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NORTH SLOPE SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING

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10

March 4, 2004

11

8:30 a.m.

12

Inupiat Heritage Center

13

Barrow, Alaska

14

15 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

16

17 Harry K. Brower, Jr., Chairman

18 Raymond Paneak

19 Terry Tagarook

20 P. Earl Williams

21 Paul S. Bodfish, Sr.

22 Ray Koonuk, Sr.

23 Rosemary Ahtuanguaruak

24 Gordon R. Brower, Sr.

25

26 Barbara Armstrong, Coordinator

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CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good morning, everyone.
We'll call the meeting of the North Slope Regional
Advisory Council to order at this time. And we'll go
into a roll call and establish our quorum. Barb.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Harry Brower.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Raymond Paneak.

MR. PANEAK: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Terry Tagarook. Earl
Williams.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Doing roll call, Earl.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Earl Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

MR. WILLIAMS: Oh, here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Terry Tagarook.

MR. TAGAROOK: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Paul Bodfish.

MR. BODFISH: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Ray Koonuk, Sr.

MR. KOONUK: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Rosemary Ahtuanguaruak.

MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Gordon Brower, Sr.

MR. G. BROWER: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chairman, we have
a quorum.

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1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Barb. We'll
2 go ahead and move on to the next agenda item. It's
3 welcome and introductions. As you already heard, my name
4 is Harry Brower, I'm from Barrow. And we'll just start
5 from here and go around the table and introduce
6 yourselves to the guests that we have here this morning.
7 Ray.

8
9 MR. KOONUK: Ray Koonuk, Sr. from Point
10 Hope.

11
12 MR. PANEAK: Raymond Paneak from
13 Anaktuvuk Pass.

14
15 MR. WILLIAMS: Earl Williams from
16 Anaktuvuk Pass.

17
18 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Rosemary Ahtuanguaruak,
19 Nuiqsut.

20
21 MR. TAGAROOK: Terry Tagarook from
22 Wainwright. Welcome.

23
24 MR. G. BROWER: Gordon Brower from
25 Barrow, and welcome. Good morning.

26
27 MR. BODFISH: Paul Bodfish from Atkasuk.
28 Welcome.

29
30 (Introduction of visitors - away from
31 microphone)

32
33 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Barb Armstrong,
34 Coordinator for North Slope.

35
36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Helen Armstrong,
37 anthropologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of
38 Subsistence Management.

39
40 MR. FISHER: Dave Fisher, wildlife
41 biologist, Office of Subsistence Management, Anchorage.

42
43 MR. YOKEL: Good morning, Mr. Chairman.
44 Dave Yokel, Bureau of Land Management in Fairbanks.

45
46 MR. PETERSON: Sverre Peterson, Alaska
47 Department of Fish and Game, Fairbanks.

48
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good morning, Sverre.
50

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1 MS. BROWN: Wennona Brown, subsistence
2 coordinator, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Fairbanks.

3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Steve.

5
6 MR. FRIED: Good morning, Steve Fried
7 from the Office of Subsistence Management, Anchorage.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Steve.

10
11 MR. RABINOWITCH: Sandy Rabinowitch,
12 Staff Committee and to the Federal Board. I work for the
13 National Park Service.

14
15 MR. ANDERSEN: Fred Andersen. I'm a
16 subsistence coordinator for the Park Service for Gates of
17 the Arctic.

18
19 MR. KESSLER: Good morning. I'm Steve
20 Kessler, I'm on the Interagency Staff Committee, and I'm
21 with the Forest Service. I work out of Anchorage.

22
23 MR. EASTLAND: Good morning, I'm Warren
24 Eastland, wildlife biologist for the BIA, Staff
25 Committee.

26
27 MR. HOPSON: Baxter Hopson, Native
28 Village of Barrow.

29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, everyone for
31 your introductions, and welcome all to Barrow.

32
33 Before we continue, I'd like to ask for
34 -- generally as part of our custom in our region to hold
35 an invocation, but since we don't have written in our
36 agenda, maybe I'll just ask for a moment of silence at
37 this time.

38
39 (Pause)

40
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you everyone.
42 Thank you.

43
44 The next item we have on our agenda is
45 number 4, review and adoption of the agenda.

