretionary land exchanges that I would
15 just like to give the Council information on.

16

17 The first one is the HR 3560, which is
18 the Southeast Alaska Native Land Entitlement Act, which
19 is the Sealaska Bill. That was introduced in September
20 of 2007, and I think everyone was aware of that, I
21 discussed that at the last Council meeting. There were
22 hearings last November on that, there's been no further
23 action on that bill but it's still -- it was introduced,
24 it's still there.

25

26 What the Tongass did in response to that
27 bill is we did incorporate an assessment of that -- of
28 what the effects of that would be to the best we could do
29 in our Tongass Land Management Plan amendment update so
30 that the effects of that were incorporated into that,
31 again, the best we could do. There's still some
32 discussion about what exactly are the lands at question
33 and that has been an issue with us. It's been difficult
34 for us to totally assess what the effects would be on the
35 resources, subsistence users, all of those things,
36 without knowing exactly what lands would be acquired. So
37 we did the best we could do with that, that's still
38 ongoing. You know, again, the Forest Service, we really
39 cannot, when there's legislation introduced, we cannot
40 take a stand on it, all's we can do is talk about what
41 the effects would be and we have been doing that pretty
42 actively with the delegation to just make sure they're
43 informed about what we believe the effects would be on
44 those land exchanges.

45

46 So that one is still out there.

47

48 There was another bill introduced this
49 July, which was HR 6682, which is entitled the Alaska
50 Timber Management Acres -- or Areas for Education Land

1 Selection Act. That Act would allow the State of Alaska
2 to select 1.8 million acres from Southeast Alaska from
3 the Tongass for primarily a State Forest. That Bill was
4 introduced but there has not been any action on it, there
5 have been no hearings on it. So that is in there as
6 well.

7
8 In terms of larger land exchange issues,
9 there is another land exchange that we've been requested
10 to look at and we are looking at a feasibility report on
11 right now, and that is through the Mental Health Trust.
12 They have expressed an interest in exchanging, and this
13 would be purely an exchange, they have several parcels of
14 land around communities in Southeast, Petersburg,
15 Wrangell, Ketchikan, Juneau. When we've looked at some
16 of those lands there is an interest from the Forest
17 Service in acquiring those lands. They are near
18 communities, there would be a public interest in us
19 having those lands, however, what we haven't gotten
20 through is what lands would we give up. And we've been
21 working with Mental Health Trust, what they are -- what
22 they are struggling with and where that is at right now
23 is they're going back to kind of develop a business plan
24 for their lands. Because the issue at hand that they're
25 struggling with is whether they would like to acquire old
26 growth primarily timber lands or young growth. And I say
27 that because what I'm finding pretty interesting with a
28 lot of our -- the public -- or the interest in land
29 exchanges has really shifted over the past year or so, in
30 that it -- you know, historically people wanted to
31 acquire old growth for timber harvest, now with this
32 potential transition to younger growth and second growth
33 management there is more and more interest from other
34 parties to acquire second growth because -- and I believe
35 and we believe on the Tongass that probably is the future
36 of timber harvest.

37
38 So, anyway, that is where that Mental
39 Health Trust is at, we are assessing it but at this point
40 we don't have a good feel for what they want to acquire.
41 And just for note, they have shown some interest in lands
42 on Prince of Wales but that hasn't been, in terms of
43 exact areas, they're still sorting through that.

44
45 So that is what I had for land exchanges.

46
47 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Any
48 questions from the Council -- yes, sir.

49
50 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 Yeah, Tricia, I guess the -- I've been pretty familiar
2 with the Sealaska Lands Bill and the State lands for
3 education, that seems to me, from what I've seen, an
4 awful lot of that was proposed for Prince of Wales
5 Island, if not all of it, as I recall.

6
7 And then you just mentioned that other
8 bill that would establish a new State Forest. Is there
9 any proposals there about where that land would come
10 from? So far we're looking at, you know, on Prince of
11 Wales Island, where I live, a heck of a lot of land
12 potentially being turned over from National Forest to
13 State and private ownership, but, you know, as a
14 cumulative impacts to subsistence kind of grow, you
15 mentioned you did some analysis on what Sealaska lands
16 might do but, you know, when you through in the State
17 selections and then, you know, this State Forestry, it
18 starts to become some major, major impacts, it's just the
19 way people use Prince of Wales Island, you know, what's
20 available for subsistence and how it's all going to get
21 used, so -- and that State Forestry Bill, that's one I'm
22 not familiar with so do you know what the effects on
23 Prince of Wales Island from that bill might be?

24
25 MS. O'CONNOR: Our initial assessment
26 would be very similar to what you have said. I mean if
27 -- the interest has been on Prince of Wales. I believe
28 they were interested in a mix of second growth and
29 potentially old growth forest as well but a strong
30 interest in acquiring young growth for that. And if you
31 look at -- we don't have exactly what that land base
32 would be but if you think about that much of an area and
33 if it was relatively contiguous, which seems to be what
34 most people are wanting to move towards now because it's
35 easier to manage a continuous block of land, I think you
36 could readily say the effects to both the subsistence
37 resources as well as subsistence users would be pretty
38 significant. But until we see the actual areas it's
39 really hard to talk about what the actual effects would
40 be.

41
42 So that is what we would be -- we were
43 waiting on that until we can kind of make those
44 assessments.

45
46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Follow up, Donald.

47
48 MR. HERNANDEZ: Just as a follow up, I
49 mean the Forest Service has gone through an extensive,
50 you know, TLMP planning process and all of this, which is

1 happening now just, you know, throws a lot of what the --
2 the efforts that were put into TLMP kind of out the
3 window. I don't know how the Forest Service is prepared
4 to address this but it seems to me it's a serious problem
5 that needs addressing.

6

7 MS. O'CONNOR: The one thing I think we
8 -- and we have -- and this is one of the things that we
9 have been relating to the delegation and others is that
10 if any of these other large land, you know, acquisitions
11 or entitlements, in the case of Sealaska's, or land
12 exchanges were to go through it would have significant
13 effects on the conservation strategy that the TLMP has in
14 terms of conservation of fish and wildlife. And we would
15 have to re -- basically re-look at the whole Forest Plan,
16 or at least the portion that's on Prince of Wales, if
17 that's where the focus would be and there would be pretty
18 significant changes that would have to happen, including
19 timber supply as well as effects to resources. So
20 there's no doubt we would have to start -- I hesitate to
21 say start from zero on another planning effort but it
22 would have to be a pretty major significant amendment to
23 TLMP.

24

25 MR. KOOKESH: Question.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Question, Mr. Kookesh.

28

29 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah. The Sealaska
30 entitlement was that based on ANCSA, which was before
31 TLMP, and you can correct me if I'm wrong.

32

33 MS. O'CONNOR: Yes. The selections are
34 from ANCSA, the entitlement act, though, goes outside of
35 the selection areas and looks at lands that are outside
36 of that so it would -- so that's why it's going through
37 legislation.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Donald.

40

41 MR. HERNANDEZ: One last question, Mr.
42 Chairman. Do you feel that our legislative or
43 Congressional representatives are well enough informed by
44 the Forest Service as to just what all these impacts
45 would be, is there good communication between the higher
46 levels of Forest Service and our Congressional Delegation
47 that we can be assured that our delegations are at least
48 aware of this situation that they're going to be making
49 decisions on?

50

1 MS. O'CONNOR: My understanding is we
2 have had pretty constant communication, particularly at
3 the staffer level, and my understanding is they have
4 relayed to our members of Congress those concerns. I
5 really can't say whether or not that's, you know,
6 adequate or not. I think that the more information they
7 get from parties and interests the better, and we've been
8 doing what we can to make sure that they've -- that
9 they're very aware of the situation. And, you know, we
10 have -- and I'll give an example, is, we have had several
11 Congressional staffer trips and we typically go to Prince
12 of Wales because there's a lot going on on Prince of
13 Wales for a variety of reasons and we do make sure that
14 we talk about pending land issues because that is
15 something that is looming out there that would have
16 significant impact, so we really do take advantage of the
17 opportunities that we have to do that.

18

19 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Stokes.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Dick.

22

23 MR. STOKES: Do you know anything about
24 the status of the five landless communities?

25

26 MS. O'CONNOR: Unfortunately I'm not --
27 I don't know the status of that at the moment. What I
28 can commit to doing, though, is getting an update on that
29 and I'll get that to Bob and he can share that with
30 everyone.

31

32 MR. STOKES: Thank you.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: And I have a question,
35 too, what's the status of the Native allotments that are
36 on Tongass National Forest? I know there are some on
37 there and what will happen to them when this land
38 transfer takes over, are they going to -- I'll let you
39 answer that and then I'll tell you about a resolution
40 that the State of Alaska adopted here a couple years ago.

41

42 MS. O'CONNOR: Again, Mr. Chair, that's
43 the -- I don't know the exact status of all those and
44 where those are at. My understanding is that those that
45 continue to be valid allotments that are working through
46 the process would still be honored. We would have to
47 consider that as a pre- -- as an ongoing claim that would
48 supersede any additional land exchanges on top of that,
49 particularly if they're discretionary.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, thank you for
2 that. I want to make everyone aware of Joint Resolution
3 adopted by the State of Alaska in 2006 and it's
4 Resolution 37, I believe, 37 or 38. What that is
5 essentially is asking for is for Congress to reopen all
6 of the Native allotments and -- closed Native allotments
7 as well as Veterans and, you know, many of these were
8 closed without due process. And then one of the big
9 stumbling blocks for the closing down some of the
10 allotments is that people couldn't prove prior use and
11 that goes all the way back to 1906 when the Native
12 allotment came into being. If you couldn't prove, you
13 know, prior use up to that time then your Native
14 allotment was -- the application was thrown out and so
15 they just arbitrarily closed, you know, hundreds and
16 hundreds of these Native allotments because that criteria
17 couldn't be met. Well, what the joint resolution is
18 asking for is for Congress to reopen all of those
19 allotments and put them in pending status and also to
20 take out that prior use clause or term and insert
21 ancestral use instead. And so this -- I've been trying
22 to track it, you know, and no one has come back with an
23 answer, if Bill Thomas was still here I would probably
24 ask him to give a report and see where he is at. But
25 what we're doing now, from the ANB and ANS level is
26 trying to push this through Congress and I'm going to --
27 we have a resolution that we've already passed, we're
28 going to send that to the delegation and maybe get a
29 report back from them as to the status of that. But
30 those are really important issues that many of our Native
31 people are being deprived of ownership of those 160 acres
32 or so lands that they had applied for and were
33 arbitrarily closed because they couldn't prove prior use,
34 and we're working on that.

35
36 And I just wanted to know if you knew,
37 you know, what the status of that was, but look up that
38 resolution and I think it will provide you with more
39 information on that issue.

40
41 MS. O'CONNOR: Thank you, Mr. Chair, I
42 will do that.

43
44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Kitka.

45
46 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm
47 sure most everybody that's affected by all the
48 communities would like information on that as well.

49
50 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Great. Mr. Kitka

1 we're going to bring this forth at the ANB Convention,
2 you know, next fall, so once that passes there then we'll
3 get it out to the communities.

