

1 NORTH SLOPE FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL

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ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

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5

PUBLIC MEETING

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8

Heritage Center

9

Barrow, Alaska

10

February 16, 2012

11

9:40 a.m.

12

13

14 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

15

16 Rosemary Ahtaungaruak, Vice Chair

17 Lee Kayotuk - (Telephonic)

18 Lloyd Leavitt

19 Roy Nageak

20 Robert Shears

21

22

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24

25

26 Regional Council Coordinator, Donald Mike

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Barrow, Alaska - 2/16/2012)

(On record)

MR. MIKE: Okay, Lee, you're with us?

MR. KAYOTUK: Yes, I am.

MR. MIKE: And you have your agenda in front of you?

MR. KAYOTUK: Yes.

MR. MIKE: Okay, and since you're the current secretary we'll let you call the meeting to order and then if you want you can request that I do the roll call.

MR. KAYOTUK: I wish to call the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

(Pause)

MR. MIKE: And, Lee, did you want me to do the roll call?

MR. KAYOTUK: Yes, I'd like to ask you to do the roll call.

MR. MIKE: Okay, Lee, I can do the roll call. Lee, the current secretary for the North Slope Council called the meeting to order and the coordinator, Donald Mike, will do the roll call to establish a quorum.

Gordon Brower.

(No comments)

MR. MIKE: He's absent. Robert Shears.

MR. SHEARS: Present.

MR. MIKE: Ray Maloney.

(No comments)

MR. MIKE: Ray Maloney Nageak.

1 (No comments)
2
3 MR. MIKE: Roy.....
4
5 MR. R. NAGEAK: Roy Nageak.
6
7 MR. MIKE: Nageak.
8
9 MR. R. NAGEAK: Here.
10
11 MR. MIKE: Okay.
12
13 MR. R. NAGEAK: There was a guy that
14 was named Big Red, born back in '51, that's why my dad
15 named me Roy Maloney, one of his best buddies.
16
17 (Laughter)
18
19 MR. MIKE: Roy.....
20
21 MR. R. NAGEAK: Roy's Maloney
22 Maloney.....
23
24 MR. MIKE: Roy is present.
25
26 (Laughter)
27
28 MR. R. NAGEAK: Oh, I'm present.
29
30 MR. MIKE: Lloyd Leavitt.
31
32 MR. LEAVITT: Present.
33
34 MR. MIKE: Harry Brower, Jr.
35
36 (No comments)
37
38 MR. MIKE: Harry's on a whaling
39 captain's meeting.
40
41 James Nageak.
42
43 (No comments)
44
45 MR. MIKE: James is on a business trip.
46
47 MR. R. NAGEAK: I got his proxies.
48
49 (Laughter)
50

1 MR. MIKE: Lee Kayotuk.
2
3 MR. KAYOTUK: Present.
4
5 MR. MIKE: Lee's attending the meeting
6 via teleconference.
7
8 And, Rosemary.
9
10 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: Here.
11
12 MR. MIKE: I think, Lee, we have five
13 members present, we have established a quorum. And if
14 you want I can do the welcome and introductions.
15
16 MR. KAYOTUK: Yes, do the welcome and
17 introductions.
18
19 MR. MIKE: Okay, Lee, thank you. I
20 want to welcome all the Council members to Barrow and
21 making this meeting, Robert Shears, of course, and the
22 Federal and State Staff.
23
24 We can go with the introductions with
25 the public, we don't know everyone. We can start out
26 with the.....
27
28 MR. LEAVITT: Lloyd Leavitt, Barrow.
29
30 MR. SHEARS: Robert Shears. Bob. I go
31 by Bob, and I'm from Wainwright.
32
33 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: Rosemary
34 Ahtaungaruak.
35
36 MR. R. NAGEAK: Roy Nageak, Barrow.
37
38 DR. YOKEL: Dave Yokel with the BLM,
39 Fairbanks.
40
41 MR. SHARP: Dan Sharp, BLM, Anchorage.
42
43 MR. E. NAGEAK: Earnest Nageak, Barrow,
44 Fish and Wildlife Service.
45
46 MR. PAPPAS: George Pappas, Fish and
47 Game, Subsistence Liaison Team, Anchorage.
48
49 DR. CHEN: Good morning. My name is
50 Glenn Chen. I'm with the Bureau of Indian Affairs,

1 Subsistence Program Manager.

2

3 MR. MIKE: I'm Donald Mike, the
4 Regional Advisory Council coordinator. And we have
5 Helen Armstrong also, she's from OSM. She's our
6 anthropologist. And, Tina's our court reporter.

7

8 That's all the welcome and
9 introductions, Lee.

10

11 If you want we can do a moment of
12 silence or review and adopt the agenda, and then do a
13 moment of silence. What's the wish of the Council.

14

15 MR. LEAVITT: A moment of silence.....

16

17 MR. KAYOTUK: Yes, I'd like to do a
18 moment.....

19

20 MR. LEAVITT:first.

21

22 MR. KAYOTUK:of silence at this
23 time.

24

25 MR. MIKE: Okay. And do you have
26 anyone particular on the Council to lead it?

27

28 MR. KAYOTUK: Yes.

29

30 MR. MIKE: Who is going to do the lead?

31

32 MR. LEAVITT: I'll nominate Roy Nageak.

33

34 (Laughter)

35

36 MR. R. NAGEAK: For what?

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 MR. MIKE: Moment of silence.

41

42 MR. R. NAGEAK: Oh, to pray?

43

44 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: Yeah.

45

46 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

47

48 MR. R. NAGEAK: Oh, sure, I'll do that.

49

50 (Prayer)

1 Heavenly Father, through your son Jesus
2 Christ we thank you for this day and we
3 always thank you for your blessings.

4
5 And as our people meet together with
6 the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission,
7 we also thank you for that blessing.
8 For the animals that you have created
9 for our needs in the very harsh
10 country, Heavenly Father.

11
12 And that we, as the people, keep asking
13 for your blessings on our lands, on our
14 ocean, and especially for our nation,
15 which is in need. Heavenly Father you
16 know their needs, and you know our
17 needs.

18
19 And as we go forward to talk about the
20 issues that impact our people, impact
21 our nation, and that the conflicts that
22 arise between subsistence and
23 development of our country, give us
24 wisdom and understanding, Heavenly
25 Father, so that the needs of our great
26 country will be met and also the needs
27 of our local people and their
28 subsistence way of life, for you have
29 created all these animals for our needs
30 and where conflicts arise give us
31 wisdom and understanding.

32
33 And we praise your holy name in Jesus'
34 name.

35
36 Amen.

37
38 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Roy. Lee, did
39 you want to go over the read and adopt the agenda, or
40 do you want me to lead that?

41
42 MR. KAYOTUK: I'd like you to go ahead
43 and lead that.

44
45 MR. MIKE: Okay, Lee, thank you. I'll
46 go ahead and go over and review and adopt -- call for
47 adoption of the agenda.

48
49 Council members, you had an opportunity
50 to review the agenda. Under No. 7, under reports,

1 there's committee reports and working group reports,
2 those can be omitted. Those do not pertain to this
3 meeting.

4
5 So, Council members, do you have any
6 comments on the agenda?

7
8 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: I need to get a copy
9 of the agenda?

10
11 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah, me, too.

12
13 MR. R. NAGEAK: I don't have a copy.

14
15 MR. LEAVITT: I make a motion to
16 adopt.....

17
18 REPORTER: Lloyd. Lloyd, I need you to
19 -- yeah, please. Thank you.

20
21 MR. LEAVITT: I make a motion to adopt
22 the agenda.

23
24 MR. SHEARS: Second.

25
26 MR. MIKE: Lee, do you want me to run
27 the meeting here for a second?

28
29 MR. KAYOTUK: Yes. Yes, yes, thank
30 you.

31
32 MR. MIKE: Okay, Mr. Lloyd Leavitt
33 moved to adopt the agenda and seconded by Bob.

34
35 Discussion.

36
37 MR. R. NAGEAK: Can you get me a copy?

38
39 REPORTER: Yes, I'll get one, hold on.

40
41 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: I need one too,
42 thank you.

43
44 REPORTER: Okay, just a second.

45
46 (Pause)

47
48 REPORTER: Here you go.

49
50 MR. LEAVITT: Thank you.

1 REPORTER: You guys got it
2
3 MR. SHEARS: I've got it.
4
5 REPORTER: All right, we're good to go,
6 everyone's got a copy. Here we go. Lloyd.
7
8 MR. LEAVITT: It's been moved and
9 seconded and so you're recommending that 7D and E be
10 removed from the agenda.....
11
12 MR. MIKE: Yeah. Those were.....
13
14 MR. LEAVITT:is that what
15 you're.....
16
17 MR. MIKE:those two items weren't
18 -- doesn't apply to this meeting; is that correct,
19 Helen?
20
21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: (Nods affirmatively)
22
23 MR. LEAVITT: I make a motion to delete
24 7D and E out of the agenda.
25
26 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: Second. Second.
27
28 MR. MIKE: Okay, there's a motion on
29 the floor to remove Item 7D and E, and seconded by
30 Rosemary.
31
32 Discussion.
33
34 MR. LEAVITT: Question called for.
35
36 MR. MIKE: Question called for. All
37 those in favor of the motion say aye.
38
39 IN UNISON: Aye.
40
41 MR. MIKE: All opposed, same sign.
42
43 (No opposing votes)
44
45 MR. MIKE: Motion passes.
46
47 Any other discussion on the agenda.
48
49 MR. R. NAGEAK: Question on the main
50 motion.

1 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: Before we do that.
2 Helen, at the last meeting we had talked about
3 Anaktuvuk and their concern; is that for this meeting
4 or will you all be able to give any information related
5 to that?

6
7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We don't have
8 anything on that for this meeting, do we Donald?

9
10 MR. MIKE: (Shakes head negatively)

11
12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No. Unh-unh. But,
13 I mean if there's something you wanted to talk about
14 Rosemary you can add it to the agenda if you want to
15 bring it up.

16
17 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: We had request from
18 Anaktuvuk Pass to ask for information related to a
19 possible wildlife proposal to help protect the
20 migratory route of the caribou. There's a lot of
21 activity that's happening related to changes to lands
22 and waters and proposals to make additional changes to
23 the lands and waters. They had a no-fly zone area that
24 was -- they had discussed in the past, a number of
25 years ago, but that process had stopped, and they asked
26 if that's something that could be reconsidered. So I'm
27 not sure exactly how to put that down but we would like
28 to encourage the discussion with Anaktuvuk Pass. At
29 the last meeting we shared information for contacts for
30 the Mayor and the Native Village president to encourage
31 the Staff to work with them on the proposal that they
32 may be able to generate to help protect that.

33
34 So do you want to put it down, Donald,
35 or Helen, do you have.....

36
37 MR. MIKE: Rosemary. Yeah, if it's the
38 wish of the Council we can put that discussion under
39 new business if you want to go ahead and make a motion
40 to that effect we can do that.

41
42 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, I'd like to do
43 that.

44
45 MR. MIKE: Okay. So, Rosemary, under
46 new business, your motion was to have discussion of
47 Anaktuvuk Pass to protect the caribou migration
48 patterns and seek for proposals.

49
50 MR. R. NAGEAK: Who's the Chair?

1 REPORTER: Lee, but Donald's taking
2 that on right now.

3

4 MR. R. NAGEAK: Okay.

5

6 MR. MIKE: Is that.....

7

8 MR. R. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair, along those
9 same lines with the concerns that were given during our
10 last meeting with NANA Region, we had made a request
11 for the State in regards to the harvest level and they
12 increased 150 percent of the harvest level along the
13 Haul Road or the North Slope area, when will those be
14 addressed, or the information that we requested? The
15 next yearly meeting or is that something that the --
16 the request that we had made for clarification,
17 especially when the State made a presentation with
18 their 150 percent increase in their harvest level at
19 our last meeting in Anchorage. Will those be given to
20 us at a later time or I -- I don't.....

21

22 MR. MIKE: Yeah, we can request that
23 information again. Maybe George and the Fish and Game
24 office can help us, remind us, and place that on our
25 next agenda for our fall meeting.

26

27 MR. R. NAGEAK: Because it's along the
28 same lines of impact that was being felt by the
29 Anaktuvuk Pass people, was how much traffic was on the
30 Haul Road. And when the State person in regards to the
31 North Slope and why there were so many people, they
32 said that there was 150 percent increase in the
33 harvest, and she couldn't answer how much 150 percent
34 of what harvest level for caribou along the -- on the
35 North Slope, and we had asked for that clarification.
36 I don't know whether they got it together or it wasn't
37 available.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 MR. MIKE: Okay. I can do further
42 research and I'll work with the State and try to get
43 some information. If there's a summary report we can
44 send that out to the Council members.

45

46 There's a motion on the floor currently
47 to add under new business Anaktuvuk Pass to protect the
48 caribou migration patterns; is that correct, Rosemary?

49

50 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, it is.

1 MR. MIKE: Okay, then we can put that
2 on the agenda.
3
4 REPORTER: Donald, you need a second.
5
6 MR. MIKE: Okay, yes, a second.
7
8 MR. LEAVITT: Second.
9
10 MR. MIKE: Okay, and second by Mr.
11 Leavitt.
12
13 Discussion.
14
15 MR. R. NAGEAK: I had called for the
16 question.
17
18 MR. MIKE: Okay, question. There was a
19 question called. Do you have any.....
20
21 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: No. Just waiting
22 for the.....
23
24 MR. MIKE: Okay. The question's
25 called. All in favor of adding under new business
26 Anaktuvuk caribou -- to protect the caribou migration
27 patterns say aye.
28
29 IN UNISON: Aye.
30
31 MR. MIKE: All opposed, same sign.
32
33 (No opposed votes)
34
35 MR. MIKE: Motion carries. Any other
36 discussion on the agenda.
37
38 (No comments)
39
40 MR. MIKE: If not a call for.....
41
42 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: Call for question on
43 the main motion.
44
45 MR. MIKE: Okay, question's been called
46 on the main motion to adopt the agenda. We deleted No.
47 7, under reports, 7D and E, and we included -- we added
48 under new business 11B, Anaktuvuk caribou migration.
49
50 All those in favor of the agenda say

1 aye.
2
3 IN UNISON: Aye.
4
5 MR. LEAVITT: Revised agenda.
6
7 MR. MIKE: Revised agenda, I'm sorry.
8 Revised agenda.
9
10 All opposed, same sign.
11
12 (No opposed votes)
13
14 MR. MIKE: Motion carries. Lee, the
15 item on the agenda is election of officers. I'll leave
16 it up to the Council, what's the wish of the Council.
17 We haven't had elections for a couple years so we can't
18 -- I think we need to move on to elections of officers.
19
20 MR. R. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.
21
22 MR. MIKE: Roy.
23
24 MR. R. NAGEAK: It's always more
25 comfortable for me when full members are available to
26 do that, and how many of our members are absent, just
27 to get an idea.
28
29 MR. MIKE: Yeah. We.....
30
31 MR. LEAVITT: That is the same
32 situation we were in a year ago when I opted to wait
33 for full membership before we elect any officers.
34 Another way we can do it is either wait for the next
35 meeting or between now and the next meeting we can do
36 it via teleconference or communicate through email,
37 however the Council feels.
38
39 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just out of curiosity
40 how many members are missing?
41
42 REPORTER: You have two vacancies right
43 now.
44
45 MR. LEAVITT: It's been put on the back
46 burner twice that I know of.
47
48 MR. R. NAGEAK: The current officers
49 for my second meeting with the Federal North Slope
50 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council are Harry Brower,

1 Chair, Vice Chair is who?
2
3 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: We have no vice
4 Chair and we have Lee as the secretary.
5
6 MR. R. NAGEAK: Okay.
7
8 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: We have Harry as the
9 Chair, we have no vice Chair, and we have Lee as the
10 Secretary.
11
12 MR. MIKE: Lee, do you have any
13 comments on the elections of officers?
14
15 MR. KAYOTUK: The elections of officers
16 can be done by email or teleconference.....
17
18 REPORTER: Donald, please turn on the
19 mic. Thank you.
20
21 MR. KAYOTUK: Can we do it either email
22 or teleconference, via email or teleconference to
23 advise these officers?
24
25 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Helen Armstrong,
26 OSM. I'm not 100 percent sure if this is correct but I
27 just checked with Glenn Chen. I believe you could vote
28 for a vice Chair and a secretary and wait on the Chair,
29 that way you would have somebody to run the meeting
30 today.
31
32 MR. LEAVITT: I was going to ask if we
33 can do that depending on Harry's term as Mr. Chairman
34 here, if he's in there a couple years, we should just
35 do it and select the vice Chair so that they may be
36 able to run the meeting.
37
38 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Exactly. I think
39 that's a good idea.
40
41 MR. LEAVITT: That's what I was going
42 to.....
43
44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think that's a
45 good idea otherwise Donald would run it and I think --
46 I think it's better if we have one of you to run the
47 meeting.
48
49 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.
50

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's my
2 suggestion.
3
4 MR. R. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.
5
6 MR. MIKE: Go ahead, Roy.
7
8 MR. R. NAGEAK: Do we have any bylaws
9 or policies that run our organization?
10
11 MR. MIKE: Yeah, Roy, we have our
12 charter in our Council manuals that it states officers
13 will be elected every year.
14
15 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.
16
17 MR. R. NAGEAK: Okay. So that's --
18 those are what drives us?
19
20 MR. MIKE: Yes.
21
22 MR. R. NAGEAK: At every meeting, every
23 year.
24
25 MR. MIKE: Every year in our winter
26 meeting, either February or March.
27
28 MR. R. NAGEAK: Okay.
29
30 MR. LEAVITT: That way at the next
31 meeting they'll have the vice Chair identified.
32
33 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: This is Rosemary.
34 I'm in position that we need to recognize that there's
35 a lot of involvement of our participants and all of the
36 issues before us, we need to make sure that we have
37 someone amongst us at the meeting to run the meeting so
38 that we can adequately address things.
39
40 I would like to make a motion to open
41 the election for the vice Chair and to table the Chair
42 until we have a full quorum, and we can address the
43 secretary after that if the Council so wishes.
44
45 MR. LEAVITT: If that's a motion I'll
46 second it.
47
48 MR. MIKE: Okay. Lee, Rosemary made a
49 motion to go ahead and go through the election of
50 officers to nominate for a vice Chair and a secretary

1 and defer the election of a Chair to the next meeting
2 and it was seconded by Lloyd.

3
4
5 motion?

Do you have any comments on that

6
7 MR. R. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.

8
9 MR. KAYOTUK: No, I don't on that
10 motion, we could proceed forward on that item.

11
12 MR. MIKE: Okay.

13
14 MR. R. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.

15
16 MR. MIKE: Go ahead, Roy.

17
18 MR. R. NAGEAK: Again, being the new
19 person on the -- basically on the Board I'm just trying
20 to get an idea of who are all the people that are our
21 volunteers -- we have 10 people.

22
23 MR. MIKE: We have eight current
24 members sitting on the Council.

25
26 REPORTER: These are vacant.

27
28 MR. R. NAGEAK: Okay. Gordon Brower,
29 Robert Shears, Maloney, Lloyd Leavitt, James Nageak,
30 Lee Kayotuk, Rosemary.

31
32 Thank you.

33
34 MR. R. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.

35
36 (No comments)

37
38 MR. R. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.

39
40 MR. MIKE: Roy.

41
42 MR. R. NAGEAK: I know when we always
43 do this it's always an uncomfortable position. And in
44 different groups I'm involved with we always ask for
45 volunteers or it's usually somebody that's more
46 familiar with and have more experience. And not
47 knowing who wants to be vice Chairman, that's always
48 the issue unless they volunteer or want to be.

49
50 MR. SHEARS: Mr. Chair. Council.

1 MR. MIKE: Go ahead, Bob.
2
3 MR. SHEARS: As a freshman member, my
4 first day on the Council today and not having any
5 experience of working with you in the past or the
6 experience of what the issues are, not feeling up to
7 speed, I'm going to abstain from making any nominations
8 or requesting any nominations of myself in a position
9 at this time.
10
11 MR. R. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair.
12
13 MR. MIKE: Roy.
14
15 MR. R. NAGEAK: That's what I was
16 getting to, too, that I not only abstain but when
17 they're a Chairman or vice Chairman, they don't have a
18 tendency to talk too much and.....
19
20 (Laughter)
21
22 MR. R. NAGEAK:that's always
23 against my flow.
24
25 (Laughter)
26
27 MR. LEAVITT: We'll just go through
28 this. With the motion made for the election of the
29 vice Chair, there's been a motion and seconded, I'll
30 ask for question called for and we'll nominate from
31 there.
32
33 MR. MIKE: Okay, there's a question
34 called on the motion to -- motion to elect a vice
35 Chairman and secretary for the Council, did you get
36 that Lee?
37
38 MR. KAYOTUK: Yes, I did.
39
40 MR. MIKE: Okay. In that case all in
41 favor of the motion say aye.
42
43 IN UNISON: Aye.
44
45 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: Just a clarification
46 the motion is to table the election of the Chair and
47 move forward with the vice Chair and the secretary and
48 then question.
49
50 MR. LEAVITT: Yes. Mr. Chair.

1 MR. MIKE: Lloyd.
2
3 MR. LEAVITT: I'd like to make a
4 nomination and ask for a unanimous consent to install
5 Rosemary Ahtaungaruak as the new vice Chair for the
6 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.
7
8 MR. R. NAGEAK: I'll second.
9
10 (No comments)
11
12 MR. R. NAGEAK: And if nobody says
13 anything it's unanimous.
14
15 (Laughter)
16
17 MR. MIKE: Is there a second.
18
19 MR. R. NAGEAK: I did.
20
21 MR. MIKE: Okay. Mr. Lloyd Leavitt
22 moved to nominate Rosemary as vice Chair and seconded
23 by Roy and requested a unanimous consent.
24
25 Roy, unanimous consent.
26
27 MR. R. NAGEAK: Yes.
28
29 MR. MIKE: Robert. Bob.
30
31 MR. SHEAR: Aye -- yes.
32
33 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.
34
35 MR. MIKE: Lee.
36
37 MR. KAYOTUK: Yes.
38
39 MR. MIKE: Lee, did you hear that
40 motion and there's a request for a unanimous request.
41 Currently there seems to be -- everybody seems to be --
42 Lee.
43
44 MR. KAYOTUK: I'd like to make a motion
45 to go ahead and proceed with this item for vice Chair.
46
47 MR. MIKE: Okay, Lee, Lloyd made a
48 motion to nominate Rosemary with unanimous consent
49 among the Council members and it seems that way right
50 now, do you agree with the motion?

1 MR. KAYOTUK: Yes.
2
3 MR. MIKE: Okay. So there's a
4 unanimous consent. Rosemary, you have the gavel.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I want to
7 thank everyone for the support. This is a very
8 important process for us all and we have a vested
9 interest in this and I thank you for that.
10
11 I'd like to move forward with the
12 nominations for secretary.
13
14 (No comments)
15
16 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Lee, are
17 you still interested in being the secretary?
18
19 MR. KAYOTUK: Yes.
20
21 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair. In that
22 event I nominate for secretary Lee Kayotuk.
23
24 MR. LEAVITT: Second.
25
26 MR. R. NAGEAK: And ask for unanimous
27 consent.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: There's a
30 motion on the floor to nominate Lee Kayotuk for the
31 secretary with a second with unanimous consent.
32
33 MR. LEAVITT: Seconded.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: We got the
36 second, we need a question.
37
38 MR. LEAVITT: Question called for.
39
40 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Question's
41 been called for. All those in favor of unanimous
42 consent say aye.
43
44 IN UNISON: Aye.
45
46 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Thank you,
47 Lee, for continuing.
48
49 MR. LEAVITT: Thank you.
50

1 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Next on the
2 agenda we have review and approval of the previous
3 meeting minutes.

4
5 MR. SHEARS: I don't recall seeing a
6 discussion in those meeting minutes in regards to the
7 150 percent increase in caribou, could I have a copy of
8 the last meeting minutes?

9
10 MR. R. NAGEAK: Where's mine?

11
12 REPORTER: I don't do that part, I do
13 the recording and transcribe the meeting.

14
15 MR. R. NAGEAK: But you're the great
16 recorder.

17
18 (Laughter)

19
20 REPORTER: But I'm not the copy person.

21
22 (Laughter)

23
24 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I was
25 traveling so I know I didn't get my packet.

26
27 REPORTER: Nobody seems to have their
28 meeting minutes.

29
30 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I know. I know.

31
32 REPORTER: Should we take a little
33 break and get those copied for them.

34
35 MS. AHTAUNGARUAK: Yeah.

36
37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

38
39 REPORTER: Okay.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Lee, some
42 of us didn't get copies of our packets so we're going
43 to be working on getting that for a few moments and
44 we're going to take a break for that.

45
46 MR. MIKE: Did you hear that Lee?

47
48 MR. KAYOTUK: Yes, I did.

49
50 MR. MIKE: Okay. You can just put your

1 phone on mute for about 10 minutes or so, yeah?
2
3 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yeah.
4
5 MR. LEAVITT: And this says Northwest
6 Arctic.
7
8 MR. MIKE: Yeah, I thought I took the
9 copies, I took the wrong stack, sorry about that.
10
11 REPORTER: So we're going to go ahead
12 and take a break.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, go
15 ahead.
16
17 (Off record)
18
19 (On record)
20
21 REPORTER: All right, here we go.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Thank you
24 for copying these.
25
26 REPORTER: Helen got them copied for
27 you guys.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay, are
30 we ready?
31
32 REPORTER: Yep.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: All right.
35 Lee, are you on.
36
37 (No comments)
38
39 MR. LEAVITT: He left us already?
40
41 MR. MIKE: No.
42
43 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay.
44
45 MR. R. NAGEAK: Mr. Chair.
46
47 REPORTER: Madame Chair.
48
49 MR. SHEARS: Madame Chair.
50

1 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes.
4
5 MR. R. NAGEAK: Vice Chair. Madame
6 Chair. Move to approve the previous meeting minutes to
7 put them on the table.
8
9 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Motion on
10 the floor for approval of previous minutes. Do we have
11 a second.
12
13 MR. LEAVITT: Second.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Is there
16 any discussion -- we need to vote first, right?
17
18 REPORTER: If there's no discussion and
19 someone calls the question, yes, then vote. Donald.
20
21 (No comments)
22
23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Is there
24 a.....
25
26 MR. MIKE: If there's no discussion you
27 can just call.....
28
29 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Is there
30 any discussion.
31
32 (No comments)
33
34 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: A question.
35
36 MR. LEAVITT: Question called for.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Question's
39 been called for. All those in favor of approval of the
40 minutes do so by saying aye.
41
42 IN UNISON: Aye.
43
44 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Those
45 opposed.
46
47 (No opposing votes)
48
49 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Hearing
50 none, motion passes. Next is reports from the Council.

1 Do you want to start Roy.

2

3 MR. LEAVITT: Pardon.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Next on the
6 agenda is reports from the Council members, would you
7 like to start Roy.

8

9 MR. R. NAGEAK: Yes. For me personally
10 it's been a good year in my subsistence way of life.
11 It's a matter of the need for the ice to stay here
12 longer and that's beyond our control. A lot of things
13 that we do during our subsistence way of life is beyond
14 our control. But for caribou and for tuks it's really
15 been a good year for me.

16

17 The walrus and the bearded seals, the
18 season for those is very short and that's just going to
19 be my comment from my point of view on subsistence
20 hunting. Walrus and the oogrucks, it's getting a little
21 bit harder because of the short season and I need to be
22 out in the country, which have a healing aspect of the
23 way that I live being out into the environment, being
24 out in the -- go hand in hand with what God have
25 created for us, the animals which provide for our needs
26 and the short season we have in the summer and the
27 shorter season that is available for us with walrus and
28 bearded seals. And the concerns with the seals that
29 are being affected and some of the reports that they
30 don't really know what's happening is the issue that's
31 been on my mind is, when are they going to find out
32 what's affecting the seals and the walrus.

33

34 Thank you, Madame Chair.

35

36 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
37 any questions for Roy.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I'd like to
42 ask that we have a report at our next meeting related
43 to the seals. I know there has been a report at other
44 meetings and if we could get some of that information I
45 think that would help us.

46

47 I think that we also need to have
48 follow-up discussions within the communities. I know
49 this concern was brought to my attention about three
50 years ago, three to four years ago. I had done visits

1 to all of the villages and four villages had expressed
2 concerns for seals. We brought those discussions to
3 other meetings so I think that it's just very important
4 that we follow through with that discussion.

5

6 Don.

7

8 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Rosemary. You
9 want the seal sickness on our next meeting agenda, I'll
10 approach Marine Mammals and see if we can find someone
11 to do a presentation on what their findings are as far
12 as their research on the seals that have sores on their
13 skin.

14

15 Thank you, Madame Chair.

16

17 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just one positive
18 report in regards to the process of changing from lead
19 to steel on a personal perspective how our people have
20 really accepted, looking how positive the Federal
21 government in that process and in some cases changing
22 -- if you have any lead shells, changing to steel. I
23 don't know who started that program, whether it was the
24 Borough or the Federal government -- I believe it was
25 the Federal government. And that was one of the best
26 programs in changing from steel to lead [sic], was a
27 very positive feedback. When I saw it I was one of
28 those older guys that preferred lead but after I had
29 that information with the Federal people when they
30 first came up and the process that they utilized was
31 kind of heady the first time but after the educational
32 aspect of how it reflects on our animals, that process
33 is the one that really turned me around, was the
34 educational aspect that came from the Federal
35 government and the impact it has. And I think more of
36 that as we go along, the more educational aspect that
37 comes from Federal program and how we utilize -- how we
38 hunt was real positive.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: If there's
43 no additional questions we'll move on to Bob. Did you
44 want to say something.

45

46 MR. SHEARS: Consulting with members of
47 the community of Wainwright, bringing four concerns to
48 the table today.

49

50 There was a flyer posted in Wainwright,

1 I received a phone call on it asking if I could inquire
2 and get any background information on, stating that
3 North Slope Borough Wildlife Department was tagging and
4 sealing wolf and wolverine hides and the people were
5 asking me, what was the requirement for that. Could
6 you -- Earnest could you shed any light on that
7 project?

8
9 MR. E. NAGEAK: Well, our office mostly
10 works with tagging marine.....

11
12 MR. R. NAGEAK: Identify yourself.

13
14 MR. E. NAGEAK:mammals, walrus
15 and polar bear hides and we don't have the tagging
16 stuff for wolves and wolverines, if that's what you're
17 talking about.

18
19 MR. SHEARS: Yes.

20
21 MR. E. NAGEAK: The person that does
22 that here is the State Fish and Game, that's the only
23 office I know that does it here in Barrow.

24
25 MR. SHEARS: Oh, okay, it's the State
26 Fish and Game office?

27
28 MR. E. NAGEAK: Yeah, because the U.S.
29 Fish and Wildlife Service only tags walrus tusk and
30 polar bear skulls and hides.

31
32 MR. SHEARS: Okay, thank you.

33
34 MR. E. NAGEAK: So that's.....

35
36 MR. SHEARS: It gets me a little closer
37 to the subject.

38
39 (Cell phone interruption)

40
41 MR. SHEARS: George.

42
43 MR. R. NAGEAK: For the record, are you
44 going to get his name.

45
46 REPORTER: Yes, I am. Your name for
47 the record, can you say it.

48
49 MR. E. NAGEAK: Earnest Nageak for the
50 record.

1 MR. PAPPAS: Madame Chair, if I may.
2 Geoff Carroll is our local Fish and Game area manager
3 and he asked me to contact him if you had questions for
4 him to come over and answer, so during a break I will
5 get a hold of him. So at some point in time today we
6 can give you a briefing. You're asking for a briefing
7 on the wolf sealing data?

8
9 MR. SHEARS: Yes, uh-huh.

10
11 MR. PAPPAS: I could do that.

12
13 MR. SHEARS: The people in Wainwright
14 just want to understand what is the concern and
15 requirement for it, is it a study or if it is a
16 regulatory action.

17
18 MR. PAPPAS: I will do my best to get
19 that for you during the meeting.

20
21 MR. SHEARS: All right, thank you.

22
23 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you.

24
25 MR. SHEARS: Second item on my list
26 there was a question asking how, you know, with Obama
27 sponsoring a bill that will blend NOAA with the
28 Department of Interior; they were wondering if I could
29 provide status updates back to the community how that
30 bill is progressing. And if it does become a formal
31 process that takes place they'd like to have progress
32 reports on how the Department of the Interior is going
33 to take over control of NOAA as well as the impact it
34 would have on U.S. Fish and Wildlife's role in
35 protecting and monitoring marine mammals.

36
37 The third item was brought up by the
38 city council, wanting to know what authorities the city
39 may have in establishing bounties on Arctic foxes and
40 red foxes, local to the community or within city
41 limits.

42
43 And the final question that came to me
44 was an issue that is of concern that is, you know, in
45 regards to the taking of moose and muskox on an
46 opportunity basis in regions when they present
47 themselves where they normally would not be and where
48 they're regulated and they're not allowed to be
49 harvested. The question arises when about once every
50 five to 10 years a moose, a stray moose will come

1 walking right into the village of Wainwright, places
2 where they're unheard of, it's not their habitat and
3 they're closed -- you're not allowed to subsistence
4 hunt them there. The elders of the community
5 traditionally have harvested, indicate that these stray
6 animals, muskox, moose are harvested, and that is a
7 traditional hunting method for those type of animals.
8 They don't deliberately go out and seek these animals,
9 but when they present themselves as an opportunity like
10 that it's a gift. And subsistence regulations do not
11 recognize that as an opportunity for hunting, simply
12 make -- it creates a feeling of anxiety in the
13 community when they take these animals because they
14 realize that they are breaking the law, and they're
15 hoping that the State and Federal fish and wildlife
16 services recognize these possibilities and will allow
17 for them when they may occur.

18

19 That's all my questions.

20

21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Madame Chair.