46
47 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chairman.

48
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.

50

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1 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chairman, for discussion
2 I want to approve the agenda for March 4, 2004.

3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's a motion on the
5 floor to adopt the agenda for March 2004.

6
7 MR. PANEAK: Second.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded. Further
10 discussions.

11
12 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.

15
16 MR. KOONUK: As you say, our custom,
17 invocation, I believe that that needs to be added on our
18 agenda, because, you know, our elders have taught us,
19 without, you know, the blessing, and every time we have a
20 meeting, we need to have that.

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Ray.

23
24 MR. KOONUK: I need to make a motion that
25 from now on our -- on the agenda, that invocation be put
26 on there.

27
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor to
29 have invocation on the agenda.

30
31 MR. TAGAROOK: I second that.

32
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Terry.

34
35 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Question.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question called for.
38 All in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

39
40 IN UNISON: Aye.

41
42 (No opposing votes)

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, everyone.
45 Thank you, Ray. Sverre, do you have a.....

46
47 MR. PETERSON: Yeah, I wonder, Mr.
48 Chairman, if under 11.G. that you could give me a couple
49 minutes, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, you have,
50 you know, individuals specified here, and I'd like to be

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1 on the agenda.

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CHAIRMAN BROWER: That's where.....

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MR. PETERSON: Sverre Peterson,
Department of Fish and Game.

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MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair.

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CHAIRMAN BROWER: Barbara.

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MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You can pretty much follow your agenda on the book. And the reason why I had this orange book out here is because under -- well, before I do that, I'd like to ask that Mr. Fenton Rexford will be here at 11:30 for 86a and b. And.....

CHAIRMAN BROWER: 86a and b.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: At 11:30. And then 1:30 is Mr. Jack Reakoff will be on teleconference from Western Interior Regional Advisory Council. And going on to the agency reports, you'll notice there's a difference there between the orange and the white color, because there were some changes made after this book had gone out. And under agency reports, number 1, that will be given by Barb Armstrong. Rural update is informational only. Governor's request will be given by Helen Armstrong. Staff Committee role is informational only. Draft predator management policy is informational only. Safari Club Litigation Briefing will be given by Helen Armstrong. And those are the only changes that I have at this moment, sir.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Barb.

MR. KOONUK: So we'll be using the yellow agenda?

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, you can use the yellow agenda for the agency reports, and the other -- and that's in your book is okay, too, with those things that I just added on there. And for the times that Mr. Rexford and Mr. Reakoff will be at your meeting today.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any further comments or discussion on the agenda.

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1 MR. PANEAK: Question call for, Mr.
2 Chairman.

3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been
5 called on the agenda as amended. All in favor of the
6 motion signify by saying aye.

7
8 IN UNISON: Aye.

9
10 (No opposing votes)

11
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Next item
13 we have is agenda number 5, review and adoption of the
14 minutes.

15
16 MR. BODFISH: Mr. Chairman, I make the
17 move to approve the minutes for September 9th.

18
19 MR. G. BROWER: There's a motion on the
20 floor to adopt the minutes of September 9, 2003.

21
22 MR. TAGAROOK: Second.

23
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded. Further
25 discussion?

26
27 MR. KOONUK: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

28
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.

30
31 MR. KOONUK: I seem to be absent on
32 September 9th. I don't see my name as members present.
33 I think I was there in Barrow.

34
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

36
37 MR. KOONUK: I would like to see my name
38 put on the members present.

39
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Add Ray Koonuk from
41 Point Hope to the members present on the minutes of
42 September 9. We'll do that, Ray. Any further discussion
43 on the minutes?

44
45 (No audible responses)

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any amendments to the
48 minutes?

49
50 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman.

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1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond.

2

3

4 MR. PANEAK: In our minutes, like you
5 report here, that I guess in that last work, I should say
6 I have seen wounded caribou and moose, but that was I
7 heard it from Jack Reakoff. That needs to be corrected.
8 That's what he was telling me. Jack Reakoff is close
9 neighbor from Anaktuvuk. I just want to make that
10 correction, Mr. Chairman.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So that information was
13 passed on to you?