4

5 Any more questions, comments.

6

7 MR. KOOKESH: Next fall?

8

9 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: No, next month, this
10 fall.

11

12 Thank you, Tricia, appreciate it.

13

14 Okay. Mr. Ben VanAlen, you say you need
15 five minutes to get ready.

16

17 MR. KOOKESH: Take a break.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We can -- you know what
20 I'm going to do I'm going to change the format here. Mr.
21 Jim Capra has come here every year, sat in the back.....

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:waited and waited
26 and waited until the end of the program and then he gave
27 maybe a two and a half, five minute talk, so I want to
28 give him an opportunity now to go before someone else at
29 this time, so if you would, Jim, appreciate it.

30

31 MR. CAPRA: Mr. Chair. Members of the
32 Council. My name is Jim Capra. I'm the subsistence
33 coordinator for Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve
34 and park ranger, I bring with me Dave Mills, our
35 subsistence team leader for the Alaska Region and Diane
36 McKinley.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Who, for a two and a
39 half minute report you got all kinds of support this
40 time.

41

42 (Laughter)

43

44 MR. CAPRA: I'm moving up in the world
45 after 14 years, I'm not last.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 MR. CAPRA: I have a couple of topics,
50 Mr. Chairman, you mentioned at the beginning of the

1 meeting and a few other informational needs and then I'll
2 let Dave speak and Diane.

3

4 One, as far as Glacier Bay National
5 Preserve, we have a study we put forward through the FIS
6 system that never quite made the cut. We ended up
7 funding a two year study with USGS on the East Alsek
8 River and the hydrology and the stock assessment for the
9 salmon there. Finished that. And the investigator,
10 Derrick Farber produced his results this spring, and
11 found that the probable cause of the decline, most likely
12 cause was one of the ones they suspected but it was a
13 combination of a number of factors, but generally because
14 the land is rising in that area, close to an inch a year.
15 The Alsek has not flooded through as often and disturbed
16 the spawning beds or cleaned them out as some people put
17 it, so the available spawning habitat has gone down. We
18 were able to complete that study, I wished it had been
19 through the FIS system, but we did finally get it done.

20

21 Mr. Chair, what you mentioned at the
22 beginning of the meeting, the Tweedsmuir Glacier, may
23 well block off the Alsek and then suddenly release. It's
24 done so, I believe in '74, wiping out several fish camps.
25 Historically it's done it and wiped out entire villages
26 on the Alsek. We've got a number of plans in place. I
27 spent a large part of my summer planning for this.
28 Likely if it happens, it'll happen this winter, we're
29 probably past the most dangerous time for that.

30

31 We do have a camera that USGS supplied
32 and we put up in British Columbia that will be linked to
33 a website where you can watch the glacier close off and
34 hopefully in a number of days we'll have that up as a
35 public website and I'll make sure and relay that to Bob
36 and make sure it gets out to all the Council members who
37 might be interested.

38

39 On the plus side, when it releases, it
40 may wash the East Alsek out. We don't know what the
41 results will be but we're trying to reduce the damages to
42 the resources and the property down there, folks fish
43 camps and, of course, is providing for public safety down
44 there.

45

46 We do have deer confirmed in the Preserve
47 and also coming up the coast from at least Icy Point on
48 up towards Lituya Bay, so we may have a more healthy deer
49 stock in Unit 5 soon.

50

1 MR. KOOKESH: I have a question, how is
2 the sea otter population in Glacier Bay doing, and is it
3 -- and if there is such a thing, is it affecting the
4 resource?

5
6 MR. CAPRA: The sea otter population in
7 Glacier Bay is expanding, like many other parts of
8 Southeast. I can't give you the exact dates but I
9 believe about 10 years ago it was very rare to see a sea
10 otter in Icy Strait or Glacier Bay and now it's common to
11 see fairly large rafts of sea otters, you know, 40 to 80
12 when they group up and I've heard of even larger and it
13 has affected the shellfish for local harvesters in
14 Gustavus and recreational users in Glacier Bay. I know
15 of just anecdotal accounts of folks who fish out of
16 Bartlett Cove in Glacier Bay it's much harder to get
17 their dungeness crab where they used to have a really
18 reliable supply.

19
20 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, follow up.

21
22 MR. KOOKESH: I should have asked you,
23 what your management plan is for that product?

24
25 MR. CAPRA: Because in Glacier Bay Park
26 we don't manage for the harvest of any particular
27 species, it's to allow the natural processes to continue.

28
29 MR. KOOKESH: Nothing.

30
31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Any other
32 questions.

33
34 MR. KITKA: I have one.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, Mr. Kitka.

37
38 MR. KITKA: I heard you say something
39 about recreational gathering of -- I just was curious
40 about I know the Native communities in Hoonah and the
41 surrounding area have to get special permission to go in
42 and harvest stuff and I just was wondering about the
43 recreational harvesting of what they take.

44
45 MR. CAPRA: In the Park recreational or
46 sportfishing under Alaska State law is permitted. I know
47 that concerns have come up on exactly the points you
48 raise that being a Park, the -- well, that kind of
49 conflict in management over allowing that harvest and
50 we've started to look very closely at what the harvest is

1 from the charter boats and the sportfishing and whether
2 any measures, you know, and our status as a marine
3 sanctuary or reserve in the Park as it's viewed, whether
4 any measures need to be taken to control that. I can't
5 say that we're doing anything more than looking at that
6 and we're aware of the problem in the Park, but the past
7 three years we've done a lot more data collection of what
8 the stocks are and what is being taken out under those
9 recreational fishing.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Mr. Mills, go
12 ahead.

13

14 MR. MILLS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
15 just wanted to thank you for the opportunity to join in
16 your meeting here. My name is Dave Mills. I'm
17 relatively new to your process here but I've spent the
18 past couple decades up in northern Alaska working at
19 various Parks up there and it's great to become
20 reacquainted with some of your challenges and issues
21 here. I had the chance in the '80s to do subsistence
22 around a number of communities in Southeast Alaska and
23 it's good to be back in touch with many of your issues,
24 and, thank you for your time and work.

25

26 I'm now in our statewide office in
27 Anchorage and I'm the manager for the statewide
28 subsistence program and work with Diane so here to listen
29 and learn and I've been very impressed with the dialogue.

30

31 Thanks for the opportunity.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Just need to
34 let you know that right here is the best RAC in all of
35 the state of Alaska and everyone knows it.

36

37 Thank you. Welcome.

38

39 MR. MILLS: Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Diane, do you have
42 something.

43

44 MS. MCKINLEY: Thank you, Bert. Just
45 real quick. I just want to state that I appreciate all
46 the RAC members and their time and effort and realize
47 that the volunteer and take time out of their schedule,
48 so I really appreciate that and dedication because these
49 are important issues to all our users, whether they're
50 tribal, rural or even non-rural.

1 And I appreciate that Floyd reappointed
2 Bert to the Wrangell's SRC, that is an important position
3 and we will be having a SRC's Chairs workshop next month
4 during AFN and that also gives our Chairs a chance from
5 our different areas in the state to have a dialogue and
6 understand the nature of issues that are going on in
7 their Parks, and so that's a very important meeting. And
8 so we're happy to have Bert continue on with that
9 appointment, too.

10

11 And I -- I heard one of the guys mention
12 the 70/30 split and so I would just hope that we continue
13 to have an interest in this RAC with all users and I
14 think Juneau applicants can apply so I would like to see
15 maybe some more of our women added to this group here
16 because I think we've had some really good contribution
17 in the past from like Dolly Garza and others that are
18 perhaps missing today, but it's been a good meeting.

19

20 I appreciate being able to come back
21 home, I was a little dismayed about not being able to --
22 that some of the meetings may not be in areas where
23 there's no airport, that's a concern to me, but it is
24 always good to come back home. I consider Southeast my
25 home and want to continue to listen and participate in
26 these important issues that we discuss.

27

28 Gunalcheesh.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Gunalcheesh. And while
31 you made mention, you know, of the SRC's Chair meeting,
32 I also need to announce that the Wrangell-St. Elias SRC
33 will be in Yakutat on the 29th and 30th of October, next
34 month and I know Diane is planning to come, you're all
35 invited to come if you want. It'd be a good experience
36 for some of the Council members to see, you know, what
37 that Board does, pretty much the same as this but it has
38 to deal with issues on the National Parks and Preserves.

39

40 Also Diane reminded me this morning about
41 the contribution that Judy Gottlieb made to the issues of
42 subsistence when she was working for the National Park
43 Service. And during a Chair's meeting, you know, I would
44 either like to recognize her in some way, so, you know,
45 if it's okay with the Council I will go ahead and do
46 that. And maybe we'll make some kind of a presentation
47 or something and Diane said she'd be willing to take care
48 of that part of it.

49

50 So she's going to be very greatly missed,

1 you know, she really was behind us in everything that we
2 tried to accomplish as a RAC that had to deal with
3 subsistence issues. So I just wanted to make that a
4 matter of concern here and if it's all right, you know,
5 for us to do that.

6

7

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, sir.

8

9

MR. MILLS: Mr. Chair. Just in terms of
10 organizational changes, I failed to mention we -- I've
11 been, in the interim between regional directors, I've
12 been filling that role with regards to the Federal
13 Subsistence Board, but we will have a new regional
14 director, her name is Sue Masica and she starts next
15 Monday so we'll be in the process of briefing her and
16 getting her up to speed and she'll be the new Board
17 member for the National Park Service, assuming things
18 stay the way they are now.

19

20

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Floyd, go ahead.

21

22

MR. KOOKESH: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I was
23 just reminded when Diane was talking that and I know we
24 didn't dialogue on this but it's very important that she
25 mentioned the balance that we have on our RAC and
26 whoever's weighing in on the decision-making, that we
27 make sure that we have a balance all over Southeast
28 Alaska so that all units are represented.

29

30

Thank you.

31

32

CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Point well taken. And
33 like I said to Mr. Mills, we have the bet RAC in all of
34 Alaska here because of the sacrifice and contributions,
35 you know, that we're willing to make, we're volunteers,
36 we don't get paid for it and, you know, I just appreciate
37 these men and women who have served in the past on this
38 body and so it's -- you know when somebody like Big Bill
39 Thomas goes, you know, big shoes to fill; when somebody
40 like John Littlefield goes, you know, those are big shoes
41 to fill. I remember when I was sitting in the -- after
42 Mr. Littlefield resigned, you know, in Sitka and I was
43 going back home and I was sitting at the airport waiting
44 for my airplane and here comes Big Bill Thomas and I was
45 really, you know, he noticed I was troubled about
46 something, he said, what's the matter, he was using his
47 walker, you know, came up and sat down beside me and I
48 said, you know, I'm really concerned about who's going to
49 take over as next Chair of the RAC, he patted me on the
50 shoulder like this and he said, ah, don't worry about it

1 Bert, there's a lot of good Chair material on that RAC.
2 Little did I know that it was going to be me, but, you
3 know, and then again I appreciate, you know, the
4 Council's confidence in me. I've learned a lot every
5 time I came to a meeting and I think this is probably one
6 of the best meetings I've ever attended as far as, you
7 know, keeping up with the issues and keeping control of
8 the meeting and so forth.