22

23 MR. SHEARS: Or all my points.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, Helen.

26

27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I wanted to just
28 address that with Bob. What you can do is, right now,
29 and you're new to the Council so this isn't familiar to
30 you yet, but later on in the meeting we're going to be
31 taking proposals to change fish regulations, next year
32 we'll be taking proposals to change wildlife
33 regulations so at that time what you'd want to do is
34 put forward a proposal and maybe have somebody from the
35 community do it and get community support and we can
36 work with you.....

37

38 MR. SHEARS: Okay.

39

40 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:to help you,
41 you know, create that proposal and see what happens.

42

43 MR. SHEARS: Okay.

44

45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's the kind of
46 thing that goes to the Board and we'll see.

47

48 MR. SHEARS: All right, thank you.

49

50 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No promises.

1 DR. YOKEL: Madame Chair.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, Dave.
4
5 DR. YOKEL: This is Dave Yokel with the
6 BLM. Before you do that I would suggest you read the
7 current regulations closely. I know -- I don't know
8 what they say right now but I know in the past the
9 State has passed regulations to do just what you're
10 requesting for both muskox and moose.
11
12 MR. SHEARS: Okay.
13
14 DR. YOKEL: The muskox was by -- I
15 think you had -- if a muskox was in your area you had
16 to call up Geoff and get a permit before harvesting it.
17 I'm not sure what the regulations are right now. Often
18 if the State passes a regulation like that the North
19 Slope RAC then proposes a similar, or identical
20 regulation and it passes the Board.
21
22 MR. SHEARS: Uh-huh.
23
24 DR. YOKEL: But I think you ought to
25 look at the regs.
26
27 MR. SHEARS: Okay.
28
29 DR. YOKEL: It may be legal right now.
30 I don't know for sure, I don't have a copy of them with
31 me.
32
33 MR. SHEARS: We've got them here, the
34 new ones.
35
36 DR. YOKEL: I'll look through them for
37 you.
38
39 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Those are the fish
40 regs.
41
42 MR. SHEARS: Oh, no, that's fish, I'm
43 sorry.
44
45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Unfortunately we
46 have run out of wildlife regs in -- they just didn't
47 have enough.
48
49 MR. SHEARS: Okay.
50

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: But I can look them
2 up on line. But I'll work with you, after the meeting
3 we can check on that and see what the current
4 regulations are and then we'll make sure we'll get
5 something in place if it's not what -- yeah, I think
6 you make a good point it may be already legal.
7
8 MR. SHEARS: Okay.
9
10 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It is true with the
11 muskox I know they were doing that, I'm not sure if it
12 was for moose too.
13
14 DR. YOKEL: I'm pretty sure there is
15 one for moose in 26A west of a certain longitude.....
16
17 MR. SHEARS: Uh-huh.
18
19 DR. YOKEL:which would include
20 Wainwright.
21
22 MR. SHEARS: Okay.
23
24 DR. YOKEL: I think there was a moose
25 season.
26
27 MR. SHEARS: Okay.
28
29 DR. YOKEL: Which obviously is going to
30 be an opportunistic kind of a deal.
31
32 MR. SHEARS: Okay. Yeah, I'll work
33 with you and we'll get the regs and we'll research that
34 and I can take that answer back to the community.
35
36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.
37
38 DR. YOKEL: We could find that out
39 today from Geoff.
40
41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'll look it up if I
42 can get a password and I can look on line and look it
43 up.
44
45 MR. SHEARS: Okay, thank you.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I can help
48 you with that.
49
50 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

1 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Is there
2 any other questions for Bob.

3
4 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just while they're
5 sitting there. That was one of the concerns, these --
6 how the State fit in regulating our caribou and the
7 moose and then how the Federal government does their
8 stuff on PET-4 and all the national parks and
9 regulations, how the State over -- has -- what did we
10 call that at our last meeting -- that was the issue I
11 was trying to address, always had most on PET-4 and all
12 the national Parks with Federal jurisdiction and then
13 we got to comply with State regulations on these
14 animals. Remember you were put as lower than the State
15 especially in regards to the caribou and the moose and
16 the muskox. How does that fit in, I mean.....

17
18 DR. YOKEL: This is Dave Yokel again.
19 I'm -- I think -- I'm going to try to answer your
20 question because I'm not exactly sure what your
21 question is Roy.

22
23 MR. R. NAGEAK: Well, that was the
24 question that we had there.....

25
26 DR. YOKEL: There are two sets.....

27
28 MR. R. NAGEAK:the State has --
29 especially in Federal lands, the State has authority on
30 regulating us in Federal lands like in PET 4, where the
31 concerns are.

32
33 DR. YOKEL: Both the State and the
34 Federal government have hunting regulations. The State
35 regulates hunting everywhere in the state for all
36 people. The Federal government regulates hunting on
37 Federal lands for eligible rural residents. So you, as
38 an eligible rural resident when hunting on Federal
39 lands can hunt under either set of regulations, you can
40 pick and choose among them and hunt under the set of
41 regulations that you prefer. However, they're almost
42 always identical because the State and Federal
43 governments have worked together for the last 20 years
44 to try to reduce the confusion between the two, and
45 whenever the two governments can agree on the best
46 regulation they've made them identical.

47
48 I mean you, as an eligible rural
49 resident go outside of Federal lands, say east of the
50 Colville River and hunt, then you have to -- if you

1 want to hunt legally you have to do so under State
2 regulations.

3

4 MR. R. NAGEAK: And that's the part
5 that we had contention with, where the State, like I
6 stated earlier, had increased by 150 percent the take
7 on the east and where we had eventually no say in
8 regards to what the State decides and that's -- since
9 we're a Federal advisory board and how it relates
10 itself to the State rules and regulations that they
11 tend to make outside of our jurisdiction.

12

13 DR. YOKEL: Well, you, as a Council, as
14 an Advisory Council to the Federal Subsistence Board,
15 it's correct, you have no say in the State regulatory
16 mechanism, but you as a resident of the North Slope
17 region, through your Borough, your Borough has a fish
18 and game management committee which serves as -- I
19 forget what the State calls theirs, local Advisory
20 Board of something like that, you can -- they speak to
21 the State's Board of Game, which sets the regulations
22 for the State, so you do have input to both processes.

23

24 MR. R. NAGEAK: Right. And we're going
25 to look at the -- if we could, in the future, look at
26 that proposal or make a proposal and state that through
27 our subsistence petition where a moose or muskox that
28 we used to hunt in the past when it provides itself to
29 us then we want to make it to the Federal rules and
30 regulations, especially on Federal lands, to make sure
31 that this will be made possible.

32

33 DR. YOKEL: Well, as I said you can
34 make recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board,
35 so you can directly influence Federal regulations. If
36 you want to try to influence State regulations, I'd
37 recommend that you talk to somebody in the Borough's
38 department of wildlife management because they are
39 active in that regulatory process.

40

41 MR. R. NAGEAK: And since the majority
42 of what we regulate or make proposals for, and we have
43 the vast majority of our lands, especially where our
44 people hunt are on Federal lands, then our proposals
45 would carry some weight in regards to what we do
46 traditionally in subsistence and then we'll make those
47 proposals. And I see the point and that would be one
48 of the proposals that we need than rather than try to
49 comply and get a ticket or a tag or go with the seasons
50 that are required by the State then what we want to do

1 is go through the Federal process that we're involved
2 within, say that we want to propose that we'd rather go
3 and change whatever -- if they try to go hand in hand
4 then we prefer going through the Federal subsistence
5 than go through the State, which has more stringent
6 rules and regulations than, I hope, from the Federal,
7 if we propose it.

8

9 Thank you.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Any further
12 questions or discussion.

13

14 MR. LEAVITT: Madame Chair.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, Lloyd.

17

18 MR. LEAVITT: Roy's comments there.

19 The North Slope region has been set aside by the
20 Federal government, so all the years as a hunter and a
21 subsistence user I've always just looked at the Federal
22 guidelines and not so much the State guidelines because
23 we are all under the National Petroleum Reserve and
24 there are portions of lands leased by the state of
25 Alaska, so my opinion has always been that we are all
26 under the Federal government and -- but I believe in
27 the tribal government, doing the consultation --
28 consultation agreement with the Federal government,
29 that different departments do co-manage our subsistence
30 way of life and work with the government on that, and
31 that is the intent of the subsistence user to work with
32 the Federal government. So I see it as a Federal
33 government issue unless I stand to be corrected but
34 that's always how I've always interpreted it.

35

36 The other is on the -- my comments
37 would be that hunting caribou, all the land critters
38 has been very good with the exception of the sea
39 mammals. I've heard some rumors some years back due to
40 the ice receding that we're not to be harvesting the
41 walrus when they beach and the rest that are beach
42 front. A lot of our people miss having walrus. It's
43 our delicacy, it's what we eat. I have children under
44 12, I have adult children. The past three years I have
45 not catch a walrus and the second year my daughters
46 asked my wife, mom, when are you going to cook that,
47 you know, that sticky food we eat. We looked at each
48 other and said walrus. How come you don't make that on
49 Sundays anymore, like we normally have it every Sunday
50 and she goes that's because your dad hasn't gone

1 hunting and I go that's because the ice is receded, we
2 don't catch the walrus anymore. And I've also heard
3 through grapevines that any walrus that beach and rest
4 during their migration back to the south, that we're
5 not to catch them. And the last couple of years I've
6 been telling myself that if a walrus -- a walrus or a
7 small part of walrus, just four to six or under 10,
8 that I'll catch a walrus for the winter to feed my
9 family and with the herd of walruses. the second year
10 in a row beach at Point Lay, there's got to be some
11 standard made on harvesting walrus during the migration
12 back to the south. So there should be some provisions
13 made that we should be allowed to catch walrus during
14 migration if they're single and/or under about a
15 certain number could be 10, 12, a small pod of them,
16 not so much the entire herd. A lot of our people miss
17 this delicacy. We make our fermented walrus. We have
18 -- we freeze a lot of it so that we may be able to eat
19 it on weekends and at certain occasions.

20

21 That's my comments on walrus issues.

22

23

 As for the seals that have been
24 surfacing this past fall, late summer, fall, we all
25 have to remember that Japan had a major earthquake and
26 all the radio-activities appear. That is something
27 that I got -- after several months, and I asked how
28 much radio-activity we were getting up here and I was
29 informed that we have some radio fallouts but the Feds
30 took the funding away from past so that the air
31 monitoring was stopped. And with the currents, that
32 all comes in during the winter months, we get a lot of
33 north current from the Atlantic side and during the
34 fall -- I mean the early spring and during the summer
35 months right into fall our currents come in from the
36 Pacific side, so a lot of the currents come from the
37 Pacific and that's when a lot of the fallout that --
38 we've been getting debris in Southwestern Alaska, a lot
39 back in the East Coast -- I mean West Coast America.
40 We know that a lot of the radio-activity has reached
41 our oceans and that's something that should be
42 considered to be studied. Not only are our seals
43 getting affected, every one of our sea mammals is being
44 affected by radio-activity from the Pacific side into
45 our waters and that should be something that should be
46 looked into real soon and start looking at how much of
47 it we have here instead of doing a lot of the studies
48 they're not -- they're getting sick from something
49 else, it is a fact that Japan had the nuclear fallout
50 so we have a lot of that radio-activity up here. So

1 that's something that should really be looked into by
2 the Federal government.

3

4 I would request for that, not only
5 pertain to the seals. I understand there was some --
6 the whales never leave the Alaskan waters, that is
7 something that needs to be looked into because we'll be
8 harvesting our whales this spring again, in a couple of
9 months, that there should be an outgoing study on all
10 our marine mammals.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 DR. YOKEL: Madame Chair.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Dave.

17

18 DR. YOKEL: Thank you. I'd like to
19 just address one small part of Mr. Leavitt's comments.
20 He -- I may misquote you, you said something about the
21 Federal government having purview over all North Slope
22 lands, and so I passed out a map and if you look across
23 the North Slope there are four, basically four colors
24 that show up on the map there. There's green which are
25 lands managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and
26 the National Park Service. There's the NPR-A which is
27 kind of a beige color and that's managed by the Bureau
28 of Land Management. And those two colors represent the
29 lands -- the Federal lands where the Federal government
30 can regulate hunting for eligible rural residents. The
31 blue lands are State lands and the kind of reddish
32 brown colored lands, if you will, are Native
33 corporation lands, which are privately held lands.
34 Both State lands and privately held lands, hunting on
35 those lands is regulated only by the State government.
36 So the Federal government has no regulatory powers over
37 hunting on those blue and red lands.

38

39 So since the map was available I just
40 wanted to pass it out and point that out.

41

42 MR. SHEARS: Thank you for that
43 information. Thank you, Dave.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Earnest.

46

47 MR. E. NAGEAK: Yeah, to address your
48 fox issues.

49

50 MR. SHEARS: Yes.

1 MR. E. NAGEAK: This is Earnest for the
2 record. Can you repeat your concern I might have some
3 suggestions.

4
5 MR. SHEARS: Oh, okay, sure, this is
6 Bob.

7
8 The city council would like to
9 establish a bounty on Arctic foxes because they don't
10 have a school bus running and there's an outbreak of
11 rabies in the foxes. A lot of people are being
12 approached or even challenged by these foxes as they
13 walk the street. Kids are afraid to leave the house,
14 mother's are afraid to send their kids to walk to
15 school. And so the city council is interested in
16 managing a fox control -- managing fox control within
17 the village, and they would like to understand their --
18 the legal status in establishing bounties on killing
19 foxes.

20
21 MR. E. NAGEAK: Okay. We have the same
22 issue around here with foxes near schools and rabies
23 and having kids walking to the gym or home. When
24 there's a fox near the schools here in Barrow they
25 notify the dispatch and the dispatch calls the North
26 Slope Borough Health Department and Vet Clinic and with
27 the increased number of foxes in town the vet clinic
28 works closely with our tribal government, Native
29 Village of Barrow and we have a wildlife department
30 there, they had asked us to respond to those calls and
31 patrol and since it was working with the Borough the
32 police department knew about it and basically had
33 permission to respond to these calls and shoot them in
34 a safe aware, whether it's in town, city limits. So I
35 suggest you to get in contact with the health
36 department and work with the police department and they
37 could have someone from the city of Barrow -- or city
38 of Wainwright to have someone to respond to these fox
39 calls and take care of them in a matter.....

40
41 MR. SHEARS: That is exactly.....

42
43 MR. E. NAGEAK: Yeah.

44
45 MR. SHEARS:that's exactly what
46 the city of Wainwright did.

47
48 REPORTER: Bob. Turn your mic on
49 please.
50

1 MR. SHEARS: They hired -- okay, yes.
2 They hired a person to be an on call responder person
3 who owns a snowmobile and a weapon, a shotgun, and when
4 there's a call that comes to the attention of the city
5 they dispatch him to go and take control of the
6 situation.

7
8 No, the question I have, or the city
9 has, is on what legal basis can they establish an
10 extermination program for Arctic foxes within city
11 limits; that's including the boundaries outside of
12 town. An extermination program would probably require
13 an environmental assessment at the minimum.

14
15 MR. E. NAGEAK: Barrow has a program in
16 the summer that hires local high school students and
17 they go out and they trap foxes during the summer for
18 predator control and I could probably look into more
19 details regarding that.

20
21 MR. SHEARS: Yeah, if you got something
22 already set up, I'd love to see a model of it.

23
24 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

25
26 MR. E. NAGEAK: Yeah, we could talk
27 about getting a program there or wherever there's an
28 issue with fox.

29
30 MR. LEAVITT: Madame Chair.

31
32 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay.
33 We've got Roy first and then Lloyd.

34
35 MR. R. NAGEAK: That was one of the
36 items, Madame Chair, that I had under new business, is
37 the way that the Federal government can protect the
38 spectacled eider and the endangered species around the
39 Barrow area, is their summer program trying to trap.
40 Now is the time to do the trapping to decrease foxes
41 within our region. And with the respect, the idea of
42 bounties, and the way that fur farming has taken the
43 majority of our need to do trapping for foxes, the way
44 to take care of foxes is in the wintertime when they're
45 more out in the open and the need for trapping for
46 them. When I see them trying to do it in the summer
47 it's more localized and trying to protect endangered
48 species, but now would be the time to try to take care
49 of all the foxes that tend to decrease the endangered
50 species.

1 That's kind of backwards.

2

3 When I see -- when I go up inland and I
4 see these people walking trying to catch foxes, it's a
5 no-win situation. There's so many foxes now that what
6 they're trying to do is just going to -- it doesn't
7 even touch the population of foxes that tend to feed on
8 the endangered species population.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Go ahead.

13

14 MR. LEAVITT: I remember a couple of
15 years ago when the foxes first came out, you know, the
16 tribal government and the North Slope Borough wildlife
17 department and the health department got together and
18 they got rid of a number of foxes. There was a guy
19 walking around a year or two ago over here in Barrow
20 behind the school killing foxes, perhaps that's
21 something that can be worked on between the community
22 of Wainwright, between the city and the tribal and the
23 health department because the health department can
24 really assist them under the North Slope Borough be
25 legal killing foxes right in town. And that's exactly
26 what happened here in Barrow a year or two ago. And
27 believe me they didn't sight -- we didn't sight any
28 foxes for a complete winter. Now that the -- after the
29 summer months, after rebirthing we have a lot of new
30 foxes back -- right back in the town now.

31

32 So the communities -- with the
33 committees that got together and got rid of a lot of
34 the foxes a year or two ago but over the summer months
35 rebirthing we've grown a substantial amount again.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Dave.

40

41 DR. YOKEL: Dave Yokel, thank you,
42 Madame Chair. Mr. Shears, around Barrow, the area
43 around Barrow is the only place on the North Slope
44 where there's a significant number of steller's eiders
45 that breed and the steller's eider is listed under the
46 Endangered Species Act, and some of the loss of that
47 species is due to foxes. So there's a situation
48 regarding foxes in Barrow that's unique and does not
49 apply to the Wainwright area.

50

1 MR. SHEARS: Yes.
2
3 DR. YOKEL: The Wainwright area, as I
4 stated earlier, if you look at the map, is private
5 land.....
6
7 MR. SHEARS: Uh-huh.
8
9 DR. YOKEL:and it's regarded as
10 private land, wildlife regulations there are
11 promulgated by the State of Alaska.
12
13 MR. SHEARS: Uh-huh.
14
15 DR. YOKEL: So I would recommend that
16 if you want to set up some legal means of controlling
17 foxes around Wainwright that you talk first to Geoff
18 Carroll here.....
19
20 MR. SHEARS: Okay.
21
22 DR. YOKEL:and pursue that
23 avenue.
24
25 Thank you.
26
27 MR. SHEARS: Okay, thank you.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: George.
30
31 MR. PAPPAS: Madame Chair. George
32 Pappas, Fish and Game. Geoff will be here in a moment.
33
34 MR. SHEARS: Okay.
35
36 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you.
37
38 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay. Just
39 a moment.
40
41 I also have experienced those types of
42 concerns. We had a pretty serious event in Nuiqsut in
43 which 15 (ph) people were exposed. It is something
44 that all of our communities have concerns for over the
45 years, some years worse than others. There are
46 definitely mechanisms in place, we'll get some more
47 information from George. It is a life health safety
48 issue and we do have ways that we can identify to come
49 up with a local management plan that'll help you
50 address these issues. I know that our Staff that we

1 have with OSM and the people that we've been working
2 with at the State are very knowledgeable in ways that
3 they can facilitate these discussions.

4

5 MR. SHEARS: Uh-huh.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: And I know
8 that the issue is going to be looking for the funding
9 for it and coming up with the right combinations of
10 cooperative discussions to get the support to allow you
11 to do the management. So I think we can entertain
12 further discussion when Geoff gets here.

13

14 MR. SHEARS: Uh-huh.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: And if you
17 have any other issues or concerns, we were working with
18 Lloyd's discussion, so if we have no further questions
19 on that, do you have any other concerns?

20

21 MR. SHEARS: No, I don't have any more.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay.
24 We're going to move to Donald, do you have a comment?

25

26 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair. As
27 far as Bob's comments in establishing a bounty, this
28 program, we don't deal with any bounty, we provide
29 subsistence opportunities through the regulatory
30 process. But through the -- I think this would be
31 under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Game to
32 establish bounties in conjunction with the State Health
33 and Human Services to address your health concerns.
34 But, you know, we can look at our regulations and see
35 if we can increase harvest limits through trapping and
36 hunting.

37

38 MR. SHEARS: Yeah, okay, thank you.

39

40 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.

41

42 MR. LEAVITT: The problem we have is
43 that we don't have any more trappers.

44

45 (Laughter)

46

47 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, Roy.

50

1 MR. R. NAGEAK: Along those lines I
2 would like to get an idea of what the Federal
3 government utilizes or the resources or the monies that
4 they spend in regards to fox eradication during the
5 summertime, just to get an idea of how much money that
6 they spend, because it's an ongoing program I think,
7 every year, and whether the utilization of that money
8 could be better spent doing it in wintertime rather
9 than the summertime where it's spotty.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
12 someone who could add discussion to his question?

13

14 Earnest.

15

16 MR. E. NAGEAK: Earnest Nageak. Was
17 that comment regarding our summer program?

18

19 MR. R. NAGEAK: Yes, for fox
20 eradication or -- and how much monies are spent by the
21 Federal government to do that.

22

23 MR. E. NAGEAK: Yeah, they usually just
24 have one biologist or someone from out of town and they
25 hire two high school students or interns to go along
26 with them and it's just three people running that
27 program. And when they get all these foxes they give
28 them to the North Slope Borough wildlife department
29 which does all the studies on them for rabies and
30 samples. But I don't know where the money's going
31 to.....

32

33 MR. R. NAGEAK: Or where it's coming
34 from.

35

36 MR. E. NAGEAK:or where it's
37 coming from but it's main -- the main purpose of that
38 program is to minimize predator from the steller eider
39 -- or protecting the steller eiders during the nesting
40 season. That's the main purpose of the program.

41

42 MR. R. NAGEAK: Thank you.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Having no
45 further discussion we'll move on with Lee's concerns.

46

47 MR. MIKE: Lee, do you have any
48 concerns or comments you'd want to provide as far as
49 subsistence or other issues?

50

1 MR. KAYOTUK: Yeah, we do in the
2 village, been up in the mountains at this point in time
3 and we don't have no snow at all up here in the
4 mountains now and it's just bare ground. And other
5 than that on the coast it's okay but I went for a short
6 drive yesterday and I seen a polar bear digging its den
7 and I found that pretty interesting and I was just
8 wandering around and we do have a lot of foxes and
9 stuff like that. But other than that it's -- we do
10 have a wildlife department here that, you know, always
11 check around to make sure that these foxes do not
12 attempt to come to the village or, you know, we do have
13 the public safety that we can contact too that try to
14 scare off of these foxes and stuff like that.

15

16 Thank you.

17

18 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do you have
19 anything else to report for Kaktovik as far as
20 subsistence?

21

22 MR. KAYOTUK: Not at -- we do have a
23 lot of -- we got about maybe about 60 caribou, I think,
24 hanging around the coast now that came down from the
25 mountains. There must be -- they're just hanging
26 around the coastline feeding, which is good, so there's
27 a few people that got some caribou anyway. But other
28 than that, no, I don't.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay. Do
31 we have any questions for Lee.

32

33 (No comments)

34

35 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Hearing
36 none. I participated this last year as part of our
37 Board with the working group for tribal consultation.
38 We attended multiple meetings for that process.

39

40 Prior to our joint meeting I had done
41 all the calls to the villages and there was a lot of
42 support from the North Slope to support Anaktuvuk Pass
43 in their concern. They have a resolution that they had
44 forwarded related to the opposition to the road to
45 Umiat and they have succeeded in getting multiple
46 village resolutions in support of that concern.

47

48 There are a lot of concerns that were
49 related to the seals. Multiple villages were asking
50 questions, if we had more information and I know a few

1 recent meetings that there has been some reporting that
2 has been done and that information is starting to get
3 out into the village, but when you only have a few
4 people going to these meetings it's really important to
5 get this information back to the villages. We have had
6 concerns related to whether or not it's safe to eat
7 these animals as well as concerns as to our traditional
8 uses of the skins and things like that that are being
9 affected by these illnesses and concerns of not being
10 able to utilize other parts of the animals with some of
11 the traditional activities related to the harvesting of
12 the animals and using the body parts for all the
13 different things that we use them for in our North
14 Slope lifestyle.

15

16 We also have had good reports for
17 caribou near Nuiqsut this last year. There's been
18 many, many years where the actual harvest has been
19 really changed with the land use changes that are
20 occurring near the community and it was like -- like
21 this year was better than most so that was good to
22 hear.

23

24 We've had some really good wolf hunting
25 occurring in Anaktuvuk Pass. Recently there was a
26 number of wolves that was caught by one of the hunters
27 over there. They've also had a lot of concerns because
28 the fall migration was impacted and they were working
29 with trying to share information about these concerns.
30 Over a number of years this has been a lot of concern
31 between the Nuiqsut and Anaktuvuk and there has been a
32 lot of effort working together to share these concerns.
33 When your animals are migrating to the north you can
34 have impacts along this migratory route that can affect
35 Nuiqsut and when you're migrating to the south you have
36 impacts that occur to Anaktuvuk. So the North Slope
37 communities all supported the concerns related to this
38 protection of the migratory route and the importance
39 for Anaktuvuk in their harvesting.

40

41 The concerns for walrus also have been
42 shared with me. There's a tremendous amount of concern
43 with not being able to harvest that. I know my mom has
44 had trouble eating and the fermented walrus is
45 something that she really is able to eat a small amount
46 and get the nutrition she needs from that item and not
47 being able to obtain it through our traditional sharing
48 means has been very difficult for her. It is very
49 important for our elders to be able to have their
50 traditional foods especially with changes to our

1 health. Our traditional foods are very important when
2 they're having difficulties. And a lot of times our
3 fish are some of the first foods that they can eat when
4 they're sick so it's really important that we keep the
5 protection of our access to our traditional foods to
6 help us stay healthy.

7

8 And I'll leave it at that.

9

10 Do we have any questions.

11

12 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just a comment, Madame

13 Chair.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes.

16

17 MR. R. NAGEAK: In regards to rumors
18 and innuendos of what the Federal government will do
19 with our walrus and the seals, in the current situation
20 there with global warming and where they have no ice to
21 go up on and usually the perception of how it will
22 impact the way that we hunt these animals and we all
23 see in the forefront of how much money the Federal
24 government has to study and do scientific studies to
25 alleviate some of these perceptions that are out there
26 to really get all the data and everything else before
27 any ocean regulations are made to control basically our
28 ability to hunt these animals before they keep going
29 forward, we need those data and reading all that data
30 and now the scientific studies, the monies that are
31 needed and we, especially in the forefront where the
32 Federal government's funding is being decreased by
33 powers that may be, on the nationwide perspective and
34 then we see the one percent -- seeing the 99 percent
35 and then the one percent that tend to control the
36 monies in this country and where it's being decreased
37 in the areas that like -- like up where the development
38 is being increased but we could see the Federal
39 government being decreased in regards to the studies
40 that are needed to protect our way of life or protect
41 and get the right data rather than try to make
42 decisions through perception and innuendos and rumors.
43 That's one area that I think when we see the Federal
44 government to move forward before they make any changes
45 in our subsistence way of life that some of these be
46 done in the proper way through data collection.

47

48 One good example that we see is through
49 the bowhead whale and how studies have been done to
50 that. If any other need for rules and regulations that

1 limits our subsistence way of life then the monies that
2 need to be -- or required by the Federal government to
3 do the studies right rather than make decisions through
4 perceptions of what global warming or whatever it does
5 to our environment and the animals that we subsistence
6 on, I prefer to make that statement rather than our
7 lives -- our way of life through perception and
8 innuendos and like what Lloyd says, rumors, that
9 they're going to make it difficult for us to get, like
10 the walrus, if it's beached up on the ground.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay. Do
15 we have any other questions or comments.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Was Lee
20 trying to say something -- or no it's coming from the
21 other side.

22

23 All right. I moved into the Chair's
24 report without officially recognizing it on to the
25 agenda, or at least my report. Did Harry provide a
26 written report, Helen?

27

28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Madame
29 Chair. May I have a second, I'm going to pull it up.
30 We don't have copies because it was done -- just
31 recently signed. But you were at the meeting so
32 anything you want to add to what happened at the
33 meeting.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: The joint
36 meeting was very informative. There were concerns from
37 both sides about species that occur on both sides and
38 the importance of protecting the migratory route for
39 that. It was a very good meeting with good
40 discussions. We had good participation from the
41 members that were there. We had discussion related to
42 the tribal consultation policy. We also had the --
43 what is that acronym for the conservation plan
44 presentation, there is some concerns related to that
45 and requesting for more information about that and how
46 is that going to affect the decision because that's
47 something new that was being discussed at that meeting.
48 And we did have a very good discussion related to
49 concerns to the species related to changes in our
50 environment and changes in weather patterns and how

1 that's affecting us.

2

3 Do we have anything else.

4

5 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Roy, do you
8 want to add anything?

9

10 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just some comments in
11 regards to the State and how the Federal people, the
12 people that we depend on for our subsistence way of
13 life, a step underneath the State. I just want to make
14 sure that gets corrected, that they are equally, the
15 State both in regulations in regards to what they need
16 to control and what the Federal government, through the
17 Subsistence Advisory Councils need to do, the process,
18 but then outside of the -- the process, the State
19 process, we need to get more educated on who -- who's
20 button to push in the State. Because when they -- like
21 I stated when the comments were being made for the
22 North Slope or within the Haul Road thing, increase of
23 150 percent harvest level and I asked a question to
24 that State lady, 150 percent of what harvest level is
25 the State talking about and no response. We need to
26 have those communities and what the right agencies are
27 to talk about how the subsistence hunters that are
28 being impacted by the traffic that is on the Haul Road
29 and how it would be better regulated or the concerns
30 coming from Anaktuvuk Pass would be better handled.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do you have
35 any questions or comments, did you want to add
36 anything?

37

38 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Do you want to talk
39 about the Board meeting, the Federal Subsistence Board
40 meeting, too, that we just -- that you just attended.
41 I have the action items that are applicable to the
42 North Slope if you want me to go through those.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yeah, go
45 ahead and do that.

46

47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. So there were
48 three statewide proposals that this Council made
49 recommendations on.

50

1 The first one was WP12-01 and that was
2 the proposal that requested that prior to selling a
3 handicraft incorporating a brown bear claw or claws,
4 that the hide or claws not attached to a hide have to
5 be sealed by an authorized Alaska Department of Fish
6 and Game representative, and the copy of the ADF&G
7 sealing certificate would then accompany the handicraft
8 when sold. And that was submitted by the Brown Bear
9 Claw Handicraft Working Group. And for you, Bob, this
10 has been a many, many year process. And all the
11 Council members, they had a -- each Council had a
12 representative on that working group except for Western
13 Interior. This Council supported that proposal. And
14 the North -- along with the Northwest Arctic, that was
15 at your joint meeting. And there were concerns that
16 the Council expressed about sealing and who would be
17 authorized to seal a brown bear, and this Council
18 suggested providing an opportunity for local people in
19 rural areas to become authorized dealers. The Board
20 adopted the proposal with modification to add language
21 that old claws may be sealed if an affidavit is signed
22 to verify the brown bear was harvested by a Federally-
23 qualified subsistence user on Federal public lands.
24 And that was a concern that had been raised by the
25 working group as well, is that, for example in this
26 region, you have to go to Barrow to get sealed and so
27 what the State -- the State has assured us that they'll
28 be able to -- and they already do this but I guess a
29 lot of people don't know that, that they'll authorize
30 people in local communities to be the authorized ADF&G
31 representative to seal the hides.

32
33 So the regulation was added that says:

34
35 Prior to selling a handicraft
36 incorporating brown bear claws, the
37 hide or claws not attached to a hide
38 must be sealed by an authorized ADF&G
39 representative; old claws may be sealed
40 if an affidavit is signed indicating
41 that the claws came from a brown bear
42 harvested on Federal public lands by a
43 Federally-qualified user.

44
45 A copy of the ADF&G sealing certificate
46 must accompany the handicraft when
47 sold.

48
49 So that was adopted by the Board and
50 this Council had supported that.

1 There was then a deferred proposal,
2 WP10-02 that addressed the same issue and that one had
3 been submitted by Fish and Game and was -- they
4 requested that that be withdrawn because the one we
5 just heard superseded that one.
6

7 Proposal WP12-02 had requested that
8 only people 60 years of age or older or disabled be
9 allowed to designate their harvest limit to another
10 person. That was submitted by Michael Cronk of Tok. I
11 believe every Council opposed that one, yes, and the
12 Board opposed it as well. The justification being that
13 it -- there weren't -- the Board didn't find that there
14 were problems with existing regulations, and the
15 proposal would create a hardship on rural residents,
16 such as mothers and single women.
17

18 Proposal WP12-03 was required trappers
19 to move a trap incidentally to harvest moose, caribou
20 or deer at least 300 feet from the remainder of the
21 regulatory year. That proposal also was opposed by
22 nine of the 10 Councils, and was also opposed by the
23 Board, saying that there was no conservation concern
24 and that it's being addressed -- this proposal would be
25 detrimental to subsistence users.
26

27 Then there were two specific proposals
28 in the North Slope region, WP12-82 and that one
29 requested closing the Federal brown bear season in Unit
30 26A a month later, changing the season, closing from
31 May 31st to June 30th and in Unit 26B, opening the
32 season six days earlier, changing it from September 1st
33 to August 25th and extending the Federal seasons would
34 align the Federal brown bear harvest seasons with the
35 State seasons in Unit 26A and 26B. This Council
36 submitted that proposal. The Council then asked for a
37 modification at the last meeting to extend the season
38 in Unit 26B to year-round, and the Council saw no
39 conservation concerns for Unit 26 brown bear, and a
40 proposal was going before the Board of Game in November
41 2011 for a year-round season in Unit 26B. So the Board
42 supported with modification as recommended by this
43 North Slope Council to support the proposal. And their
44 justification was that it didn't appear that there were
45 conservation concerns in Unit 26A and 26B for brown
46 bears and so they supported a year-round season. The
47 position of the State on this note was that it -- that
48 they're dealing with predator control targeting brown
49 bears in Unit 26B.
50

1 And then the last one for North Slope
2 was WP12-83, and that proposal requested shortening the
3 Units 26 wolf hunting season and lower the harvest
4 limit, it was submitted by Defenders of Wildlife. And
5 your Council supported -- voted to oppose it. There
6 aren't any conservation concerns and wolves are an
7 important subsistence resource in Unit 26 and are
8 valued for personal use to make clothing and handicraft
9 and the Board supported your recommendation.