14

15

16 MR. PANEAK: Right.

17

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

20

21

22 MR. PANEAK: Yeah. Right. Thank you.

23

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Ray.

26

27

28 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Mr. Chairman,
29 question called for.

30

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been
33 called on the motion to adopt the minutes of September
34 9th, 2003. All in favor signify by saying aye.

35

36

37 IN UNISON: Aye.

38

39

40 (No opposing votes)

41

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. We have now
44 moved down to item number 6, Council member reports. We
45 will go ahead and start with you, Paul, and start on the
46 opposite end of the table.

47

48

49 MR. BODFISH: Okay. Thank you, Harry.

50

51 Hunting's been pretty good up in our region, our area.
52 Caribou, fish, wolf, wolverine, they're all around. And
53 that's about all I have.

54

55

56 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, this is Gordon
57 Brower. I haven't been out much, but my brother's been
58 out, and I talk to him periodically, and they've been
59 hauling back and forth to our camps with some of our
60 subsistence caught stuff during the fall season, so -- he
61 hasn't been lucky yet, but he said it's been Kaviks (ph)
62 all around. He's been trying to get them. So that's all
63 I've got.

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1 MR. TAGAROOK: This is Terry Tagarook
2 from Wainwright. Everybody's been harvesting what they
3 wanted for the winter. Caribou's been plentiful and
4 people are out fishing. But with the weather changing
5 and everything, it seems like we need to adjust to the
6 climate. And that's all I have.

7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry.

9
10 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Rosemary Ahtuanguaruak.
11 We've had a lot of caribou around our community, so
12 there's been hunting going on. We've had a few people
13 successful with wolverine catches. There's been a couple
14 that have sighted some wolves, but they haven't succeeded
15 in the harvest of them. They're just starting to do some
16 ice fishing for tudalik (ph), and so far they haven't had
17 success, we're looking for the various sites now.

18
19 MR. WILLIAMS: Earl Williams from
20 Anaktuvuk Pass. I have a couple of letters here, but
21 everybody's doing pretty good at home, and the caribous
22 are around down Allen River area. And Raymond knows
23 pretty much about that, too.

24
25 And I've got a couple letters here that I
26 got from -- I got one from Fred. Can I show it to you,
27 Harry?

28
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Excuse me? No, I
30 haven't seen the letter.

31
32 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes. Anyway Harry brought
33 this letter before me and asked me to bring this up
34 before you all concerning the sheep seasons, and they say
35 they're going to keep it as it is, but, you know, they
36 want to put something down, I think it's from December to
37 April, right? Yeah. They just want to put that off,
38 they want to. They're going to deal with that sheep
39 season. But the falltime they want to keep it as it is.
40 Plus they're having a concern about village people, and
41 there's some non-hunters that's going out to -- going out
42 and -- that's all the concern I had anyway.

43
44 Thank you.

45
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Earl, maybe
47 we'll just read the letter for the record, to get the
48 rest of the Council members updated as to what the letter
49 states, Earl.

50

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1 MR. PANEAK: Raymond Paneak from
2 Anaktuvuk.

3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Ray.

5
6 MR. PANEAK: I'm surprised we have a
7 couple members from Anaktuvuk. I don't know how that
8 happened, but I think maybe you need to be aware.

9
10 But anyway, what Earl was saying, I'm
11 aware of where the caribou are. Those caribou that went
12 through last fall, winters down right by Coldfoot area,
13 then almost all the way down to Bettles, and now they're
14 at the Allen River. I think that they're getting ready
15 to travel up north. So I heard that some other people
16 went down, needed to go hunt them, and I heard they were
17 pretty healthy.

18
19 But again I wanted to point out, last
20 fall when we were out hunting, we still run unto a lot of
21 sick caribou that have a lot of worms, and some people
22 that takes caribou have been -- just left the meat for
23 grizzly or something. It's not good to eat when they
24 have worms, and pretty bad sickness.

25
26 And other report we've heard was that
27 sheep studies, what Earl I think got a letter from us.
28 But sheep studies show pretty good. Gates of the Arctic
29 sheep studies. That was done before, that sounds good.