9
10 So it's a learning process but it's also
11 very rewarding.

12
13 So I just wanted to set that out, so
14 thank you, very much.

15
16 MR. KITKA: Mr. Chair.

17
18 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We got one more comment,
19 go ahead, Harvey.

20
21 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I know
22 I asked about the recreational and subsistence I was just
23 more curious as to why recreational is allowed in there
24 and subsistence has to go through a process to be allowed
25 to collect subsistence that was a traditional place for
26 them to gather stuff.

27
28 MR. CAPRA: Mr. Chair. Mr. Kitka. The
29 legal answer is that Glacier Bay, along with two other
30 National Parks was created before ANILCA and when ANILCA
31 was passed was excluded from Title VIII, so the Title
32 VIII subsistence regulations don't apply and the
33 recreational use was allowed in the initial enabling
34 legislation for the Park in the 1920s and '30s.

35
36 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman.

37
38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Kookesh.

39
40 MR. KOOKESH: Which one is more
41 impactful, is it the category sea otters, recreational
42 and subsistence or it looks like I'm looking for your
43 professional opinion?

44
45 MR. CAPRA: I am not sure I can answer
46 that and I.....

47
48 MR. KOOKESH: That was the answer by the
49 way.

50

1 MR. CAPRA: I -- well, yeah.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Sure go ahead.

4

5 MR. MILLS: Obviously learning a little
6 bit about this but I'm going to be meeting with the Staff
7 over at Glacier Bay and you folks probably know this
8 better than I do but this was something that was decided
9 in the '70s by Congress when they established new Parks
10 and they voted on ANILCA, and I think it's certainly
11 something that I know should be continued to be discussed
12 and I think many of you as well as people in Hoonah will
13 do that. It's not an agency decision, it's a law that
14 was established by Congress and as Jim said the Title
15 VIII components of ANILCA were not applied to some of the
16 Parks. And it was a decision by Congress at the time and
17 those can be continually discussed and looked at.

18

19 But it has nothing to do with the Park
20 Service management, the legal establishment of the laws
21 that direct the Park Service on how to manage that, right
22 or wrong; I'm not making a judgment on that.

23

24 MR. KOOKESH: One more.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: One more.

27

28 MR. KOOKESH: No, the one thing that I
29 always recognize is, is that the traditional lands of the
30 Hoonah people and if I had to ask anything I'd ask it for
31 the people of Hoonah, at least open the door for the
32 people of Hoonah to have access back to their traditional
33 lands. I'm not asking -- sitting here asking for C&T for
34 the rest of Southeast, if anything, at least take care of
35 the Hoonah people.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, thank you, Floyd.
40 You guys are excused.

41

42 Let's take a five minute break and have
43 Mr. VanAlen get himself ready for his presentation.

44

45 (Off record)

46

47 (On record)

48

49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You know after you get
50 done, Ben, Pat, I'm going to ask you to come up and give

1 a -- there was a request from one of the Council members
2 for you to give a short report on deer, so you'll follow
3 him.

4

5 Go ahead, Ben.

6

7 MR. VANALEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
8 Council members. I'm Ben VanAlen. I'm a biologist with
9 the Forest Service here in Juneau.

10

11 I've been asked to give a brief summary
12 of the Fishery Monitoring Program projects that we've
13 essentially funded over the years, basically starting in
14 2001.

15

16 The projects basically are provided on
17 this table -- been available on the back table, I believe
18 every Council member has. And it basically is a listing
19 of the locations where we funded sockeye escapement
20 enumeration projects over the years and it also lists
21 which projects are funded for next year. It shows you
22 years projects were funded as well as, you know, the
23 basic findings of them.

24

25 For the 2008 projects, the projects this
26 past summer, in fact, most or many are still going on
27 right as we speak. The Unuk eulachon, of course, was in
28 the spring. That was a Forest Service project. Sockeye
29 stock, status and trend projects include the Hetta and
30 Klawock that ADF&G were the principal investigators of.
31 Karta and Hatchery Creek projects were Bureau of Indian
32 Affairs PIs. Falls and Kutlaku done were Fish and Game
33 again. Klag Lake was PI'd by the Sitka Tribe of Alaska.
34 We had Neva Lake again by the Forest Service. And also
35 kind of outside of this Federal funding was a project
36 done by the Forest Service at Kanalku Falls and I'm going
37 to touch base on that real quick, too.

38

39 Unuk eulachon we've talked about a little
40 bit already. This last year, very few fish. So we had
41 essentially very few eulachon observed in 2004, five,
42 six, seven and now, eight, it was last fished in 2004, it
43 was closed before the season again this year. I would
44 doubt if we'll have any active fishing there for the
45 foreseeable future. There was a project funded for 2008
46 and 2009. Basically we developed this study designed for
47 that program in 2006, I happened to spend a little time
48 there and we identified 12 survey areas that we would be
49 surveying by foot or boat on a regular basis for the
50 period of time that eulachon would likely be there. We

1 initiated the study in 2007 in earnest. They got 97 foot
2 surveys done. They essentially didn't see any marine
3 mammals which is often a very good sign of eulachon in
4 the area. In that year, 2007, they only saw 85 live
5 eulachon in quite a few surveys. In 2008, this past
6 spring, they were there from March 4th through April
7 19th, 157 surveys, they also did some aerial surveys,
8 again, no marine mammals were observed, very little bird
9 activity, they did see a total of 26 live eulachon, which
10 is not so good, obviously. Anyway there's much more work
11 needs to be done to figure out reasons for the low
12 eulachon and part of that will come out of this work
13 that's been funded.

14

15 Again, we're back to the sockeye results
16 and I'd refer you to the.....

17

18 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Ben, can I just
19 interject here?

20

21 MR. VANALEN: Sure.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Have you all been doing
24 anything with eulachon in the Situk River, you know, I've
25 expressed concern about that several times now and I was
26 wondering if you're concentrating any efforts over there?

27

28 MR. VANALEN: Let's see, a little bit.
29 Pippa Kenner, this morning, mentioned that there is a --
30 it's identified as a monitoring program -- you know have
31 interest in it. Let me see there has been no work done
32 outside of work done by the Forest Service for a number
33 of years when they're doing the sea lion surveys in Dry
34 Bay. And out of those surveys came a series of
35 observations that we did graph, that gives us an
36 indication of where and when eulachon are in those
37 estuaries and rivers along the foreland and it's from
38 that past work that we then submitted an investigation
39 plan, which wasn't funded but maybe it will be in the
40 future.

41

42 So, again, basically just looking at the
43 results from this past year. The Hetta sockeye weir,
44 they're still in the process of doing their
45 mark/recapture work that validates the weir count or
46 estimates the escapement if they find the weir didn't --
47 they weren't able to count all the fish at the weir,
48 anyway, the count this year is 5,000.

49

50 At Klawock sockeye, the program that the

1 Fish and Game has is basically doing mark/recapture in
2 three of the main inlet streams. And that work is
3 proceeding and results aren't available right now. We
4 have had a weir there many years and often counting
5 sockeye through the weir has been part of the funded
6 project and so we see counts, you know, 12,000 to 21,000
7 in the past. I just threw this up because this year the
8 Prince of Wales Hatchery Association, who basically own
9 and install and operate the weir, anyway, they also
10 choose to count sockeye through the run for the year and
11 right now it's looking like a fairly decent escapement at
12 19,000 and they're still counting fish. And the
13 subsistence take, I understand about 7,000 so it's a
14 pretty good return of sockeye to Klawock compared to
15 recent history.

16
17 I'm just showing a video, I hope. And
18 basically prior to, I think it was the 18th -- well, the
19 19th of July we did count sockeye through the weir using
20 video cameras. Basically a little bit as a demonstration
21 project but I think this kind of potential or method is
22 of use in the future.

23
24 At Karta Lake, I don't know why that
25 keeps requiring a signal, but anyway they operated a weir
26 there for steelhead and then continued on to count
27 sockeye. The results are still pending for 2008. They
28 did have a very low weir count so we're not certain if
29 we'll be able to come up with a reasonable escapement for
30 the year. We know that fish did pass through uncounted.
31 This is a shot, I happened to be there when the last of
32 the steelhead project was in place.

33
34 At Hatchery Creek, they also had quite a
35 small weir count this year and they're still in the
36 business of seeing if they can reasonably estimate the
37 total escapement. So I'd say that result is pending.

38
39 This gentleman we see over again is
40 Michael Peel, who is one of the biologists with Organized
41 Village of Kasaan, I got to work with him some, and the
42 other person there happens to be Elijah Shakley who I
43 worked in the Hoonah project over the years.

44
45 At Hatchery Creek we did plan to do
46 radiotagging and put receivers at a couple locations up
47 stream that would automatically count tagged fish as they
48 swam by. Unfortunately, again, there was very few fish
49 that they handled at the weir, I believe only six were
50 tagged and I'm not certain if we'll be able to really

1 learn much from that radiotagging study this year. It'll
2 need to be repeated.

3

4 This is an old shot I took in 2001 there
5 at Falls Lake, where Fish and Game this year decided to
6 operate a trap at the top of the fish pass, a fish pass
7 there, and mark fish so they're in the process right now
8 of doing periodic sampling from fish that were marked as
9 they came up through the fish pass there and that will
10 give us an estimate of the total escapement into the lake
11 and they also do mark/recapture in the Inlet Streams and
12 beaches. So that work is ongoing, the results are
13 preliminary.

14

15 At Kanalku weir, the total count last
16 year, first year weir operation, 2007, was 461 sockeye
17 into the lake. Now, this year there was a count of 967,
18 that number is preliminary. In fact both those numbers
19 would be preliminary I believe until we look at the
20 information from the mark/recapture work that they're
21 doing. I did work down stream and was at the weir a
22 couple of times and I'd just comment that this year we
23 had fish building up behind the weir for, you know, a
24 couple of weeks or so, you know, it wasn't -- we weren't
25 -- they weren't able to pass fish through the weir and
26 both times we had to modify the entrance to the weir to
27 make it, I guess, more fish friendly so they would go in
28 and not get out and be readily interested in moving in
29 and I guess in the lower right picture is just where we
30 went in, I think it was on the 26th of July or 29th and
31 just plan 'ol moved the trap over, spent a couple hours,
32 moved the trap over and that seemed to work. We had most
33 of the fish then over the next couple of days move in.

34

35 This is a, I think, quite a small
36 escapement and should, again, be raising flags of concern
37 regarding the sustainability of the run, and,
38 particularly to maintain subsistence harvest in the bay.

39

40 At Klag, this is up on Baranof Island on
41 the outside. This project's funded a weir since 2001.
42 This year's weir count is the lowest observed. Again the
43 results are pending.