10

11 And that concludes the .805(c) letter
12 report, which we will have sent out to you when we --
13 in final. I don't know if there were any questions or,
14 Rosemary, you wanted to add anything else about the
15 meeting at all.

16

17 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: We also
18 addressed the Red Sheep Creek, Cane Creek, and that has
19 reference to Kaktovik.

20

21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: And we were
24 able to get support for that. It was -- I can't say
25 the specifics on it but there were concerns because our
26 Kaktovik hunters have travel so far, with fly-in
27 hunters, they were impacting their ability to harvest
28 when you have fly-in hunters it causes the sheep to go
29 higher into the mountain. There's also traditional and
30 cultural use by Arctic Village and their efforts to
31 restrict it added also medicinal, and cultural value
32 where they share it primarily with their elders. We
33 added testimony. I know my uncle in Kaktovik, Uncle
34 Coniky (ph), the first time I got to try sheep it was a
35 sheep from this area. It's easy to tell because the
36 fur will get a red tinge to it because of the clays
37 that the sheep will go in and eat and my uncle said
38 when it's really cold on the North Slope side, they'll
39 go down into the valley on that side and they know that
40 they can go there to harvest. So we shared that as
41 well as worked with the other village that was wanting
42 to get that protection.

43

44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you for
45 reminding me about that.

46

47 Just to help the new Council members,
48 that was addressed even though it's outside of the
49 region because Kaktovik has a customary and traditional
50 use determination for sheep in 25A so you also made a

1 recommendation on that. That was a pretty contentious
2 proposal and they had a lot of testimony from Arctic
3 Village residents both at their Council meeting as well
4 as at the Board meeting. So the Board did support
5 closing -- doing a closure for two weeks to all but
6 Federally-qualified users in the Red Sheep Creek, Cane
7 Creek area.

8

9 Thank you, Rosemary.

10

11 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
12 any questions or comments from the Board.

13

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
18 any questions from people that are here to participate.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: And Geoff
23 has made it to the meeting so Geoff would you mind
24 coming on up and allowing us to get further into our
25 discussion. We had some concerns from Bob and others
26 on this process.

27

28 MR. CARROLL: Thank you.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Did George
31 give you insight into what the issue was?

32

33 MR. CARROLL: (Nods affirmatively)

34

35 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: All right,
36 great.

37

38 MR. SHEARS: Hi, Geoff, good morning.

39

40 MR. CARROLL: Good morning.

41

42 MR. SHEARS: I brought some questions
43 from Wainwright with me and I brought them up earlier.

44

45 MR. CARROLL: I'm sorry, I haven't --
46 do I push the button to talk?

47

48 REPORTER: Yes, you're on.

49

50 MR. SHEARS: The light's on, you're on.

1 MR. CARROLL: I'm good.
2
3 MR. SHEARS: You're good.
4
5 (Laughter)
6
7 MR. CARROLL: Okay.
8
9 MR. SHEARS: Two issues -- two
10 things.....
11
12 MR. CARROLL: I guess I should
13 introduce myself.
14
15 MR. SHEARS: Yes.
16
17 MR. CARROLL: I'm Geoff Carroll. I'm
18 the area biologist for the Alaska Department of Fish
19 and Game stationed in Barrow.
20
21 MR. SHEARS: Okay, thank you. One
22 question come to me as a concerned hunter in regards to
23 that he had heard of a flyer that had been posted in
24 Wainwright in regards to a requirement for sealing wolf
25 and wolverine skins and he wanted to know as a
26 subsistence hunter, if that applied to him when he
27 sends his -- mails his hides out for tanning?
28
29 MR. CARROLL: Yes, it does, it applies
30 to everybody. Legally in the state everybody that
31 harvests a wolf, a wolverine or lynx needs to get those
32 hides sealed.
33
34 MR. SHEARS: Uh-huh.
35
36 MR. CARROLL: And it's difficult on the
37 North Slope because we don't have a sealer in every
38 village and so we kind of understand, you know, that it
39 doesn't work exactly like it does every place else.
40 But one thing that he'll run into is if he sends those
41 hides out to get them sealed, they won't -- sends them
42 out to get them.....
43
44 MR. SHEARS: Tanned, they won't tan
45 them.
46
47 MR. CARROLL:tanned, they won't
48 tan them unless they are sealed. So anybody that has
49 hides like that, you know, other places you're supposed
50 to bring the hide into the Fish and Game office and get

1 them sealed, you know, if they just notify me I'll just
2 mail the seals to them.

3

4 MR. SHEARS: Okay.

5

6 MR. CARROLL: But you are supposed to
7 have a trapping license in order to do that, it cost
8 \$15 to get a trapping license. And if you have a
9 trapping license basically there's no limit on the
10 number of wolves you can harvest. And I'm sorry we
11 don't have a sealer, you know, it's one of those kind
12 of thankless tasks, you know, over the years I've
13 arranged for people to be sealers but you make -- you
14 know you don't get paid very much and a lot of your
15 neighbors look at you funny because you're working kind
16 of -- working for the State and all that, it's been
17 hard to keep sealers in all the villages. But like I
18 say anybody that kind of gets in that situation I'm
19 very happy to do whatever it takes to get a license to
20 them and get the seals to them and all that.

21

22 MR. SHEARS: Okay.

23

24 MR. CARROLL: And the reason we do it
25 is, you know, wolves are very important resource up
26 here and we like to keep track on how many are
27 harvested.

28

29 MR. SHEARS: Okay. Well, I'm much more
30 informed now on the subject than I was a few minutes
31 ago. Thank you, Geoff, for that.

32

33 MR. CARROLL: Okay. And.....

34

35 MR. R. NAGEAK: Is it the.....

36

37 MR. SHEARS: Go ahead.

38

39 MR. R. NAGEAK: Is it the same for
40 foxes?

41

42 MR. CARROLL: You don't need to get
43 foxes sealed but you can -- if you have a trapping
44 license, again, you can harvest an unlimited number of
45 foxes. So if there's ever any, you know, problem with
46 foxes, people want to get rid of foxes, people want to
47 catch foxes and sell their hides, I mean that's all
48 perfectly legal and you don't even have to get those
49 sealed. So it just requires a \$15 trapping license and
50 you can trap as many as you want. And that includes

1 shooting, too, we -- ground shooting is one legal way
2 of officially trapping, either foxes or wolves.

3

4 MR. SHEARS: That leads right into my
5 next topic which was brought to me by the city council
6 on Monday evening and requested discussion on the
7 subject, was, city of Wainwright would be interested in
8 establishing an Arctic Fox extermination program and
9 maintaining and funding it continuously on an annual
10 basis by setting a bounty on fox or fox tails with the
11 local community, allowing subsistence hunters to go out
12 and -- you know, operating under the premise that
13 they're subsistence hunters, to take unlimited -- you
14 know unlimited quantities of foxes to sell them as
15 bounty to the city. The city started to make a motion
16 to establish a bounty and the PSO immediately raised
17 his hand and said there's legal concerns with this and
18 you better consult with State Fish and Wildlife and
19 find out what are all the aspects, or the issues that
20 may arise from -- legal aspects, you know, arising from
21 establishing such a resolution. So the city stepped
22 back and they just hired an on-call fox control person
23 but they would like to know, you know, under what --
24 and when it comes into this venue is, the question is
25 under what aspect is a subsistence hunter still
26 operating as a subsistence hunter or trapper when he is
27 doing predator control for money?

28

29 MR. CARROLL: Well, you know, as far as
30 -- legal designations, I mean everybody in the State
31 really is considered a subsistence hunter. Most people
32 in the state of Alaska that go out and hunt any kind of
33 animal or hunt -- are generally hunting that animal to
34 be used for meat.

35

36 MR. SHEARS: Yeah.

37

38 MR. CARROLL: So as far as being a
39 subsistence hunter or not a subsistence hunter it
40 really doesn't make any difference.

41

42 MR. SHEARS: Okay.

43

44 MR. CARROLL: Anybody that has a \$15
45 trapping license can harvest as many foxes as they want
46 to, you know, and I'm not exactly sure about the
47 legality of -- you know I know the State wouldn't pay
48 it -- you know, get in a situation where we're paying
49 for a bounty but if a municipality wants to do -- or
50 city government wants to do that or whatever, I guess

1 I'd have to check into the legality of that a little
2 bit. I imagine it could be done.

3

4 MR. SHEARS: Yeah.

5

6 MR. CARROLL: I'm not sure exactly if
7 you need a permit to do that or what.

8

9 MR. SHEARS: Yeah.

10

11 MR. CARROLL: You know, I think if they
12 hired a fox control person that's up to them and they
13 can have a trapping license and harvest as many foxes
14 as they want to.

15

16 MR. SHEARS: Okay.

17

18 MR. LEAVITT: Madame Chair.

19

20 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, Lloyd.

21

22 MR. LEAVITT: I just have a comment on
23 the foxes here. A lot of our people trap to trade,
24 barter or for money, and it's the same application that
25 Wainwright's going to be doing is this guy's going to
26 be getting rid of the predators for, either to trade
27 the skin or barter with the skin or whatever he could
28 do to sell the skin. We don't have any trappers
29 anymore. So in my opinion it falls along the lines,
30 same thing as trapping, that usually goes to sell the
31 fox skin. It's the same application to me.

32

33 And the other item that came for
34 sealing the wolves, wolverines and the lynx, since the
35 village of Wainwright or a lot of the subsistence users
36 are unaware that the State is sending tags out to the
37 villages, perhaps the State just needs to advertise a
38 little more in the villages that we do this to help the
39 people out. If you want to send your skin out to be
40 tanned, that it has to be tagged, if you contact me
41 I'll send you a number -- perhaps you need to better
42 advertise a little more in the villages.

43

44 MR. CARROLL: That's a very good point.
45 We often don't communicate as well as we should and we
46 should make more of an attempt to, you know, let the
47 villages know, you know, they're going to have trouble
48 getting their hide tanned if they send it off and --
49 yeah, I agree we need public service announcements to
50 make that more common knowledge.

1 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.
2
3 MR. CARROLL: George just brought up a
4 good point on -- you know with fox skins, if the city
5 wanted to buy fox skins from trappers, you know, I mean
6 that would -- I mean it wouldn't be an official bounty
7 but it would be a way to pay people to harvest foxes.
8
9 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah, it's the same
10 application.
11
12 MR. SHEARS: Thank you. Good point,
13 George.
14
15 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Go ahead,
16 George, were you going to add something.
17
18 MR. PAPPAS: No, I think Lloyd
19 succinctly stated what we were getting to here, is
20 anybody can buy the fox skins from a trapper and as
21 Geoff said trappers can use firearms instead of traps
22 for fox. And I just wanted to note the season there
23 for Arctic fox, both under State and Federal trapping
24 regulations is 26B and C is November 1 through April
25 15th, no limit.
26
27 MR. SHEARS: Uh-huh.
28
29 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.
30
31 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, Roy.
32
33 MR. R. NAGEAK: I remember when I was
34 young the Federal government had a program where they
35 had a bounty for seals and it was a #10 bounty because
36 I remember my dad used to go out and hunt seals a lot,
37 and that was a lot of money back then in the early '60s
38 when the fisheries went down and somewhere all over
39 Alaska and then they started getting bounties on seals.
40 But that was so many years ago. And it's not
41 environmentally right to be doing that with so many
42 people that knows what they're doing right away.
43
44 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.
45
46 MR. R. NAGEAK: But we talked about how
47 the Federal government utilizes monies to do predator
48 fox control around Barrow for the steller eider ducks
49 and the spectacled eider ducks that are in danger, and
50 whether those monies could be properly utilized during

1 the winter, but that's an issue that we just need to
2 look at.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Geoff.

7

8 MR. CARROLL: And, yeah, just like what
9 Roy said, I mean there actually has been a wolf -- or a
10 fox control program around Barrow that the Fish and
11 Wildlife Service kind of contracted with another agency
12 and Earnest could probably tell you more about that.

13

14 MR. E. NAGEAK: Yeah, I did.

15

16 MR. R. NAGEAK: He did.

17

18 MR. SHEARS: Yes, he did. Yeah.

19

20 MR. CARROLL: He already did, okay.

21 All right.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
24 any further questions or comments from the Board for
25 this.

26

27 MR. LEAVITT: Just something that we
28 observed.....

29

30 REPORTER: Lloyd. Lloyd.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Your
33 dealibob.

34

35 MR. LEAVITT:last summer due to
36 the influx of fox. My family and I and my girls, we
37 take quite a bit of walks out on the tundra, we come
38 across a lot of (In Inupiat) the brant, steller eiders,
39 we come across a lot of them. In the following weekend
40 we visit, it's not only the foxes that take a lot of
41 the eggs, it's the jaegers and the seagulls that really
42 take a lot of the eggs before they mature. A lot of
43 the jaegers were eating a lot of our -- the eggs last
44 summer, we came across like 14 and the following
45 weekend, I mean there were jaegers around, and I know
46 we spooked the (In Inupiat) and the jaegers were here
47 when we walked away and we know it ate the eggs and the
48 following weekend all 14 nests were gone so a lot of it
49 is not just white foxes, it's also the jaegers and the
50 seagulls that eat the eggs.

1 And I know several years ago when
2 Warren (Indiscernible) was the wildlife director, they
3 got -- they worked with the Feds on eliminating a lot
4 of the seagulls within the North Slope area. That was
5 one boat that went around for I believe a year or two
6 killing a lot of the jaegers -- I mean seagulls here.

7
8 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, do you know,
9 Earnest, has there been a seagull program -- reduction
10 program in recent years?

11
12 MR. E. NAGEAK: No.

13
14 MR. CARROLL: I know that was something
15 Warren always brought up, he really thought we ought to
16 reduce the number of seagulls that they're just a
17 problem in the hunting camps, you know, they're getting
18 a lot of eggs around here.

19
20 MR. SHEARS: I remember (Indiscernible)
21 told me they did that in Wainwright years ago.

22
23 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

24
25 MR. LEAVITT: They even get into our
26 gillnets when we're fishing either inland or right
27 here, you know, they eat the fish too.

28
29 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

30
31 MR. LEAVITT: So they are a real
32 nuisance here on the North Slope, too, that's something
33 to be considered -- or reconsidered since they're
34 taking too much of our steller eiders, geese and the
35 brant eggs too. And that is something that he brought
36 out about a year before he passed away. I remember him
37 saying that at the meeting here.

38
39 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. And, boy, I guess
40 I need my memory refreshed on that somehow, it seemed
41 like there were some spacial, I think they called
42 depredation permits, or something that the
43 seagulls.....

44
45 MR. LEAVITT: Yes. He said they had to
46 struggle through it.

47
48 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

49
50 MR. LEAVITT: Is what he was saying, it

1 took awhile to do it but they made it a possibility.

2

3 MR. CARROLL: Uh-huh. And I think
4 that's a Federal program but I'm not real familiar with
5 it. I'm not exactly sure what you have to do to get a
6 deprivation permit.

7

8 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, Roy.

11

12 MR. R. NAGEAK: I know that when our
13 landfill, many years ago, was wide open, we limit the
14 seagulls to go out into the nature to get more of the
15 catch because they were really concentrating in our
16 landfill but now that the State has required our
17 landfill to be more protected in the way that they keep
18 waste meat away from the landfill it's like the
19 seagulls are going further out. When I go out hunting
20 in the summertime there's more seagulls that are more
21 spread out into the tundra which bring out the point of
22 -- and I think the seagulls are the ones that --
23 they're so big that they could easily fight off a
24 steller eider and that's why they nest around owls.
25 But when there's no population of owls like we had the
26 last few years, it's like there's no steller or
27 spectacled eiders around either. And whether that's a
28 trend -- but I've seen more seagulls out in the tundra
29 then where they used to be all over Barrow because of
30 the more control of the waste landfill. And you've
31 noticed that, too, you've been here long enough where
32 there used to be tons of seagulls right on the landfill
33 area but there's none anymore.

34

35 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, that really changed
36 when they changed the landfill policies.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: We also saw
39 changes with the land changes, there were definitely
40 some increase in numbers of seagulls with the
41 increasing number of development sites. We also saw
42 that there were increased predation with the seagulls
43 on the bird populations. There's some areas where the
44 birds are much more successful in their habitat and
45 when we cause them to move to other areas they're
46 definitely less successful, and when we change the way
47 that the animals use the other -- the areas and allow
48 for inflection of predators such as the gulls and the
49 foxes on the nesting it does change things. We had a
50 lot of testimony in Nuiqsut related to that as we saw

1 increasing changes.

2

3 These discussions are very important
4 and I know Warren also shared those discussions a lot
5 and ways that we can work with our Staff to communicate
6 this issue and identify what we can do to help look at
7 a way to address it is, I think we could get some
8 further discussion and feedback with information that
9 may help us formulate something.

10

11 MR. CARROLL: Madame Chair. I
12 understood there was also a question about moose in
13 Wainwright area, and actually good news on that. We
14 actually have had a season for the last six years, we
15 have a summer season for everything west of 156 degrees
16 longitude starting July 1st.

17

18 MR. SHEARS: Oh, okay.

19

20 MR. CARROLL: So if a -- and
21 specifically for the reason, you know, that
22 occasionally -- you know most moose on the North Slope
23 stay over in the Colville River area but for some
24 reason some of them just take off on these walkabouts
25 and they'll end up at the villages and we've recognized
26 the fact that that's usually a one-way trip.....

27

28 (Laughter)

29

30 MR. CARROLL:if they show up
31 close to a village. So we do have a summer season,
32 basically a person needs to have a State hunting
33 license and we have a moose harvest permit. So.....

34

35 MR. R. NAGEAK: After the fact.

36

37 MR. CARROLL:it's another one of
38 those things we probably don't publicize well enough.
39 But anybody can.....

40

41 MR. SHEARS: Okay.

42

43 MR. CARROLL:and I'll be happy
44 to.....

45

46 MR. SHEARS: So they should call up if
47 they.....

48

49 REPORTER: Bob. Bob, your microphone

50

1 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.
2
3 MR. SHEARS:if they want to seal
4 their, you know, legitimize their.....
5
6 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. You don't.....
7
8 REPORTER: Wait, Bob, your microphone.
9
10 MR. CARROLL: You don't seal a
11 moose.....
12
13 MR. SHEARS: No, I know but.....
14
15 MR. CARROLL:but we like to --
16 and legally you should have the harvest permit before
17 you harvest the moose so that's the best way to do
18 things.
19
20 MR. R. NAGEAK: How much is that one?
21
22 MR. CARROLL: What's that?
23
24 MR. R. NAGEAK: How much.
25
26 MR. CARROLL: It's \$25 for a hunting
27 license and.....
28
29 MR. R. NAGEAK: And that's.....
30
31 MR. CARROLL:and the moose permit
32 is free.
33
34 MR. LEAVITT: So is that for any size
35 moose, male, female?
36
37 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Yeah, we've -- and
38 we've left that, it's either a male or a female because
39 we realize that, you know, and it actually -- the North
40 Slope moose population has been on a pretty serious
41 decline the last few years. We're hoping they've
42 bottomed out and they're on their way back up so there
43 was some serious consideration, you know, I mean it
44 doesn't look good to have a cow moose season in an area
45 where you have a declining moose population, but it
46 happens so rarely, you know, I mean it's one of those
47 things that happens every -- maybe every other year or
48 something.
49
50 MR. SHEARS: Right. Even rarer than

1 that.

2

3 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, very few moose get
4 harvested through that -- we even had one show up in
5 Barrow two years ago and were able to harvest it
6 through that system.

7

8 MR. SHEARS: Okay.

9

10 MR. CARROLL: So -- okay.

11

12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: If I can just add,
13 we also have that season on Federal lands as well in
14 the.....

15

16 MR. SHEARS: And it does match?

17

18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. I think it's
19 identical, isn't it?

20

21 MR. CARROLL: July 1st to September
22 14th.

23

24 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: September 14th,
25 yeah.

26

27 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

28

29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

30

31 MR. SHEARS: How about any
32 consideration for muskox, same situation.

33

34 MR. CARROLL: Well, with muskox, boy
35 the muskox population is in serious trouble on the
36 North Slope.

37

38 MR. SHEARS: Uh-huh.

39

40 MR. CARROLL: At one point we had about
41 800 of them. In that area -- well, we call it the
42 eastern North Slope muskox population, they've gone
43 from about 800 down to 200 and the major problem there
44 is grizzly bear predation. And they actually are
45 taking some steps to try to turn that around this
46 coming year. I mean through the State system we're
47 actually engaging in some -- in kind of a bear control
48 program that -- starting this spring. They've been
49 flying muskox surveys the last several years and
50 numbers just keep going down and down and the bears --

1 there seem to be some particular bears that really
2 target the muskoxen and we're going to try to target
3 those bears and try to reduce that.

4
5 But anyway the result of all that is we
6 really don't have any muskox seasons on the North
7 Slope.

8
9 There is a regulation on the books that
10 if a -- you know a group of muskoxen move into a
11 caribou hunting area and seem to be displacing the
12 caribou that we can issue permits to harvest the
13 muskoxen, but we're -- I don't know we're kind of
14 trying to stay away from that now that the numbers are
15 so low but it could be done if there really is a
16 serious issue.

17
18 MR. SHEARS: Would there be possibly
19 any consideration for harvesting the single males, the
20 older males?

21
22 MR. CARROLL: Well, I mean we don't
23 have any provision for that.

24
25 MR. SHEARS: Yeah.

26
27 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, and I mean that's
28 kind of an interesting question because one thing we're
29 finding is that -- in this muskox population in 26B,
30 that's the eastern part of the North Slope, and also
31 our Seward Peninsula muskox population, you know, the
32 muskox hunts always have targeted those -- the males,
33 you know, I mean that's kind of the way a lot of hunts
34 are set up, you know, they harvest bull moose or, you
35 know, this and that and we're finding that that has
36 been very detrimental to the muskoxen in a lot of cases
37 because it's those big males that hold the defensive
38 groups together and without those big males there, that
39 they tend to scatter and once they scatter they're very
40 vulnerable to bears.

41
42 MR. SHEARS: Oh.

43
44 MR. CARROLL: So anyway we're really
45 rethinking that idea about it's okay to shoot the big
46 old males because that's actually turned out not to be
47 a very good idea.

48
49 MR. SHEARS: The assumption -- the
50 question was based on, and perhaps this is a fallacy is

1 that when the older males lose their dominancy in the
2 group that they are kicked out and they go on their own
3 never to return, never to become breeding stock again.

4

5 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. It's -- that's
6 also -- I don't know, you know, you see -- it's more
7 the younger males that you see, I mean they'll leave
8 the bunch and they'll do one of these long walks, you
9 know, and they seem to go around the country and kind
10 of thinking is they're scouting out new territory and
11 sometimes they'll go back and talk a couple females
12 into going off with them and, you know, set up a new
13 group there.

14

15 MR. SHEARS: Okay.

16

17 MR. CARROLL: So that's.....

18

19 MR. SHEARS: Okay, good to know.

20

21 MR. E. NAGEAK: Just a quick question,
22 do you have the current numbers of the Teshekpuk Herd?

23

24 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, the most -- yeah, I
25 can't tell you exactly but our most recent survey
26 indicated that after getting to a high of about 64,000
27 they seem to have peaked and they're kind of on their
28 way back -- well they've declined between the last two
29 counts, I mean it wasn't serious. I think it's 58,000
30 now compared to 62,000, you know. But, well, we've
31 been having fairly poor calf success and so it's not --
32 I mean it's still a good big healthy herd.

33

34 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

35

36 MR. E. NAGEAK: Regarding the herd, we
37 were looking at when I was working with you at.....

38

39 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

40

41 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

42

43 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, they've.....

44

45 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: The muskox
46 or the caribou are you talking about?

47

48 MR. E. NAGEAK: Muskox.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yeah.

1 MR. CARROLL: Oh, okay.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay.
4
5 MR. E. NAGEAK: Yeah.
6
7 MR. CARROLL: Oh, those ones over by --
8 okay, the muskoxen over by Teshekpuk.
9
10 MR. E. NAGEAK: Yeah.
11
12 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, they're still
13 hanging in there, you know, I can't remember -- you
14 know they were at Fish Creek there for several years
15 and then we went out to do a survey and they weren't
16 there and then we found them way out like 35 miles out
17 on the sea ice and then they -- okay, yeah, and then
18 when you were working some of them had come back over
19 and set up housekeeping northwest of Teshekpuk, and,
20 yeah, that bunch is -- they've been hanging right in
21 there and producing calves pretty well. I mean we were
22 always afraid, you know, that -- you know there's a
23 fair number of bears, that, you know, they would get on
24 to them but they seem to have escaped the bear
25 predation but they've been doing goofy things too.
26 They -- last year the whole bunch of them packed up and
27 moved over right by Alpine and you might have read in
28 the news that there was some guys from Nuiqsut went out
29 and shot -- illegally shot four of those, so that was
30 that same group that we were looking at north -- north
31 and west of Teshekpuk. And then they moved back over
32 to Teshekpuk and so -- so I don't know, you know,
33 they're -- muskox are so funny though, they'll sit in
34 one spot for five years and then all of a sudden make a
35 big move.
36
37 MR. E. NAGEAK: Yeah, because I was
38 wondering -- because the last couple of years we've
39 been.....
40
41 REPORTER: Earnest, come on up.
42
43 MR. E. NAGEAK: I was wondering because
44 the last couple years we've been seeing muskox near our
45 cabin on the Chip River.
46
47 MR. CARROLL: Oh, yeah.
48
49 MR. E. NAGEAK: I mean one year we seen
50 six just right above the mouth of the Chip River and

1 there was one by our cabin and there is another one
2 further up from the cabin so I was just wondering if
3 those are a different herd or different group.

4

5 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I'm just not sure.

6

7 MR. E. NAGEAK: Yeah.

8

9 MR. CARROLL: I'm not sure. Because
10 the one -- yeah, northwest of Teshekpuk seem to have
11 kind of split into two groups and so some of those
12 could have gone down there but they could have come
13 from somewhere else too.

14

15 MR. E. NAGEAK: During those times when
16 we seen them there was no caribou around.

17

18 MR. CARROLL: Oh, yeah.

19

20 MR. E. NAGEAK: Probably the reason why
21 they weren't around is seeing the muskox.

22

23 MR. CARROLL: Oh, okay.

24

25 MR. E. NAGEAK: Just a comment.

26

27 MR. CARROLL: All right.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
30 any further questions for Geoff.

31

32 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just one in regards to
33 our last meeting of who keeps track of the harvest of
34 caribou on the Haul Road or right on the boundary of
35 the North Slope area, of the caribou.

36

37 MR. CARROLL: On the Haul Road, they --
38 I mean we have kind of a funny management split, they
39 manage -- I mean we have -- Fish and Game is divided up
40 into regions and I'm part of what's called Region 5,
41 it's kind of northern to northwestern Alaska, and we
42 cover everything over to the Colville River.

43

44 MR. R. NAGEAK: Okay.

45

46 MR. CARROLL: And -- well, the Killik
47 River, the Colville and Killik, that's the.....

48

49 MR. R. NAGEAK: Purposely done or.....

50

1 MR. CARROLL: What's that?
2
3 MR. R. NAGEAK: Purposely done or
4 who.....
5
6 MR. CARROLL: Well.....
7
8 MR. R. NAGEAK: Who keeps track of the
9 one along the Haul Road?
10
11 MR. CARROLL: Okay. Then everything to
12 the east of there they manage out of the Fairbanks
13 office, that's called Units 26B and C. And so
14 basically the area biologist is named Beth Lenart and
15 she's the area biologist that covers that 26B and C.
16 And so they're the ones that -- and, you know, we even
17 address issues that occur in 26A and different Board of
18 Game meetings than the 26B and C, and so -- so anyway
19 there has been -- the Central Arctic Caribou Herd is
20 like the fastest growing herd in the world right now
21 and they've gone 35,000, 50,000 and now they're past
22 70,000 and so anyway they did have proposals there to
23 increase the number of caribou that people can harvest
24 over there. And, boy, I'm sorry I didn't bring -- I
25 could bring it later this afternoon, I had a table
26 right in front of me of how many caribou have been
27 harvested in that area, but kind of the -- a bit of the
28 controversy is they increased the limit on caribou over
29 there up to five caribou per year, and I know the North
30 Slope Advisory Committee put in a proposal to reduce
31 that back to three. They didn't like to see that
32 increase in the number that people can harvest. But,
33 anyway, so what this table shows is that the -- even
34 with that increase in the limit, the harvest hasn't
35 increased very much over there and the number of people
36 that actually take four or five caribou in a year is
37 pretty small compared to how many that take one, two or
38 three. So, anyway, that's just kind of the current
39 numbers on that.
40
41 And the answer to your question is they
42 do manage that out of the Fairbanks office.
43
44 MR. R. NAGEAK: And that one was --
45 Madame Chair, one of the issues that we were trying to
46 address, is who answers to who and now knowing the
47 concerns that we had, the traffic and with the increase
48 of five -- and from what we understood that was an
49 increase of 150 percent from prior years. And this
50 woman that was doing the report -- an increase of 150

1 percent from what, and you say to five, that would be
2 like out of two, maybe -- from two a year to five
3 because of.....

4

5 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I mean.....

6

7 MR. R. NAGEAK:the growth of the
8 caribou but the increased traffic and how caribou
9 migrate other than the Central where you tend to stay
10 along the coast in that area all the way up to Canning
11 River, the increased traffic had really impacted the
12 migration route of the caribou into Anaktuvuk Pass from
13 what we understood, and there was like tons of traffic
14 from the Fairbanks area. Now we're trying to get the
15 picture and how -- within the scope of so many
16 different rules and regulations that control parks,
17 wildlife, PET-4 and how different rules and regulations
18 tend to control all those big regions and then the
19 State, you taking from the west of the Colville River
20 and then Fairbanks taking care of all the way up into
21 Prudhoe Bay and, how, we, in the North Slope area, need
22 to try to have our issues within our own boundaries,
23 and that's something that we might need to look at. Is
24 our boundaries are -- are our boundaries impacted and
25 now that -- I know that Fairbanks, in a sense control
26 what happens on the Haul Road and they set their own
27 limits or the way that they set limits are outside of
28 our jurisdiction like your -- like I know Northwest
29 limit -- bag limit is higher than what you see on the
30 Haul Road, five.

31

32 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. The -- you know,
33 we have the North Slope Advisory Council, which is
34 really the same people as the North Slope Borough Fish
35 and Game Management Committee, they act as the North
36 Slope Advisory Council, and so when there's a Board of
37 Game -- we had a Board of Game meeting in Fairbanks in
38 November for, you know, our Region 5 stuff, and then
39 the -- the Board of Game meeting for Region 3, which
40 is, you know, includes 26B and C will be in March and
41 they're going to address exactly that, there's a
42 proposal in to reduce the bag limit from five down to
43 three so they'll be discussing that and that meeting
44 will be in Fairbanks.

45

46 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just out of curiosity
47 and trying to get that mental frame of mind if we're
48 going to be North Slope, let it be North Slope because
49 when we see outside people deciding on what happens
50 within our boundaries, like the North Slope Borough

1 boundaries and the ICAS boundaries, regional --
2 boundaries that are a Federally-recognized entity, who
3 decides, like along the Haul Road, this will be under
4 the Fairbanks -- or that region?

5
6 MR. CARROLL: Well, it's -- I guess the
7 Board of Game would -- well, they kind of decide which
8 area is dealt with as far as, you know, Board
9 regulations, as far as, you know the -- I guess the
10 Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game,
11 and it might even require a statute within the -- you
12 know it might be a legislative change to -- you know,
13 it's -- it's something we've argued about ever since
14 I've been around. You know it's a crazy -- it's a very
15 logical set up to have the North Slope split into two
16 regions like it is and it's very awkward, you know,
17 from within Fish and Game, and it's awkward for the
18 Advisory Committee and we've hollered about it and it's
19 just one of those things that to try to get a change is
20 really difficult. They almost never change, you know,
21 regional boundaries and things like that, I mean it
22 does happen but I -- I know the North Slope Borough
23 wildlife department has put in proposals to change it a
24 and, you know, I've hollered about it from within that
25 it ought to be changed and it just -- I don't know,
26 it's just one of those -- bureaucratically it's just
27 really difficult to do. I mean I agree with you that
28 logically it shouldn't be that way but I don't know.

29
30 That's kind of something I've fought
31 for many years and never been very successful and I
32 know the North Slope Borough wildlife department has
33 and we've just never been able to prevail on that.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Go ahead,
36 Ray.

37
38 MR. R. NAGEAK: I don't know -- I know
39 we just had our joint meeting with NANA Region, I don't
40 know whether there has been any past meetings with the
41 North Slope Borough and the Federal Regional Council,
42 joint meetings to address common issues or has that
43 been done in the past?

44
45 Somebody?

46
47 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Helen, are
48 you able to answer that, or Don.

49
50 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. I'm not aware

1 of any joint meetings between the Subsistence Councils
2 and the North Slope Borough Council.

3

4 MR. R. NAGEAK: But that might be
5 something that we could get together on because we've
6 got the common issues in hand and how -- the impact
7 that we have is a concern, it's a joint impact and try
8 to address it through the Federal and whether a joint
9 effort would be better.

10

11 Madame Chair.

12

13 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair.

14

15 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Donald.