30
31 Then the only other problem -- actually
32 two problems. One is when they open up that sheep season
33 fall hunting to December, that's what the village like.
34 but then if they open it all the way to April, unless it
35 -- it used to be good when we used to survive and that
36 thing. That's like many years ago. Only thing is, we've
37 got the hunters that are eligible now, like public safety
38 and teachers, and, see, we don't hunt sheep until after
39 December, January, February, March, April, and we don't
40 hunt sheep. What it is, they -- I guess they want horns.
41 And I kind of like that new rule they put out, fall
42 hunting to December, and not springtime. We don't hunt
43 sheep in springtime. I don't hunt sheep much in the
44 springtime anyway, not even same thing with some of the
45 hunters. So sometime we do have problem with just the
46 public safety that just live up there for couple years,
47 and teachers that live up there for couple years only.
48 They always been replaced anyway with new teachers, new
49 public safeties.

50

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1 Then one more thing, what -- I had
2 testimony to the Legislature about this Seekin wanted to
3 open up the Dalton Highway for snow machining and
4 hunting, and which I am opposed, because we had neighbors
5 like Nuiqsut and Wiseman, Bettles, Allakaket, Anaktuvuk,
6 it's -- if they open it up for snow machines and ATVs and
7 hunting, it's going to be a lot of people traveling
8 through winter and disturbing our caribou wintering area,
9 and it's going to change. But then, of course, everyone
10 knows that that pipeline was not open for hunting
11 purposes, so it was for the -- you know, it's for helping
12 out pipeline. It's not open for hunting. And if they
13 open it up for snow machine and ATVs, there are going to
14 be too many people up there, and we already have enough.

15

16

17 Thank you. That's all I have.

18

19

 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond.
20 Ray, before you start, can we ask Earl to maybe just read
21 the title of that letter you were showing me, and where
22 -- who it was sent to?

23

24

 MR. WILLIAMS: It's sheep harvest
25 question from city meeting 1/8/04, Dear Honorable Mayor
26 and Council members. In regard to our recent attendance
27 at the City Council meeting, January 2004, a City Council
28 member raised a question to Mr. Gary Youngblood, chief of
29 operations, UYGA. Mr. Youngblood researched that
30 information, need to clarify and learn that National Park
31 Service cannot make hunting regulation change. But we
32 can support the community's concern any applicable when
33 in Federal public land.

34

35

 Let us assist by replying to this
36 question addressed to you. The Council member's concern
37 was that sheep harvest seasons is too long. You should
38 consider a shorter seasonal hunt. The Federal
39 subsistence regulations state a sheep harvest that allows
40 sheep hunting for up to 60 quota between July 15 and
41 December 31st on Federal public land, Unit 26(A) and (B).
42 This regulation was adopted at the request from Anaktuvuk
43 Pass, and Nathan Ben Hobson, Jr., a local resident. And
44 Alaska hunting regulation is open from August to April
45 hunt to private land, State and native corporation land.
46 So you would have to contact the representatives and --
47 for your suggestions again. This is not a park land
48 regulation, but it's Alaska Department of Fish and Game
49 hunting regulations.

50

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1 Please keep in mind to review both the
2 Alaska hunting regulations and subsistence management
3 regulations on Federal public lands in Alaska available
4 at Numuit (ph) Corporation and National Part Service
5 office. The GAAR has local representatives, Subsistence
6 Resource Commission, members Rachel Riley and Earl
7 Williams who may help address this issue by residents of
8 Anaktuvuk Pass. The North Slope Borough Fish and Game
9 Management Committee are George Puneak and Gladys McKanuk
10 (ph) of Anaktuvuk Pass. Also another contact -- person
11 to contact is NSB Fish and Game, Kacarrol (ph) of Barrow,
12 Alaska.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Earl. We'll
17 probably discuss this further when we get into the
18 proposals, to see how we're going to address that concern
19 regarding the sheep and the length of season.

20

21 MR. WILLIAMS: And I just want to add one
22 more to this, not this one, but to my support Raymond
23 what he's testified to the highway. And when I talked to
24 City Council, they oppose that fully, and we need some
25 support on that.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Earl. Thank
30 you, Raymond. Ray, defer to you.