44

45 At Neva, since 2002 there's been a
46 project funded and this year was also the lowest we've
47 observed and as a PI for this project, and we have
48 validated that escapement with mark/recapture and plan to
49 go there tomorrow for the last mark/recapture event, but
50 that's essentially what the escapement's going to be. At

1 Neva we also use some Forest Service money to count fish
2 with videocameras, both right above the weir as in the
3 upper left photo -- can't really see anything but we have
4 basically two cameras under water in a log there and the
5 fish swim by it, count them there. We have -- in Inlet
6 Stream, I've got a couple cameras in there and also on a
7 beach spawning area I've got a camera running right there
8 that takes photos of fish a couple minutes of video three
9 times a day. It'll give us kind of a record of the build
10 up of fish as they build up and decrease. It's just
11 another shot of one of the cameras -- we basically have
12 two cameras at each counting station.

13

14 I want to touch on Kanalku Falls again.
15 This is definitely a migrational hardship or challenge
16 for sockeye moving up the falls. There is John Pickens
17 from the Forest Service -- came here to the falls last
18 year and provided us with a plan for what might be done
19 to improve access up the falls and includes basically a
20 jump pool from the area probably close to where the bear
21 is standing and then going up the river left -- or right
22 of the falls, a series of step pools, so that's one
23 option that's before us. I think we need to really take
24 a look at all potential options to work -- to actually
25 move fish above the falls if we choose to do that. But
26 something that we can reverse, something that we can undo
27 if we find that whatever we do doesn't work. And also
28 it's in a Monument area, we don't want to be disturbing
29 the natural setting any more than absolutely necessary.

30

31 Again, the results from 2006, 17 percent
32 of the fish made it over the falls so those are the fish
33 we radiotagged last year, we marked fish below the falls
34 and found that 23 percent of those made it over this
35 year. The results look similar but I'll have to say the
36 results are pending. We marked fish below the falls as
37 we did last year and we also counted the fish coming to
38 the base of the falls using videocameras. Had two nets
39 and two cameras on each one. These nets -- basically the
40 fish were moving up stream and they're funneled past
41 cameras, here's what the lower net weir looked like and
42 here's the upper net weir, a little different design,
43 this one entirely floats or has a floating cork line.
44 The fish in this case swim through that little diamond
45 shaped box past a couple cameras. And we would go there
46 once a week and change out the memory cards and make sure
47 everything was running fine. Here's just a shot of what
48 it looks like of a sockeye moving through at night. I
49 don't know -- here's another one. And basically it
50 worked pretty good. Everything was low power and we did

1 do counting 24 hours a day, seven days a week for the
2 duration of the run except when we first got there on
3 July 10th, there were already fish up stream so that's --
4 that would be a question on how many fish totally made it
5 in. It turned out our project is just a good a Dolly
6 project as a sockeye project. We counted lots of Dollys
7 going up, which is kind of interesting and cutthroats.

8

9 Thanks.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Thank you, Ben.
12 Mr. Bangs, you got a question.

13

14 MR. BANGS: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman.
15 In regards to the Kanalku project, from what I understood
16 by talking to Representative Thomas, that they approved
17 funding for a fish, I think he said a fish ladder; is
18 that -- are you going to continue your project and count
19 after the ladder is put in or do you know when they're
20 going to do that?

21

22 MR. VANALEN: Yeah, we actually had a
23 meeting with Fish and Game on Monday and was told that
24 they did, the State did receive funds for a fish, I
25 believe it was, fish ladder, also the words they used, at
26 Kanalku and my comment was that we need to meet, we need
27 to, you know, there's several players involved and, yeah,
28 we need to -- I don't know what their plan is on spending
29 that money, just like on our end we haven't done any --
30 what's needed, is the NEPA work -- we have to actually
31 have to plan to what we want to do first or options and
32 then go through the NEPA process, and so we have a little
33 money on our side and apparently the State has money too
34 so I'd say we're basically not very well coordinated at
35 the present time. And meanwhile I've been really pushing
36 for determining what the passage success do a pre, during
37 and after monitoring so, you know, on actual fish pass
38 work I think we better develop a plan quickly.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, Floyd, and then I
41 think Harvey had a question, too. Go ahead.

42

43 MR. KOOKESH: The run in Kanalku, when
44 did it, do you have an idea, the sockeye run?

45

46 MR. VANALEN: Yeah, that's kind of a
47 really cool thing when it comes to having fish video you
48 see when they move and what not and we did see the run
49 peter out and I should tell you it's probably on this
50 card right here, my little data card, because that's

1 pulled from the last camera, I believe the run -- for
2 fish moving in the lower stream was basically over on
3 August 18th, I think it was, was the last sockeye, and
4 some of those looked old, too, whatever that means.

5

6 MR. KOOKESH: It's dying.

7

8 MR. VANALEN: Well, yeah.

9

10 (Laughter)

11

12 MR. KOOKESH: Thank you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Harvey.

15

16 MR. KITKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I had
17 some questions on the eulachon and I just was more
18 curious after they spawn out, how long before the smolt
19 come out and where do they go and what do they feed on
20 because I know with the climate change and everything,
21 that the plankton has changed when it becomes available
22 to them. I'm just wondering if anybody has considered
23 some of these, just starving because there's nothing for
24 them to eat when they make it to the ocean.

25

26 MR. VANALEN: Yeah, my understanding from
27 work, that's actually partially done with the Forest
28 Service in a couple locations, Twentymile up by Anchorage
29 and Cook Inlet and then there in Berners River here, is
30 that, the larval -- eulachon basically -- the eggs are
31 deposited in the -- but mostly the lower reaches of these
32 streams and the larval are there for up to 21 days or so
33 but then move immediately out into the estuary. And what
34 they feed on would be, since they are so small, they
35 would feed on the smallest of little, you know,
36 phytoplankton, zooplankton, you know, in their initial
37 life, and so I'm sure the mortality is most variable
38 during those first, you know, few weeks of life where
39 they need to have and find food to grow and survive. And
40 whether there's been changes over the years and
41 availability, the productivity of their nursery areas,
42 that's definitely a question -- I'll have to just comment
43 that, you know, we might be -- I don't know how to put
44 this, but we might be staring at an elephant in the room
45 and not even really be putting it together. Let me see,
46 a talk last year at the pink and chum workshop looking at
47 the relationship between hatchery releases and the
48 production between pink and chum both in Southeast Alaska
49 and in Prince William Sound and it's not beyond my
50 questioning to see what the relationship is between the

1 production releases of chum, which is now widely
2 distributed in Southeast Alaska and the result in
3 production of other species, including Unuk eulachon.
4 Right in that area there is a major hatchery production
5 and, I don't know, I know there is competition for space
6 and food, they -- they do overlap and their -- the
7 presence in the area and -- and just a certain carrying
8 capacity out there, so it's either predator/prey or plain
9 old competition for food, but that is of concern to me
10 and I think we all have to keep our eyes open on the big
11 picture as well.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, anyone else.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You heard my little
18 comment at the beginning of the meeting about having
19 Gordy Woods come to our ANB meeting and, you know, he
20 gave his view of what might be happening to the sockeye.
21 Does your thinking fall in line with that or is it kind
22 of early to tell yet?

23

24 MR. VANALEN: Yeah, I'd have to look at
25 various information. I haven't actually looked. I
26 believe he was talking about an unusually warm spring; is
27 that correct?

28

29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: (Nods affirmatively)

30

31 MR. VANALEN: Yeah, let me see, there's
32 -- I guess I'd have to look at the information a little
33 more. All I know is back when I was in the business of
34 forecasting or looking or trying to explain why annual
35 runs of pink salmon were variable in Southeast, we
36 basically -- we attributed the poor return off the '85
37 brood to an extremely cold winter, it was the coldest
38 winter, particularly November/December period we'd had
39 with low snowfall so that was a pretty good fit, and that
40 was off of some of the highest escapement we've ever
41 observed. And the next brood -- the brood didn't return
42 either and we attributed that to not anything to do with
43 the freshwater, it had to do with ocean predation by
44 dagertooth, which is a most unusual thing, but that's the
45 -- the observations that we made at the time.

46

47 Up until now we've essentially been
48 successful at rebuilding the pink salmon escapements and
49 returns at the higher levels but there's these recent odd
50 year failures essentially in northern Southeast

1 particular -- or sorry, even year, that -- that warrants
2 a hard look at the different climatic information,
3 oceanographic information, hatchery interaction
4 relationship, yeah, so I actually haven't looked at it.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You might contact him
7 and see if he can email you that report that he gave his
8 report off of because it supposedly comes from a
9 scientific group that did this study, they did it on
10 kings, they did it on sockeyes, they did it on cohos and
11 he just gave us that one on the sockeye stocks so I'm
12 sure he'll be happy to supply you with that information.

13

14 Any more questions.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you.

19

20 MR. VANALEN: Thank you.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Pat, do you want to come
23 up and do your part.

24

25 MS. PETRIVELLI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
26 My name's Pat Petrivelli and I'm the anthropologist with
27 BIA. And I'm providing technical assistance to Craig
28 Community Association and we're doing a study that's
29 funded by the Forest Service like Dennis Chester
30 mentioned.

31

32 In the first year of the study we did
33 household surveys on -- we concentrated just on Prince of
34 Wales, I think I did a PowerPoint at the end of the Sitka
35 meeting and went over how we came up with the questions
36 about uses and needs because it came out of the
37 subsistence committee. And so we're doing a household
38 survey on uses and needs of deer. And we've conducted
39 383 household surveys in the Prince of Wales Island
40 communities. We got -- in the four larger communities
41 we're doing random samples and we did 199 in Thorne Bay,
42 Craig, Klawock and Hydaburg, and so that's 15 percent of
43 the households. And then in the smaller communities
44 we've done 184 and that's 63 percent. We were trying to
45 get 100 percent of those communities, but because we
46 started our work in May, April/May it's a transitional
47 period but some communities are higher, some are lower,
48 but that's just the way the cookie crumbles. So you'll
49 just see how that goes.

50

1 And we finished our work on the household
2 surveys June 30th and then we started a hunter survey,
3 where we're asking exactly the same questions except for
4 about household demographics and with those hunter
5 surveys Craig hired people to ride on the ferry from
6 Hollis to Ketchikan and then in three weekends the worker
7 got 102 surveys done just of non-Unit 2 hunters, that
8 were hunting deer and surprising quite a few were non-
9 residents of Alaska, even, so it will be interesting to
10 see what those surveys are. And, of course, it could be
11 everyone's really interested in that hunter survey
12 because the incentive is a rifle and it's a 30.06
13 something.

14

15 (Laughter)

16

17 MS. PETRIVELLI: But there's a picture of
18 it. Dave Johnson could tell you what it is.

19

20 (Laughter)

21

22 MS. PETRIVELLI: It's something but
23 evidently the hunters like that.

24

25 But for the resident people it'll be --
26 they're eligible from January to March and so we're going
27 to do the Unit 2 residents and Unit 3 residents from
28 January until March and so we'll be doing those surveys,
29 and it's hunter surveys again, too. So those three pools
30 of data will just -- because the goal of the study is to
31 describe the local people in the off island and our
32 advisory committee, we just were only going to survey
33 hunters to begin with but our advisory committee did want
34 that household component because they said how can you
35 determine household -- or uses and needs if you don't
36 talk to the households. But we only have enough money to
37 do it on Unit 2. But we'll get to compare how different
38 a hunter tells between the household and we'll just be
39 able to give you lots of statistics.