16 Yes.

17

18 MR. MIKE: I think the best route to go
19 about this is to send correspondence to the Federal
20 Subsistence Board and address your concern and outline
21 what your wishes are on the subject of a joint meeting.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Ray, would
24 you like to have the Staff generate some correspondence
25 to initiate the discussion and see if there's interest
26 to have a joint process?

27

28 MR. R. NAGEAK: But, Madame Chair,
29 because it reflects on the same people on the North
30 Slope, subsistence wise, and trying to get answers from
31 a State person that was here during our joint NANA
32 Regional and the North Slope Regional meeting was --
33 because we're not State, a State entity asking
34 questions to a State person was like trying to pull
35 teeth out of a person.

36

37 For me, Geoff, you're better looking
38 than her.

39

40 (Laughter)

41

42 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I think it
43 would be very helpful, Don, to go ahead and initiate
44 some correspondence and see if there would be some
45 interact from the other board to interact and share
46 their concern and see if we can work together to
47 identify a way to bring our concerns and find a way to
48 address them.

49

50 MR. PAPPAS: Madame Chair.

1 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes.
2
3 MR. PAPPAS: George Pappas, Fish and
4 Game. We'll get that harvest data for you. The
5 harvest data you're requesting was for the Haul Road,
6 how many caribou were harvested and that's different
7 than the 150 percent increase, so I think there's two
8 issues here. The bag limit was raised 150 percent to
9 five animals and how much harvest did that result in,
10 Geoff here will -- we'll get that to you so we can have
11 that this afternoon to take a look at.
12
13 MR. R. NAGEAK: Thank you. And for
14 that matter, when I look at the map that was given to
15 us in regards to how control -- or how the map is
16 reflected, right where it enters into the North Slope
17 area, there is no State colors in that one, and I don't
18 know who controls, whether that control could be set by
19 Federal government, or by the State government in
20 requirements to enter into our region.
21
22 The map that you gave, one of the BLM
23 guys, where it's right along the Haul Road with access
24 or control into State lands, whether that would be
25 controlled by whatever color is in there. Is that
26 something.....
27
28 MR. SHARP: Blue is State.
29
30 MR. R. NAGEAK: Blue is State. But
31 when you look at it right next to Anaktuvuk Pass where
32 Anaktuvuk Pass impacted it's all light green, or
33 yellowish green, what is that, is that a park or all
34 the way up into the blue where the Haul Road is,
35 there's a section there that's not State land,
36 it's.....
37
38 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: BLM?
39
40 MR. R. NAGEAK:it's yellow green
41 or yellow, gold?
42
43 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yellowish
44 -- the yellowish is.....
45
46 MR. R. NAGEAK:who's lands is
47 that?
48
49 MR. CARROLL: I think according to the
50 map we have here I think that's BLM land right

1 surrounding the road there and then there's, you know,
2 Arctic Wildlife Refuge and then Gates of the Arctic on
3 either side of that.

4

5 MR. R. NAGEAK: And that was the issue,
6 then who has control to access to -- if I see it right
7 then it would be Federal government that would control
8 access. I don't know whether the corridor or the Haul
9 Road is all State all the way up but access to some of
10 those would be limited through Federal proposals that
11 we could require to have access to that area.

12

13 MR. CARROLL: I don't know, Roy, if it
14 makes you feel better the Central Arctic Herd is
15 harvested at a much lower percentage than Teshekpuk
16 Herd, for instance. I mean it's.....

17

18 MR. R. NAGEAK: I -- I.....

19

20 MR. CARROLL:a.....

21

22 MR. R. NAGEAK: That I don't mind.

23

24 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

25

26 MR. R. NAGEAK: I don't mind sharing
27 with the rest of the state when the size of the herd
28 won't be impacted. It's a process of allowing the
29 balance and the lady to keep in mind of caribou herd
30 that use the -- the balance that they have utilized for
31 many years that are being impacted by more traffic into
32 the North Slope area.

33

34 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

35

36 MR. R. NAGEAK: I don't mind sharing.
37 I mean that's our nature, is, if there is lots then I
38 don't see why Fairbanks people or the rest of the
39 people can't drive up north to catch what they need.
40 But the -- in the process of doing that and how it
41 impacts some of the migration balance of the caribou
42 that tend to go into the Anaktuvuk Pass area, which was
43 highly impacted, and the reason why there was so much
44 problem with traffic of whatever was given,
45 fourwheelers, boats.

46

47 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

48

49 MR. R. NAGEAK: There must be pretty
50 big sized lakes around there that they're hauling boats

1 up the Haul Road to go do their hunting. As long as
2 the impact on the subsistence hunters for Anaktuvuk
3 Pass, they could up the limit to 200,000 percent more
4 if it doesn't -- because I always remember my -- the
5 elders saying, if you don't utilize the animals they're
6 going to start decreasing in numbers. If you keep
7 hunting and respecting the animals that you hunt, they
8 will keep increasing, but if you don't utilize them to
9 what they were there for for food, then it's just like
10 the old squaw or the tuks (In Inupiat), there's hardly
11 anymore because we stopped eating them. I don't
12 remember when the last time was I had one of those, so
13 many years ago. But it used to be a staple in our diet
14 but when we stopped eating them you could see that they
15 don't -- there's hardly anymore but that's a different
16 story.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay. Do
19 we have any more comments or questions for Geoff and
20 George?

21
22 (No comments)

23
24 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Hearing
25 none, we are now at 12:00 o'clock, what is the wish of
26 the Board, do you want to take the break for lunch?

27
28 MR. LEAVITT: I make a motion to recess
29 for lunch.....

30
31 REPORTER: Hey, Lloyd, please --
32 thanks.

33
34 MR. LEAVITT: I'll make a motion to
35 recess for lunch until 1:30.

36
37 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
38 a second.

39
40 MR. R. NAGEAK: Wait, let my stomach
41 call for that - (makes sound).....

42
43 (Laughter)

44
45 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay,
46 hearing that we'll break for lunch.

47
48 (Off record)

49
50 (On record)

1 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: We'll go
2 ahead and call the meeting back to order, it's 12:32.
3
4 REPORTER: 1:32.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Or I mean
7 1:32.
8
9 REPORTER: It's all relative.
10
11 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yep, yep.
12
13 (Laughter)
14
15 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay, Helen
16 is that the .805(c) report, is that what you were
17 talking about?
18
19 MR. MIKE: Did we hang up?
20
21 REPORTER: Nope, we're on.
22
23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Did we hang up?
24
25 REPORTER: No, we didn't. The line's
26 open, but everybody else hung up that was on line.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay. So
29 is that the tribal consultation, the .805(c) report?
30
31 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The thing I read
32 about what we voted on at the Board meeting, that was
33 the .805(c) report.
34
35 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay.
36
37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And the tribal
38 consultation is the next item. And, you don't have
39 your North Slope books, but it's in the Northwest
40 Arctic one, so that's on Page -- it starts on Page 12
41 of that book.
42
43 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay.
44
45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And, Rosemary, you
46 just jump right in since you were on this committee and
47 I wasn't and Glenn Chen also who's here from BIA was on
48 it.
49
50 So the Board is developing a tribal

1 consultation policy, and what you see in the Northwest
2 Arctic book on Page 12 is the -- it's a summary of
3 what's been happening on this, it's a briefing, and
4 then the policy follows that. So last year the Federal
5 Subsistence Board had asked for a work group for tribal
6 consultation to be formed and it's been meeting,
7 listening, consulting and discussing this policy since
8 June of 2011. This is a really significant change,
9 adding tribal consultation to the Federal Subsistence
10 Management Program.

11
12 There's a list on Page 12 of all the
13 members of the work group and you'll see that Rosemary
14 is on that work group. We're very appreciative of all
15 the hard work you've done on that.

16
17 So the steps taken to draft this policy
18 in May of 2011, the Federal Subsistence Board assigned
19 the task of writing a protocol to the work group and
20 it's assembled with seven tribal and seven Federal
21 members. In June of 2011 the work group met in
22 Anchorage for two days, they drafted an interim
23 protocol to be used for the fall cycle of the Regional
24 Council meetings which were where it went last time and
25 then a co-Chair was named, a tribal co-Chair. The co-
26 Chair is Della Trumble from King Cove, and she's the
27 tribal co-Chair. And Crystal Leonetti is the co-Chair,
28 she's the -- I'm not sure what her official title is
29 but she's the Native Liaison for the U.S. Fish and
30 Wildlife Service. In July of 2011 the Board adopted
31 the two interim protocols, one for tribes and one for
32 ANCSA Corporations to be used during the fall cycle of
33 the Regional Advisory Council meetings. And then July
34 26th of 2011 letters were sent to the tribes and to
35 ANCSA Corporations and the Chair of the Federal
36 Subsistence Board regarding consultation on the
37 2012.....

38
39 (Teleconference interruption)

40
41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So anyway letters
42 were sent to tribes and ANCSA Corporations and the
43 Chair of the Federal Board regarding consultation on
44 the 2012/2014 wildlife proposals, and then the
45 development of a long-term consultation protocol.

46
47 MR. R. NAGEAK: Where -- I don't have
48 that.

49
50 REPORTER: Yes, you do, hold on let me

1 find it.

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Roy, we're on Page
4 12 of this book.

5

6 REPORTER: Right here, Page 12 of this
7 book.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Did you get
10 it for him?

11

12 REPORTER: Yes, he's got it now.

13

14 MR. R. NAGEAK: Oh, okay, thank you.

15

16 REPORTER: Yep, no problem. Okay, he's
17 got it, go ahead.

18

19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay, thank you. In
20 August through October of 2011 there were 12
21 consultation teleconferences consulting on the
22 2012/2014 wildlife proposals. This was the first time
23 this was done in this process and there wasn't much
24 attendance but the group feels that there will be more
25 attendance as they increase outreach and there's more
26 awareness of the opportunity in the villages.

27

28 September 30th of 2011 a letter went to
29 all tribes inviting them to an in-person consultation
30 in December with the new draft version of the protocol
31 and in October a consultation with ANCSA Corporations
32 and tribes were held at AFN in Anchorage and that
33 actually got a lot of attendance and they gained more
34 insight to this protocol. Then December of 2011 there
35 was a consultation with tribes during the BIA Tribal
36 Service Provider's Conference in Anchorage. There were
37 at least 300 people who attended and they learned a lot
38 at that meeting as well. The work group then met
39 December 6th through 8th in 2011 and considered all the
40 verbal and written direction they had received from
41 tribes and ANCSA Corporations.

42

43 So the general concepts of this draft
44 policy are that the policy should be simple, general
45 and broad. It reflects the DOI, the Department of
46 Interior policy, it does not prescribe a process on how
47 to consult and because of that they changed the name
48 from protocol to policy. They're not attempting to
49 regurgitate the Department level policies because they
50 have to follow those anyway, what they're attempting to

1 do with this new policy is to utilize the Department of
2 Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture
3 policies as the base and focus this policy on Federal
4 Subsistence Management and its unique nature. Keeping
5 this policy simple, general and broad allows the Board
6 and the tribes to remain flexible and adapt to what
7 makes sense for meaningful consultation based on the
8 scope and issues being consulted about.

9
10 The Department of Interior is drafting
11 a supplemental consultation policy for ANCSA
12 Corporations and the work group is mirroring this
13 format knowing that the Department of Interior has had
14 Department level solicitors, the lawyers, in agreement
15 on this approach.

16
17 So the theme of this draft policy is
18 that there will be training for the Board, for Staff
19 and the tribes and ANCSA Corporations. It will be
20 adaptable and a living document. This document will be
21 changed based on regular reviews and adapting to
22 varying situations. How to is not included here but
23 intended to be written after a final policy is adopted.

24
25 So the next steps in timeline, further
26 Board direction given to the work group at the January
27 Board meeting in 2012, changes are incorporated into
28 the document for the Council book, so that's already
29 been done, that's what you're seeing here. So they got
30 some Board direction in January. And then now the
31 Regional Councils will be discussing and reviewing the
32 policy and providing feedback to the working group and
33 a letter from the Board to tribes and corporations will
34 go out mid-February asking for feedback on the new
35 draft policy, so that's about now, and I don't know if
36 those have gone out. I haven't actually seen one. I'm
37 not sure, Donald, have you seen if the letter's gone
38 out yet.

39
40 MR. MIKE: (Shakes head negatively)

41
42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't think it
43 has. Work group and InterAgency Staff Committee will
44 meet in April to incorporate any changes from the
45 Council discussions or written feedback from tribes and
46 corporations. And then there will be a meeting with
47 Board members to discuss the new draft prior to the May
48 Federal Board meeting, including in-depth discussion
49 about implementation guidelines. And then they'll be
50 adopting the policy at the May Federal Subsistence

1 Board meeting, which I think is the week of May, I'm
2 thinking 17th, but I could be wrong, and then they'll
3 finalize the guidelines.

4

5 So what we're looking for today is if
6 you feel this policy is going in the
7 right direction, and if not, why not.
8 These questions are on Page 14, at the
9 very end of the briefing.

10

11 Is there anything else that you -- that
12 the work group needs to consider.

13

14 And do you feel that tribes concerns
15 from the consultations have been or
16 will be meaningful to the Regional
17 Advisory Council consideration on each
18 topic.

19

20 So then we have the actual tribal
21 consultation policy on Page 15 and I'm not going to go
22 through it. There's a preamble that describes where
23 this consultation comes from in our legislation and
24 then background about ANILCA and the agencies that are
25 involved in this program and background on the Federal
26 Subsistence Management Program.

27

28 The goals on Page 16 in the policy, I
29 think are important;

30

31 To create and maintain effective
32 relationships with Federally-recognized
33 tribes;

34

35 To establish meaningful and timely
36 opportunities for government to
37 government consultation;

38

39 Be responsive to requests from
40 Federally-recognized tribes to engage
41 in consultation;

42

43 Work with Federally-recognized tribes
44 to improve communication, outreach and
45 education;

46

47 Acknowledge, respect and use
48 traditional ecological knowledge;

49

50 Recognize the importance of

1 coordination, consultation and follow
2 up between the Federal Subsistence
3 Board and tribes;
4
5 and last;
6
7 Integrate tribal input effectively into
8 the decision-making process for
9 subsistence management on public lands
10 and waters while maintaining deference
11 to the Federal Subsistence Board
12 Advisory Councils.
13
14 And that last one is an important point
15 to make. We actually had some considerable discussion
16 at the Seward Penn meeting. There were concerns about,
17 doe this take some -- does this make the Councils less
18 important, but ANILCA specifically says that there's
19 deference to the Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory
20 Councils so the tribes would be consulting with the
21 Board but that information would be part of the Board's
22 actual decisions that they make, but the deference to
23 the Councils would still be in place.
24
25 So then on Page 17 there's information
26 about consultation, communication, roles and
27 responsibilities and methods, and then accountability
28 and reporting and training.
29
30 I don't know if you -- let me just say
31 a couple more things -- then there are definitions on
32 Page 20 and then on Page 22 the policy is there for the
33 ANCSA Corporations. And ANCSA Corporations are
34 included in this, in the need to consult. It's
35 separate from the tribes because they're not tribes,
36 but they did develop a policy as well and that's being
37 -- as I said there is one that the Department of
38 Interior is developing right now which hasn't been
39 finished yet, I think it's supposed to be done in the
40 spring or summer of 2012.
41
42 So, Rosemary, I don't know if you had
43 some things you wanted to add about all of this.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I wanted to
46 make sure that we recognize if Lee is on the line; do
47 you want to check?
48
49 MR. MIKE: Lee, are you joining us
50 again? Lee.

1 MR. KAYOTUK: Yes, I'm on.
2
3 MR. MIKE: Yes, Lee's on.
4
5 MR. KAYOTUK: I'm here.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: All right.
8 And we were working on the tribal consultation policy
9 and it's in the.....
10
11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm not sure if Lee
12 has access to internet, but it is on the -- the whole
13 North Slope is on the Fish and Wildlife Service's web
14 page.
15
16 MR. MIKE: Lee, this is Donald, do you
17 have your book, your meeting book?
18
19 MR. KAYOTUK: No, I don't.
20
21 MR. MIKE: Okay. All right, Helen was
22 giving.....
23
24 REPORTER: Donald. Donald.
25
26 MR. MIKE: Helen was stating that the
27 Federal Subsistence Board tribal consultation policy
28 was on our website if you have internet access.
29
30 MR. KAYOTUK: Okay. Okay.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: This was a
33 very informative process for me. It was very
34 interesting to be able to work with the individuals
35 that were involved in the process, the depth of their
36 knowledge that they brought into the process, the
37 understanding within the agencies to help facilitate
38 with the discussions and the communications of what we
39 were trying to do was very helpful. I know I'm very
40 appreciative of what I gained out of the process and
41 how it helped me to understand issues related to tribes
42 and trying to do the consultation. I have experience
43 in our community, in Nuiqsut and I have some experience
44 in Barrow but there's so much variety and the process
45 throughout the state that it's really important to
46 understand the differences and to be able to work
47 effectively with the issue that we have before us.
48 With the process that went through there was a lot of
49 openness to allow the discussions to try to help inform
50 both sides of the table with the people that were

1 involved to help understand what was going on and where
2 they could accept where we were going with the
3 discussions, where there were problems with trying to
4 put in all the things that we wanted to put through but
5 we were able to work cohesively in the process and to
6 come out with the document that you see before you.

7

8 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

9

10 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, Roy.

11

12 MR. R. NAGEAK: When I see the five
13 agencies and how we look at the Federal government, the
14 problems that it has trying to gain funding for a lot
15 of the things that needed to be done, especially in
16 Indian country, just to get an idea of how much monies
17 are being earmarked especially for Alaska within these
18 different agencies, and how, in some cases, it reflects
19 on the needs of all the rural areas and all the Native
20 tribes throughout the state and looking at this,
21 there's a need that needs to be identified on how much
22 money that is being earmarked for Native issues and
23 whether a lot of that money that needs to go out and be
24 split out for the needs of the Native tribes, being
25 handled by the Federal government agencies are listed,
26 and somehow on our behalf and the issues that are being
27 addressed towards the Native people, on whether those
28 monies that are identified that -- or being utilized by
29 these different agencies that are in there, somehow our
30 people that are being impacted by rules and regulations
31 or what not, that's where we need to be open in how
32 much monies are complicated especially in the urban
33 areas and all those monies that somehow need to be
34 utilized to let us be involved in what is being decided
35 for us, and I see some efforts being made for that, but
36 to bring this out in the open is the amounts of monies
37 from these agencies that need to be split out into the
38 rest of the rural areas, where in some cases the monies
39 that are being spent for our needs is not being sent
40 out there, throughout the rural area. If the -- since
41 these are public funds, finding out what programs that
42 are needed and identify the programs that are not
43 working but they employ a lot of people in the urban
44 areas and try to get these agencies to start -- like
45 what Obama was saying, is for the amount of monies that
46 are being spent for Federal programs, somehow
47 streamline them and making into one unit so they'll be
48 more effective for the Federal government, and more so
49 for us that are being controlled in a sense or being
50 impacted by the use of Federal funding so that in the

1 -- in the end it'll be us, they will look at these
2 different programs and say we need more monies for this
3 but at the same time have it spent in the rural areas
4 where it's supposed to be spent. And somehow with all
5 this -- like I stated to somebody earlier, when you see
6 a Federal dollar it usually -- by the time it gets --
7 when it comes to our village it's like 5 bucks, or \$3
8 because all different agencies have so many regional
9 statewide divisions within the Federal government that
10 it's, like I stated, a dollar that comes out of D.C.,
11 by the time it goes to the top of the world or Barrow
12 it's like five bucks. And whether the Federal
13 government itself has utilized all the dollars, I don't
14 know how long these agencies have been in Alaska, how
15 the growth of the Federal government within the urban
16 areas, where all the monies are possibly being spent.
17 And those were the ones that are supposed to be spent
18 in doing a lot of the things that need to be done, like
19 why wasn't the impact of the development on the North
20 Slope being researched and studied like they did in
21 ANWR, and all of a sudden when it's spread out for the
22 offshore there's no money. Reasons like that.

23

24 And then I don't know what kind of
25 organization these agencies have within the urban
26 areas, Anchorage, Fairbanks, and then regional,
27 Seattle. These are public funds. And if we opened it
28 up and say -- start asking the questions, are they
29 utilizing the funds for the purposes that are out
30 there, and if we have a sense of how much money is
31 spent by the Federal government and it's just being
32 located at Anchorage, Fairbanks or the urban areas,
33 some of that funding that needs to go out into the
34 rural areas -- like when I see a lot of these different
35 programs, if we have a sense of being involved in
36 what's being planned and have a sense of ownership then
37 we'll start doing what Fish and Wildlife regulatory
38 agency and put our own people out there rather than
39 what we see currently, is people from outside, trying
40 to tell us -- and trying to put our people in conflict,
41 really in conflict. Because when I see the rest of the
42 state, a Federal regulator or Federal authority they're
43 not following a lot of these subsistence laws, rules,
44 regulations or State rules, laws or regulations, they
45 make criminals out of some of our subsistence hunters,
46 so we just opened it up and say, all right, what's all
47 the funding that comes to all these agencies for or on
48 behalf of the rural people, the Indian, and the Native
49 people that are out there, and be open about it and see
50 how it could be disseminated from the urban areas to

1 the regions that are being impacted.

2

3 I just want to point that out.

4

5 Because to me, and try to get an idea
6 of how much Federal funding, like they say, in Alaska
7 there's a lot of Federal funding that goes out there
8 but in the -- like in our region, where is it? Maybe
9 it's to Anchorage. And all these offices that are
10 being created to try to control what we do out there,
11 we could do our own controlling, where we buy into --
12 and have a sense of ownership to these things that are
13 being in front of us or the policies and development of
14 them then, we could do a lot of that work within our
15 own region.

16

17 I just want to point that out.

18

19 And maybe make a request of all the
20 Federal monies that are being spent and it's been in
21 the forefront, especially with Ted Stevens, that used
22 to be there and then while he's gone almost -- there's
23 -- there's a problem with acquiring Federal funding for
24 our needs.

25

26 Thank you.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
29 any discussions related to the policy, tribal
30 consultation, the draft policy.

31

32 Lloyd.

33

34 MR. LEAVITT: This is a draft, I'm
35 wondering if.....

36

37 REPORTER: Lloyd. Lloyd, your.....

38

39 MR. LEAVITT:the tribal
40 governments.....

41

42 REPORTER: Your microphone.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Your
45 button.

46

47 MR. LEAVITT: This is a draft. I'm
48 wondering if the tribal governments have a knowledge
49 other than the December trip they took, have knowledge
50 on this and what I see is that if the tribal government

1 does the consultation, consultation policy, agreement
2 with the different departments, the EPA, the wildlife,
3 DOI, some issues, and with our global warming, the
4 funding would be much easier to grab to the tribal
5 governments and whatever the tribal government has
6 concerns on on their wildlife issues or environmental,
7 especially our subsistence way of life, that the tribal
8 government notifies the Board on what issues they want
9 to talk, but if the -- if I'm correct the tribal
10 government needs to initiate the consultation,
11 consultation agreements with the different departments
12 and they'll get the support from the Federal government
13 on funding. And we're being impacted as we speak with
14 our changing way of life each year. We're learning to
15 adapt with the changes each year. We're having to deal
16 with thinner ice, we're having to deal with wide open
17 water. Our cellars are going to waste, a lot of our
18 ice cellars are going to waste. All these need to be
19 put into factor and these studies need to be done. We
20 need some impact funds to be able to co-manage and
21 adapt to the new ways of life, we really need the
22 support. And as we're going now we're learning, we're
23 adapting to changes and we've always learned to adapt
24 to the changes. So working with the tribal governments
25 would enable us to have a stronger voice if we were to
26 bring them in on the consultation, consultation
27 agreement. That's the only comment I would have.

28

They are really needed.

29

30

31

32

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50

I know we did have a good number of
individuals that were participating on the
teleconference calls but the number should have been a
lot higher for the amount of tribal communities that we
do have to -- to what we had on the participation,
there wasn't that number. But there were a number that
went to the BIA Provider's Conference and that was very
good participation.

1 Helen.

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I just wanted to
4 point out, Lloyd, because you were asking, there is a
5 letter going out right around now to all tribes and
6 ANCSA Corporations with this draft policy, a new -- the
7 latest version for them to comment on so they will be
8 informed.

9

10 I also realized that I jumped ahead on
11 the agenda. I saw tribal consultation and I was so
12 eager that I -- that this was actually on.....

13

14 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: 10B.

15

16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:10B, yeah, what
17 we were supposed to be asking for, because of this new
18 tribal consultation that we're doing is to see if
19 there's anybody here who wanted to say anything from
20 the tribes, and so once we're done with this policy,
21 Madame Chair, you should probably see. And normally if
22 we were reviewing proposals for wildlife that would be
23 an opportunity for the tribes to give comments on those
24 proposals. We don't have anything like that at this
25 meeting so there may not be any issues that the tribe
26 actually wants to comment on unless it's this policy.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, Roy.

33

34 MR. R. NAGEAK: The Item on 17, where
35 agreements at the bottom, agreements, cooperative
36 agreement, memorandum of understanding, funding
37 agreement is the issue that I'm talking about and
38 really without knowing what the agencies are earmarked
39 for to do what needs to be done with the tribes, and
40 the monies that are made available to address the
41 issues of subsistence management and for the tribes,
42 the existing programs, and how much money they are
43 earmarked for to address our subsistence and all the
44 issues that need to address Native issues and the
45 funding for the tribes, without really knowing the
46 existence of those or how they are being spent, then
47 where I see agreements, funding agreement, memorandum
48 of understanding, that would be better clarified, and
49 to do what needs to be done with the limited money
50 that's starting to come out of the Federal government.

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Helen.

4

5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Maybe I can address
6 some of what you're asking but I'm not sure I'm clear
7 on all of it. But the Federal Subsistence Management
8 Program doesn't -- through its process of management
9 isn't funding tribes. We fund management of hunting
10 and fishing on Federal public lands and trapping. We
11 fund the -- our funds go to the regulatory process so
12 it's not something where we're actually doing grants
13 for tribes, except in cases where we're doing some
14 research. And in the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
15 Program, which you haven't heard anything about today
16 because we're at a different place in the process,
17 there are some tribes that have participated in some of
18 the research programs that we have. So from that
19 perspective, yeah, there is some funding that goes to
20 the tribes.

21

22 You were talking about wanting to be
23 involved in the process of regulatory -- of this whole
24 regulatory program, and that's where the Regional
25 Councils, we come to you, we get input on what
26 regulations should be changed, how should they be
27 changed, you make recommendations to the Federal
28 Subsistence Board, it is very much a bottom up process,
29 and there's not funding in there that goes to tribes,
30 but we do have involvement from the Councils in that
31 regulatory process.

32

33 MR. R. NAGEAK: Maybe I'm not getting
34 my point across.

35

36 Like with your Federal positions, and
37 where you're working, would be some of the concerns and
38 the relationship the tribe has with the Federal
39 government. BLM, with the lands that are out there and
40 the different Park Services and how many different
41 Federal entities out there, to really look at where the
42 relationship with the tribes as a whole, when all that
43 money is being put there on the table for all these
44 agencies, that has been our lands before, and now with
45 all the monies there to try to have some form of
46 control with the land management, somewhere within all
47 those organizations which used to be prior Native lands
48 but they've cut it up in so many regions and different
49 parks, national wildlife, or whatever Federal --
50 however -- the way that they divide up Alaska, and how

1 those monies are being put on the table to try to have
2 some form of management control and that involves our
3 way of life and how much money as a whole is being put
4 in Alaska to try to manage us, in a sense, a society
5 that subsists off the land and the ocean, somehow for
6 the Native tribes, or ANCSA Corporations have some
7 sense of knowledge on where all that Federal funding is
8 being spent, and say that why are you spending all this
9 money where it could be contracted and with all this
10 stuff about subsistence where we have a sense of
11 ownership.

12

13 I'm trying to relay this in a way that
14 how much money with all the Federal agencies are
15 budgeted into Alaska, I mean do you know? Maybe --
16 maybe I'm going in the wrong way but as a whole, the
17 Federal government with so many different agencies
18 where it could be streamlined like how Obama is saying
19 that there's so many agencies and streamline --
20 streamlining them to get the biggest bang for the
21 dollar when it's convoluted with so many different
22 agencies all over the state and nothing gets done, for
23 that matter.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Earnest.

26

27 MR. E. NAGEAK: Earnest Nageak for the
28 record. Me being fairly new with the Federal
29 government, the people I work with, they -- it's like a
30 rural -- or like they have to communicate and work
31 closely with tribal governments and stuff, and the
32 Federal government has a Federal wildlife grant that
33 they give out every year to tribal -- Federally-
34 recognized tribes who apply for these grants to do
35 studies or all kinds of stuff and they choose between
36 all these grant requests that -- they pick that -- from
37 all the tribal organizations, they pick the one that
38 best suits the -- or -- well, basically they give out
39 grants every year to Federally-recognized tribes to
40 conduct subsistence studies or studies on animals, if
41 that's what you're trying to ask, if there's programs
42 like that or associated with tribes and stuff.

43

44 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I
45 understand where your concern is coming from but at
46 this discussion, we have a policy, within that policy
47 that we put forward we did not go into the details of
48 all the answers that were going to be projected with
49 the effort to do the tribal consultation. We also
50 recognized that there was concern with limitations in

1 the need to do the consultation and the number of
2 tribes that the government needs to do this
3 consultation with. Our state has many tribes and our
4 state has very, very different cultures and each of our
5 tribes have their own consultation policy that they
6 need to do. Within our process of the Federal
7 Subsistence Board we have a very narrow process of
8 dealing with the financial process that's before us.
9 There are many agencies that are involved with the
10 financial process of looking at the resources in our
11 state and in our Federal lands and it's a very
12 convoluted process.

13

14 For the issue before us of trying to
15 deal with the tribal consultation policy and the tribal
16 consultation, it is a very important issue but it's not
17 something that we can fully address here. Within each
18 of our tribal governments there are communications that
19 can go through with their tribal consultation in which
20 some of the process of their 638 contracting is part of
21 that, some of it is related to Indian Health Services
22 contracting, some of it is related to all sorts of
23 funds that are utilized within our tribal governments
24 to deal with these issues. But, however, at this table
25 we have a very slim process as far as the funding
26 opportunities.

27

28 I do believe that the discussion will
29 be recognized in the notes that are being taken and
30 recognize that there are a lot of concerns related to
31 that and the lack of our ability to be effective in our
32 communications because we don't have a lot of those
33 controls, we don't have a lot of that information and
34 we have a lot of serious concerns in our resource
35 management.

36

37 And that's kind of how I could answer
38 that.

39

40 Don.

41

42 MR. MIKE: I was just wondering if Lee
43 had any questions.....

44

45 REPORTER: Donald, your mic.

46

47 MR. MIKE:on tribal consultation,
48 we might.....

49

50 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Your mic.

1 MR. MIKE:ask him if.....
2
3 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Lee, do you
4 have any questions for tribal consultation?
5
6 (No comments)
7
8 MR. MIKE: Lee, do you have any
9 questions on tribal consultation?
10
11 (No comments)
12
13 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Put your
14 mic on.
15
16 MR. MIKE: Lee, are you still with us?
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 MR. MIKE: Lee.
21
22 MR. KAYOTUK: Yes.
23
24 MR. MIKE: Do you have any questions on
25 tribal consultation, Madame Chair was asking.
26
27 MR. KAYOTUK: No, I don't, not at this
28 time.
29
30 MR. MIKE: Okay.
31
32 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Bob.
33
34 MR. SHEARS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
35 One question comes to mind and I'm just trying to
36 understand it. Perhaps it's written into this draft
37 policy and I just don't see it.
38
39 I'm wondering how much weight -- well,
40 first of all the question goes to how come ANCSA
41 Corporations are kind of subtitled into this as part of
42 the tribal consultation policy? I'm wondering, are
43 they given equal weight to their concerns as tribes
44 are? And does the panel recognize that there's
45 conflicting interests between ANCSA for profit
46 corporations and tribal entities?
47
48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think those are
49 great questions, and, also commonly asked. Rosemary
50 may want to say something but I'm asking Glenn Chen,

1 who's the InterAgency Staff Committee representative
2 from BIA who was also on this working group if he wants
3 to address that issue.

4

5 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Go ahead.

6

7 MR. SHEARS: Okay.

8

9 DR. CHEN: Good afternoon. My name's
10 Glenn Chen and I work with the Bureau of Indian
11 Affairs. And as Ms. Armstrong has pointed out I was on
12 the InterAgency tribal consultation work group along
13 with Rosemary. And so that question about why ANCSA
14 Corporations are included in terms of consultation with
15 the Federal Subsistence Board and the Federal
16 government on subsistence issues is an interesting one.
17 And it has to do with the fact that some time ago when
18 one of the appropriation bills that went through
19 Congress included Alaska Native Corporations. And so
20 the interpretation from our Washington D.C., folks is
21 that consultation occurs between tribes and the Federal
22 government as a government to government consultation
23 and there's also a requirement to do consultation with
24 Alaska Native Corporations as well. So that's the
25 direction that we've received from our Washington,
26 D.C., office folks, is that, for consultation on
27 Federal subsistence matters we have to do government to
28 government consultation with Federally-recognized
29 tribes and also with Alaska Native Corporations.

30

31 Hopefully that answers that question.

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Clear as mud.

34

35 MR. LEAVITT: Because then the.....

36

37 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Your button
38 Lloyd.

39

40 MR. LEAVITT: Because the corporation
41 are supposed to support the tribal governments, they
42 are the profit making arm and the lands holder for the
43 tribal government under the ANCSA law, so that's how
44 I've always interpreted it.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: There has
47 been a tremendous amount of discussion related to that
48 throughout this process and there is a lot of
49 information in this record of this process that will
50 give you some more insight into it. This was very

1 deeply discussed in multiple parts of the meeting and
2 because of that appropriations law is why we have to do
3 this process and there are recognition that there are
4 very different concerns coming from the two different
5 policies, people that -- the process to do the
6 consultation in subsistence but it is a law that we're
7 having to work with and that's why we have moved
8 forward with the law that's required with developing
9 the two different policies as required.