31

32 MR. KOONUK: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
33 Chairman. Point Hope, everything's been slow. Tom cod
34 fishing came in real late. Unusual for this time of the
35 year. A few caribou here and there, but not very much.
36 Ice conditions are bad to where it's real thin, because
37 of the winds we had, north/northeast winds, and it's been
38 blowing and just pushing the main ice out, and once it
39 calm down, then the ice would form, but it's real thing,
40 like maybe about five to 10 inches. That's about it.
41 And we had one hunter that went out who caught a seal,
42 and he tried walking on the ice, but he went right
43 through, and lucky he jump right back out of the water,
44 rolled over on the thin ice, and saved himself.
45 Otherwise everything is okay. Not very much activity due
46 to the winds.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Um-hum. Thank you Ray.
49 I don't have too much to add for Barrow's concerns. I
50 have gone out occasionally, but not distances I would

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1 like to go, but it's -- I've gone out caribou hunting.
2 It's been pretty good for myself, and my son, we've been
3 traveling out into Admiralty Bay and coming back into
4 Barrow on daily trips, but we see quite a bit of caribou
5 out there out to the west of us. We start from Barrow,
6 but then once we get further towards Admiralty Bay, it's
7 -- the resources tend to thin out in that area.

8

9 I made a couple of attempts to go up to
10 the cabin. We had snow machine problems, and then we
11 didn't even get past 40 miles, so we ended up turning
12 around and coming back. We were having problems with --
13 we run across a couple of the hunters that they didn't --
14 they mentioned that the terrain was pretty rough, and
15 snow drifts were very big. Large snow drifts, and
16 creating problems for traveling right out probably the
17 first 30 miles anyway it seems pretty rough because of
18 the storms that we've had. The most current one, I'm not
19 -- it's probably even worse now with the snow conditions,
20 They're even worse now probably from what we had earlier.

21

22 There's been quite a few caribou being
23 harvested nearby, near the community. People traveling a
24 few miles to harvest caribou to the west of us. There
25 has been caribou through there throughout the winter in
26 that area. They're probably starting to move further
27 inland because of all the activity that's starting to
28 occur now with all the daylight increasing.

29

30 We've had a couple recent rescue, but
31 they were just short distance, and bringing people right
32 back into Barrow. Overdue. Broken snow machines, and
33 that kind of stuff. So that's normal for us around here,
34 to have -- and that's something that we need to be more
35 aware of throughout our hunting. From the hunting
36 activity increases, there's more people going out. I
37 think we need to be more diligent about informing the
38 rescue -- local search and rescue, volunteer search and
39 rescue about the areas you're going to be hunting. It's
40 something we need to stress. I know we just had another
41 meeting here in Barrow with our local volunteer search
42 and rescue, and passing out that information again.

43

44 Fishing was a little unusual for me. I
45 didn't even get to do any fishing last fall. I came
46 back, because of the problems we were faced with during
47 the time we were -- we reached the cabin, and we forgot
48 some of our equipment to pull our boat out of the river.
49 Anyway, we ended up coming back, and we had no tools, no
50 means of pulling the boat out of the river to spend the

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1 fall season there, so I ended up coming back, me and my
2 nephews. There's four of us in the boat, you know. We
3 made it down to the mouth of the river just as the ice
4 was starting to build up in the Admiralty Bay, which
5 already had about six inches thick. And we'd traversed
6 over that into the open water, and then there was a long
7 stretch of ice to travel over, along Admiralty Bay. And
8 shallow in some areas.

9

10 Otherwise, I've talked to the other
11 fishermen, they did -- they seen some changes occur in
12 the high water, the late season freezing up. Those are
13 changes that that's occurring as we speak, you know,
14 throughout the year. It's climate changes that are
15 affecting the opportunity to harvest resources at the
16 time that they normally harvest them, so -- I guess we're
17 going to continue to see that, and try to make changes as
18 we see fit.

19

20 I don't have too much more in terms of
21 concerns from Barrow. We've had other resources that we
22 used, the marine mammals. There have been quite a few
23 polar bears earlier in the season throughout the
24 different communities. We've had polar bear deterrence
25 programs in Kaktovik, Wainwright, Barrow, and that kind
26 of slowed down after all the ice came in. So we faded
27 away on that, doing that kind of stuff.