40

41 And the other part of the survey is the
42 qualitative part, where we're doing key respondent
43 interviews, and our goal is 50 surveys for that and we've
44 done 22 so far, 30 are supposed to be on island and all
45 of those are on Prince of Wales Island and then the other
46 18 will be other users in other communities, and we're in
47 the process of gathering the -- getting names for those
48 to be done.

49

50 The data collection should all finish by

1 March of next year and then it'll just be writing and
2 we'll just have draft results that we'll share in all the
3 communities and then we'll send draft results to all
4 boxholders in the survey areas and then we'll say that
5 there'll be public meetings in different places because
6 it will be reviewed before we submit it to the Forest
7 Service. And once we feel comfortable with the results
8 that we have, that it's accurately describing subsistence
9 uses and needs of those communities then we'll submit it
10 to the Forest Service.

11

12 So that's just where we are today.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Pat,
15 appreciate that. Questions anyone.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thanks, again. Well,
20 you know, we're definitely not going to finish before
21 noon so I know a couple Council members have -- I was
22 willing to go until we completed the agenda but there's
23 a couple Council members who wanted to -- had some
24 business to take care of during lunch so we're going to
25 take a lunch break. What I would like to do right now is
26 take care of item No. 17 before we break, and that's I
27 want to do a workshop for the deer, the deer program and
28 the issue is developing some goals and objectives for
29 that meeting, which are going to take place in 2009, and
30 I'd like to see if we could get a couple, three Council
31 members, you know, to coordinate these presentations for
32 us.

33

34 Volunteering.

35

36 MR. BANGS: Yes.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Good any other
39 volunteers.

40

41 MR. HERNANDEZ: I will.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Donald. How did I know
44 you guys were going to volunteer.

45

46 (Laughter)

47

48 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Anyone else.

49

50 MR. KOOKESH: I will.

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Floyd. So
2 the three of you, great.

3
4 MR. KOOKESH: What is it about?

5
6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: It's Southeast deer.

7
8 MR. KOOKESH: Oh, deer.

9
10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Oh, deer, yes, great,
11 thank you. So we'll go ahead and break for lunch, let's
12 come back at one and then we'll do our best to finish off
13 the agenda. Have a good lunch. You're all on your own
14 this time.

15
16 (Off record)

17
18 (On record)

19
20 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: So we'll go ahead and
21 finish up here and get the meeting back to order.

22
23 (Pause)

24
25 MR. KOOKESH: Okay, I'm here, you can
26 start.

27
28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We did. We're now back
29 in session. Let me see, we need to do Item No. 18,
30 develop the 2008 annual report issues and this is
31 something that the coordinator's looking for feedback
32 from the Council so he can put it in the 2008 annual
33 report. Kind of give us a little bit more background on
34 that, if you would, Robert, please.

35
36 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chairman. I've
37 distributed a draft document that you and I have looked
38 at and I think reflects the high points of this meeting
39 and the issues that we need to pursue with the
40 Subsistence Board. I would like to remind you that this
41 meeting, the functions of having this discussion is to
42 simply identify those issues that are important to the
43 Regional Council, and communicate to the Subsistence
44 Board. During the next couple of months, what I will do
45 is take those issues forward and draft an annual report,
46 and in February the Regional Advisory Council will review
47 and finalize the annual report. You'll have adequate
48 opportunity to look at that document prior to the
49 February meeting and in March then after the February
50 meeting I will finalize that report and prepare it for

1 Bert's signature.

2

3

4 And the topics of that are appropriate to
5 be contained within an annual report are things that, if
6 you could -- feel the need to identify current or
7 anticipated subsistence uses. If you think that there
8 needs to be an evaluation of the subsistence uses, you
9 can recommend strategies for management of fish and game,
10 and you can recommend policies, standards, guidelines to
11 implement those strategies.

12

13 The document that you see in front of you
14 and I think there's three or four copies of that around,
15 we need to share, there are six items I would recommend
16 keeping that list to that number, five or six, that seems
17 like it's a workable number and really gives an
18 opportunity for Staff to really fully -- to spend some
19 time and fully develop those issues.

20

21 Right now we have identified things,
22 interception of salmon, primarily
23 chinook salmon by commercial fisheries
24 in the Bering Sea and the Gulf of
25 Alaska.

26

27 The implementation of a subsistence
28 priority for herring and herring spawn
29 in Makhnati.

30

31 The stock -- low stock size of sockeye
32 salmon in numerous areas throughout
33 Southeast.

34

35 The need for or the desire by the
36 Council to have a representative on the
37 TransBoundary River Panel.

38

39 Review of wildlife regulations.
40 Identify where there needs to be a
41 subsistence priority for use of
42 wildlife.

43

44 Investigation of in-season management
45 authority for wildlife to district
46 managers within the Forest Service.

47

48 Right now the management of deer has been
49 delegated to the land managers, which are the district
50 rangers in Unit 4, district ranger in Sitka and Juneau
51 and Admiralty. So that has been done, the district

1 ranger in Petersburg has in-season management authority
2 for deer and moose in Units 1B and 3. If you would like
3 to expand that discussion, well, this is a good time to
4 bring it to the Board's attention.

5
6 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. As Bob said --
7 I'm going to ask a question, is there a reason why we
8 need to keep this just to five or six points of interest
9 or is that -- I mean is there an opportunity to add some
10 more on there if the Council sees fit to do so?

11
12 MR. LARSON: There's no limit to the
13 number, absolutely not.

14
15 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

16
17 MR. LARSON: And there's nothing in these
18 recommendations here, you know, that's just to get
19 started.

20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: And I know that you sent
22 out an email to all of the Council members, I did too
23 prior to this meeting, you know, and there were more on
24 there and now it's whittled down to these numbers, so if
25 you have any comments to make on that this is the time to
26 do it, so what do you think.

27
28 MR. WALLACE: Mr. Chair.

29
30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Lee.

31
32 MR. WALLACE: Mr. Chair. Yes, again, you
33 know, I was hopefully coming to this particular meeting
34 with the outcome from the Federal Subsistence Board on
35 their ruling of their RFRs, and actually on all 6 RFRs
36 they were all declined and of course there was
37 conversation in previous Southeast RAC meetings, and
38 definitely we did have a ruling in the Southeast RAC as
39 far as the group supporting Saxman and, of course, it
40 ultimately failed. And so there's a failure of the whole
41 system of, you know, support. Like you said -- you
42 mentioned earlier that, you know, they should give the
43 RACs deference, you know, that each regional RAC receives
44 a lot of the testimony from local level and it's
45 deliberated and it was discussed, you know, at this
46 particular table on a number of occasions and then we
47 bring it forth to the FSB level and then, of course,
48 total disregard to what we're really here for, is it's
49 protecting our subsistence way of life for our rural
50 communities, and more so for our Federally-recognized

1 tribes with that trust responsibility that the US
2 government should have and they seem to just be ignoring
3 that trust responsibility.

4
5 So, you know, Saxman was overall just
6 displeased, you know, with the outcome of the recent
7 meeting that had up in Anchorage, you know, making those
8 final decisions on all those RFRs and, of course, most
9 ultimately with Saxman's rural status.

10
11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, okay, well, I
12 think that's something that definitely needs to be
13 included in this annual report then so it'll be there for
14 the record, Mr. Larson.

15
16 You're next.

17
18 MR. KOOKESH: Is he next?

19
20 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: No, I just -- I'm just
21 saying.....

22
23 MR. KOOKESH: I was just -- I was just
24 hoping that you'd go through all of our stuff.

25
26 REPORTER: Floyd. Floyd.

27
28 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I'm just saying that he
29 needs to include that. Go ahead, Mr. Larson.

30
31 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chairman. I do have a
32 question.

33
34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Don't make it a hard
35 one.

36
37 (Laughter)

38
39 MR. LARSON: I'm just wondering, based on
40 the actions of the Council and the recent actions of the
41 Board, including reviews and action on the RFRs, what
42 would be our recommendation to the Board here regarding
43 rural determinations, is it due deference or is it
44 revisiting the rural determinations; what is our
45 recommendation there?

46
47 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, go ahead.

48
49 MR. WALLACE: Well, as far as the
50 recommendation is I guess, you know, I guess following

1 the law and actually how arbitrarily the law is
2 interpreted, you know, by -- you know there's talk of
3 individuals on FSB, you know, I think it was --
4 arbitrarily decisions were made there and I think what
5 needs to be followed is the law and the spirit of the
6 law.

7

8 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
9 Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, sir, Floyd.

12

13 MR. KOOKESH: I believe if I heard -- if
14 I understood Mr. Larson correctly a few minutes ago, we
15 have time to formulate. The idea was to present our
16 issues for the annual report, not to sit here and to
17 justify and discount. But just to bring them out on the
18 table and then we'll elaborate more on them when this
19 process comes back to us through our emails.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yep.

22

23 MR. KOOKESH: Is that correct?

24

25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: That's correct.

26

27 MR. KOOKESH: Okay.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Uh-huh.

30

31 MR. KOOKESH: Next.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, any more comments.
34 Donald, go ahead.

35

36 MR. HERNANDEZ: Just to say I think the
37 Council should communicate with the Board in as strong as
38 words as possible that, you know, we're dissatisfied with
39 that decision and we're just dissatisfied with the whole
40 way it was dealt with, the whole RFR and not listening to
41 the Council and put that in as strong words as we can and
42 tell them we're not satisfied.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, I think that's how
45 we're going to approach it Donald. Anyone else.

46

47 MR. WALLACE: Mr. Chair.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Lee.

50

1 MR. WALLACE: One more comment, you know,
2 I think it was yesterday or the day before OSM Staff gave
3 a report before this Council and, you know, she used the
4 word that Saxman use and many individuals use that --
5 those same words and phrases that she used the other day,
6 nothing has changed and one of the proposals that we
7 reviewed for this particular and, you know, that was
8 message was loud and clear nothing has really changed in
9 Saxman since the last 10 years. What has changed is,
10 again, bureaucrats coming up with criteria changing, you
11 know, what makes a community rural and what makes it non-
12 rural, but beyond that nothing has changed, we're still
13 the same people, we still subsist and nothing's really
14 going to change that. But things like this and what it
15 ultimately ends up to be possibly making us fishing and
16 gathering maybe illegally at some point.

17
18 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thanks for those points,
19 Lee. Okay, anyone else here.

20
21 (No comments)

22
23 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, that's -- do you
24 have something?

25
26 MR. KOOKESH: Yes. I'm just kind of
27 waiting for everybody to.....

28
29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Well, go ahead Floyd,
30 wind it up for us.

31
32 MR. KOOKESH: Earlier -- earlier in the
33 session I brought out a few points that I felt needed to
34 go in the annual report. And I also don't believe that
35 even though Mr. Larson agrees with it, that there should
36 be as little as possible in there, we should put in there
37 as much as needs to be in there, you know, we don't have
38 all the time in the world, you know, 13 volunteers, we
39 need to take care of business, that's what we're here for
40 or we're going to be sitting here saying, many years ago,
41 you know, I'm not going to go there anymore. But the --
42 the idea is -- that I brought up was when we put in --
43 you mentioned about why can't the RACs put in request for
44 reconsideration, you mentioned that one point.