10

11 The process was brought out in some
12 well attended meetings, and my thoughts I wish we had
13 better attendance but I know at the Provider's
14 Conference there was really good attendance and moving
15 forward with getting the discussion into a document and
16 getting it out for further communication was where we
17 were at. We know that there's going to be further
18 communication as this process goes through but it was
19 trying to get the process in place so that we could
20 work for this last meeting having a process to get out
21 for the next regulatory process. And that's why we're
22 still continuing in this draft process.

23

24 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes.

27

28 MR. R. NAGEAK: So the ANCSA
29 Corporations and the tribal entities will be considered
30 as the same group or.....

31

32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: What this spells out
33 is that when we have anything in our process and we're
34 asking people's opinions, what do you think, we're
35 going -- you know, in the past we've been coming to the
36 Councils, now we'll be also going to the tribes and the
37 ANCSA Corporations, what do you think about these
38 regulatory changes, how do you feel about it.

39

40 It's just really -- in a sense we're
41 broadening our outreach to people in a great sense of
42 trying to make sure people are aware and we're
43 consulting with them.

44

45 I think it's a really -- it's really
46 important when we have regulatory changes, for example,
47 this one that Rosemary talked about this morning on
48 Arctic Village sheep, that the people in the village
49 know there's a proposal that can affect you and so
50 we'll come to you, we'll consult with you as a tribe

1 how do you feel about this and doing really good
2 outreach. I think, you know, instead of going to the
3 Regional Councils and in areas where you've -- you
4 know, on the North Slope it's a small region in terms
5 of numbers of communities, you know, you have Bob who
6 goes to his community and he says, you know, what kinds
7 of issues do you have and if you have somebody from
8 every village you can make sure everybody knows about
9 what's going on but you go to the YK-Delta where there
10 are 50-something villages, you're not going to get that
11 kind of coverage, so it's really trying to make sure
12 that everybody knows who's being affected by our
13 regulations.

14
15 It's including ANCSA as well as the
16 tribes, covering all our bases, maybe look at it that
17 way.

18
19 MR. R. NAGEAK: And then currently who
20 has a voice in regards to the subsistence issues, just
21 the tribes?

22
23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Everybody has a
24 voice. I mean any -- anybody can comment on the
25 issues. So I mean in terms of there being a voice, the
26 tribes have a voice, ANCSA Corporations have a voice,
27 the non-Natives have a voice, everyone has the ability
28 to comment. The Regional Councils, though, are the
29 ones given the deference in terms of recommendations to
30 the Board. That doesn't change. But everyone can
31 comment. And this just formally sets up that we're
32 going to consult. It says, we're not going to just sit
33 back and, you know, hope that people know that there
34 might be an issue that might be affecting them, this
35 says we have a formal process for consulting with
36 people, with the tribes and with the ANCSA
37 Corporations.

38
39 MR. R. NAGEAK: Right. With the
40 subsistence council that's right here and further up
41 you see statewide and the subsistence fish and game
42 board with that because we do -- we do have conflicts
43 and Lloyd kind of preceded -- with the -- but -- on who
44 the top dogs are within our respective regions and for
45 so many years it's been the North Slope Borough and
46 ASRC, and most of our tribes have been on the back
47 burner because of the monies that are being out there.
48 And with our subsistence way of life, in a sense to the
49 organization of the AEWC, which is the whale -- the
50 Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission, which protects all

1 whale and our way -- way of life within our whaling
2 community. But the issue with the smaller animals,
3 that's still out in the open and how -- for those
4 animals, the walrus and all those other animals that
5 still need to be protected, and the people that are
6 being contacted basically are corporations who are in
7 contract with a lot of the development corporations
8 that are out there and the tribes who really represent
9 the subsistence way of life. And like with ICAS, which
10 have been an organization way long before the state
11 became a state, before any other organization Native
12 Village of Barrow, per se, those are the ones -- and
13 within -- within our region it's always been where
14 everybody needs to be united to protect our subsistence
15 way of life, and then when these different groups are
16 being convoluted together, like in a sense ANCSA and
17 the tribal and consultation with them it behooves me to
18 ask; who's got the weighted advantage?

19

20 And I know that in the past ANCSA and
21 the way that somehow our rights were given up when
22 ANCSA was passed and that's still up in the air, our
23 way of life, our rights to hunt and have the freedom to
24 hunt as we please for our subsistence way of life,
25 who's going to have the weighted advantage, the
26 corporations that are in partnership with development
27 people or with the tribes that want to make sure that
28 the subsistence way of life and the animals that the
29 Federal government, as long as the grass is green and
30 the sun will shine will somehow have that consultation
31 with the tribes and with the people that it needs to
32 protect before anything harms what they need to live
33 off of.

34

35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: When the Federal
36 Subsistence Board makes its decisions it weighs public
37 comment, it will now weigh tribal -- what the tribes
38 say, it'll weigh what the ANCSA Corporations say and it
39 weighs very -- but the top of all of that is what the
40 Regional Advisory Council recommendation is. And it
41 also takes into consideration what the recommendations
42 of the State of Alaska are. So it takes all those into
43 consideration in making its decision but the Regional
44 Advisory Councils, what this Council here recommends on
45 issues within North Slope will be what they have to
46 defer to. So if you make a recommendation, unless
47 there's a reason it can't be supported because of
48 conservation or safety issues or impacts to subsistence
49 users, they have to adopt what you recommend. It's
50 written in ANILCA.

1 So the top dog, as you say, is the
2 Regional Advisory Council. But they take into
3 consideration all of those other elements. And as you
4 will as well, now there's a place on the agenda that
5 the tribes can come here to this meeting and they can
6 speak and let you know what their opinion is on
7 regulatory changes.

8

9 MR. R. NAGEAK: Thank you.

10

11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: You're welcome.

12

13 MR. R. NAGEAK: I just wanted that
14 clarified.

15

16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

17

18 MR. R. NAGEAK: Because I've always --
19 within our region we know who the top dogs were and
20 where the money people are. But in a sense -- and I
21 think during the AEWG there was a unity created between
22 all those different organizations within the North
23 Slope for the protection of the bowhead whale and that
24 was a key issue. And I think along those same lines
25 they will look at our subsistence -- this will further
26 help develop unity in regards to the subsistence
27 lifestyle and for the protection of the animals that,
28 per se, are often impacted by development.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
33 any other questions or comments.

34

35 MR. LEAVITT: I'll just make one.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Lloyd.

38

39 MR. LEAVITT: I'll just make a comment.
40 The corporations wouldn't have to be notified if we did
41 have Indian lands. Since we don't have the Indian
42 lands it's critical to do the consultation,
43 consultation agreement with the Federal government, and
44 that is where we really need to be with our tribal
45 governments.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Any other
50 comments or questions.

1 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just -- Madame Chair.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Roy.
4
5 MR. R. NAGEAK: This is still an
6 ongoing policy and what's the timeframe for it to be
7 adopted or did you.....
8
9 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The plan is it will
10 be adopted by the Federal Board in May.
11
12 MR. R. NAGEAK: And what is the
13 recommendation or are we still looking at it from a
14 regional level.....
15
16 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes. It's
17 been.....
18
19 MR. R. NAGEAK:or what do we need
20 to do?
21
22 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK:drafted
23 and now it's being presented to this board that's here
24 and this is the policy for your recommendations or
25 communications about this.
26
27 Helen.
28
29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: You don't have to
30 necessarily vote on it up or down but if you have
31 comments or if you go home and read this tonight and
32 you have comments you can talk to Rosemary, I would
33 think, because she's on the working group and if
34 there's anything you think needs to be.....
35
36 MR. R. NAGEAK: And it's up to the.....
37
38 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:changed.....
39
40 MR. R. NAGEAK:statewide board,
41 the -- to adopt this?
42
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The Federal
44 Subsistence Board will be the group that will be
45 adopting.....
46
47 MR. R. NAGEAK: And we're just
48 advisory.
49
50 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:it. And you're

1 advisors, yes.

2

3 MR. R. NAGEAK: Thank you.

4

5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: But they listen to
6 the Councils, very much so, 90 -- I think something
7 like 95 percent of the time they do what the Councils
8 recommend, maybe more even.

9

10 MR. R. NAGEAK: I think we need to work
11 on the State fish and Board game [sic] with the.....

12

13 (Laughter)

14

15 MR. R. NAGEAK:same kind of.....

16

17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We don't have any
18 jurisdiction there.

19

20 (Laughter)

21

22 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yeah.
23 They're having a meeting next week so that's where we
24 need to bring that discussion to.

25

26 All right, if we have no further
27 discussion.....

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: What we
32 jumped past was that we need to inquire if there's
33 anyone from the tribes that would like to communicate
34 with our board at this time, with our Regional Advisory
35 Council?

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 MR. R. NAGEAK: What did we do with
40 this on our regional meeting with NANA?

41

42 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: With the
43 joint meeting it was still early in the discussion and
44 so we.....

45

46 MR. R. NAGEAK: What's their feeling?

47

48 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Well, I
49 know we worked very hard on this process and I know
50 that we tried to make it as strong as we could but we

1 left it broad to allow each of the tribes to be more
2 specific because we defer to each tribe to make the
3 decision on how it's going to be done but we tried to
4 make sure that we could get it as strong as we could.

5
6 I'm sorry, I didn't have my microphone
7 on.

8
9 REPORTER: I got it Rosemary.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay, thank
12 you.

13
14 MR. R. NAGEAK: I actually love it.

15
16 (Laughter)

17
18 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I
19 understand.....

20
21 (Laughter)

22
23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yep, I
24 understand where I know our process was within the
25 process. I'm very open to listening to others. Some
26 of our people here have been involved within the tribal
27 process more than I have and any insight that you can
28 give into how you feel this document should be created
29 I'm very open to listening to that information. If you
30 want to take more time and look at it and give us an
31 email or call us on the phone later, I'm very open to
32 that. And we do have more time to provide this
33 discussion.

34
35 MR. SHEARS: I do feel that the
36 concerns, the consultations with the tribes and even
37 the corporations will be meaningful in answer to one of
38 the questions posed to us.

39
40 Realizing now our responsibility as
41 Regional Advisory Council members is to read between
42 the lines.

43
44 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, Roy.

47
48 MR. R. NAGEAK: Being a subsistence
49 hunter all my life and always had the freedom to do as
50 I please and to just hunt for my needs and to share

1 with our elders and people in need and how when God
2 created the earth and I see this and I understand that
3 more as I grow older the need for my well being was
4 always being out in the open and being with nature and
5 having my ability to get the food that I need off the
6 land and off the ocean and in some way just being in
7 peace with it, and I always think about this when I
8 teach my sons and all the young men that are associated
9 with the freedom that I always had to do what I needed
10 to do for the food that I love to eat and somehow
11 losing that sense of the freedom I always had with
12 nature because without knowing it, I've passed that on
13 to my sons, that freedom.

14
15 And one of the best ones that I noted
16 to me personally was when we were way up inland in the
17 middle of nowhere and we have already catch what we
18 needed and I -- and I see the blue sky and the sun
19 slowly going down, then I stop on top of a mount (ph)
20 and I just kind of stop there and then two of my sons
21 who had followed me and they slowly went up behind me
22 and they didn't say nothing. I was just feeling the
23 sense of peace that I had knowing what and being tired
24 and we didn't even say anything for like 20 minutes to
25 30 minutes and I just wanted them to enjoy the sense of
26 peace that comes with being with nature and being able
27 to have the freedom to do or catch what we need for our
28 food. And I didn't say nothing, I didn't have to say
29 nothing -- I said God's so beautiful, and that sense of
30 peace, and then when I turned back my motor on and took
31 off I didn't have to say nothing to my sons. They knew
32 what I was reflecting on, just the peace and serenity
33 that you feel when you're out there with nature that
34 God has created, that sense of freedom that we always
35 had to do what we needed to do for our families.

36
37 And somehow when we talk about policies
38 like these and how in the strange sort of way that
39 development and the impact of what's coming up north,
40 well, impact, that sense of peace that we always had,
41 to me that will always be reflected. And how we as
42 this regional Board, somehow that sense of peace that
43 we always had with nature, we don't want to lose that.

44
45 And us being the, like you say, will
46 always be listened to as being the Board and those are
47 the things that I don't want our young people to lose,
48 I don't want my sons to be in conflict with any other
49 entity if it has to come to our way of life that God
50 had created from whenever, that sense of self-worth

1 that comes with living off the land.

2

3 Somehow we're losing that. We're going
4 to lose that because of what's coming up north.

5

6 And I've always got to reflect on that.

7

8 Will that be available for my
9 grandkids. That sense of peace that they will one day
10 stop, possibly on that same mount and just reflect on
11 their worth of self-being, their self-worth and being
12 part of nature. I mean that's all I ask for.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Roy, those
17 are very powerful words. I know that many of us have
18 that same sentiment and we also are sharing those same
19 concerns with people that are choosing to get involved
20 in this process to look at what is being presented and
21 to share the stories of our harvest and our issues and
22 concerns, we are able to contribute in this process and
23 I'm very thankful that you have joined this table and
24 are able to share these types of concerns.

25

26 It's very difficult to articulate that
27 type of thing but you did a great job and I thank you
28 for giving us those words.

29

30 MR. LEAVITT: Madame Chair.

31

32 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Lloyd.

33

34 MR. LEAVITT: It's critical that we
35 bring in the tribal government and also work with the
36 corporations, our subsistence way of life, that we
37 bring them in, everybody has to be knowledgeable and
38 work with each other.

39

40 You all have to remember, Roy, you were
41 up here, you were here when the Federal government
42 stopped us from hunting caribou in the late '70s. I
43 went out and got a few caribous but when the planes
44 flew by I was living in fear, I will not go through
45 that again and I don't intend to go through that. We
46 did this for the summer. And the game warden came
47 around me and here I had just been carrying a caribou
48 on my back and put the caribou in the boat and told
49 William, go boating, and we were fortunate that some
50 brant came by and we were able to shoot them down and

1 they must have thought that we were catching brant only
2 so he left us but he didn't know the caribou we had in
3 the boat. If he had walked down to the boat he would
4 have got us for sure red-handed, I do not want to live
5 in fear that way again, I do not want to encounter this
6 again.

7

8 That's the only comment I'll make that
9 we really need to work with the tribal governments and
10 bring them in.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
13 any other discussion for tribal consultation.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I
18 appreciate the communications that have gone forward in
19 this process. I know that notes are being taken and it
20 will be summarized into the next working group meeting.
21 I know that all of the regions will also be submitting
22 communications and we look forward to the discussions
23 that are brought forward and feel free to continue to
24 look at these documents, feel free to communicate with
25 known tribal leaders and ANCSA Corporation leaders and
26 encourage them of the awareness of our process and
27 their ability to participate and communicate.

28

29 Let's see, if we have no further
30 discussion then next on the agenda is the regulatory
31 proposals.

32

33 (No comments)

34

35 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Helen.

36

37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Madame
38 Chair.

39

40 MR. R. NAGEAK: Oh, just one quick
41 comment.

42

43 I like the dancing part in the first
44 paragraph. Because after always hunting, all this
45 other stuff they used to go out and just dance your
46 stuff off.

47

48 (Laughter)

49

50 MR. R. NAGEAK: It's going to happen

1 tonight over at -- I don't know where it's going to be,
2 and if anybody don't leave early it's going to be a
3 pow-wow tonight. Just let your steam off.

4
5 (Laughter)

6
7 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay,
8 Helen.

9
10 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Madame
11 Chair.

12
13 This is the time when we take proposals
14 for changing the Fish and Wildlife Service -- I mean
15 Federal Subsistence Management Program regulations and
16 those are in your -- this green book, and the
17 regulations for the Yukon Northern area where you fall
18 in, you have a -- for all fish, no limit, year-round,
19 with the exception of those people living in Unit 26B.
20 I just saw that and I thought, so what happens to the
21 people in 26B because I think Nuiqsut falls in 26B;
22 isn't it within 26B, Rosemary?

23
24 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: That's what
25 I'm thinking.

26
27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I mean the map's on
28 Page.....

29
30 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair. Isn't
31 that the same area where it's being controlled by the
32 Fairbanks area, like the caribou.

33
34 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: This is for fish.
35 This is just regulations for fish, not wildlife.

36
37 MR. R. NAGEAK: No. No.....

38
39 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: But Nuiqsut falls in
40 26B and so I'm trying to.....

41
42 MR. R. NAGEAK: Isn't -- that's what
43 Geoff said, oh the Federal is fish but the State is
44 caribou.

45
46 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, what we're
47 talking about right now is just changing regulations
48 for fish, only fish, caribou's not included. We're
49 just taking proposals to change regulations for fish.
50

1 MR. R. NAGEAK: But the caribou.....
2
3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And those proposals
4 are -- it's open until March 30th.
5
6 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: What page
7 are you on in the book here?
8
9 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm sorry, Page 29
10 of this green book.
11
12 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay.
13
14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And most of the
15 regulations have to do with the Yukon River drainage,
16 this area is huge, that's how -- it's Yukon Northern
17 Area subsistence fishing and it's only Federal waters.
18
19 So there's nothing really to change
20 because this is all fish, it's year-round season for
21 all fish so you guys have really broad fishing seasons.
22
23 But you know what, Rosemary, when I go
24 back to the office I'm going to talk to our regulatory
25 specialist and find out why Unit 26B is excluded there.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: The only
28 thing I can remember is because of the Yukon River and
29 the troubles that are happening on the Yukon. The only
30 thing I could think of is the issue related to the
31 Yukon River and the troubles with the fisheries along
32 the Yukon River, but I was trying to look more closely
33 at that and I'm not seeing the specifics or where to
34 refer to.
35
36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm going to check
37 for you.
38
39 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Thank you.
40
41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So except for 26B
42 it's all fish year-round, there's nothing for you to
43 change so I don't think we -- I don't think we've had a
44 fish proposal yet from the North Slope because of that.
45
46 That's all I had, Madame Chair, on that
47 agenda item.
48
49 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
50 any other questions or comments.

1 (No comments)
2
3 (Pause)
4
5 MR. R. NAGEAK: Do we need to vote on
6 this?
7
8 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: No. It's
9 information so we're aware of when they are in.
10
11 I'm just waiting to see if the Staff,
12 if there's further questions or discussions that may be
13 brought since.....
14
15 MR. LEAVITT: (No microphone on)
16
17 MR. SHEARS: If somebody in the
18 community did have a proposal to change this regulation
19 they could present it to us now and we could consider
20 it for recommendation.
21
22 MR. LEAVITT: But it doesn't pertain to
23 us.
24
25 MR. SHEARS: Oh, okay.
26
27 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, and
28 there have been discussions like Anaktuvuk had concerns
29 about one of their lakes, do you recall when James was
30 talking about that in the previous meeting, and they
31 were working within their process to look at what they
32 could do to look at that. There were concerns with
33 their lake and contaminants and with a recent accident
34 out there they were able to find out there is concerns.
35
36 MR. R. NAGEAK: The activity --
37 development activity and that was going to happen.....
38
39 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Your mic.
40
41 MR. R. NAGEAK: Yes, there was some
42 concern in how some of their lakes were going to be
43 impacted by ice roads or development activity within
44 their region. James had some concerns in that. And I
45 don't know, when people ask for permits to do
46 development within the foothills, do they submit
47 comment periods for -- I know for U.S. Fish and
48 Wildlife I believe they do, that 30 day period for
49 comments.
50

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't know, we
2 don't deal with development issues in the Federal
3 Subsistence Program.

4
5 MR. R. NAGEAK: Well, they do, there's
6 a process.....

7
8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I mean Fish and
9 Wildlife Service might, but not our program, so I don't
10 know what the answer is to that.

11
12 MR. R. NAGEAK: Maybe that might be
13 something when development permits are being made, that
14 there'll be a process for some Federal subsistence
15 group to make sure that the subsistence hunters are not
16 being impacted by development, wouldn't that be -- I
17 mean that -- that should be a given, or is it BLM?

18
19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: What we deal with in
20 the Federal Subsistence Program, is we just deal with
21 hunting and fishing regulations, and so that falls into
22 other -- yes, subsistence uses are considered, but that
23 would be that specific agency would be dealing with
24 that, not the Federal Subsistence Management Program.
25 So if it's BLM then BLM.....

26
27 MR. R. NAGEAK: I don't see why
28 they.....

29
30 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:would be
31 dealing with -- and, I know, I hear -- I hear your pain
32 about how it's so.....

33
34 MR. R. NAGEAK: It's not a pain, it's a
35 given.

36
37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:confusing.
38 It.....

39
40 MR. R. NAGEAK: It should be a given.

41
42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: But we -- we don't
43 deal with development in the Federal Subsistence
44 Program, even though we do deal with subsistence
45 issues, it's not part of our mandate. We're just --
46 our mandate is to over.....

47
48 MR. R. NAGEAK: Regulate.

49
50 (Laughter)

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.
2
3 MR. R. NAGEAK: You're not here to
4 protect.
5
6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Exactly.
7
8 MR. LEAVITT: Madame Chair.
9
10 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's exactly
11 right.
12
13 MR. R. NAGEAK: Who does the protecting
14 then?
15
16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's then the
17 individual agencies would, whatever -- you know, if
18 it's in the Arctic Refuge then they would be taking
19 that into consideration. If it's NPR-A, it's BLM. If
20 it's -- I know what you're saying, I understand. It's
21 a lot -- you know it's a lot of different government
22 entities.
23
24 I wanted to go back to the question
25 about 26B, Geoff says Nuiqsut is not in 26B.
26
27 MR. SHEARS: Okay.
28
29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So it's not an
30 issue. So all of the residents of -- except for those
31 people in 26B, which is Prudhoe Bay, then it's all fish
32 year-round you get to harvest. No regulations on that.
33
34 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Now I
35 recall where that comes from.
36
37 Lloyd, you had a question and then
38 since you're at the table you can be next.
39
40 MR. LEAVITT: I just had a comment on
41 Roy's concern, that if the Feds knew about or the State
42 knew about any permitting or planning up on the
43 foothills, we have to remember we have a home rural
44 government and that's the North Slope Borough, they
45 should be the ones approaching us and working with us
46 on any improvements within the North Slope region so I
47 would want to rely on the home rural government which
48 is the North Slope Borough since they address all the
49 permits and the applications so that is where the North
50 Slope Borough would come in handy if they notified the

1 Federal Subsistence Board if there are any issues or
2 concerns before actually approving the permit or an
3 application. That would be the only fallback that I
4 could think of automatically since we do have that home
5 rural government here.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Dave.

8

9 DR. YOKEL: The Federal Subsistence
10 Management Program -- and this is an attempt to answer
11 part of Mr. Nageak's question earlier.

12

13 The Federal Subsistence Management
14 Program gets its authority under the Alaska National
15 Interest Lands Conservation Act, Title VIII. There's a
16 section within that title that requires that any
17 Federal action that may have a significant impact on
18 subsistence activities has to follow three rules.

19

20 One of which is to hold a public
21 hearing in the affected communities. So if the Federal
22 government is going to undertake any development or
23 permit any development that may have significant effect
24 on subsistence then there will be hearings in local
25 communities.

26

27 Now, as far as the foothills, I'm not
28 certain but I believe you're talking about like the
29 foothills where the Umiat Road may be built.

30

31 MR. R. NAGEAK: Okay, then.....

32

33 DR. YOKEL: Which is almost entirely
34 State land.

35

36 MR. R. NAGEAK: And private land.

37

38 DR. YOKEL: Okay, that would all be
39 permitted by the State of Alaska's Department of
40 Natural Resources. They're not authorized under
41 ANILCA, Title VIII. They have their own laws for how
42 to behave and they follow those laws. I don't
43 particularly know those laws because I don't work for
44 the State. But in terms of the foothills, that will be
45 permitted by the State's Department of Natural
46 Resources, if it's constructed.

47

48 MR. R. NAGEAK: I know that we had that
49 conversation, we're not involved with the State, but
50 the language was we're -- the Federal government is

1 self-servant to the State, I think that was the word.
2 Submissive or self-servant.

3
4 DR. YOKEL: I'm not familiar with the
5 use of either of those words in terms of the Federal
6 government and the State.

7
8 MR. R. NAGEAK: Was that the term that
9 was utilized at our last meeting that the Federal
10 government is self-servant to the wishes of the State
11 -- no.

12
13 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I can't say
14 that is.....

15
16 MR. R. NAGEAK: Submissive.

17
18 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK:the
19 discussion that they put forward, I can't say that's
20 the direct term but I know there was difficulties in
21 understanding the process because of the way that
22 meeting was being run differently at the beginning and
23 during the process. I'm not sure how to answer that.

24
25 (Laughter)

26
27 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: It's
28 definitely a process for the Federal process and the
29 State process and they're two different processes and
30 it depends on the coloring of the map on which
31 regulations that you follow and there is a lot of
32 opportunity for communication of the concerns. It is
33 difficult to know how to bring our concerns to the
34 table when we have concerns to subsistence and why our
35 concerns to subsistence are occurring and to get them
36 addressed at the level that they need to be addressed.

37
38 We have a very convoluted process and
39 within our process you need to stay talking about how
40 our subsistence huntings are occurring and how we need
41 to protect our efforts to continue these activities and
42 in discussions to specific regulations are related to
43 that. For the issues related to other things such as
44 permitting activity, depending on where those permits
45 are, that discussion needs to go within those processes
46 for those meetings as well within local process in our
47 municipality to help share the concerns related to
48 subsistence.

49
50 Does that help?

1 MR. R. NAGEAK: You almost sounded like
2 Jacob Adams.
3
4 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Oh, do not
5 ever.....
6
7 (Laughter)
8
9 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I think
10 we're going to call for a break from that discussion.
11
12 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just kidding.
13
14 (Laughter)
15
16 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay, I
17 understand, but I think we also need probably -- we
18 didn't get one this morning so we probably should do
19 consideration for that now.
20
21 MR. SHEARS: Yeah.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Alrighty,
24 we'll take a 15 minute break.
25
26 MR. SHEARS: Thank you.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: All right,
29 let's take a break.
30
31 (Off record)
32
33 (On record)
34
35 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I'll call
36 the meeting back to order. Next on the agenda is old
37 business, review and finalize draft 2011 annual report.
38
39 Donald.
40
41 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
42 Last fall at our joint meeting there was a couple of
43 items that the Northwest Council and North Slope
44 Council brought up.
45
46 One of them was the brown bear, and
47 they wanted to discuss with the Board of Game to see if
48 there's any way to streamline reporting of DLP on
49 bears. And I'll have to review the transcripts and
50 summarize that in more detail.

1 I think some Council member also
2 commented that to create a controlled use area for the
3 North Slope region for bear hunting I believe.

4
5 And another item is -- this was a
6 concern from the Northwest area Council, brown bear
7 harassment to the villages. And it's been stated that
8 it sort of criminalizes the subsistence users when they
9 kill a bear under DLP regulations. And they also
10 requested a further study of increase of bear/human
11 conflicts.

12
13 (Cell phone interruption)

14
15 MR. MIKE: So those are the two main
16 items I can think about right now.

17
18 And the other item that the Councils
19 brought up as an annual report item is a statewide
20 meeting with the Federal Subsistence Board. I don't
21 know if that includes all the Council members or just
22 the Chairs of all the 10 regions, a statewide meeting.

23
24 And those are the items for now I have
25 summarized for the 2011 annual report.

26
27 Madame Chair.

28
29 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: We do have
30 the records available on the website for the prior
31 meetings and I encourage our participants to review
32 them and if you have any further discussions go ahead
33 and communicate with Donald. He will be working with
34 us on this report. He'll also talk with Harry and me
35 in the process. We've had changes to our process here.
36 Barb Armstrong retired, Donald took over, and during
37 that transition we don't have the actual document today
38 for us but the effort to complete this process is
39 before us and if you have anything that you want to
40 include in the process bring it before and communicate
41 with Donald.

42
43 Do we have any questions.

44
45 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

46
47 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Go ahead,
48 Roy.

49
50 MR. R. NAGEAK: What is this, under the

1 next.....

2

3 MR. MIKE: I think the State biologist
4 will explain that to you.

5

6 MR. R. NAGEAK: Oh, we're not there
7 yet.

8

9 MR. MIKE: You requested that the
10 harvest data on the Haul Road as far as the uses.

11

12 MR. R. NAGEAK: Okay.

13

14 MR. MIKE: Maybe we can bring that up
15 under agency reports.

16

17 MR. R. NAGEAK: Okay.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: That adds
20 to the communication, that there is concerns related to
21 those regulatory changes on the Dalton Highway and the
22 impacts to subsistence on the North Slope as Roy had
23 stated earlier in the meetings, making sure that that
24 gets added.

25

26 We talked earlier about adding the
27 concern for Anaktuvuk Pass and supporting their efforts
28 to protect their migratory route and support within the
29 region from multiple Councils for that process. So
30 that's also to be included.

31

32 And also the issue related to the seals
33 has been communicated.

34

35 So those are three things that come to
36 my mind.

37

38 MR. R. NAGEAK: Thank you.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
41 any further questions or comments related to that.

42

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: All right.
47 Moving on, we already discussed review of the draft
48 tribal consultation policy. If there's no further
49 questions on that next on the agenda is the
50 environmental assessment on collection of antlers in

1 Park lands. I know that you gave us a handout Geoff
2 but there's also a spot for -- later on in the agenda,
3 do you want to do it at that point or what?

4

5 MR. CARROLL: I can go now if you want
6 or we can go later, whatever you want to do.

7

8 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Geoff has
9 been able to give us a printout of information, would
10 you like to.....

11

12 MR. R. NAGEAK: Yeah.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK:take
15 that information at this point?

16

17 MR. R. NAGEAK: Yes.

18

19 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Go ahead
20 and join us at the table, if you don't mind waiting for
21 a few moments -- thank you.

22

23 Geoff.

24

25 MR. CARROLL: Okay, yeah, thank you.
26 Geoff Carroll, Alaska Department of Fish and Game for
27 the record.

28

29 So this is a copy of what Beth Lenart,
30 area biologist for Units 26B and C sent me, and these
31 are kind of the results of what they've seen with the
32 -- since -- well, long-term record of how many caribou
33 -- Central Arctic Herd caribou are harvested along the
34 Dalton Highway. These are results of hunter harvest
35 reports that get turned in.

36

37 Again, you know most people that drive
38 up the road or come from other parts of the state or
39 whatever are pretty diligent about filling out hunter
40 harvest reports, you know, mostly -- and that's usually
41 a pretty accurate reading of the harvest in a lot of
42 areas. Up here, you know, most people aren't real fond
43 of turning in hunting reports so we use things like the
44 North Slope Borough village surveys and things like
45 that to determine how many are harvested in the
46 villages usually, so what this is is basically these
47 hunter harvest reports of people that went up the road.

48

49 And you can kind of see that after this
50 -- you know the season and the bag limit were

1 liberalized before the 2010 season there definitely was
2 an increase in the number of hunters coming up. It's a
3 little hard to look at that, it's kind of -- it's a
4 little bit crude and everything but, you know, you got
5 to use an envelope and line it up with the side there,
6 it looked like about 1,500 hunters that went up the
7 Haul Road and as Roy said, you know, that's a lot of
8 people and a lot of activity along the Haul Road, and
9 those people harvested about 1,200 caribou. You know
10 in comparison we probably harvest four or 5,000 caribou
11 from the Teshekpuk Herd every year. So, you know, the
12 rate of harvest over there is -- I mean it's kind of
13 concentrated right along that road but it's lower than
14 -- if you're looking at the entire harvest for the herd
15 is lower than what we go with the Teshekpuk Herd. It's
16 kind of interesting with the Teshekpuk Herd, again,
17 like Roy said, a lot of times a herd that is hunted and
18 harvested, it's almost as if it increases the
19 productivity because we -- for many years we've
20 harvested the Teshekpuk Herd at probably the highest
21 rate of any herd in the state and yet it's just
22 steadily growing and it's actually been one of the few
23 herds that's been growing in the last several years.

24

25 So our most recent survey might -- it
26 looks like it indicates that the Teshekpuk might have
27 peaked out and stabilized at least. It was a little
28 lower than two years ago.

29

30 But anyway it's a big healthy herd.

31

32 So, you know, then this lower table
33 shows of the number -- of the hunters that were
34 successful that harvested, you know, how many of them
35 -- well, 611 of them harvested only one caribou so the
36 great majority of the hunters that went up only took
37 one animal and, you know, 163 took two. So, anyway, by
38 the time -- the -- you know, one of the issues as far
39 as State regulations is whether the bag limit should be
40 three caribou or five caribou and you can kind of see
41 from that the number of people taking four or five
42 caribou is much lower than 600 -- or, you know, the 611
43 that only took one caribou. And, you know, that
44 season, too is -- you know, that's five caribou total
45 compared to us where we have five caribou per day so
46 that's still a lot more restrictive than what, you
47 know, our regulations -- and so, anyway, that's kind of
48 a quick summary of what's on just -- and one thing with
49 that Central Arctic Herd it's a tremendously productive
50 herd at this point in history. You know we do fall

1 composition surveys and, you know, 40 -- out of 100
2 cows, 46 of them have calves in the fall, I mean that's
3 pretty remarkable really. That's way more than most
4 herds. And that was 2010, in 2011 57 out 100 had
5 calves by the fall. So that's, you know, a good
6 healthy growing herd.

7

8 And, you know, the way they look at it
9 is there's no reason not to harvest a few more caribou
10 from it.

11

12 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Roy.

15

16 MR. R. NAGEAK: I thank you for the
17 information. Like I said if the herd is there and
18 people are able to get to them then that's good for
19 them, it's just the concern that within that small
20 corridor where people -- caribou for the people that
21 hunt in Anaktuvuk Pass, usually they'll keep going if
22 you allow the first bunch to go through and that's
23 always the case but not knowing how or which way
24 they're going, if you allow the first bunch to go
25 through -- and I don't know how they look at these big
26 herds that go through the foothills, and who monitors
27 the first -- the lead herd.