28

29 We're not into the migratory bird hunting
30 yet. They're on their way north I suppose. So thank
31 you. Good morning.

32

33 Do we have any questions from the Staff
34 Committee or any kind of Council members on any other
35 resources? Talk to each other from each of the council
36 members? Rosemary?

37

38 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I just wanted to add
39 that we had some hopes with fishing this year for this
40 first time after eight years of bad fishing. We had some
41 showing of a few big fish, many small fish. They're not
42 at our traditional numbers that we've had over the last
43 decades, but it has sparked a little bit of hope that
44 we're going to see some return of our fishing stock at
45 the Arctic cisco.

46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
48 Any Council members have any questions to some -- I'm
49 sorry Geoff. Sorry. I had to get something going around
50 here. Come up to the mike. Would you please come up to

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1 the mike, Geoff. Sorry for the mix up here.

2

3 MR. CARROLL: Okay. Yeah. I'm Geoff
4 Carroll with Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and the
5 Anaktuvuk Pass representatives mentioned this Senate bill
6 to open the Haul Road corridor to ORVs, and I guess
7 what's the feeling of Nuiqsut towards that?

8

9 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: That's -- I was hoping
10 to be able to testify on that hearing, and unfortunately
11 they scheduled it during this meeting, so I can't divide
12 into two. They're having a teleconference this
13 afternoon, and it is something that we're very concerned
14 about.

15

16 We're at the top of the Haul Road, and
17 all the activities along that route will affect our
18 migratory resources that traverse this area. Some of our
19 resources traverse continents to get to our area, and we
20 avoid activities during certain times of the year to
21 ensure the successful migration of these animals to their
22 birthing grounds or to their nesting grounds. And the
23 activities that are proposed will cause changes to our
24 resources. We're very concerned about the migratory
25 route. We're very concerned about the successful
26 wintering of the animals with these activities occurring.
27 We're very concerned about the animals successfully
28 reaching the birthing grounds, crossing the rivers before
29 they melt, because some of these activities are going to
30 divert them into other areas to avoid this activity, and
31 that's going to affect their length of time trying to get
32 to our areas, as well as their survival rates. The birds
33 will be affected, the caribou will be affected, and our
34 hopes of seeing these animals will be affected. It's
35 going to cause us great concern.

36

37 We avoid anything that will risk our
38 successful harvest. Our elders have caught us activities
39 to not do during certain times of the year to ensure the
40 hopes of our animals coming back to us. And people that
41 are not from this area will go into that area to have to
42 have their fun, and will cause changes to their land
43 while they're having fun. But they'll also disrupt our
44 animals, and that's not going to cause good changes to
45 our resources, so -- I was working on some of those
46 discussions, because it's important to have these things
47 put into writing for that hearing since we can't testify
48 by voice like I was planning to do today.

49

50 Our activities are based on generations

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1 of families that have suffered the loss of starvation,
2 death, illness, because of not successful harvesting.
3 And that's important when you're looking at the strength
4 of our communications versus people that base their
5 research on regeneration and duplication. And our
6 generations have built our actions. It's many
7 generations that have succeeded our culture in
8 continuing, because of the strength of those losses,
9 preventing the future losses of future resources. Thank
10 you.

11

12 MR. CARROLL: Okay. Yeah. Thank you.
13 Yeah, I'm a little bit in the same position, because I
14 wanted to testify at that thing this afternoon, too, I'll
15 kind of look at the schedule, if I can sneak off and do
16 that. I might be gone for a while after lunch.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Geoff. We
19 already write some of that stuff from our North Slope
20 Borough with the Department of Wildlife Management. We
21 had one of our Staff members give public testimony,
22 because there was limited time that they were taking
23 testimony from the affected areas, and, you know, we do
24 have concerns, too, from the North Slope Borough, and
25 we've been in opposition to that bill.

26

27 Thank you for bringing that up, Geoff and
28 Rosemary, thank you for your comments. Gordon.

29

30 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, I was just wanting
31 to mention to Rosemary as well, concerning the fishery of
32 Koktuk (ph), you know, the -- and probably some of these
33 biologists might have some better answers, too.