45
46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Uh-huh.

47
48 MR. KOOKESH: And we should -- that
49 should go in there, that the RACs should be able to do
50 that. I mean I -- I don't see how it would be a problem.

1 And the other thing that I brought up --
2 or that was brought up was executive sessions and working
3 groups, that we need to be involved in those. Because
4 you and I talked -- we all talked last time out and that
5 -- that decisions cannot be made in executive sessions,
6 that's a fact. That's what Robert's Rules of Order says.
7 But we need to be involved in this working group session,
8 just can't be the State and somebody else, and excluding
9 us, the affected users that we represent.

10
11 And Mr. Kitka -- probably I brought it
12 up, but it was my disappointment last time in our meeting
13 that we're no longer going to have meetings in
14 communities that do not have daily jet service. And
15 that's -- that's wrong. Sure, we all come from rural
16 areas, pretty soon they'll say we don't want people from
17 rural areas, too, that don't have daily jet service, it
18 does -- it has to stop somewhere because we have to be
19 representative of those people that -- you know, we need
20 to be accessible. If Federal Staff made this up, show us
21 the justification as to why they don't want to go to
22 these communities. Sure we don't have first class hotels
23 in these communities and you can't -- we can't wine and
24 dine you to the great degree you -- probably Federal
25 Staff are used to -- did I say that right -- I think so
26 -- anyway, so -- but the -- it needs to be an issue, it
27 needs to be brought out, what's the -- what -- what's the
28 justification on the part of whoever and that -- that's
29 another question, who came up with this anyway.

30
31 And then.....

32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: If I can just make a
34 comment on that before.....

35
36 MR. KOOKESH: Too late.

37
38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:I forget. It's too
39 late?

40
41 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah.

42
43 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I'm conducting this
44 meeting here, Floyd.

45
46 MR. KOOKESH: I have the floor, go ahead,
47 I'll let you interrupt me again -- I'll let you
48 interrupt.

49
50 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Mr. Vice-

1 Chairman. I agree with you on that point, you know, I
2 guess what they're trying to do is to save.....
3
4 MR. KOOKESH: Well, we've -- we've never
5 seen anything in writing.....
6
7 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:the funds for.....
8
9 MR. KOOKESH:that's the.....
10
11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Right, but.....
12
13 MR. KOOKESH:deal, oh, no, we're
14 just not going to communities that don't have daily jet
15 service, that was all they told us.
16
17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Uh-huh.
18
19 MR. KOOKESH: And that's all I heard.
20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. So I think the
22 purpose of having.....
23
24 MR. KOOKESH: And I mean -- I mean -- I
25 mean.....
26
27 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:the -- all right,
28 now, please.
29
30 MR. KOOKESH:the issues -- go
31 ahead.
32
33 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Don't interrupt me,
34 please.
35
36 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah.
37
38 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: The reason why we have
39 them in these communities is to reach out to those
40 communities, and that's the point I wanted to make Mr.
41 Kookesh, so, go ahead.
42
43 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Bangs wanted to make a
44 comment.
45
46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Bangs.
47
48 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
49 think you said it, Floyd, I think we need to make our
50 successful and that is the reason why we spoke to that

1 issue about jet service, so that people can have access
2 to our meetings and I think that was the crux of the
3 thing.

4

5 Thank you.

6

7 MR. KOOKESH: And -- and -- and my
8 reasoning on this -- that -- that part was when I did an
9 email a while back that said, well, if that's going to be
10 the case, then let's start regionalizing our meetings
11 because if this is about money then let's start having
12 our meetings in Ketchikan and -- or -- and Juneau, that
13 way we'll cover both ends. If money's an issue then
14 let's have our meetings in Ketchikan and Juneau and leave
15 it at that, that way we won't discriminate people who
16 have access to the Juneau area from the outlying
17 communities and a -- and a lot of people have access to
18 Ketchikan from outlying communities around there, and
19 they are hubs for us so.....

20

21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, good point, but
22 let's not go there right now.

23

24 MR. KOOKESH: Okay. Well.....

25

26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Anything else.

27

28 MR. KOOKESH:I've got another.....

29

30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.

31

32 MR. KOOKESH:and -- and another
33 item that was brought up was the sea lion and it was
34 brought up by practically everybody, the sea lion issue.
35 We have a sea lion issue in Southeast. We also have a
36 sea otter issue. And those need to be put on there that
37 there has to be -- I don't -- I don't know how I -- there
38 has to be a -- there has to be a management, an
39 implementation of some sort of strategy to -- to start
40 dealing with these issues recognizing that although they
41 may be protected, we do have a problem. I believe it was
42 brought out that it was -- there was -- why don't we do
43 whole pelts, you know, let's start making these things
44 work for us instead of just having to -- having them take
45 over the docks and the sea lions stealing all your fish
46 while you're -- and that was one that was brought out by
47 -- those two items were brought up by everybody.

48

49 Executive sessions.

50

1 And I believe there's a question about
2 the threshold, that needs to be continuously be brought
3 up.

4
5 You know we need to be -- we need to be
6 a strong RAC. You know earlier you mentioned how we're
7 the best RAC, well, let's show them, let's just put a --
8 put a -- let's be -- let's be as tough as we -- and as
9 intelligent about it as we are, so we need to get that --
10 that -- the Federal Subsistence Board needs to talk to us
11 about that.

12
13 And then there's that issue about the in-
14 season management about the special actions and emergency
15 closures, that process, you know, that process needs to
16 be brought out a little better. I know when we did that
17 Unit 4 thing, that was -- that was -- I called you and
18 hung up and I called you and hung up and I called you and
19 hung up, that wasn't a -- that's not a good process,
20 that's not a healthy process for our RAC. We need to do
21 it -- if we're going to involve it -- like I mentioned
22 talk to the affected guy, if that's the plan, let's do
23 that, you know, the unit.

24
25 And then there's the -- ability to have
26 alternates. I don't know how this is going to go because
27 alternate RAC members, you know, because it would be nice
28 if we could have other people here -- sitting here to
29 take over.

30
31 And then if you want to get -- go into
32 that a little more, let's ask for more money. Maybe if
33 we ask for 700 billion to bail out -- to bail out the
34 housing market in America, what's -- what's -- let's
35 throw in 10 million for us, give us a bigger budget for
36 a change so we can do things, like we're supposed to do.
37 Let's not just sit here and -- and take 50 cents when we
38 need a dollar. I mean let's ask for a dollar, or ask for
39 1.50 and get a dollar or something. Let's put -- do it
40 right so we can become effective, let's have budgets,
41 let's -- let's not ask -- ask to make recommendations to
42 -- to cut our budgets from staff, and -- let's just ask
43 to increase our budget. I mean we don't make those
44 recommendations, but we should be doing that.

45
46 A little bit on the in-season management,
47 I think that's a real important one, by the way.

48
49 Then I believe Bob Loescher mentioned it,
50 too, yesterday, I don't know if this will go, this has to

1 do with the herring spawn in Sitka. Ask them to put a
2 moratorium on it. If we want we can even revisit ETJ
3 (ph) we're going to have to get there somewhere.

4

5 I ran out of paper.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Don't stop now.

8

9 (Laughter)

10

11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you, Floyd,
12 appreciate that.

13

14 I would like to maybe ask either Larry or
15 maybe even Steve Kessler about the alternate Council
16 issue, if one of you could come up and see where we're at
17 on that.

18

19 MR. BUKLIS: Mr. Chair. Larry Buklis,
20 OSM. I believe this has been raised in the past and the
21 response is we cannot appoint alternate members but just
22 members, and I don't remember the rationale behind it but
23 that was the response, but that doesn't mean you can't
24 raise it as a concern in your annual report.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah. And, you know, if
27 we can be satisfied with the rationale that would be
28 helpful, you know, if you could come up with that later
29 and maybe email it to him and he'll get it out to the
30 Council members, if you don't mind, Steve -- or I mean
31 Larry.

32

33 MR. BUKLIS: So, Mr. Chairman, you'd like
34 me to look into the rationale for that former response
35 and get it back to you?

36

37 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, correct.

38

39 MR. BUKLIS: I will do that.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thank you. Any more
42 discussion on the.....

43

44 REPORTER: Wait, Bert, Bert.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: One of the reasons why
47 I didn't enforce the fining period this time because I
48 would be the biggest contributor again this year, so,
49 thank you Tina.

50

1 Do you have a question?
2
3 MR. LARSON: I do have a question.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead.
6
7 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chairman. So were we
8 satisfied with the discussion of salmon bycatch in the
9 trawl fisheries or should we keep that as a an annual
10 report item or should we lose it?
11
12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: What do you think,
13 Council, to me it's a pretty big issue, I don't know what
14 you guys think about it. You know, and here's how I look
15 at it, you know, we have spawning rivers in all parts of
16 Southeast Alaska -- or all of Alaska, and those -- those
17 salmon, they go out, you know, we produce it for them,
18 okay, then they go out and somehow they get lost out
19 there and don't come back and, you know, I think this
20 bycatch issue is a big issue, when you talk about
21 122,000, you know, not full grown chinook salmon being
22 caught incidentally, that's a big, big lose to our
23 rivers, where they're supposed to come back and produce
24 itself. You know I heard 122,000, and then I heard maybe
25 it might even get up to 240,000 this year, you know, that
26 just is from what I heard, but it has increased every
27 year and I think it's worthwhile keeping on there.
28
29 But, go ahead, Mr. Kitka.
30
31 MR. KITKA: I agree with you that it
32 needs to be addressed. They also need to address that
33 there is more chinook streams than just what they
34 mentioned because it seems like the whole coast all the
35 way up has got some chinook in them. And the few that
36 they mentioned for Southeast and all the way up in
37 through Cook Inlet and that area, there is more salmon
38 streams than what they show.
39
40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, thank you, Harvey.
41 Did you want to address the others, I don't have them in
42 front of me.
43
44 MR. KOOKESH: We already addressed them.
45 We all have papers here.
46
47 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I don't.
48
49 MR. KOOKESH: You're supposed to share.
50

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead. Yeah, him and
2 I are sharing. The Makhnati Island issue, yeah.
3
4 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chairman. The list now
5 includes salmon bycatch;
6
7 Makhnati herring;
8
9 Condition of sockeye stocks;
10
11 Stikine River TransBoundary
12 representative;
13
14 Wildlife management authority for land
15 managers;
16
17 Rural determination for Saxman need to
18 be revisited;
19
20 Council should be able to submit RFRs;
21
22 Decisions should not be made in
23 executive session at the Board meeting;
24
25 Councils should be able to meet anywhere
26 they feel is appropriate for success of
27 the program;
28
29 Sea otters need to be used responsibly,
30 allowing the sale of full pelts;
31
32 What we look for in a stock status
33 report and management plan for sea
34 lions;
35
36 Allow the selection of alternate Council
37 members; and
38
39 Allow the Regional Advisory Councils to
40 be involved in formulating their own
41 budgets.
42
43 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Does that cover
44 everything that we talked about so far -- it seems like
45 it covered everything that you brought out, anything
46 else?
47
48 MR. KOOKESH: Oh, yeah.
49
50 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, Floyd.