28

29 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, the.....

30

31 MR. R. NAGEAK: Because that's to the
32 advantage of the people that want to hunt, too, then,
33 if they allow the lead herd to go through then more
34 caribou will follow through.

35

36 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, unfortunately
37 there's nobody that really monitors that, you know,
38 follows along to see when the first ones go through and
39 you can bet that hunters driving up the Dalton Highway,
40 they don't have that in their mind at all, you know,
41 they come up and the first caribou they see coming
42 they're going to be -- well, you know, it's all bow
43 hunting along there but they're going to hit them hard,
44 you know, as soon as they see any caribou. They don't
45 have the good sense to let the first ones go through.

46

47 MR. R. NAGEAK: I'm just wondering --
48 Madame Chair.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Roy.

1 MR. R. NAGEAK: I'm just wondering as
2 more people start going there and they're up -- you
3 could see the growth from 1,500, what -- are you
4 looking at one month or two months, July, August or
5 what's the timeframe for that -- is that within the
6 year?
7
8 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, this is hunters for
9 the entire year.
10
11 MR. R. NAGEAK: Okay.
12
13 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.
14
15 MR. R. NAGEAK: What's the season for
16 that one?
17
18 MR. CARROLL: Well, I'm going to look
19 right now because I -- because that's kind of a little
20 bit out of my area so I don't have that all.....
21
22 MR. R. NAGEAK: See that's the
23 information we wanted from that blonde woman.
24
25 (Laughter)
26
27 MR. R. NAGEAK: But she didn't have it.
28
29 MR. CARROLL: Well, actually, yeah, it
30 is a year-round, it's no closed season for bulls and
31 then they have the cow season is closed during calving
32 period.....
33
34 MR. R. NAGEAK: Yes.
35
36 MR. CARROLL:so it's basically a
37 year-round season.
38
39 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just like how we are.
40
41 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. That's for
42 residents. For non-residents it's more restrictive.
43 It's -- well, July 1st through April 30th, so that's
44 a.....
45
46 MR. R. NAGEAK: Non-residents to the
47 Central Herd or.....
48
49 MR. CARROLL:long season too.
50

1 MR. R. NAGEAK:non-residents to
2 the state of Alaska.
3
4 MR. CARROLL: State of Alaska.
5
6 MR. LEAVITT: Madame Chair.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Bob was
9 first and then you, Lloyd.
10
11 MR. SHEARS: Geoff, what theories do
12 you have for explaining the increase in the number of
13 hunters in 2010; was it the increase in the bag limit
14 that attracted them?
15
16 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Yeah.
17
18 MR. SHEARS: Uh-huh.
19
20 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, the season and the
21 bag limit, they were both increased.
22
23 MR. SHEARS: Yeah.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Lloyd.
26
27 MR. LEAVITT: I was under the
28 assumption all these were during the summer and fall
29 months because we don't see or hear of any hunters
30 during the -- after freeze-up or during the winter
31 months and the only time allowable down there --
32 allowed on the Dalton Highway is during the rutting
33 season, that would be my only concern?
34
35 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, now, what's that,
36 you think the season should be shorter?
37
38 MR. LEAVITT: No, I'm thinking that
39 these are -- no one goes year-round hunting on the
40 Dalton Highway due to the harsh winter months so I was
41 under the assumption that these were during the open
42 season from July to probably September?
43
44 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.
45
46 MR. LEAVITT: Is that.....
47
48 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, no, it's.....
49
50 MR. LEAVITT: And that's a substantial

1 amount in three months.

2

3 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, it's according to
4 the reg book, it's open pretty much year-round, so
5 that's the way it is. And I didn't look in the Federal
6 regulations, but I'm not -- yeah, I'm not sure what
7 they are during that period but it's mostly State lands
8 so I guess that's.....

9

10 MR. LEAVITT: It is only for trophy
11 hunters.

12

13 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: There has
14 been a lot of discussion about this concern over this
15 process and you are bringing an important point. Our
16 understanding that this is year-round brings a
17 different perception and making sure that the numbers
18 are representative of a year-round hunt, not a seasonal
19 hunt.....

20

21 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK:is
24 important. It is helpful to have this information but
25 it is also very important to know whether or not we are
26 having a good assumption of this information. Do we
27 have adequacy of the number of people involved in the
28 process to give us good numbers; are we relying on a
29 volunteer process for people to provide that
30 information; is there a concern for not getting a
31 response back with others that are out there? And I
32 know it brings me to a thought, was, during the scenic
33 byways discussion there was communications in which
34 there were encouragement that the hunters go on up the
35 Dalton and our understanding was there wasn't to be
36 used for vehicles but I remember Archie (Indiscernible)
37 bringing out to the communication on his trip back
38 during that hearing process seeing 17 vehicles with
39 trailers behind them bringing vehicles above the line
40 into the North Slope. So it is something that we need
41 to look at. We need to have adequate involvement to
42 making sure that we're getting a good assessment.

43

44 I know our concern is related to on the
45 Dalton there's only one person that's involved in that
46 monitoring and when you're having that great of a
47 distance how effective are they in that process and is
48 there ways that we can improve the assessment with
49 counters of various ways. I know that we have traffic
50 counters and that kind of such but is there something

1 that we can do to help making sure that we're getting
2 adequacy in the numbers for that assessment.

3

4 Geoff.

5

6 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, actually right now
7 there's really no way of knowing how, you know, how
8 much under reporting there is. I mean there was a time
9 in the past when there was a checkstation on the Dalton
10 Highway and that, of course, forces compliance -- I
11 mean makes better compliance. I don't know, I mean the
12 feeling and I'm not quite sure what it's based upon by
13 the biologist over there is that most people do report
14 their harvest along the road. But, you know, I mean
15 there's plenty of opportunities not to harvest -- or
16 not to report. And like you said, you know, the
17 enforcement and the monitoring is very limited, you
18 know, we have one guy who works out of Coldfoot and so
19 it's -- and a lot of country over there. In fact, he's
20 -- one guy out of Coldfoot for the entire, you know,
21 western two-thirds of the -- or eastern two-thirds of
22 the North Slope, there's another guy in Kotzebue to
23 kind of share it with but, yeah, enforcement is very
24 limited.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
27 any further discussion or comments related to this.

28

(No comments)

29

30
31 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: You hear
32 the discussion and the concerns and we know that your
33 involvement in this process has been to try to bring
34 our interest and concerns to the table and we trust
35 you're going to continue to do so. Whatever we can do
36 to help continue to deal with these assessments and to
37 be proactive and looking for the changes with the
38 increased harvesting and being able to respond
39 adequately before we have a change that's very
40 detrimental to the North Slope is very important to
41 those that are in this process.

42

43 So thank you for all that you've done.
44 Thank you for giving us this information. If we have
45 no further communications we'll move on.

46

47 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

48

49 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Roy.

50

1 MR. R. NAGEAK: I'm kind of concerned
2 with how the map is looking out for Point Hope where
3 there's State lands and then there's private lands,
4 little bit of green land, little bit -- it's more
5 diluted than any other section of the North Slope and
6 they're -- and that was a question that was asked
7 by.....

8
9 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Ray.

10
11 MR. R. NAGEAK:Ray Koonuk, is his
12 -- and how they fall under the region's same State --
13 you don't cover Point Hope, right, it's like a
14 different state.

15
16 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, no, it's -- yeah,
17 you're right, they're actually more serviced out of the
18 Kotzebue office and.....

19
20 MR. R. NAGEAK: Right.

21
22 MR. CARROLL:that's Unit 23 but
23 at least we're in the same region. It's not quite as
24 bad as 26B and C where they're in an entirely different
25 region.

26
27 MR. R. NAGEAK: That's where Fairbanks
28 kind of.....

29
30 MR. CARROLL: We all -- yeah, we go to
31 the same Board of Game meetings and things like that,
32 Unit 23, and actually they have a great guy to work
33 with, Jim Dau, out of the Kotzebue office and
34 Charolette Westing there, they're real good, so.....

35
36 MR. R. NAGEAK: And the concerns -- and
37 the problems that they had a couple years back and how
38 the State kind of slammed down on them. And how we
39 need to try to address some of -- and I wish he would
40 have been here because -- but he was sick. But how the
41 management within his region was Kotzebue, North Slope
42 and convoluted in a sense and I don't know how to
43 address that issue or address his concerns, especially
44 with State.

45
46 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I don't -- yeah,
47 you know, that whole incident was just kind of
48 unfortunate from beginning to end, you know,
49 unfortunate that it happened at all, it was unfortunate
50 the way that enforcement people handled it. You know,

1 it was just kind of -- I don't know, you know, in the
2 end, I guess, people didn't get penalized too severely
3 but, you know, kind of got the word out that, you know,
4 don't harvest and leave caribou. So I don't know,
5 maybe in the end you can say it all ended up not too
6 badly but it was sure a tough process going through it
7 all.

8

9 MR. R. NAGEAK: Looking at the map that
10 we have and how the management of the Central Arctic
11 Herd is from way down there, and how adding more people
12 for the management of the North Slope area and like we
13 had earlier talked to you how that -- we need to make
14 that more defined and make it more North Slope because
15 of the impact on the Anaktuvuk Pass people and their
16 need to coordinate with the North Slope Borough who
17 addresses State issues, maybe that's something we need
18 to -- like I stated earlier, need more coordination or
19 try to get together to address the issues that are
20 demanding some resolve, resolutions to -- the concerns
21 by the (In Inupiat). But without really coordinating
22 the North Slope Borough and the State to address that
23 issue, really our hands are tied in a sense.

24

25 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I don't, you know,
26 maybe a good route is to talk to people that are part
27 of the, you know, North Slope Advisory Council, because
28 they're part of the State system and so they can maybe
29 pass the concerns on, although, you know, we -- they
30 have, in the past, and Taqelik has, you know, and I
31 don't know it's just -- it just seems to be a hard one
32 to change even though it would seem very sensible to
33 change it.

34

35 You know while I'm here I guess I -- if
36 you got -- this is kind of some public information that
37 I'd like everybody to pass on back to their villages,
38 is at the last Board of Game meeting they passed a
39 proposal that we put in that takes basically --
40 basically it takes the tag requirement away from
41 grizzly bear hunting and so -- so before in order to
42 harvest a grizzly bear you -- in the general hunt you
43 had to buy a \$25 tag and you had to have it with you
44 and you had to attach it to the bear and kind of -- but
45 we also had a subsistence permit for up here. You
46 could get a subsistence permit, it didn't cost anything
47 and it was real handy, you know, for people --
48 especially people with problem bears, you know, if you
49 had the subsistence permit you could just harvest a
50 bear and it didn't -- I mean you can always -- I mean

1 if a bear is threatening you or your loved ones or your
2 property, you know, you've always been able to take a
3 bear under defense of life and property but it's a real
4 pain in the neck because you're supposed to turn
5 everything in. You're supposed to turn the hide in,
6 the skull in and all that stuff.

7

8 But, anyway, now we've gotten
9 everything so liberalized with bears you don't need a
10 tag, you don't need anything, you don't even need one
11 of these special subsistence permits. Anybody with a
12 hunting license can harvest one bear per year and once
13 you take it then you're supposed to notify me and then
14 we seal it, you know, we measure it and stuff like
15 that. So, anyway, we've tried to make that as easy as
16 possible for people that are out at their cabins or
17 whatever and have a bear that they need to harvest or
18 just want to harvest a bear anyway.

19

20 And so that's where it sits now, is
21 that, you can, just with a hunting license, you don't
22 need any special tags or permits or anything else. So,
23 anyway, that's kind of a new development.

24

25 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

26

27 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, Roy.

28

29 MR. R. NAGEAK: That's a great
30 improvement. And the concerns with grizzly bears or
31 brown bears in Anaktuvuk Pass, that will alleviate a
32 lot of problems.

33

34 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

35

36 MR. R. NAGEAK: If they're there, they
37 don't have to worry about anything, they could just
38 drop their problem bears.

39

40 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

41

42 MR. R. NAGEAK: It's great.

43

44 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, it's been quite a
45 transition. I don't know, you know, when I started we
46 were always very protective of bears. You could only
47 take one bear every four years and.....

48

49 MR. R. NAGEAK: Yes.

50

1 MR. CARROLL:you know, and had a
2 short season and lots of things, you know, but I don't
3 know I know that on the North Slope as we've -- years
4 have gone by we've made the bear seasons more and more
5 liberal but for some reason fewer and fewer bears seem
6 to get harvested so -- but, anyway, it's.....
7
8 MR. R. NAGEAK: And I really greatly
9 appreciate that once you become 60 years old you get a
10 free.....
11
12 MR. CARROLL: Okay, that's another.....
13
14 MR. R. NAGEAK:fishing license
15 and somewhere.....
16
17 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, us geezers get a
18 free.....
19
20 MR. R. NAGEAK:along the line the
21 Federal government should learn about that.....
22
23 (Laughter)
24
25 MR. R. NAGEAK:and we'll be able
26 to get a duck stamp without having to pay for it once
27 we turn 60.
28
29 (Laughter)
30
31 MR. R. NAGEAK: Hint. Hint. Hint.
32
33 (Laughter)
34
35 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, us geezers can all
36 go in and get a free license.
37
38 MR. LEAVITT: Madame Chair.
39
40 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Lloyd.
41
42 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah, I have a question
43 on brown bears.....
44
45 REPORTER; Lloyd. Lloyd.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Lloyd, your
48 button.
49
50 MR. LEAVITT: I have a question on the

1 brown bears because I know that was worked on at the
2 request of this board due to the influx of our cabins
3 being demolished by brown bears out at our fishing
4 camps.

5
6 The other concern I would have is that
7 if I shot the bear today, there's quite a few brown
8 bears in our region now, and another bear comes up, I
9 can tell my brother that I shot a bear yesterday, it's
10 your turn to shoot that one; is that how it works?

11
12 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

13
14 MR. LEAVITT: In the same camp?

15
16 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Yeah.

17
18 MR. LEAVITT: Great. Thank you.

19
20 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, you can always get
21 a different hunter to shoot each one.

22
23 MR. LEAVITT: Great.

24
25 MR. CARROLL: Or at least claim that.

26
27 MR. LEAVITT: Thank you.

28
29 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, okay.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: We
32 appreciate the work that's been put forward towards
33 this issue. It definitely has given us a lot of
34 communications in this meeting and others over the last
35 few years and being receptive to these concerns and
36 trying to facilitate a response, we appreciate the work
37 that was done with that.

38
39 MR. CARROLL: All right, thanks for
40 your good work.

41
42 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Thank you.
43 Okay, next we have the environmental assessment on
44 collection of antlers in Park lands.

45
46 MS. OKADA: Madame Chair. Council
47 members. My name is Marcie Okada with the National
48 Park Service, Gates of the Arctic National Park and
49 Preserve. If you could go to Page 28 of your meeting
50 materials booklet.

1 (Pause)

2

3 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: All right.

4

5 MS. OKADA: I'll be covering the
6 environmental assessment for subsistence collections of
7 and uses of shed and discarded animal parts and plants
8 to make handicrafts, otherwise known as the horns and
9 antlers EA.

10

11 So on Page 28 we have the executive
12 summary letter and the main areas I want to point out
13 on this page is that the comment period for the EA is
14 60 days long beginning February 7th and ending April
15 7th. And it also shows who you can send those written
16 comments to. And then lastly on the bottom of Page 28
17 you can also submit comments via the internet so you
18 can go on line, take a look at the EA and provide
19 comments that way at the website that's listed.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: This
22 proposal is also something that is responsive to the
23 communications that have been occurring from various
24 tribal members in interest of trying to continue
25 traditional cultural activities in Park lands. I
26 appreciate the effort to present the information
27 related to this proposal. I saw the booklet that's
28 been given out. I was able to read through that. I
29 know a lot of tribal people have always, as they've
30 traveled across the lands, taken advantage of discarded
31 horns and antlers to help with craftmaking, it's been
32 very important to try to utilize the -- like our elders
33 said (In Inupiat) those that were left from before upon
34 our lands, when we come across them if we're able to
35 still use them we would still collect them and use them
36 in various ways that we could.

37

38 It is so very difficult in our rural
39 settings to be able to try to do the different things
40 that we're trying to continue in our daily life within
41 the traditions and cultures that we've had. So many
42 changes to the maps and the regulatory problems
43 associated with that taking the understanding that this
44 is something that's very important and working forward
45 with it. I know it is very important.

46

47 All sorts of things are harvested from
48 the lands with plants and other substances that are so
49 very important for our traditional and cultural
50 activities and I appreciate seeing this proposals.

1 Do we have any further communications
2 and comments.

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 MS. OKADA: I'm going to also be moving
7 along through the next few pages as well.

8
9 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

10
11 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Roy.

12
13 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just a comment in
14 regards to how I see antlers or horns with naturally
15 dead or the heads that have just cut off and left
16 behind because of transporting from long distances, I
17 see those all over the country and I leave them alone
18 and then I see the freshly dropped antlers from the big
19 bulls and those are the ones that are easier to
20 collect, the ones that just drop off. The ones that I
21 leave alone are the ones that are slowly meshing into
22 the tundra.

23
24 There are three different types. The
25 ones that are killed either by animals or by hunters
26 and the heads are -- those stay and -- for some reason
27 those stay up off the ground. And the ones that die
28 naturally or are dropped, they mesh into the ground
29 real quickly. And the freshly dropped ones are the
30 ones that I pick up.

31
32 But I don't know why is that, why
33 antlers that naturally fall off mesh into the ground
34 real quickly because I've seen that and I leave those
35 ones alone because they're already being covered but
36 the fresh ones, like the wintertime drop and they're
37 all over the country, I always pick those up. But the
38 ones that are starting to mesh into the ground already,
39 it's like nature's way of retrieving itself or
40 revitalizing itself. It's kind of strange how those
41 are -- and then the ones that are beheaded, those --
42 you could see those out on the tundra.....

43
44 MR. LEAVITT: Forever.

45
46 MR. R. NAGEAK:forever. Do you
47 know what I mean, do you know what I'm talking about?

48
49 MR. LEAVITT: Even the ones that shed
50 off naturally.....

1 REPORTER: Lloyd.
2
3 MR. LEAVITT:or died due to
4 natural.
5
6 MR. R. NAGEAK: Yes. So we know what
7 you mean.
8
9 MS. OKADA: Thanks, Roy.
10
11 MR. SHEARS: Well, Marcie if I could
12 just -- Madame Chair.
13
14 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Go ahead,
15 Bob.
16
17 MR. SHEARS: If I could just make one
18 comment before you get started on this and just give
19 you an idea of where I'm at with the initial reaction,
20 my emotional reaction to this environmental impact
21 statement.
22
23 After witnessing national forests in
24 Northern Minnesota paper birch trees decimated the
25 bark, stripped off of them by the Natives down there
26 making artifacts for sale, completely wiping out the
27 paper birch, there was -- those forests were
28 repopulated by poplar and they've yet to ever make a
29 comeback there. Black rhinos in Africa are looking at
30 extinction because their horns sells for more than
31 cocaine or gold by the ounce. This -- I feel like and
32 I know that there is a market for horn, powder horn in
33 China, any type of horn or antler material, and I feel
34 like this is opening up Pandora's Box to creating a
35 market economy for our subsistence animals.
36
37 But I'm looking at it with an open
38 frame of mind and allow you to proceed.
39
40 MS. OKADA: Thank you. And lastly if
41 you go to Page 29, I'd like to bring to your attention
42 that if you have any questions about this EA, please
43 contact Bud Rice or Sandy Rabinowitch at the numbers
44 that are listed. And I don't know if Sandy was going
45 to call in from Anchorage, but he would be able to
46 answer probably more specifically some of your
47 questions.
48
49 Okay.
50

1 So if you move to Page 30 I'm just
2 going to pinpoint under current status, that at this
3 time the National Park Service Regional Director, Sue
4 Masica, has identified Alternative D as the preferred
5 alternative. And I'm going to quickly get back to
6 this, but I just want to point it out now, that
7 Alternative D was the preferred alternative.

8
9 And if you.....

10
11 MR. R. NAGEAK: Are you looking at the
12 shedding of the antlers or which one are you.....

13
14 MS. OKADA: We're looking at antlers
15 that have been dropped in all National Park Service
16 lands and are up for collection. So people that have
17 come across them on the landscape are able to -- would
18 be able to pick them up and use them for handicrafts
19 because right now they're not legally allowed to,
20 whether it's occurring as we speak, it's not legal to
21 do so. So this EA is looking at making it legal.

22
23 And the whole EA process is what you
24 had mentioned before, you know, we're opening it up for
25 comments and suggestions from the public, and so that's
26 why I'm presenting it to you today.

27
28 So if you go to what's listed as Page
29 31, under action needed, today what I'm going to be
30 asking of you is which alternative do you think is best
31 for your communities or the North Slope region, and
32 then also how important would it be for your
33 communities to be able to collect these shed or
34 discarded animal parts and plants from National Park
35 Service areas with the plan of making them useful for
36 handicrafts.

37
38 And so if you skip forward and you see
39 this page, the colored page, which is the cover page.
40 All of you should have received this document because
41 you're all RAC members and we all have your mailing
42 addresses so you should have all by now -- I think,
43 Lee, if he's on line, received his in Kaktovik, but all
44 of you should have received this document in the mail.
45 And if for some reason you haven't, please let me know.

46
47 So what we're talking about today is
48 basically National Park Service lands. So all of the
49 green lands on this map. We're not talking about any
50 other Federal agencies but it's strictly just National

1 Park Service lands. And just to let you know how far
2 back this issue has gone back, in 1999 the Gates of the
3 Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission, which is the
4 commission that helps offer management ideas to Gates
5 of the Arctic proposed -- once they found out that it
6 wasn't legal for them to collect horns and antlers and
7 plants they proposed this via letter back in 1999 and
8 then it was sort of reiterated by the Eastern Interior
9 RAC calling for the legalization of collecting shed
10 horns and antlers and other body parts of animals
11 because it was already occurring and they found out
12 that it was illegal so they felt like at this time, or
13 back in 1999 they should allow it, they should legalize
14 it. So we're moving forward to 2012 now and it has
15 come forth as an EA. Several Regional Directors later,
16 it's now in an EA form. So what I've included in this
17 is the letters that came from the Subsistence Resource
18 Commission and the Eastern Interior RAC.

19
20 So if you flip through a few more pages
21 there's a table that's listed as Table 2.2, and it's on
22 Page 42, and I'm going to quickly go through it just to
23 point a few things out. So on Page 42 you see a table
24 and if you go to the row that says eligible persons for
25 Parks and Monuments. I just want to highlight the fact
26 that the communities that are considered resident zone
27 communities for Gates of the Arctic and so for the
28 North Slope that would be Anaktuvuk Pass and Nuiqsut,
29 these -- members of these communities that have already
30 established a customary and traditional use are going
31 to be allowed to collect shed horns and antlers. This
32 table also shows the differences between Alternative A,
33 B, C and D.

34
35 Alternative B -- well, Alternative A
36 basically means everything is going to stay the same.
37 It's going to stay -- it's going to remain illegal.

38
39 Alternative B is going to basically say
40 people who have a Federal Subsistence Board customary
41 and traditional use finding for any wildlife species in
42 the Preserve are allowed to collect parts that they see
43 on the landscape and use them for handicrafts. So this
44 is the most liberal alternative.

45
46 Alternative C is stating that people
47 who live in a resident zone are required to have a
48 permit in order to collect parts. If they have a
49 traditional and customary use findings then they're
50 allowed to collect with a permit for any wildlife

1 species that they're already allowed to hunt within
2 that GMU. So if they're already allowed to hunt
3 caribou, then they're able to collect antlers, via
4 permit.

5
6 Alternative D, which Sue Masica, our
7 Regional Director has supported, is the strictest of
8 all the alternatives. It's basically saying people who
9 live in a resident zone are required to have a permit
10 and the finding for each wildlife species in each GMU
11 or subunit or in the Park or Monument. So this is
12 going to be -- this is offering the most restriction.
13 The permit is going to be the most intensive as far as
14 what sort of information you have to submit, more so
15 than Alternative C. And the reason why she chose this
16 alternative at this time was she kind of wanted to take
17 the conservative route. She wanted to start off
18 monitoring what was going on, as opposed to just giving
19 blatant allowance.

20
21 Are there any questions.

22
23 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

24
25 MS. OKADA: And I'm kind of moving
26 through this very quickly.

27
28 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Question,
29 Roy.

30
31 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just a concern because
32 with these alternatives, if I was a subsistence hunter
33 and I had a helicopter I could go all over the Preserve
34 and collect all the antlers that were dropped. How do
35 you see collecting all these antlers?

36
37 MS. OKADA: I think that's where
38 comments from the public right now are really
39 important.

40
41 Our understanding right now is that
42 people aren't, you know, going all over via aircraft to
43 collect, it's just something they come across as
44 they're out on the tundra or maybe out in the mountains
45 and as they come across them they might just pick it up
46 and, you know, take it home with them because they have
47 a plan for it, you know, take it home with them because
48 they have a plan for it, you know, they want to use it
49 for handicrafts. But if people think that there is a
50 large amount of collection going on, where this EA --

1 or this action that's being proposed could get, you
2 know, could get worse down the line then maybe it's
3 important for people to mention it now.

4

5 But.....

6

7 MR. R. NAGEAK: Us, within the Barrow
8 area, more and more private helicopters are coming
9 around and basically we don't know what they're doing.
10 They say they're guiding people or being guides to
11 someplace but that's just a -- I'm not going to make
12 any assumptions but more and more seeing these
13 helicopters cropping all over the place in the Barrow
14 area and affecting our subsistence and they're starting
15 to get more and more private helicopters or what not.

16

17 MS. OKADA: I mean if people think that
18 there's going to be mass collection going on because
19 the antlers are proving to be medicinal in another
20 country or an aphrodisiac in another country then that
21 could prove to be a problem in the future and so maybe
22 if Alternative D does end up being selected then that's
23 the most restrictive and we'll have a better way of
24 monitoring it.

25

26 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

27

28 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Roy.

29

30 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just to appease some of
31 the concerns by -- I used to get a lot of caribou and
32 the Asians started coming into Barrow, nothing against
33 them, it's just that -- and then they see me come home
34 with large antlers on my trailer and on my four-
35 wheeler, they used to completely chase me to my parking
36 lot and they used to start fighting over them, but they
37 stopped doing that since Viagra came out.

38

39 (Laughter)

40

41 MR. R. NAGEAK: So I don't know whether
42 that's still that concern because the ones that I used
43 to bring home are rotting in the yard now but when
44 Viagra came out my -- where they used to fight for my
45 antlers they don't do that anymore. I don't know why.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 MR. R. NAGEAK: But I could see where
50 if I have antlers and I want my cousin's husband to

1 have that to make what they need to make I still could
2 do that right, but I'm not in the Parks, these are only
3 for the Parks.

4

5 MS. OKADA: I mean.....

6

7 MR. R. NAGEAK: Is it still illegal for
8 me to collect these and ship them off to my cousin in
9 Anchorage that could make money off of them?

10

11 MR. SHEARS: Well, a guy that
12 advertises in the Fairbanks for -- there's
13 advertisements in the classifieds of horn buyers,
14 antler buyers that they purchase. There's a guy in
15 North Pole currently purchases antlers.

16

17 The reindeer farmers on Nunivut, they
18 sell all their antlers, ship them out, when they dehorn
19 their reindeer herds.

20

21 MS. OKADA: But I want to reiterate
22 that these, you know, antlers are being collected --
23 they have to be used for handicrafts, basically, not
24 grounded into powder.

25

26 MR. R. NAGEAK: Thanks.

27

28 MS. OKADA: Yeah. And then also if you
29 go to Table 2.2, which is on Page -- well, if you go to
30 Table 2.2 but then move to Page 45, I just want to
31 point out that for Gates of the Arctic, the various
32 species that are hunted in GMU 26A, so for us, that
33 would just be for Anaktuvuk Pass because it's a
34 resident zone community for the Gates of the Arctic.

35

36 And so the very last thing on Page 51,
37 Appendix C, possible management conditions for
38 collections, these were just some of the ideas that
39 were tossed around stating what can and cannot be done
40 under this EA. So between now and April 7th it's open
41 comment period. I mean I've quickly moved through this
42 so if you want to take a closer look at it then there's
43 that copy that we mailed you.

44

45 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Thank you
46 for sharing this information and giving us the
47 discussion that you've provided.

48

49 Do we have any questions or comments
50 from the Board.

1 MR. SHEARS: A specific question in
2 regards to muskox. Subsistence take of muskox usually
3 requires a destruction of the horns and, of course,
4 it's a trophy animal, and taxidermists who often do
5 head mounts of muskox, they use a caste, a polymer type
6 fake horn, the cape to mount a muskox, would it be
7 possible under these regulations to be permitted to try
8 to harvest muskox horns off the tundra from a dead
9 animal and then sell them in handicraft -- or apply
10 them to the handicraft or use them for taxidermy for
11 head mounts, where we'd be putting real muskox horns
12 back on muskox head mounts with this -- under the terms
13 of this environmental assessment; that's my question?

14
15 MS. OKADA: Well, that's a good
16 question and I don't think I could answer that at the
17 time -- I mean I couldn't give a correct answer at this
18 point.

19
20 MR. SHEARS: Okay.

21
22 MS. OKADA: So if it's being -- it's
23 being documented then at least we could go back and --
24 you know I can ask Bud or Sandy that specific question.

25
26 MR. SHEARS: Okay.

27
28 MS. OKADA: But if you need an answer
29 sooner than that.....

30
31 MR. SHEARS: No, just for
32 consideration.

33
34 MS. OKADA:I don't have to wait
35 for the meeting minutes I can go back and ask them.

36
37 MR. SHEARS: Okay.

38
39 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: We had an
40 incident that happened to us in Nuiqsut, we had gone
41 through a series of permit hunts and we were able to
42 harvest a hunt -- I think maybe five times we were able
43 to get our harvest associated with those permits but
44 the year after that we were boating and we found a head
45 in the river and we took the head out and brought it to
46 the house. Of course we were hit with the assessment
47 process but we provided the communications and we made
48 the additional discussions. I don't believe there was
49 a fine or anything associated with it but it required a
50 lot of meeting, communications and discussion with

1 others in the process. So it is something that does
2 happen. It is something that needs to be better
3 clarified and to make it well understood for us that
4 are -- it is something that we do do when we're out
5 doing our activities, if we find something that is
6 useable and we can bring it into things that we need to
7 deal with, we find ways of being creative with what we
8 need to help us with what we need to do.

9

10 MS. OKADA: Uh-huh.

11

12 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: So I
13 appreciate you also having that question. I know we
14 had a lot of questions and it took a lot of
15 participation but within all of the process we had to
16 deal with, there was a lot of recognition of this type
17 of activity and we were able to work through the
18 process. I know it caused a lot of stress over that
19 concern. We thought, oh, great, we've got something
20 nice here we'll bring it home, put it up on the roof
21 and oh boy was it a different day for us for that part.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: But in the
26 end we -- it's now part of a drum handle and there were
27 some other things that were made from it so it's -- it
28 can happen as long as you do the communications, you do
29 the reporting and you work through the process as best
30 you can, there are ways to work through this process.
31 But if we can clarify it it'll only facilitate us all.

32

33 Do we have any further communications
34 or discussions.

35

36 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Roy.

39

40 MR. R. NAGEAK: So if I went out and
41 saw this great already white skull with great big horns
42 on it I could pick it up and take it someplace and say,
43 wow, I could sell it?

44

45 MS. OKADA: The funny thing is if
46 you're not from a resident zone community -- so I'm
47 strictly talking about Nuiqsut and Anaktuvuk, so
48 they're resident zone communities for Gates of the
49 Arctic, so, you, as a Barrow resident, if you were to
50 go down south into the Gates of the Arctic, I don't

1 think you'd qualify because you don't have customary
2 and traditional use and the same would go to you
3 because you're from Wainwright.

4

5 MR. SHEARS: Yeah.

6

7 MR. LEAVITT: But then we were brought
8 up is that we're considered nomads. My front yard
9 extends from Point Hope to Kaktovik to the Brooks
10 Range. That is my land to hunt. I do as I please.
11 Nuiqsut is part of our blood. Atqasuk is part of our
12 blood. Anaktuvukmuits are just people we traded with
13 for centuries.

14

15 MR. R. NAGEAK: Oh, that's my blood.

16

17 (Laughter)

18

19 MR. LEAVITT: That's his blood, yeah.
20 So we're interconnected. But that's just how I was
21 brought up. Out here, from Point Hope to Kaktovik to
22 the Brooks Range is my hunting grounds. I do as I
23 please. No one runs me. No one dictates me. No one
24 directs me. I get what I please. That is me.

25

26 MS. OKADA: But unfortunately along the
27 Federal government system for the Park Service, you
28 know, studies were done to establish what the customary
29 and traditional use areas were for each of the
30 communities and what came out of it is what we have
31 today. But I do understand what you're saying, Lloyd.

32

33 MR. LEAVITT: That's how different
34 government foresees it. But in our lives we're equal
35 with every village. We are more than welcome to their
36 territory and they are more than welcome to our
37 territory. No one here's of this, but it's in your
38 book. It's how we have survived over the centuries.
39 That's just how we operate.

40

41 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I
42 understand what you're saying and I agree with that.
43 Definitely we have hunters that have traveled great
44 distances in our historical and customary traditional
45 use activities. We have stories of various hunters who
46 have very bad hunting years of traveling over 1,000
47 miles to try to allow for the harvest and the needs
48 that were necessary. With the decimation of various
49 population of herds, that was quite extensive. In
50 Nuiqsut, we commonly see hunters from Barrow that

1 travel into our area as well as into the mountains with
2 their efforts to hunt. I think that documentation
3 probably was more difficult to get into the right
4 various processes, but I know that especially with wolf
5 hunting that they go up there and it is something that
6 does happen.