34

35 Some time ago I had been involved with
36 the science advisory committee, maybe back in '96,
37 concerning causeways and stuff for the Borough, concerns
38 of young of the year migration, migration of Koktuk from
39 McKenzie back into Coleville. You know, it's one of
40 those things where the identification of how the
41 restocking of the Coleville took place. In years there
42 would be predictions of slow rate of return, because of
43 wind driven currents and stuff like that, because they
44 also migrate certain times, certain years over to
45 Tuktuyaktu (ph), the Canadian side, because it's like a
46 central point where these fish go either way. And I was
47 wondering if that might have been some of the causes of
48 the rate of return and the amount of harvest availability
49 in certain years.

50

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1 And one of the other things, you know,
2 I'm just spilling up here, and the Dalton Highway opening
3 up proposal for off road vehicles, and we are very much
4 concerned, because it also upsets the North Slope
5 Borough's policies of precluding subsistence users in the
6 localized residence. And some of the other concerns that
7 have brought up and highly publicized like one of the
8 incidents like in Livengood where probably where probably
9 a disgruntled person, you know, and came in range of the
10 pipeline and shot it, and before they could shut it down,
11 it already discharged like 300,000 gallons of crude oil
12 on the ground. And I think the probability of this kind
13 of stuff to start occurring is going to increase, and the
14 areas where these animals may come into contact with this
15 type of activity is going to increase, so -- I mean, I
16 would encourage probably this Federal Subsistence
17 Advisory to maybe make a letter of opposition to that
18 proposal as well. There seems to be a very good
19 consensus of opposition to that proposal, and a very good
20 cause.

21
22 And one more thing just to correlate with
23 Harry. I mean, the ice conditions in the rivers have
24 been late, at sometimes they freeze and then they thaw
25 right away. One of the subsistence guys two years in a
26 row had a hard time fishing, because he couldn't get his
27 nets under the ice. It was just too thin. In times
28 past, the ice would freeze up about the latter part of
29 September, and, you know, we're looking at some of these,
30 you know, bad ice conditions where you're having a hard
31 time putting nets under the ice up until the first week
32 of October. And the fish runs are already happening by
33 that time. But we did have a pretty good harvest of fish
34 this year, or last year. Our fall fishing was good,
35 because we do have a consistent hunter. That's all I
36 wanted to say.

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Any
39 other comments. Rosemary.

40
41 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: We also had problems
42 with the ice coverage. We lost three vehicles this fall.
43 Luckily we lost no lives, but we had three people in the
44 water this fall with their ice fishing efforts. We had
45 one of the elders go down, two young adults go down, and
46 another hunter. But it's definitely -- this hunter was
47 in his late 30s and their traditional activities when
48 they normally would be out there, they were not
49 succeeding in getting out there, so that is a concern in
50 our area also.

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1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
2 Any other comments from the Council. Thank you for
3 bringing up that point about that bill, Raymond. And
4 I've been wanting to ask about -- I wasn't sure if you
5 were going to add any language about the caribou activity
6 that occurred with the central Arctic herd being along
7 the Kaktovik area. I wasn't sure if they migrated across
8 the Haul Road to get into that area earlier this winter,
9 and they, you know, apparently stayed throughout the
10 winter in the -- near Kaktovik, and the residents have
11 been happy about that, and they had indicated to us
12 that's probably the first time in 30 years that something
13 like that occurred in that region. Geoff.

14
15 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, thanks, Harry. Geoff
16 Carroll. Yeah, actually it was the Teshekpuk herd that
17 migrated over there, and they definitely crossed the Haul
18 Road, and the reports from the people that watched them
19 cross the road said that they were, you know, much more
20 reactive to traffic and things than the central Arctic
21 caribou, you know, that have been in that area and are
22 kind of more used to activity, that the Teshekpuk herd
23 really reacted.

24
25 Last week Brian Pearson and I, from the
26 Wildlife Department, flew a survey to see just where the
27 Teshekpuk herd is, and they're spread all the way from
28 Wainwright to the other side of ANWR right now. And out
29 of about radio collars that we have on the herd, 17 of
30 those were over in ANWR, so there's a significant portion
31 of the herd over there. And, you know, it's completely
32 unprecedented in the years that I've been watching the
33 herd that they would do that.