1 MR. KOOKESH: Well, what was brought up
2 -- I think he brought up his six points and wanted us to
3 comment on them and from listening to the first six --
4 well, this is after I gave mine -- the six points was in
5 -- in listening to the six points that he brought up, I
6 -- from what I heard yesterday is it's a \$240 million
7 fishery so 80,000 chinook didn't mean anything, that was
8 my take on it.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Uh-huh.

11

12 MR. KOOKESH: And the lady couldn't make
13 the connection between environmental justice and the --
14 the fact that we lost 80,000 kings or a quarter million
15 kings and I didn't think -- or I felt that what she was
16 -- what I -- my overall sense was that the \$240 million
17 pollock fishery -- you called it pollock but -- pollock
18 -- the pollock fishery was more important than -- than --
19 than bycatch, wasn't it -- wasn't -- that was my sense of
20 listening to her.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yes, it's the most
23 largest industry, you know, money-wise.

24

25 MR. KOOKESH: I never knew that either.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, I didn't either.

28

29 MR. KOOKESH: And, Mr. Chairman, going
30 into the six points was I don't feel we need to really
31 respond to No. 4, about the Stikine River representative
32 -- the TransBoundary River Panel. I think that's a
33 process that's going to work itself through there. I
34 think that's something that takes care of itself. That's
35 -- you know, we could say something about it but I -- I
36 don't think this paper needs it in there.

37

38 Those are the only two I had an issue
39 with so that's -- that's -- yeah.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, I think that's a
42 good point.

43

44 REPORTER: Bert. Bert. Bert.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Maybe.

47

48 REPORTER: Bert.

49

50 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Fined again.

1 (Laughter)

2

3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I think that's a good
4 point, Robert, maybe that doesn't need to be included in
5 there. That's Item No. 4. How about the others, do you
6 feel that they're okay, plus what we've added so far.

7

8 (No comments)

9

10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. What's going to
11 happen then is, you know, we'll be communicating back and
12 forth and at the next wildlife meeting we'll be going
13 over these again refining it, okay.

14

15 MR. KOOKESH: If we're there.

16

17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: If we're there. Okay.
18 I'm sorry, Larry go ahead.

19

20 MR. BUKLIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
21 Just to supplement your notetaking there, when Robert was
22 highlighting the list, I didn't hear him say non-rural
23 population threshold, I didn't hear that.

24

25 MR. LARSON: Okay.

26

27 MR. BUKLIS: And then up higher in the
28 list, about midway you said something about wildlife,
29 delegation of management authority, but my notes have two
30 features there. That one and you had said earlier review
31 wildlife regulations relative to providing the priority
32 -- I think those are two separate things. One is
33 delegating authority and the other is reviewing for
34 priority.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Thanks, Larry. Okay,
37 that's going to be it then and we'll proceed from this.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 Okay. Let me see what's next. I'm going
42 to give Carrie an opportunity to come forth now. She
43 said she wanted about 10 minutes to talk about Tlingit-
44 Haida, you know, involvement in subsistence issues so
45 we'll give you your 10 minutes now Carrie.

46

47 MS. SYKES: Mr. Chair and Council. I
48 want to thank you for allowing me to be here, again, my
49 name is Carrie Sykes, I work for Tlingit-Haida Central
50 Council. My position is subsistence and sustainable

1 development coordinator. I really appreciate the
2 opportunity to participate. Subsistence is of vital
3 importance to our Native people and there are a lot of
4 issues to work on.

5
6 Since I gave you my last report in Sitka,
7 I have continued to work with Federal and State agencies.
8 At that meeting I mentioned the Forest Service
9 acknowledgement ceremony. We did have that ceremony.
10 Just to remind you that was regarding the removal of
11 structures on Forest Service land and included
12 smokehouses and fish camps and other sacred sites, but it
13 really caused some devastation to our Native people and
14 it really strained our relationship with the Forest
15 Service so it was pretty important. But we had that
16 ceremony during General Assembly in April. One of the
17 concerns of the tribes was that it not be an empty
18 apology, that there be something done about it so they
19 did ask for several things.

20
21 One that compensation be determined at
22 the local level with local tribes. I think I mentioned
23 that Central Council is a regional organization so we
24 couldn't make decisions for the local tribes, and that
25 was an issue.

26
27 But one example of what they're trying to
28 do in one area is in Kasaan, they're trying to rebuild
29 some smokehouses and a fish camp at Karta River.

30
31 Other things that the tribe requested was
32 that there be policy changes so that this kind of thing
33 didn't happen again and so we're working on more of that.

34
35 Another thing was they wanted to restart
36 up the common grounds workshop so that's something that
37 I'm working on also.

38
39 But the main result of it was that we had
40 better government to government relationships with the
41 Forest Service and I think that's starting to get better.
42 But we've been using that as a model with other Federal
43 agencies.

44
45 We're also working with the Forest
46 Service on a research station that's going to be at
47 Berners Bay. They wanted to get more input from local
48 tribes about how they could collaborate and work with us,
49 and one important element will be incorporating our
50 traditional, ecological knowledge with Western Science.

1 We met with Juneau area elders about a name for it, a
2 proper Tlingit name and they decided on (In Tlingit), I
3 hope I'm saying it right, I'm not Tlingit, but it means
4 Water Watcher, or, you know, to learn about the water
5 shed, so that seemed appropriate. So that was the
6 beginning of a good thing, you know, we're starting in
7 this process at the beginning so that's a very good
8 improvement, I guess.

9
10 One thing I keep on hearing is about sea
11 otter management. That seems to be a concern in a lot of
12 the areas. We've been working with Fish and Wildlife
13 Service, with Doug Burns, they're developing a new sea
14 otter management group. At this point it's very -- it's
15 at its initial stages but they want to have a steering
16 committee to provide guidance on how to develop this
17 group and to determine what the membership will be so --
18 but that's important because the Marine Mammal Act does
19 allow that Natives can participate in management of the
20 sea otter population.

21
22 We also met with Pete Probasco of the
23 Office of Subsistence Management. I met with him and
24 President Martin, talking about better consultation with
25 the tribes and encouraging, again, government to
26 government relationships. So that was a good thing, too,
27 and we look forward to working with them more.

28
29 On the State side, we've been trying to
30 get more improved relationships with Southeast
31 Conference. They get a lot of funds from the State.
32 They're a very important economic development entity.
33 And last week we went to their annual meeting in Prince
34 Rupert and were able to get bylaw amendments approved,
35 and those amendments will now allow for tribal membership
36 and that was a success. We're sharing the municipal
37 seats with the tribes now, so we plan to have more Native
38 representation on that. But we've really been telling
39 them we want to collaborate, you know, we need to work
40 together. We have limited resources and, you know, they
41 can get their hands on different pots of money than the
42 tribes can and so I think we finally got them to realize
43 that we are a resource, and so that was a success. We've
44 been working on that for a year.

45
46 And another area, due to the crises, the
47 energy crises in Juneau in April when the power lines
48 went down there's been a big focus on energy and so since
49 then we've developed a new tribal energy department,
50 Percy Frizby (ph) is the director of that department. He

1 had a session -- a special Native issues forum during the
2 legislative session on energy and he presented his plan
3 for Southeast Alaska on energy, that's a new department,
4 you know, doing a lot of work to address energy issues in
5 Southeast Alaska. But we did have -- like AFN was here,
6 First Alaskans so we did get some regional input -- or
7 some statewide input too.

8

9 As a result of that energy, too, we
10 decided we were going to have a summit, and this is in
11 the information that you have, but it's going to be
12 November 12th through the 14th, and we sent out an agenda
13 awhile ago but due to the outcry for more energy it's
14 been greatly revised and has more of an energy focus.
15 But it does say Southeast Alaska Native Summit but it's
16 not just for Natives, it's including municipalities,
17 ANCSA corporations, State, Feds and funders, so it is all
18 inclusive. But we've had several previous summits
19 before, the first one was in 1999 and the last one was in
20 2005, and they've been very successful. We encourage
21 participation and so I invite all of you to be there.

22

23 There is a session on subsistence and
24 Bert's going to be working with me on that. We'll have
25 a panel. The name of the session is subsistence fuel
26 costs impact, heat or eat. That's been something that's
27 been brought up over and over, whether you want to buy
28 fuel for your house or whether you want to, you know,
29 take a chance and go out and subsist. So we're
30 developing that session still. But I really encourage
31 everyone to participate, there's a series of other
32 documents, there's a flier, registration and sponsorship
33 form.

34

35 But other areas of energy that we've been
36 working on too, is we've been talking with the Nature
37 Conservancy, they're having a biomass session in Sitka
38 October 29th and 30th, but they agree that we need to work
39 together and collaborate and not duplicate efforts.

40

41 And back to the Forest Service and about
42 the common grounds, they suggested a special common
43 grounds focus on energy, so we're looking at possibly
44 having that in January so we want to take steps, you
45 know. We're going to have -- there'll be the Sitka
46 Conference and then there'll be our conference and then
47 there'll be the common grounds. So there's enough time
48 in between to work on all the issues and, you know, try
49 to get something done.

50

1 REPORTER: Bert. Bert.
2
3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:I turned it off,
4 sorry, and maybe I should just leave it on I guess, uh.
5
6 REPORTER: You can do that, you're the
7 Chairman.
8
9 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Did you want to make
10 some comments, did we do this already, Council comments,
11 I thought, Council comments on State Board of Game
12 proposals?
13
14 MR. LARSON: Yes.
15
16 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We did that already,
17 okay. Final review of Council resolutions and Council
18 actions. I think we can bring up the Wrangell, too, as
19 well. Go ahead.
20
21 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chairman. Because of
22 the lack of that issue in front of the Board of Game and
23 the fact that the proposals for the Subsistence Board are
24 not going to be made during this meeting but, instead,
25 will be made during the February meeting, I have a
26 suggestion in that we work between now and the February
27 meeting to develop a proposal for submission to the
28 Subsistence Board by the Council and I can work with Mr.
29 Stokes in that interim and have that available for
30 Council deliberation and a decision in February.
31
32 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.
33
34 MR. LARSON: It might be more appropriate
35 timewise.
36
37 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Sure. Good. All right.
38
39 MR. HERNANDEZ: Mr. Chairman.
40
41 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Hernandez, go ahead.
42
43 MR. HERNANDEZ: Isn't that a Board of
44 Game issue, though, that needs to be addressed before the
45 Board of Game meets this fall, that resolution.
46
47 MR. LARSON: Mr. Hernandez. It's my
48 understanding that in reviewing the document prepared by
49 Mr. Stokes, that he was suggesting a Subsistence Board
50 action.

1 MR. HERNANDEZ: Well, I guess I was
2 unclear about that. I mean the drawing permit is a State
3 drawing right now so I don't know how we deal with that.
4 I think we turn it into a Federal drawing permit or
5 petition the State to make it a provision in their State
6 permit, I don't -- I guess I need some advice on what's
7 the best way to address that?

8

9 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Mr. Larson.