7

8 I think the comments need to get into
9 this process. That type of comment is very important.
10 If we can get some historical information, like I know
11 some of the Edwardson boys often would go out there and
12 now some of the other guys -- like I remember stories
13 with Lizo (ph) Leavitt and some of his hunting efforts
14 were being way all over the place when we had those
15 really bad years. So if we can get those stories
16 incorporated into the comments, that will be very
17 important.

18

19 If we have any further issues with
20 this, add them to the discussion now. Otherwise we'll
21 continue on. We have Barb that's leaving on tonight's
22 flight, so I'm hoping we can move through our agenda
23 items.

24

25 MR. LEAVITT: Here's what I'll say.
26 Back in '76, March, no caribous around and we had to go
27 get some fish for whaling. We took off in March and
28 our whaling season starts in mid-April. Luther wanted
29 to get some fish and we had to travel 80 miles. We
30 were hoping there would be caribou around and there
31 wasn't any caribou. All we did was got to our fish and
32 we decided to go further up inland to Simutuk (ph),
33 which is another about 40, 50 miles inland. We got up
34 there the following day, no caribou. The third day we
35 got up another 20, 25 miles out to Alma Lake (ph) area.
36 Still no caribou. We got up into the Rolling Hills and
37 from the Rolling Hills we went up further and Luther
38 was claiming that we went up around the Kobuk area and
39 until we started heading northeast and we must have
40 traveled at least six hours before we landed at Umiat
41 and just outside Umiat we were finally catching caribou
42 in that area. That was back in '76. So we stayed out
43 there for several weeks catching caribou.

44

45 When we got into Nuiqsut, the village
46 of Nuiqsut were very awed that we were around. We
47 found out later that day that the community of Barrow
48 had searched for us for a couple of weeks. We were
49 assumed to have been lost and froze. And when my
50 parents found out I was out at Nuiqsut, before I knew

1 it there was a charter plane that brought me back into
2 Barrow.

3
4 To the extent I've lived these
5 experiences, I've done them with my Uncle Luther. He
6 was a very renowned hunter and a whaling captain and
7 this is how far he would take us camping. We go out up
8 to the Endicott area, up to Kikiakrorak. It's between
9 Nuiqsut and Umiat. There's the first test well that
10 was done up there. So we do travel to those areas.
11 Barrow people are always complaining that Nuiqsut
12 people came into our area and took some of our hunting
13 equipment. So we still hunt in the same general area.
14 Atqasuk people still do the same. They go up into the
15 foothills and hunt too. So let somebody talk -- a lot
16 of our people have gone through. I, myself, have
17 experienced this growing up and living in this
18 environment.

19
20 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
21 any other questions or concerns.

22
23 MR. LEAVITT: I'm done.

24
25 MR. SHEARS: Marcy, were you seeking an
26 endorsement for any one of these alternatives today or
27 was this just an informational briefing for us?

28
29 MS. OKADA: An alternative selection
30 would be ideal if people feel inclined to do so at this
31 time.

32
33 MR. SHEARS: Oh, okay.

34
35 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair. From
36 what I understood, it's just to make it legal for
37 subsistence users to use antlers for handicraft.

38
39 MS. OKADA: It is basically to
40 recognize that this activity has been going on for all
41 these years.

42
43 MR. R. NAGEAK: And somebody had made
44 it illegal. Somebody had passed a rule and regulation
45 that made it illegal for them to do that.

46
47 MS. OKADA: Well, it was more along the
48 lines that it wasn't written in the rule books that it
49 was legal, but it was already occurring, so now it will
50 be legalized.

1 MR. R. NAGEAK: But it was something
2 that was done customarily.
3
4 MS. OKADA: Yeah. So now it will be
5 recognized.
6
7 MR. R. NAGEAK: And now, like you say,
8 it will be legal.
9
10 MS. OKADA: Yeah.
11
12 MR. R. NAGEAK: Somebody had made it
13 illegal in the past.
14
15 MS. OKADA: It was never really
16 recognized that the activity wasn't.....
17
18 MR. R. NAGEAK: That it was illegal.
19
20 MS. OKADA:wasn't legal.
21
22 MR. R. NAGEAK: Well, you said to make
23 it legal.
24
25 (Laughter)
26
27 MS. OKADA: Yeah, but -- now I'm
28 getting confused. But, yes. So it's to make it.....
29
30 MR. R. NAGEAK: You want to make it
31 legal now for us customary people that have done it
32 before.
33
34 MS. OKADA: It's to make it legal,
35 yeah.
36
37 MR. R. NAGEAK: Right. And the way
38 that we used to hunt before is now illegal. To make it
39 legal we've got to go through these proposals and stuff
40 to make it legal.
41
42 MS. OKADA: But at least we're
43 contacting you for comments.
44
45 MR. R. NAGEAK: I'm not going to go
46 there. I need help from you guys. Everyone once in a
47 while tell me, Roy, shut up.
48
49 (Laughter)
50

1 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: For me, I
2 enjoy this discussion. We have a point that we
3 considered, getting some training done with our new
4 board members and I think this maybe has provided a
5 well-rounded discussion of trainings on the various
6 proposals and discussions that we have before us.

7
8 MR. R. NAGEAK: And I'm serious about
9 telling -- you guys, when I get beyond my point, just
10 tell me -- oh, you turned it off.

11
12 REPORTER: There you go, I'll help you
13 out.

14
15 MR. R. NAGEAK: There you go.

16
17 (Laughter)

18
19 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: What is the
20 wish of the board?

21
22 MR. R. NAGEAK: I always do what the
23 women say.

24
25 (Laughter)

26
27 MR. SHEARS: I concur with their
28 recommendation about Alternative D.

29
30 MR. LEAVITT: I'm with Alternative D
31 too on this issue here.

32
33 MR. R. NAGEAK: I've got no problems.

34
35 MR. SHEARS: Ms. Chairman. I'd like to
36 make a motion that we, as a board, endorse Alternative
37 D to this environmental assessment.

38
39 MR. R. NAGEAK: Second.

40
41 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Discussion.

42
43 MR. LEAVITT: Question called for.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Well,
46 before we go there I have discussion. For me, I have
47 concerns because as traditional people we have not had
48 the effort put forward to require our traditional
49 activities to have to go through additional
50 documentation. Alternative D is very intensive

1 requirements for our traditional people having to take
2 additional activities that are not part of our
3 traditional activities, so I have concerns for that.

4
5 I also recognize that it's very
6 important to really assess what is occurring in these
7 activities and that getting some of this information
8 will be beneficial to help us in our assessment of
9 what's happening. But to put that responsibility on
10 our traditional hunters and gatherers I don't agree
11 with and that's the discussion I put out there and
12 let's hear what you all have to say on that.

13
14 MR. SHEARS: Good point.

15
16 MR. R. NAGEAK: That's the part, Madame
17 Chair, that I say somewhere along the lines, even with
18 us not knowing that it was illegal and now to make it
19 legal we need to comply with this only in the Park
20 areas. It might be illegal where I am. No? Oh, okay.
21 BLM guy. It's that same assumption that somewhere
22 along the line we don't know who made it legal and now
23 we've got illegal or who made it legal.

24
25 MS. OKADA: So Alternative D, as
26 Rosemary says, is the most restrictive because it's
27 requiring mandatory permits, whereas Alternative C is
28 discretionary. So some people may need to submit
29 permits, other people may not.

30
31 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair. That
32 would be the question. In each village the traditional
33 council will know who's legal and will allow them and
34 permit them to do it.

35
36 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: So that's
37 the discussion before us. We have the various
38 alternatives.....

39
40 MR. R. NAGEAK: Permit them to do it or
41 somebody gives them permit?

42
43 MS. OKADA: The National Park Service
44 would give the permit once information is submitted.

45
46 MR. R. NAGEAK: Every village that is
47 within those Parks will have a person there giving them
48 permits for somebody to do what they've done before.

49
50 MS. OKADA: That part hasn't been

1 figured out yet.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: So my
4 recommendations in the discussion would be to go with
5 Alternative C because that does not prohibit the effort
6 to approach these people that are actively partaking in
7 these activities to solicit for information to help
8 guide the decision-making process, but it wouldn't put
9 the requirement upon the traditional hunter and
10 gatherer that are actively out there to take on
11 additional responsibilities of the Federal requirement
12 to provide this information. That's what I would
13 recommend, but I'm open for discussion.

14

15 I understand both sides. I just know
16 that when, you know, some of our people don't have this
17 information and when you're out at fish camp you don't
18 have the internet to go and look up this information.
19 We don't have these booklets out at camp that we're out
20 there and I hate to put those risk factors upon our
21 traditional activities. That's my concern, but I'm
22 open for discussion on that.

23

24 MR. LEAVITT: Madame Chair.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes.

27

28 MR. LEAVITT: The reason I'm behind my
29 supporting Alternative D is we have to be careful of
30 whether there are people who are from the outside
31 sector. A lot of the outside people have gotten their
32 hands into a lot of what we barter and sell other
33 handicraft stuff. Our people aren't the only ones who
34 have interest in doing Alaskan handicraft.

35

36 I know it's mandatory to the State of
37 Alaska they have the seal that it was produced in the
38 state of Alaska. That is the other arena I'm looking
39 at that we need to be specific and ensure that they are
40 the people who live off of the land and not just some
41 outside firm coming in and raiding the lands out there
42 and doing what we've been doing. They also have
43 interest in arts and crafts themselves and making a quick
44 buck.

45

46 So the reason I still prefer
47 Alternative D is just to ensure that it's our Native
48 people who are entitled to this. That's the only
49 reason I'm with Alternative D, just to ensure.....

50

1 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I can
2 understand the thoughts for that, but this regulation
3 would only regulate Federally qualified subsistence
4 users. It would not regulate others that come into the
5 Park system. We wouldn't get that additional
6 information or protections for outside people coming
7 into the Park system. This regulation will not cover
8 that. It will only cover our Federally qualified
9 subsistence users.

10

11 MR. R. NAGEAK: Is that the case,
12 Madame Chair?

13

14 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I'm the
15 Chair. Is that your interpretation?

16

17 MS. OKADA: That is the case because
18 it's placing restrictions on people in resident zone
19 communities.

20

21 MR. R. NAGEAK: But it will still allow
22 people from outside to come in and take the antler and
23 make something out of it.

24

25 MS. OKADA: Well, it's kind of twisted
26 in the sense that --so resident zone communities who
27 have customary and traditional use of using Gates of
28 the Arctic Park lands are going to be regulated. So
29 this permit would allow them to collect discarded
30 animal parts, horns and antlers.

31

32 MR. R. NAGEAK: Maybe I'm referring the
33 question the wrong way.

34

35 MS. OKADA: So recreationalists, it's
36 assumed they're not allowed to. They won't -- I mean
37 they won't be allowed to.

38

39 MR. R. NAGEAK: Like if I'm from
40 Anchorage, white guy, going to village, collect all the
41 antlers, go back to Anchorage, make something, what law
42 am I breaking that they could take me to court and put
43 me in jail?

44

45 MS. OKADA: They're not part of a
46 resident zone community, so we're strictly giving
47 allowance to residents.....

48

49 MR. R. NAGEAK: What law am I breaking?

50

1 MS. OKADA: As a non.....
2
3 MR. R. NAGEAK: As a white guy coming
4 from Fairbanks, Anchorage, collect all the horns, go
5 back, make some form of design on it, sell it as art
6 and then you take me to court with what rules and
7 regulations that are coming from the Federal
8 government, what laws am I breaking already?
9
10 MS. OKADA: He's breaking a regulation
11 of Park land, so he would not be allowed to -- right
12 now it's illegal for everyone, but we're giving
13 allowance to community members from resident zone
14 communities to collect.
15
16 MR. R. NAGEAK: There's so many places
17 around Anchorage and you go to Kenai like every other
18 two or three miles or something there's a knife shop
19 and this guys are, like you say, there's advertisement
20 wanting caribou antlers and all that stuff is being
21 allowed to happen.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: So the
24 difference here is that villagers hunt on all sorts of
25 lands and if they have horns from their hunting
26 activities they can sell them, but for collection of
27 horns in Park lands that have been dropped, natural
28 drops, that would be restricted. You couldn't go out
29 and commercially harvest all the horns and build a
30 commercial process. It would only be for traditional
31 crafting activities and that's what there it is. The
32 difference between these alternatives is requiring our
33 traditional people to having to do additional
34 documentation in order to be legal. It wouldn't impact
35 those that are out there trying to get horns for other
36 things like those people in town that have those knife
37 shops. It wouldn't limit our traditional hunts on
38 other lands to be able to sell those types of things.
39 It would only be on the Park Service ones.
40
41 MR. R. NAGEAK: And that's my question,
42 is those people that are already selling all these
43 knives are going to close them off and say where did
44 you get this, this is what was confiscated off a dead
45 animal, did you have a permit for that.
46
47 MS. OKADA: No, that's not what we're
48 -- that's not our jurisdiction.
49
50 MR. R. NAGEAK: So that's still

1 allowable.

2

3 MS. OKADA: I mean they're not allowed
4 to do that in Park lands now.

5

6 MR. R. NAGEAK: No, the shops that sell
7 all these knives that are.....

8

9 MS. OKADA: No. We can't confront the
10 shops in Anchorage and elsewhere, no.

11

12 MR. R. NAGEAK: But they get the horns
13 somehow.

14

15 MS. OKADA: There's no proof they're
16 getting them from National Park Service lands.

17

18 MR. R. NAGEAK: Right. But they're
19 still getting the horns and they're still selling them
20 along the tourist highway from Anchorage to Kenai and
21 whatever.....

22

23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Legally
24 harvested horns would still be able to be sold.

25

26 MR. R. NAGEAK: Yeah, they still could
27 get legally horns from someplace and still sell all
28 these knives.

29

30 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yeah.

31

32 MR. LEAVITT: Regardless of how we look
33 at it, it's always going to be a two-way street.

34

35 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Right. So
36 what is the wish of our.....

37

38 MR. SHEARS: Madame Chair.

39

40 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes.

41

42 MR. SHEARS: I've heard your
43 considerations of the issue. I'd like to withdraw my
44 motion at this time to reconsider the impacts of this
45 on our local people. You're absolutely right. The
46 administrative and regulatory process, even if it's
47 fully funded at the National Park Service level and
48 employed in the villages like Kaktovik and Anaktuvuk,
49 it still puts a tremendous burden on our people to be
50 within compliance. A burden that, frankly, we can't

1 bear, our people can't bear. We're too busy just
2 trying to survive. We can't handle these issues, much
3 less the little cost, the little taxing issue of how
4 this will possibly probably cost money in one way or
5 another. So I would like to withdraw.

6
7 I was looking at Appendix C, the
8 possible discretionary management conditions that could
9 be employed under Alternative C and these are really
10 good conditions that could be employed that address all
11 of my concerns. It restricts the quantity, so they're
12 not commercial. It prevents horns or antlers from
13 being used on a taxidermist head mount. The
14 collections are limited. You know, this type of stuff
15 is regulatable within the boundaries of the Park
16 Service and the Reserves and I think you guys manage
17 that well. And it doesn't put a huge burden on our
18 people.

19
20 So I'd like to withdraw my motion. Do
21 you withdraw your second?

22
23 MR. LEAVITT: I withdraw my second on
24 the motion made by Robert.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Bob.

27
28 MR. LEAVITT: Bob. I get my senior
29 moments.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: So, hearing
32 that, we are back to where we started. Do we have a
33 motion to consider?

34
35 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair. Just a
36 question on some of these alternatives.

37
38 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes.

39
40 MR. R. NAGEAK: The B on one of them on
41 Section C in the B and the other one is B also on
42 Alternative D, violating permit condition established
43 by the superintendent.

44
45 MS. OKADA: Are you on Table 2.2, Roy?

46
47 MR. R. NAGEAK: Both C and D, permits.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yeah, page
50 50. He's looking at Alternative D, Section 2.

1 MR. R. NAGEAK: Violating condition
2 established by the superintendent is prohibited. So,
3 in a sense, the superintendent will have the power of
4 law in establishing conditions.
5
6 MS. OKADA: Yes. So the superintendent
7 makes the final decision.
8
9 MR. R. NAGEAK: And makes the laws
10 basically.
11
12 MS. OKADA: Makes a loss?
13
14 MR. R. NAGEAK: Yes.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: The law.
17
18 MS. OKADA: Oh, the law. Yeah.
19
20 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just one
21 superintendent.
22
23 MS. OKADA: With people advising him.
24
25 MR. R. NAGEAK: But the way that it's
26 written it's up to the superintendent.
27
28 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Within the
29 Division of -- the National Park Service, the
30 superintendent has the final word, but it's a process
31 within the whole assessment with all the different
32 agencies that are involved; the State involved, the
33 RACs involved, that these decisions are made. But the
34 final determination does come from the superintendent.
35
36 MR. R. NAGEAK: I prefer Obama for
37 conference law. If we're going to start having that
38 relationship with tribal entities, we prefer that no
39 lower interlocked superintendent of the Park Service
40 negotiate with the Native tribes in regards to what
41 they can't do within their own nations. Now I'm
42 starting to sound radical. Let me rephrase that. I
43 can't. I mean.....
44
45 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I
46 understand your concern is that we want to make sure
47 that we're looking at the tribal -- our traditional and
48 cultural activities and the way that we have continued
49 our traditional and cultural activities.....
50

1 MR. R. NAGEAK: Right.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK:and we
4 want that taken into the process. I know through this
5 process here we definitely are giving communications
6 towards this process.
7
8 MR. R. NAGEAK: It's a big issue,
9 Madame Chair, in regards to the Yellow-Billed Loon that
10 we use for traditional dancing that they're skirting
11 around too in regards to what we could -- what we've
12 done before with our traditional dancing and the
13 availability of the loon.
14
15 MS. OKADA: I'm aware of that issue,
16 but.....
17
18 MR. R. NAGEAK: That's different?
19
20 MS. OKADA:that's a different
21 agency.
22
23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yeah.
24
25 MR. R. NAGEAK: Another superintendent,
26 right?
27
28 MS. OKADA: Oh, no, that's a whole
29 different agency.
30
31 MR. R. NAGEAK: Oh, is that the
32 president this time?
33
34 REPORTER: That's Migratory Birds.
35
36 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Migratory
37 Birds. Okay, different discussion.
38
39 MR. R. NAGEAK: When we're making these
40 laws that are being made for our Native people and
41 their rights to do what they're traditionally done,
42 it's got to be better worded there. Every
43 superintendent and we don't know every once in a while
44 there might be a redneck or something that's whatever.
45 We need to have better clarification in that B.
46
47 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: You would
48 like more information for action Alternative B to have
49 related to that.....
50

1 MR. R. NAGEAK: We need somebody that
2 when you start making rules and regulations and laws
3 for our Native people to comply with, it behooves me to
4 start asking that anybody that's under department
5 division and start making all these rules and laws and
6 regulations that the subsistence users must comply
7 with, it's not right.

8
9 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I know
10 exactly how you feel. I was just like that at the
11 table a few weeks ago dealing with the Federal Board
12 process. It is very difficult as we watch the changes
13 throughout our state and the impacts to our traditional
14 cultural uses. When you're sitting at the statewide
15 process further south there are tremendous amounts of
16 conflicts related to the harvesting issues and as you
17 go further north the regulatory process are less
18 because we have less conflict with it, but the effort
19 to increase more and more management regimes are a
20 reality of what's coming about with the things that are
21 before us and I know I'm very concerned.

22
23 I bring the concern that being a
24 traditional person and the reality of my health
25 background what are we causing to our people with
26 taking away their traditional foods with increasing
27 restrictions and changing their dietary habit. What is
28 it doing to our health? It is something I'm very
29 conscious of and I'm very concerned and I brought that
30 out at the Federal meeting because it is something that
31 I see is becoming very, very difficult within our state
32 with increasing changes to our lands and waters and the
33 impacts are created with traditional and cultural uses
34 with changes coming into these areas.

35
36 MR. R. NAGEAK: And that's why, Madame
37 Chair, my earlier comments in regards to all the
38 different agencies and like you say with the Yellow-
39 Billed Loon and the restriction that they're starting
40 to lay on us with that and how you just referred it's a
41 different agency and all these little rules and
42 regulations that's going to complicate our ability to
43 live our lives the way that we've done before, they're
44 convoluted and all over the place and that's what I
45 meant earlier when I stated all these agencies that are
46 Federally regulated for us to comply with, they're all
47 over the place and there's like nitpicking our ability
48 to be free and to be who we are.

49
50 Superintendent here, superintendent

1 there, what they feel like they need to be hard on the
2 Natives, they'll be hard on the Natives and we have to
3 look at a Baptist minister as a superintendent is going
4 to be more liberal or somebody from a tea party that's
5 going to hammer down on us. We don't know who the
6 superintendent is going to be. That's why all these
7 rules and regulations that are coming down on the
8 tribal entities and their way of life.

9

10 You know where I'm coming from though.
11 And all the Federal monies that are coming to Alaska
12 that's supposed to help us alleviate a lot of these
13 issues, that's with living in our lands for centuries
14 and now all these little rules and regulations that
15 tend to box us in.

16

17 MS. OKADA: I understand.

18

19 MR. R. NAGEAK: No wonder all our young
20 people are getting drunk and abusing drugs.

21

22 MS. OKADA: I understand the bigger
23 picture that you're looking at, but at this very moment
24 we're just focused on an EA on the collection of horns
25 and antlers. Just to clarify, a superintendent is the
26 superintendent of Gates of the Arctic, so that would be
27 Greg Dudgeon for us. I had mentioned Sue Masica and
28 she's the regional director, so she's the head entity
29 for the whole state of Alaska for the Park Service.

30

31 MR. R. NAGEAK: All right. Who's the
32 head chief of all the Federal agencies in the state of
33 Alaska?

34

35 MS. OKADA: Oh, the Secretary of
36 Interior, so it's Ken Salazar.

37

38 MR. SHEARS: The State of Alaska
39 though.

40

41 MR. LEAVITT: Pat Pourchot is the state
42 representative for Salazar.

43

44 MS. OKADA: Pat Pourchot.

45

46 MR. R. NAGEAK: If we've got to
47 negotiate through these policies and stuff like that,
48 we want to try to make sure that we're in great shape
49 and the people at a higher level of authority or
50 whatever.

1 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I believe
2 the discussion has been very effective to this. I know
3 that our Staff are taking notes for this process. We
4 have.....

5
6 MR. R. NAGEAK: It's like we're
7 negotiating for the freedom of our people to do as they
8 please in the low level land which it needs rules and
9 regulations is beyond me to try to fully arrest my
10 people to comply with these. It's like, no, you've got
11 to go to the traditional council or the chief or
12 somebody. I'm just advisory. If you want to negotiate
13 and give them something back that they used to have all
14 the time, then it's above me -- I mean below me. No,
15 where am I? I'm just an advisory.

16
17 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: You're here
18 at the table with us. I understand.

19
20 MR. R. NAGEAK: I'm just advisory. I'm
21 not going to be setting laws or recommending laws
22 that's going to make.....

23
24 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay. I
25 see where you're coming from this.

26
27 MR. R. NAGEAK: I'm lost. I'm talking
28 too much, Roy.

29
30 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: There are
31 repercussions to the decisions that we make and that's
32 why I made sure that I communicated and encouraged the
33 reconsideration of the alternative that was being
34 discussed. We could take Alternative A, which would
35 not change it. We could take Alternative B, which
36 would allow collections unlimited and no permits. We
37 could take Alternative C, which is collections limited
38 by areas and discretionary permits and then Alternative
39 D, which is the collections limited by areas and
40 species with permits.

41
42 That was all the alternatives before
43 us. We've had some very good discussion. What was put
44 on the table was for consideration with supporting
45 Alternative C and if we have no further discussion,
46 that's what's before us right now.

47
48 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair, I'm on the
49 spot. I want to do what's right for my people, but at
50 the same time I don't have that authority. I'm just

1 advisory.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: So we can
4 make the recommendations that you're saying. If you
5 feel that putting on additional restrictions, which by
6 selecting Alternative C is collections limited by areas
7 and discretionary permits, it would add on the
8 requirement that the traditional user has to deal with
9 this discretionary permits, but it would not be as
10 restrictive as the Alternative D, which has further
11 restrictions and requirements for reporting within
12 specificity with the species. So that would be more
13 restrictive. If you felt that you wanted to be more
14 broad, then that would be more Alternative B, which is
15 collections unlimited and no permits.

16

17 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair. Being a
18 Federal United States citizen of the United States and
19 citizen of the state of Alaska, how do I fit in
20 collecting these as everybody else does? Like I stated
21 earlier, they're being sold all over the place.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: The issue
24 before us is limited to the collection of discarded or
25 shed parts in Park lands.

26

27 MR. R. NAGEAK: What's the current law
28 for everybody else, like United States citizens in the
29 state of Alaska?

30

31 MS. OKADA: On Park lands?

32 MR. R. NAGEAK: No, on the collection
33 of horns for handicrafts for making all these. I see
34 them all over the place.

35

36 MS. OKADA: So right now, I mean, I can
37 only speak for Park lands. Nobody is allowed to
38 collect.

39

40 MR. R. NAGEAK: Then how come I see
41 them all over the place being sold?

42

43 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Because on
44 other public lands.

45

46 MS. OKADA: It's a big state, so
47 there's other lands that aren't Park lands. They could
48 be collecting on State land or.....

49

50 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Federal

1 lands.
2
3 MS. OKADA:non-Park Service
4 lands.
5
6 MR. LEAVITT: Madame Chair.
7
8 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes, Lloyd.
9 Your button.
10
11 MR. LEAVITT: Roy, we both have to
12 remember that the residents of Anaktuvuk gather all
13 their horns, stockpile them and sell them, whatever
14 horns they pick up. You've been to Anaktuvuk numerous
15 times. Over by the corporation camp they stock up all
16 the caribou antlers and they get a charter and sell
17 them all out. You're aware of that. That's been done
18 before. I've been traveling with the villages the
19 past, what, pretty close to 29 years and it's been
20 happening for several years. That's the only village
21 that collects antlers and sells them that I know of.
22
23 MR. R. NAGEAK: So it's already
24 happening.
25
26 MR. LEAVITT: It's been happening for a
27 number of years.
28
29 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes.
30
31 MR. R. NAGEAK: Let it happen then.
32
33 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: So that's
34 the question. What alternative do you want to support.
35
36 MR. R. NAGEAK: Well, just let them do
37 it. It's their freedom to do what they please, right?
38
39 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Right. So
40 Alternative A would be no change. Right now there's a
41 concern that it's illegal for our traditional cultural
42 activities. Alternative B would have collections
43 unlimited and no permits required. Alternative C has a
44 little bit more restriction in which there's
45 discretionary permits required and Alternative D has
46 the highest restrictions where it's species specific
47 for permits.
48 MR. R. NAGEAK: If they're doing it
49 now.....
50

1 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: The
2 broadest would be Alternative B.
3
4 MR. R. NAGEAK: If they're doing it
5 now, we shouldn't stop them from doing it now.
6
7 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: That's what
8 we're trying to do is to recognize that it is occurring
9 and giving them the legality to continue doing our
10 traditional cultural activities. The recommendation we
11 need is determining between A, B, C or D.
12
13 MR. R. NAGEAK: And we just took down
14 D.
15
16 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: The
17 recommendation that we have from the other side over
18 here is for recommendation of Alternative C because we
19 are concerned about the activity and what it may react
20 to in the region. They would like to be more
21 cautionary and go with Alternative C. That allows for
22 discretionary permits and collects limited by area.
23 The broadest one would be Alternative B, which would
24 have the least amount of restrictions.
25
26 MR. R. NAGEAK: So then my question
27 would be on the B section, violating conditions
28 established by the superintendent.
29
30 MS. OKADA: You said B?
31
32 MR. R. NAGEAK: Alternative C, section
33 B, how that would be differently worded.
34
35 MS. OKADA: So the superintendent.....
36
37 MR. R. NAGEAK: He's the one that will
38 be setting the laws and the rules and.....
39
40 MS. OKADA: The conditions. Yeah.
41
42 MR. R. NAGEAK:the regulations to
43 comply with.
44
45 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: So existing
46 laws that are in place would not be able to be
47 violated, so they would have to follow the existing
48 laws for the Park Service and that's all that is
49 stating. It's not giving him additional regulatory
50 effort. It's just stating that there are existing laws

1 and we wouldn't be able to violate those existing laws.

2

3 MR. R. NAGEAK: Oh, okay. I thought
4 they were going to be established.

5

6 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Violating
7 conditions established by the superintendent is
8 prohibited. So there's already existing conditions
9 that are there and we would not be able to allow the
10 violation of those conditions.

11

12 MR. R. NAGEAK: Okay. And that's what
13 Lloyd meant that they're already doing it, let them do
14 it.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yeah. So
17 that's the question. Do you want it to be more broad
18 or do you agree with allowing us to have.....

19

20 MR. R. NAGEAK: If that existing
21 condition allows it to happen the way it's happening,
22 like what Lloyd said, then that's the condition, right?

23

24 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yeah. Both
25 of them would -- the difference is the requirement of
26 the permit.

27

28 MS. OKADA: So B doesn't require a
29 permit, C does, a discretionary permit.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: So that's
32 the difference between the two. With this there's
33 collections limited by the areas and discretionary
34 permits, whereas this one is the most broad. It's
35 collections unlimited and no permits.

36

37 MR. R. NAGEAK: And that's where Lloyd
38 had stated that he would go anywhere on the North Slope
39 and get what he needs and then he'll take it home and
40 work on it.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: So we're
43 still at the discussion. You would like to see it more
44 broad.

45

46 MR. R. NAGEAK: Right, like Lloyd said.
47 And they won't be permitted.....

48

49 MR. SHEARS: I'd like to see it more
50 controlled.

1 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: And they
2 would like to see it more controlled. So we have a
3 motion from them to support C, which does have a little
4 bit more restrictions limited by areas and
5 discretionary permits. That's what the motion is. You
6 would like to oppose that motion?

7
8 MR. R. NAGEAK: Oh, no.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: You're
11 willing to work with Alternative C?

12
13 MR. R. NAGEAK: Right.

14
15 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay.
16 Good. Question.

17
18 MR. SHEARS: Call for question.

19
20 MR. R. NAGEAK: Oh, somebody made a
21 motion already?

22
23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yeah, they
24 made the motion. We were going through the clarifying
25 discussion. So now we've had that. The question has
26 been called. The recommendation is to support
27 Alternative C and the question has been called. All
28 those in favor for support of Alternative C do so by
29 saying aye.

30
31 IN UNISON: Aye.

32
33 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Opposed
34 same way.

35
36 (No opposing votes)

37
38 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Hearing
39 none. Very good. Moving on. Thank you, Marcy. This
40 was difficult. I appreciate your insight in discussion
41 into the process.

42
43 MR. R. NAGEAK: Marcy, it's just a
44 matter of the rules and regulations that I got all
45 convoluted with, is that superintendent with its
46 established laws. The way that I read it, he could
47 make laws for all of our people.

48
49 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: It's very
50 important to clarify that, so this was a good process.

1 MS. OKADA: I'm up for the next topic.
2
3 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: The next
4 topic is Gates of the Arctic SRC proposal regarding per
5 diem.
6
7 MS. OKADA: I don't know if you guys
8 had a chance to take a look at this. It was in the
9 form of a hunting plan recommendation. Did you have a
10 chance to look at it prior to the meeting.....
11
12 MR. SHEARS: I did.
13
14 MS. OKADA:or you just did? So
15 Hunting Plan Recommendation 11-01, the whole goal of
16 this hunting plan is basically asking for the per diem
17 for SRCs and RACs, Regional Advisory Councils, to be
18 raised within the state of Alaska, acknowledging that
19 the cost of living in Alaska is a lot higher than the
20 rest of the nation. So at this time the Gates of the
21 Arctic SRC has submitted this in draft form for
22 comments from the RACs since it's also including per
23 diem for the RACs.
24
25 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: All right.
26 Do you need a motion for this?
27
28 MS. OKADA: Comments, questions.
29
30 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: For me, I
31 know how much volunteerism this process is causing and
32 it is taking a lot from our participants and the
33 reality is expecting them to add to the cost out of
34 their own pocket is not something that we should be
35 considering and I support this.
36
37 MR. R. NAGEAK: What are we looking at
38 cost-wise? An increase of.....
39
40 MS. OKADA: They didn't give a specific
41 amount. I'm sure there's a whole process for that.
42
43 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Within the
44 Federal process there are different rates throughout
45 the state and looking at depending on where you're at
46 there's different rates. However, within our process
47 we have had very limited funding and we are at the
48 minimal list process. So if we could take the
49 recognition that we need to think about what we can do
50 to deal with what the reality is. Helen.

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The reality is these
2 are set in Washington and the per diem rates are
3 statewide for all Federal employees and all people who
4 are on FACA committees. We have no control over them.
5 I think in the interest of time I wouldn't spend too
6 much on this. You can make a comment and say, yes, we
7 support higher per diem rates. We do too.

8
9 MR. SHEARS: That's what I was just
10 going to say.

11
12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Personally, just
13 because we're running short on time I wouldn't spend a
14 lot of time on this.

15
16 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Any other
17 comments.

18
19 MR. R. NAGEAK: To increase them, just
20 support the increase?

21
22 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yeah.

23
24 MR. R. NAGEAK: So moved, Madame Chair.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: All right.
27 That's been discussed. So we can move on. The next
28 one is adding AKP to the caribou concern. I didn't
29 write my note very well, but I know the issue is for
30 protecting the caribou migration for the village of
31 Anaktuvuk Pass and that there are issues of changing
32 the lands and waters near them and there are concerns.
33 Anaktuvuk Pass would like to have Staff work with them.
34 We have numbers for Bass Gordon, who is the tribal
35 president, and Esther Hugo, who is the mayor of
36 Anaktuvuk. I would like to make the recommendation
37 that we have Staff contact them and see what they can
38 work with on developing a proposal to help them address
39 their concern.

40
41 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

42
43 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes.

46
47 MR. MIKE: Who is the contact?

48
49 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Esther Hugo
50 is the mayor and Bass Gordon is the president of the

1 Native village.

2

3

MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

4

5

MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes.