12

13 MR. LARSON: The Department of Fish and
14 Game has submitted a proposal to the Board of Game to
15 rescind that provision in State rules. The original
16 reasoning to allow those drawing permits was not to
17 harvest excess animals, that original decision to allow
18 the drawing permit was to enable the Department to gather
19 antlers from a variety of animals that were illegal under
20 current regulations. If we wanted to have a subsistence
21 hunt for any bulls on the Stikine River it's my
22 understanding that we would need a Federal regulation.

23

24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead, Mr. Stokes.

25

26 MR. STOKES: Right now there is a drawing
27 for X number of bulls of any antler size and it's already
28 a season and all we wanted to do was to change that to
29 have rural priority so the people from Lower 48 and up
30 north couldn't put in for a permit. Now, I don't know
31 what all that entails but that doesn't seem like it'd be
32 too complicated.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Richard, are you talking
35 about the resolution that Wrangell has submitted?

36

37 MR. STOKES: Yeah.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, we haven't gotten
40 to that part yet, we're talking about another issue, but
41 go ahead -- do we have copies of that resolution?

42

43 MR. LARSON: Just the one that he gave
44 us.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. We had a little
47 discussion about how to handle that. Maybe I got lost
48 here, okay, that is. Okay. I'm getting tired.

49

50 (Laughter)

1 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I'm sorry, yeah, okay,
2 Richard, your point is well taken, so I need to know
3 where the Council wants to go on this issue, on this
4 particular resolution. I think Bob and I talked about
5 the process and how we want to handle this and if it's
6 still an option maybe you can share that with us right
7 now.
8
9 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman.
10
11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Do you have something --
12 his option was to work on it between now and February, is
13 that okay?
14
15 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah.
16
17 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Anything else?
18
19 MR. KOOKESH: Yes.
20
21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Go ahead.
22
23 MR. KOOKESH: You know, Mr. Chairman,
24 when we do resolution as we do letters, do we run it by
25 Larry?
26
27 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I don't think so.
28
29 MR. KOOKESH: Friendly resolutions.
30
31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. Next meeting
32 dates.....
33
34 REPORTER: Bert. Bert.
35
36 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I keep turning it on and
37 off, I'm anxious to get out of here.
38
39 REPORTER: Bert, just leave it on for the
40 rest of the meeting, it's fine.
41
42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay. The next meeting
43 dates for the 2009 meeting, you know, go over to the back
44 of the booklet and we need to determine a date and some
45 possible topics that we want to talk about. And just to
46 make the process move a little bit further, I think Mr.
47 Bangs was going to suggest Wrangell, so you can consider
48 Wrangell or any other places that, you know, the Council
49 would like to recommend now as well as dates and some
50 subjects.

1 I'm going to leave this on, Tina.
2
3 REPORTER: Yes, it's fine.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Bangs, go ahead.
6
7 MR. BANGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If
8 the Council would like the dates similar to what we have
9 now, the September 21st through the 24th or that week,
10 would that work?
11
12 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, so that would more
13 likely be the 22nd, 23rd and 24th because we'd use Monday
14 and the day after that for travel. How does that sound
15 to the Council, September 22nd, 23rd, 24th.
16
17 MR. LARSON: Communications.
18
19 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Do you have something?
20
21 MR. LARSON: Yes, communications.
22
23 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, go ahead.
24
25 MR. LARSON: Before we lost contact with
26 Mike Douville, he called me and said that his -- he
27 fishes through September 20th and if it's too close to
28 September 20th then he has a difficult time getting here
29 and he recognizes that other people with an October 1st
30 conflict but if we could -- if we could move it as far
31 away from September 20th as possible then that would suit
32 his needs better.
33
34 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, understood, the
35 20th is the last day of the trolling season.
36
37 First, Donald, and then Mr. Bangs.
38
39 MR. HERNANDEZ: I'd also like to point
40 out that I'm still actively engaged in fishing up until
41 about the 1st of October, I've missed fish openings for
42 the last -- ever since I've been on the Council, you
43 know, it's cost me thousands of dollars, I'm sure over
44 the course of my time here but I also would like to see
45 it, you know, as late as possible.
46
47 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Do you have a suggested
48 date, Donald, that would be compatible with you and I'm
49 sure it would be the same with Mike Douville.
50

1 MR. HERNANDEZ: Even moving it back one
2 week would probably be sufficient. It looks like we
3 always run up against this end of the fiscal year, which
4 always seems to fall right about that week, which would
5 be ideal for me, I don't know if that's the same
6 situation we deal with year after year, we can't hold
7 meetings if the fiscal year ends in the mid-week is that
8 -- is that true or not necessarily so?

9
10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Well, the problem is do
11 they have the money, you know, for us to travel and it's
12 not until, you know, after that, am I correct in that
13 Larry, in that regard?

14
15 MR. BUKLIS: Mr. Chairman. Larry Buklis,
16 OSM. I think it's more a matter of the funds for one
17 year and then funds for another funding the same trip.
18 It's not so much knowing what the budget will be, it's
19 spanning a trip over two fiscal years into two funding
20 cycles. So it's best to wrap up a trip before the year
21 ends or start a trip after the new year begins, but not
22 to span a trip over the break in years.

23
24 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, thanks. So do you
25 have a suggestion then, Donald, you know, I'm sure it'll
26 be compatible with Michael because he's, you know, in the
27 fishing business or anyone else.

28
29 MR. HERNANDEZ: October is fine.

30
31 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: October, how about the
32 6th, 7th and 8th, all right, good, put that in. Where.
33 Mr. Bangs, were you going to say something as well.

34
35 MR. BANGS: I was just going to offer the
36 different dates like the week that Donald Hernandez was
37 talking about.

38
39 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: And we need the place
40 too, I know you suggested Wrangell, so is that okay with
41 the Council or do you have somewhere else?

42
43 MR. KOOKESH: I've heard of Wrangell.

44
45 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You've never heard of
46 Wrangell, oh, you've heard of it.

47
48 (Laughter)

49
50 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: I have some roots there.

1 MR. KOOKESH: Yeah, let's go to Yakutat,
2 and -- and you better be there. Yes.

3
4 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Mr. Larson, you know,
5 asked me if the ANB is going to be ready at that time and
6 it will be so that's -- I know we talked about it last
7 year and we were going to go there, you know, and then I
8 thought about it and I says, you know, this is a wildlife
9 situation we're going to talk about at the next meeting
10 so I kind of backed away from it and allowed it to go to
11 Petersburg, but, yes, I'd be happy to invite it to
12 Yakutat next year.

13
14 Okay, October 6th, 7th and 8th, Yakutat.

15
16 Any ideas for topics.

17
18 (No comments)

19
20 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Or do you want to
21 just.....

22
23 MR. KOOKESH: Wing it.

24
25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:wing it -- let's
26 wing it. Yeah, well, if there's -- if something pops up,
27 you know, just email Robert and he can put it on.

28
29 MR. LARSON: We can decide in February,
30 too.

31
32 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah, we can decide in
33 February, too. Okay, thank you.

34
35 MR. KOOKESH: One more housekeeping when
36 you have a chance.

37
38 REPORTER: Floyd.

39
40 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We'll do that right
41 then.

42
43 MR. KOOKESH: Mr. Chairman, earlier
44 Kootznoowoo's two proposals.....

45
46 REPORTER: Floyd. Floyd.

47
48 MR. KOOKESH:were -- I think you
49 gave assurance that there'd be support, maybe Peter would
50 want to come up and elaborate on it as a letter or

1 resolution for the Board of Fish proposals.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Sure, Peter, go ahead.

4

5 MR. NAOROZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr.
6 Kookesh. I'm not -- never done this before so I don't
7 know what the appropriate medium is but the one thing
8 that makes me uncomfortable is to say that the Chair
9 assured us that he would support it, I don't think that's
10 fair to you as a Chair. So I just was wondering would
11 you like Kootznoowoo to represent that or is there
12 another medium that you would prefer and is there action
13 -- is there a vote required or.....

14

15 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: That's the way I thought
16 it was going to be handled, Peter, and then we would just
17 support you in whatever way we can.

18

19 MR. NAOROZ: And Staff would do that?

20

21 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Yeah.

22

23 MR. NAOROZ: Okay, thank you very much.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: You bet. Anything else.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Ladies and gentlemen, I
30 think we're at the end of the agenda. So I want to thank
31 everyone for being here. Appreciate working with you
32 Council members and all of the Staff people, you know,
33 some of you hung out right to the very end. I knew there
34 was going to be a reduction in people out there after
35 lunch but thank you for showing back up. And, George,
36 it's always good to see you, and thank you, Melinda, for
37 the behind the scenes work that you do, it's fantastic.

38

39 MR. LARSON: There's a last agenda item
40 on here.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, I think we have a
43 last agenda item here, Robert, has asked me to bring up.
44 Oh, yes, it's the.....

45

46 MR. LARSON: These are Council action
47 records.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ADAMS:oh, action records.

50

1 MR. LARSON: You could approve them or
2 have the Council.....

3
4 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: The issues that we've
5 gone over so far, the proposals and so forth, you know,
6 we've already had action on them already and I guess the
7 next protocol would be for me to sign them, okay.

8
9 MR. LARSON: Yes.

10
11 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, that's fine. Mr.
12 Stokes, go ahead.

13
14 MR. STOKES: I was just wondering, are we
15 going to do anything on the resolution, so I can have
16 something to report?

17
18 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We've already addressed
19 that for you, Richard, and then it's going to be brought
20 up at the next meeting in a little bit more formal
21 manner, okay.

22
23 MR. STOKES: Okay.

24
25 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: We haven't lost it, it's
26 still on there for you.

27
28 MR. LARSON: One more last item.

29
30 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: One more last item, go
31 ahead, and this is definitely going to be the last item.

32
33 MR. LARSON: Mr. Chairman. Yesterday the
34 Council asked a question of Gretchen regarding the size
35 of chinook salmon that was commonly caught as bycatch in
36 the trawl fishery and she made a graph showing the number
37 of salmon and the size of those salmon and so it's being
38 distributed to Council members now, that's what you see
39 in front of you.

40
41 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay, thank you.
42 Anyhow, you know, I was recognizing people, Carrie, you
43 know, it's always a pleasure to see you here and I admire
44 your enthusiasm for the work that you're doing.

45
46 Also, Peter, you know, you've been here
47 almost every day and I really appreciate your presence
48 here and the input that you have given to the Council and
49 helping us, you know, understand a little bit more about
50 your issues, and so forth, so thank you, gunalcheesh.

1 MR. NAOROZ: Gunalcheesh.
2
3 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Carrie, do you have
4 something.
5
6 MS. SYKES: I just wanted to make sure
7 that all the Council had a copy of the Jeannie Greene
8 episode on herring eggs.
9
10 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Is that what you gave me
11 yesterday?
12
13 MS. SYKES: Yeah.
14
15 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: Okay.
16
17 MS. SYKES: But I didn't have enough
18 copies.
19
20 CHAIRMAN ADAMS: All right, perfect.
21 Okay. We're adjourned, ladies and gentlemen, have a safe
22 trip back home and we'll see you all next time.
23
24 (Off record)
25
26 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