6

7

MR. R. NAGEAK: It behooves me to ask
8 the same question I had earlier, especially with a
9 corridor access. Going into the Haul Road there's the
10 -- the yellow part is BLM, Bureau of Land Management?

11

12

MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Uh-huh.

13

14

MR. R. NAGEAK: How access to those
15 lands could be better managed to offset the disturbance
16 of migration routes into the Anaktuvuk Pass area. Is
17 that a good recommendation or do the people from around
18 Fairbanks or the people that use the access road,
19 Dalton Road, have the freedom to do what they want to
20 do in those areas?

21

22

MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: What you're
23 saying is -- I see where you're coming from. The
24 reality is that along the Dalton Highway there are some
25 -- and especially around Anaktuvuk -- there's multiple
26 landowners and it's very difficult to come up with the
27 proper process to give the recommendations to help
28 address Anaktuvuk's needs. So that's why I say allow
29 our Staff to work with Anaktuvuk Pass and see what they
30 can develop as a proposal and come back to us at our
31 next meeting with what they would like us to do.

32

33

MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair. If we
34 could have a better, bigger map/area and have Anaktuvuk
35 people identify what migration routes are of concern
36 like within that corridor of different lands because
37 it's kind of hard to try to read. I think there's maps
38 available with all the little valleys and which routes
39 the caribou -- and they should know which route the
40 caribou utilize for migration and by the Dalton Highway
41 with people that are -- because of the increase of
42 five, the impact that it's had on the migration route
43 of the caribou, which need to go to Anaktuvuk Pass.
44 Maybe that will be the way to look at it.

45

46

MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: There's a
47 lot of -- there's multiple land use issues related to
48 it, so we need to allow the Staff to work with AKP on
49 the issue because there's issues related to BLM, issues
50 related to activities on the Dalton Highway, there's

1 issues related to activities near the Dalton Highway
2 and there's other activities related to research and
3 monitoring. So efforts to get Staff involved with the
4 village and trying to see what we can develop would be
5 the best way to go.

6

7 Lloyd.

8

9 MR. LEAVITT: I would want to go with
10 your proposal since a lot of the lands are restricted
11 and are held by the Federal government around Anaktuvuk
12 area. They have a little more insight in this and
13 they'll be able to work with the community of Anaktuvuk
14 on the needs of migratory routes here.

15

16 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair. I see
17 there's a major river that goes right alongside the
18 Haul Road and how that is being accessed because I've
19 heard that there are boats.....

20

21 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Right.

22

23 MR. R. NAGEAK:that are going on
24 the Dalton Highway and that's a state river, I believe,
25 and how it impacts.

26

27 MR. SHEARS: Madame Chair.

28

29 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Bob.

30

31 MR. SHEARS: This additional
32 consideration adds a lot of weight to this suggestion
33 in the respect that the Dalton Highway is treated by
34 the North Slope Borough Planning Department as a
35 development corridor and it's administrated similar to
36 Prudhoe Bay and the Kuparuk and other oil field
37 industrial areas. Therefore, it doesn't get the
38 scrutiny as a subsistence resource or how activities
39 there impact subsistence as other activities in other
40 areas and resource and preservation areas do.

41

42 This summer Great Bear Petroleum is
43 going to start doing shale oil gas drill -- shale oil
44 drilling right on the Dalton Highway 20 miles south of
45 Deadhorse. This is going to be a truck haul intensive
46 project. It's going to be a moving fence of
47 18-wheelers going up and down the Dalton Highway along
48 the Sag River that's going to greatly affect migration
49 more so than any of the hunting activities that we
50 considered earlier today.

1 The Borough is not going to be
2 observing this. They're just monitoring to make sure
3 -- and maintain it -- it's in compliance with their
4 permit regulations. Their permit regulations stipulate
5 -- has no stipulations whatsoever on affecting
6 subsistence. Therefore, Anaktuvuk Pass is justified in
7 protecting their own interest in this regard and I
8 support this consideration.

9
10 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: All right.
11 Do we have any further discussion.

12
13 (No comments)

14
15 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we need
16 a motion or do we just take the recommendation and the
17 discussion that we have? We're good? All right.
18 Hearing no further discussion. Next on the agenda is
19 agency reports, OSM.

20
21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'll be quick.
22 These are on page -- I believe it's 54 of your book.
23 There's been a lot going on, so this is actually
24 somewhat out of date. The first point was that because
25 of the Secretarial Review that AFN requested of the
26 Federal subsistence program we now have appointed --
27 the Secretary has appointed two new Board members to
28 the Federal Subsistence Board who are rural subsistence
29 users. This is a big change in the Federal subsistence
30 management program.

31
32 You probably are all aware that Charlie
33 Brower has been appointed and you should be proud that
34 you have somebody from your region. And from Southeast
35 is Anthony Christianson from Hydaburg. So now the
36 Federal Board, for those of you who are new, will be
37 made up of the director of BLM, Fish and Wildlife
38 Service, National Park Service, BIA, and Forest Service
39 and Charlie Brower and Tony Christianson and the Chair
40 Tim Towarak from Unalakleet.

41
42 MR. SHEARS: Good.

43
44 MR. R. NAGEAK: Here here.

45
46 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It will really
47 change, I think, some things on the Board. The
48 Memorandum of Understanding is being reviewed as a
49 result of the Secretarial Review and there's a work
50 group that's addressing that and they've had several

1 meetings and they're going to report back to the Board
2 in May of 2012, so you'll hear more about that at your
3 next Council meeting.

4
5 Then the rural determination process
6 has risen again and at a recent meeting the Board in
7 January, at the end of their Federal Board meeting,
8 they decided to initiate a new rural process review and
9 this will be looking at the whole process starting all
10 over again from the bottom up. So more on that. That
11 doesn't have any big effects in this region other than
12 Prudhoe Bay went from being rural to nonrural in the
13 last review process.

14
15 Then on the next page just -- I'm not
16 going to go through these, but there have been a lot of
17 changes in our Staff. I believe there are more to
18 come, so just look at these. Most of these people you
19 have never met, probably never will meet and even if
20 you came to the Board meeting you might not meet them.
21 Just a lot of changes in the Staff and more to come.
22 The Federal government is aging rapidly and hopefully
23 we'll get newcomers in.

24
25 I would like to maybe say that given
26 the late hour, just to make sure, we have one more
27 thing we have to do today and that's to determine the
28 dates for the fall meeting and the winter meeting and I
29 think maybe we should do those first so that those
30 don't get suddenly pushed to the side.

31
32 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair. Just a
33 quick reflection on the Staff. Do you have an
34 organizational chart?

35
36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We don't right now.
37 We can put a request in to get one. We've had so many
38 changes and shifts that it's -- they're redoing it.

39
40 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just to get an idea of
41 all the positions that are within the organization.

42
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Who's doing what.

44
45 MR. R. NAGEAK: How they fit together
46 within the realm.

47
48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We can put a request
49 in for that. I know they're redoing it in the office.
50 I should make a note that we are hiring a Native

1 liaison for the Office of Subsistence Management. That
2 position was advertised. I know that Crystal Leonetti,
3 our Fish and Wildlife Service Native liaison put a lot
4 of effort into outreach and she's gotten a lot of
5 response, so we should know who that person is within
6 the month or so.

7

8 So your calendars, what page are those
9 on in those Northwest books?

10

11 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: 58.

12

13 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's the winter
14 one or the fall one?

15

16 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: That's the
17 fall.

18

19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Fall? Okay. So 58
20 and 59. Your fall meeting you already had designated
21 August 14th. I assume that would be in Barrow since
22 we're in a budget crunch and we've having to have
23 meetings be in regional centers.

24

25 (Council nods affirmatively)

26

27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So we want re-
28 confirmation that August 14th works for the Council and
29 then you need to pick a date in the winter. The only
30 dates that have been selected so far is Seward
31 Peninsula chose February 12th and 13th.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: What is the
34 wish of the Council. Lloyd.

35

36 MR. LEAVITT: I'll make a motion to
37 have our winter meeting February 26th and 27th.

38

39 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: First
40 solidify August 14th for the fall meeting.

41

42 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. The fall meeting,
43 I'd like to make a motion to have our fall meeting on
44 August 14th, 2012 and to have our winter regional
45 meeting on February 26th, 27th.

46

47 MR. SHEARS: I'm good with that. I
48 second that.

49

50 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: We have a

1 motion and second. Do we have any discussion?

2

3 MR. R. NAGEAK: Just out of curiosity,
4 that one we had with the Northwest was just once in a
5 lifetime or.....

6

7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's correct.

8

9 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I wouldn't
10 say it was once in a lifetime, but it was a request
11 that we were able to facilitate to occur and if we have
12 interest in needing to address proposals that cover
13 both regions, it's something that we could discuss in
14 the future. So I wouldn't totally isolate it out.
15 But, yeah, we don't have the funds to plan to do that
16 on a regular basis, but if we had a need, we could try
17 to identify a way to make it occur.

18

19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Very well put.

20

21 MR. R. NAGEAK: Call for the question.

22

23 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: The
24 question has been called for. All those in favor of
25 having the fall meeting August 14th and the winter
26 meeting February 26th to the 27th in Barrow, do so by
27 saying aye.

28

29 IN UNISON: Aye.

30

31 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: All those
32 opposed same sign.

33

34 (No opposing votes)

35

36 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Hearing
37 none. Motion passes.

38

39 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Madame
40 Chair. That concludes everything I have to do. I just
41 want to thank you all personally for having me here and
42 thank you for a great meeting. I think you have a few
43 more possibly. I don't know what the agencies have to
44 report, but thanks.

45

46 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: All right.
47 Next on the list is U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

48

49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: There's no one here
50 from Arctic Refuge to provide anything.

1 Thank you.

2

3 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Ernest.

4

5 MR. E. NAGEAK: I just wanted to
6 introduce myself again. I'm Ernest Nageak, the U.S.
7 Fish and Wildlife Service that recently opened up an
8 office in Barrow within the last two years. Mostly a
9 little bit over a year. They had hired me as an Alaska
10 Native affair specialist to be a local guy in the Fish
11 and Wildlife office. We'll be having a new education
12 specialist moving in in March, so we'll be in the
13 office year round. We have an office up the road from
14 the vet and the gas station. Our number is 852-2058.
15 If anybody has any concerns or questions, I could try
16 my best to get the answers. So I just wanted to let
17 you guys know we have a local office. If there's any
18 concerns in the villages, just give us a call.

19

20 MR. SHEARS: Where are you at? What's
21 your location?

22

23 MR. E. NAGEAK: I'll give you my card
24 so you could have that, but our.....

25

26 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: It's right
27 across from the vets office here in Barrow and it's
28 just down the street from the gas station. There's a
29 blue building there.

30

31 MR. SHEARS: All right. I gotcha.

32

33 MR. E. NAGEAK: We have an office and
34 we'll be here year round. I just wanted to clarify
35 that.

36

37 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Thank you
38 for sharing that. I thank you for being involved in
39 this process. Your communications are definitely an
40 addition that is helpful in our process, so thank you.

41

42 National Park Service. Do you have
43 anything additional to add.

44

45 MS. OKADA: Madame Chair. Council
46 members. Marcy Okada for Gates of the Arctic National
47 Park and Preserve. Donald had handed out or had passed
48 out a handout. I'll just speak real briefly with the
49 interest of time. Our next SRC meeting is on April
50 18th and 19th in Anaktuvuk Pass.

1 Just to get back to Roy about it, it
2 was subservient. The Federal Government Hunting Plan
3 Recommendation 10-01 did have a little verbiage on the
4 Federal government taking a subservient role to the
5 State. Hunting Plan Recommendation 10-01 has been
6 submitted to Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar and the
7 Governor of Alaska Parnell. It's undergoing a 60-day
8 review. We just received comments from Governor
9 Parnell this past week.

10
11 There's some information about the
12 Western Arctic Caribou Herd, which when it broadens its
13 range, goes over to Anaktuvuk Pass. There's more
14 handouts on the table. There's some information also
15 about the dall sheep population in Itkillik Preserve.

16
17 There's a little bit of information on
18 some public outreach we've been doing with the school
19 in Anaktuvuk Pass and then also some cultural resources
20 information as well. So it's all written on paper. If
21 you have any questions, my phone number is at the top
22 of this handout.

23
24 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
25 any questions or comments.

26
27 (No comments)

28
29 MS. OKADA: I just sped through there.

30
31 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: That's
32 fine. I appreciate the communications. Thanks for
33 clarifying the information Roy was looking for. I
34 appreciate you looking into that.

35
36 MR. R. NAGEAK: What's that say again?

37
38 MS. OKADA: It was subservient, not
39 submissive. So subservient was the word.

40
41 Thank you.

42
43 MR. R. NAGEAK: Submissive. How did I
44 come up with submissive.

45
46 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Okay, going
47 on. BLM, do we have any further communications.

48
49 MR. SHARP: Madame Chair. My name is
50 Dan Sharp. I'm with BLM in the Anchorage office. What

1 I'm presenting here today is purely informational.
2 It's not looking for any action from the Board, but
3 this is just to make the RAC aware as to what
4 initiative the BLM is starting to undergo.

5
6 I was the one who provided these maps
7 for you. What these maps are are, if you look at the
8 red lines, these are guide use areas that the State is
9 coming up with. I'll note first off the map says May
10 of 2009. It's a draft map. In 2007 the Big Game
11 Commercial Services Board started this initiative to
12 delineate the number of guides to allocate the number
13 of guides that would be allowed to operate on State
14 lands.

15
16 A little background. I believe in the
17 '70s the State established exclusive guide use areas.
18 In 1988, the Alaska Supreme Court found that
19 unconstitutional, saying that those exclusive areas
20 were not subject to competitive bidding. There's no
21 money coming to the state. The guide use areas were of
22 unlimited duration and they could be transferred or
23 sold as if the guides owned them. So the exclusive
24 guide use areas were found unconstitutional. Since
25 then it's been sort of a helter-skelter approach.

26
27 As time has gone on, the Board of Game
28 has received numerous proposals to limit the operations
29 of big game guides to reduce harvest by guided hunters
30 primarily to address in-field crowding, competition for
31 food in rural areas and such. But the State is
32 proceeding with their new program to establish guide
33 use areas. Again, on these maps, you'll notice the red
34 lines mark guide use areas. There's a small number in
35 parentheses that is a draft number for what the State
36 is recommending for guides to be allowed on State
37 lands.

38
39 BLM has never done a capacity analysis
40 for BLM-managed lands. Although there's multiple
41 jurisdictions in the guide use areas, those numbers
42 only represent what the State would be allowed to
43 operate on State lands. The State is looking to BLM to
44 provide a similar number for what would operate on BLM
45 lands. So this is purely a guide capacity. We're not
46 dealing with number of animals harvested. We're not
47 dealing with transporters. These are big game
48 concessions. As you look at the map, those are fairly
49 small numbers, 1 and 2 guides for some of these areas.
50

1 What we're starting off is a NEPA
2 analysis to come up with an environmental assessment to
3 provide a similar number for guides that would be
4 allowed concessions on BLM managed lands. I guess,
5 just as a heads up, that's why I'm making the RAC aware
6 of this. My anticipation is this will probably take a
7 couple of years to work through and as this progresses
8 I'll probably find myself in front of the RAC again in
9 the future to update folks as to where we're going.

10

11 But the process will be we'll come up
12 with a number of alternatives similar to what the Park
13 Service did for a range of alternatives for options and
14 the ultimate goal is to then have a maximum number of
15 guides that would be allowed to operate in a particular
16 area.

17

18 I'll try to leave it as briefly as
19 that. I know it's a controversial topic. We're very
20 early in the game here and you'll have plenty of
21 opportunity to comment and have your opinions heard.
22 This is just where BLM is starting this initiative.

23

24 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.

25

26 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Roy.

27

28 MR. R. NAGEAK: What's your
29 relationship with the State Board when you say that
30 game guides are requesting for access to the National
31 lands or BLM controlled lands?

32

33 MR. SHARP: Through the Chair. One of
34 the concerns is if, in fact, the State establishes a
35 guide concession program. All those folks who don't
36 get concessions, they're going to look to where they
37 can operate and they're going to be looking to BLM
38 lands because BLM is the only Federal agency that
39 hasn't gone through this capacity analysis. The
40 Refuges and the Parks have all established their
41 filters, so to speak, for how many guides would be
42 allowed to operate and what qualifications they need.
43 BLM is the only agency that hasn't done this.

44

45 One of the concerns is every guide that
46 loses out in the State process is going to come looking
47 for BLM lands and we don't have a filter right now.
48 There aren't too many areas in the state on BLM-managed
49 lands where we're bumping up into significant issues.
50 The Dalton Highway is one and the Squirrel River area

1 is another, but we're sort of looking to the future as
2 to have a process and I guess a filter so to speak in
3 place to where when that time comes we can address the
4 issue.

5
6 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair, again.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Roy.

9
10 MR. R. NAGEAK: I believe there's
11 certain areas, especially done by the Borough, where
12 traditional hunting areas are noted in maps, where
13 future development or all across -- I've seen those
14 maps where caribou did migrate and I think around
15 Anaktuvuk Pass there's migration paths that's already
16 been identified, east, west. I'm wondering, to make
17 your job easier or to make it easier for how to
18 regulate or to appease some of the concerns from
19 Anaktuvuk Pass, are you aware of those from.....

20
21 MR. SHARP: Yeah, I'm aware of many
22 maps, I guess, and I want to sort of keep it on a high
23 level that this is only to provide a number of guides.
24 It's not talking about a number of clients or number of
25 animals killed.

26
27 MR. R. NAGEAK: Right, but.....

28
29 MR. SHARP: Once we have the number of
30 guides, then we can address those concerns as to where
31 and what stipulations should be placed on those guides
32 as to how and where they operate. Right now it's only
33 the number of concessions that would be permitted and
34 there are many issues that are sort of down deep or
35 sort of in the weeds that will come up. Right now on
36 the upper level we're just looking at the number of
37 guides.

38
39 Once we say we'll allow one guide to
40 operate there, then we can start to address how can he
41 operate, how many clients can he take, how can he
42 access the area and how will he address interference
43 with subsistence. So right now it's a capacity. We
44 don't want 30 guides. We want to come up with a
45 number. So those social issues and some of those
46 things will be addressed in the future, but this is
47 only a capacity question.

48
49 MR. R. NAGEAK: In some cases there's
50 certain locations like around Anaktuvuk Pass where some

1 of the caribou are channeled and that's where they're
2 catching and deviating their path into Anaktuvuk Pass
3 because of the channeling effect. In the NANA region
4 area, talking with other people there, some of these
5 guys are going right on top of those areas where the
6 caribou channel for them to get that high-dollar,
7 easier caribou to catch, but at the same time deviating
8 the regular path of migration. You're looking at that
9 aspect, where they need to keep away from those areas?
10

11 MR. SHARP: That will come in the
12 future and I've seen that happen. I've seen thousands
13 of caribou turned from 20 bow hunters, but that's sort
14 of a future question. Right now I'm just letting you
15 know that we're starting the process to provide a
16 number of guides that will be allowed to operate on BLM
17 lands. Those stipulations as to where and how they can
18 operate will come in the future. Our concern is we
19 don't want 30 guides. We want to have a filter and we
20 want to be able to say we're going to allow two guides
21 and then we'll set up a criteria as to how and where
22 they can operate.
23

24 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I think to
25 make this easier what I would recommend is that we are
26 just now receiving this information. I think each of
27 us need to take this information into our communities,
28 get some additional information and be able to bring
29 this information back to this table for further
30 discussion. When do you need this?
31

32 MR. SHARP: My guess is I'll probably
33 provide more information to you in the future. I'm not
34 looking for any response back right now. This is just
35 sort of a heads-up that we're going down this path.
36

37 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: So, Don, I
38 would like to include this for further discussion at
39 our next meeting and to allow each of us to go back to
40 our communities and to identify additional concerns
41 related to this and bring it back to the discussion.
42

43 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair.
44

45 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes.
46

47 MR. R. NAGEAK: On each section, like
48 2303, there's one number, that's the places where one
49 guide could go into?
50

1 MR. SHARP: That's a State number. If
2 you look in the very back, the bottom of 2303, there's
3 a little bit of blue land. The rest of that is all
4 National Preserve.

5
6 MR. R. NAGEAK: And that's one guide.

7
8 MR. SHARP: That's what the State is
9 recommending, one guide would be allowed to operate in
10 there. And this is a draft.....

11
12 MR. R. NAGEAK: But these are only
13 guides, but there's like 100 other private pilots that
14 could go anywhere they want to go.

15
16 MR. SHARP: This is only addressing
17 guides. Folks that own private airplanes operate under
18 -- this is only for professional big game guides. I
19 know there's transporters, there's private hunters,
20 there's a whole slough of categories of folks.

21
22 MR. R. NAGEAK: That are all over the
23 country.

24
25 MR. SHARP: We're only addressing
26 guides, folks that are selling hunts, the folks that
27 are making \$10,000 on a moose or a sheep or something.
28 That's the number we're trying to address. I know
29 there's a whole bunch of different hunters.

30
31 MR. R. NAGEAK: Transporters.

32
33 MR. SHARP: Transporters. This isn't a
34 transporters.

35
36 MR. R. NAGEAK: There's enough guys
37 here. As we see that on the Alaska airplane where they
38 just transport and they were transporting them all
39 over.

40
41 MR. SHEARS: One guide understand can
42 be operating a number of transporters and assisting
43 guides and outfitters all in one unit simultaneously,
44 so the actual impact to these units is kind of
45 unquantified by this.

46
47 MR. SHARP: It's unquantified and that
48 becomes the stipulations on that guide's permit. I
49 understand we're not going to -- one guide can't take
50 400 people in. Those become stipulations. Until we

1 get a set number of guides, then we can start to attach
2 stipulations on his permit, on his special permit.

3

4 MR. SHEARS: That's what I'll be
5 looking at then.

6

7 MR. SHARP: Those are the more critical
8 questions. This is sort of the big number and all the
9 issues are below that.

10

11 MR. R. NAGEAK: But, Madame Chair, it's
12 wide open for the transporters, just the people that
13 drop off. I mean they could drop off like 100 people
14 if they wanted to.

15

16 MR. SHARP: And BLM does issue permits
17 for transporters. You're required to have a permit too
18 and we do limit those in some areas. It's a bigger
19 issue in other areas and other Federally managed lands,
20 but BLM does have a permit program for transporters.

21

22 MR. SHEARS: And so does the North
23 Slope Borough.

24

25 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Any other
26 discussion.

27

28 MR. R. NAGEAK: And again my earlier
29 question in regards to how the State Board of Game is
30 the one that's reflecting on this? I need that
31 clarification again.

32

33 MR. SHARP: This is managed by the
34 Department of Natural Resources, the Big Game
35 Commercial Services Board. They are the folks who
36 establish the number of permits that would be allowed
37 to operate on State lands. As far as the number of
38 animals taken and such, that's under the purview of the
39 Board of Game, whether or not it's a draw permit and
40 the license fees and tags.

41

42 MR. R. NAGEAK: On State lands.

43

44 MR. SHARP: On State lands.

45

46 MR. R. NAGEAK: And how are we
47 controlling the take of animals on Federal lands?

48

49 MR. SHARP: Well, it depends on if
50 you're a State hunter or a Federal hunter. It's two

1 sets of regulations in which you're hunting under.
2 Right now if it's a guided hunter, he has to operate
3 under State regulations unless there's a Federal
4 restriction on that.

5
6 MR. R. NAGEAK: Drop off hunter. State
7 laws control the drop-off hunter to Federal lands?
8

9 MR. SHARP: Yes, but BLM would have a
10 permit for the person dropping him off.

11
12 MR. R. NAGEAK: So they could be
13 dropped off anywhere they
14 want to be dropped off.

15
16 MR. SHARP: It depends upon the permit
17 and what has been stipulated on the permit. It's not
18 wide open, Roy.

19
20 MR. R. NAGEAK: Okay.

21
22 MR. SHARP: We're trying to address
23 concerns as problems come up. We're not willy-nilly
24 sending folks everywhere.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: So
27 recognizing that there's additional information that is
28 going to be needed for further assessment of this
29 issue. So if we can work with Staff to get that
30 additional information and help us in this process,
31 that will benefit further discussions.

32
33 MR. R. NAGEAK: Madame Chair. Before
34 our next meeting I'd like to try to get an idea of
35 where the concentration of the request from BLM permits
36 are. Do you have some form of -- like how this is
37 colored. There's a place where there's a high density
38 area request for BLM to have permits for drop off.

39
40 MR. SHARP: Well, I could probably
41 provide that, but, as I referenced, the two areas where
42 we have the biggest issues are the Squirrel River area
43 and the Dalton Highway. Those are where we have the
44 most feedback from. We haven't -- a lot of problems
45 haven't been brought to us aside from those two areas.
46 Again, we're trying to be proactive anticipating in the
47 future there may be problem areas and we'd like to have
48 this program set up prior to that.

49
50 MR. R. NAGEAK: But do you see where

1 I'm coming from, is what is being controlled by access
2 to the land by BLM and where, if a permit is required
3 and is not willy-nilly, you know where they're going to
4 go and which ones are the ones that they tend to prefer
5 going into by drop-off transporters. Because it will
6 be real easy with their permit by you guys and stating
7 that last fall for bears that's where the concentration
8 was. This year for caribou it was high over here and
9 used to be over here.

10

11 That's my next question, is how these
12 tagged caribous are followed by everybody that's got
13 access to the computer. You know what I mean? Just by
14 a click they know where the herd is.

15

16 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Oh, that's
17 research monitoring.

18

19 MR. R. NAGEAK: That's different?

20

21 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Well, no.
22 It's relevant for your communication and, yes, there is
23 concerns from many of our rural areas that satellite
24 tracking of our animals increases others being aware of
25 where the animals are and allow them to plan to get
26 into areas that will facilitate their hunts but impact
27 other tribal hunts. There are those concerns that have
28 been out there. For this information we need to get
29 more information. We need to look at this discussion
30 more formally within our communities and we need to
31 look at more historical information.

32

33 We've had a good discussion here. We
34 know that we're going to address it further. I think
35 we need to be open to receive more information as well
36 as be active in trying to get some historical
37 information from our participations and come back and
38 look at this further.

39

40 MR. R. NAGEAK: I'm sorry.

41

42 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: That's
43 good. It's good discussion. It's important to have it
44 and you brought out some important discussions. We
45 just need to get more information and that's something
46 we can do. Donald's been listening to this discussion.
47 He's our Staff person that will help facilitate this.
48 You also listened to the discussion and information
49 that you can bring into the process. We'll have more
50 information at the next meeting. We all can participate

1 in our communities and ask more information about that
2 and be able to come in with further discussion at the
3 next meeting.

4

5 MR. LEAVITT: Madame Chair.

6

7 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yes.

8

9 MR. LEAVITT: The other item we had
10 requested about a year or so ago was that even the
11 tagged caribous, even the people who have a conception
12 of thinking that they're all at Teshekpuk area, there
13 was only one caribou, just a tagged caribou that has to
14 be taken into consideration. In other words, we had
15 asked for better monitoring of the caribou herds due to
16 the fact that there was a sole caribou and everybody
17 was thinking that all the caribou was over at the east
18 side of Teshekpuk. So we had asked for better
19 monitoring on the tagged caribous.

20

21 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: We're
22 taking notes to that. That's a good comment. Any
23 other questions or comments.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Thank you
28 for your information.

29

30 Dave.

31

32 DR. YOKEL: Thank you, Madame Chair.
33 Council members. My name is Dave Yokel. I work for
34 the BLM's Arctic Field Office in Fairbanks, which
35 manages the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska, also
36 known as NPR-A or previously to 1976 known as PET-4. I
37 talked to you last October about the land use plan
38 we're currently developing. I don't have anything to
39 add because I told you then the draft would probably
40 come out in April of 2012. That's still the expected
41 date, so I'll just skip over anything else about that
42 plan.

43

44 As far as our activities in NPR-A this
45 winter, it's pretty quiet for us. We have no seismic
46 operations this winter, no exploratory drilling
47 operations this winter. We do have one legacy well
48 clean-up operation that's occurring at Umiat this
49 winter. Other than that the BLM continues to do
50 studies in the NPR-A on wildlife, birds and mammals,

1 fisheries, hydrology, archeology, subsistence use. We
2 do most of these studies in cooperation with other
3 agencies and, frankly, I'll just leave it at that
4 considering the time.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Do we have
9 any questions or comments for Dave.

10
11 (No comments)

12
13 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Thank you,
14 Dave. I lost track. We just did BLM, so we're on
15 ADF&G.

16
17 MR. R. NAGEAK: Alaska. We had Geoff.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Yeah, Geoff
20 was here earlier, but no further communications for
21 this section. Do we have any from Native organizations
22 that would like to participate at this time.

23
24 (No comments)

25
26 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Seeing and
27 hearing none. We discussed our future meetings and
28 we're at closing comments. We started on the left
29 side, we'll start on the right side. Start with Lee on
30 the phone if he's still there.

31
32 MR. MIKE: Lee, do you have any closing
33 comments.

34
35 MR. KAYOTUK: No, I don't, not at this
36 time.

37
38 MR. MIKE: Your comment was recognized,
39 Lee.

40
41 MR. KAYOTUK: Okay, thank you.

42
43 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Lloyd,
44 would you like to.

45
46 MR. LEAVITT: What we've been
47 discussing today I'll be looking forward to reviewing
48 them and take action on them at the next meeting. This
49 has been a very good meeting day. A lot of issues came
50 out that we discussed. I'm glad the problems have been

1 taken care of and some of the issues that we've had
2 concerns on and that they've been taken care of. I
3 encourage the board to continue to work together on the
4 subsistence way of life issues we have within our
5 region here.

6
7 We really need to revisit the arena
8 where -- walrus is always a concern to me. I want to
9 be able to catch a walrus that beaches on the gravel.
10 I don't want to be threatened by anyone that they're
11 going to arrest me or give a citation to me. I need to
12 feed my family and myself. So we need to make
13 considerations that a pod of under 10 or a single
14 walrus beached, seeing they come up and rest, that we
15 should be able to allow and take the walrus. The last
16 couple years I've been waiting for a beached walrus to
17 go out and kill it.

18
19 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I
20 understand your concern and there is meetings next week
21 on the walrus haul-out. Definitely if you can and
22 provide comments at that meeting it will be very
23 helpful. We'll be receiving information as to what
24 they've learned from this process as well as receiving
25 concerns at the meeting. So if you can attend that
26 meeting, definitely participate at that. We hear the
27 issue here. I'm not sure how to -- I recognize your
28 concern and I know that we're having changes to the way
29 the animals are used in our lands and waters and we
30 just have to work within the process of what's being
31 assessed and try to come up with a way to help with the
32 management of these resources.

33
34 Bob, do you have closing comments.

35
36 MR. SHEARS: I've spoken enough today.

37
38 Thank you.

39
40 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Roy.

41
42 MR. R. NAGEAK: Me, too, but I share
43 Lloyd's same concern because we only got one walrus
44 this summer and it was from the beach and it was close
45 enough to town for people who haven't caught a walrus.
46 They just gobbled it up. We opened it up and I'm glad
47 my sons and the boys that caught it. It was the only
48 walrus we had for like the whole summer and it was from
49 the beach
50 and we had all the innards studied. But all the people

1 that got a piece of it, even though it was a small
2 piece, was so happy. That's an issue what Lloyd had
3 stated.

4
5 And the concern with out of nowhere the
6 earthquake debris is now, but I think it's heading
7 towards our region this summer maybe. I heard it's
8 around Alaska or.....

9
10 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah, a lot of it. All
11 those buoys that was in the Aleutians, right, and the
12 west coast of the Lower 48.

13
14 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Thank you.
15 We've had a great meeting today. I think that for you
16 new members you really had a jump in and learn a lot
17 today. The way that we interacted has been very
18 positive and I appreciate the whole process that went
19 about today. We definitely had an opportunity to share
20 information and we didn't get to that -- we had talked
21 about that at the airport yesterday about the -- what
22 do you call that word for new members?

23
24 MR. LEAVITT: Orientation.

25
26 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK:
27 Orientation. There we go. So, Don.

28
29 MR. MIKE: Yes. Just due to the time
30 and lateness of the day and other activities going on,
31 I suggest we have it at our next Council meeting. Just
32 set a two-hour block prior to the meeting and then
33 we'll have the orientation.

34
35 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: I agree
36 with that.

37
38 MR. MIKE: The nominations for RAC
39 member closes on the 18th. So if you know of anyone
40 that wants to serve or has an interest in submitting an
41 application, now is the time.

42
43 Thank you.

44
45 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Close on
46 what date?

47
48 MR. MIKE: February 18th.

49
50 MR. R. NAGEAK: For the two vacant

1 positions?

2

3 MR. MIKE: Yes and no. Our nomination
4 cycle opened a couple months ago and now the
5 nominations are going to be closing in a couple days.
6 We're just taking new applicants.

7

8 MR. R. NAGEAK: Have to be from a
9 certain village?

10

11 MR. MIKE: Anybody can apply within the
12 region.

13

14 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: There are
15 various villages that we have encouragement to get
16 village participations on seats, but we are very broad
17 in accepting interested applicants into this process
18 and we like to be diverse and make sure that we try to
19 get a wide variety of interests into this process so
20 that we can really help facilitate the issues, so it's
21 pretty broad.

22

23 Do we have any final discussion
24 comments.

25

26 (No comments)

27

28 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Hearing
29 none. I would entertain a motion to adjourn.

30

31 MR. SHEARS: Second.

32

33 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: You have to
34 make the motion. I can only ask for it.

35

36 MR. SHEARS: Oh, okay.

37

38 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: Lloyd. I
39 can only ask for it. He can ask.

40

41 MR. LEAVITT: Second.

42

43 MADAME CHAIR AHTAUNGARUAK: So you're
44 second. Good. All right. All those in favor do so by
45 saying aye.

46

47 IN UNISON: Aye.

48

49 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

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Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 9/16/14