34
35 And among the collars, it was quite a
36 cross section. It was young animals, old ones, males,
37 females. Excuse me. And so it's a very interesting
38 movement, and we're sure curious to see.....

39
40 Oh, the other thing that was really
41 important though, is, you know, when we radio track, we
42 can tell if the animals are alive or dead, you know. The
43 collar gives off a different signal when they die, and
44 there were no dead caribou over there, so they apparently
45 travelled well and got to an area where there were good
46 food resources, and they seem to be doing well.

47
48 And like you say, there's caribou, lots
49 of caribou right around Kaktovik, you know, right on
50 Barter Island, and it -- you know, it's -- it seems like

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1 every three or four years they go up and help out the
2 Anaktuvuk people, you know, they hang around Anaktuvuk
3 through the winter and provide good hunting up there. And
4 this year they travelled clear over to help out Kaktovik.

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Geoff.
7 Thank you for the correction of the caribou herd that
8 crossed the Haul Road there. I'm going to look to Helen
9 or Barb as to how we could address Gordon's concern
10 regarding a letter of opposition regarding this bill.
11 Would that be able to come from our -- the Staff?

12
13 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair,
14 Helen Armstrong. I think it would be fine for the
15 Council to make a motion to write a letter in opposition
16 of the bill, so it's your choice. But that's certainly
17 in the purview of the Council.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Helen. I
20 think that will be something that we could -- I'm trying
21 to figure out where we could take it up in terms of
22 getting a letter out.

23
24 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Put it under new
25 business.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And new business is
28 under what item?

29
30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: 12.

31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: 12. Other new
33 business.

34
35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, you can
36 even do it now if you want.

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah. What's the wish
39 of the council? Gordon?

40
41 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, I would
42 make a motion that the Federal Subsistence Advisory
43 Council of the North Slope make a letter of opposition to
44 opening the Dalton Highway to off road vehicles, that
45 restriction that was in place, and support that, because
46 of subsistence related activities and other related
47 activities that would be detrimental to migration and the
48 use of the local residents of the North Slope.

49
50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We have a motion on the

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1 floor to oppose the proposed legislation repealing
2 language from the Dalton Highway.

3

4 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I second that.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Second the motion.

7 Any.....

8

9 MR. WILLIAMS: Question.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question's been
12 called. I was going to ask for any further discussion.
13 But the.....

14

15 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, discussion.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Earl, could you hold up
18 with that question, please, there's some discussion need
19 to bring brought out.

20

21 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, okay.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Ray.

24

25 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, would a
26 letter or would a resolution be more helpful, besides a
27 letter?

28

29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I'm sorry, are you
30 asking me?

31

32 MR. KOONUK: Yes. Would a resolution be
33 more power -- have more power than a letter to -- for
34 Gordon's concern?

35

36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No, a letter works
37 good from the Council. And I think if you would amend,
38 make an amendment to say that Mr. -- your Chairman can
39 write the letter on behalf of the Council, that would
40 also be good, and then the Council can be polled with the
41 letter now that I have most of you on e-mail. That will
42 make it easier.

43

44 MR. WILLIAMS: So amended, Mr. Chairman.

45

46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Excuse me, we just got
47 reminded that we have a policy now writing letters that
48 just came out sometime this fall. I haven't seen the
49 policy yet on how the Council communication will happen.

50

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1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's being developed.

2

3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It's being developed
4 at this time, and I haven't seen it yet, and we haven't
5 been briefed on it, so if anyone else has information on
6 it.

7

8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, Helen
9 Armstrong. I think given that there's a policy being
10 developed that all correspondence has to go through our
11 management, that a resolution would probably be a better
12 idea.

13

14 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. We're not
17 also aware of all this -- the changes that keep occurring
18 within the management program, so it.....

19

20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It hasn't been
21 finalized, that's why you haven't had -- it's something
22 that was being developed. But I just think maybe not
23 doing a letter is a better idea. Just a resolution.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So in the form of a
26 resolution would be -- carry more weight of being brought
27 out to the affected.....

28

29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yes, for the moment.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER:legislation that
32 we're dealing with. Ray.

33

34 MR. KOONUK: Chair. How soon do we need
35 this resolution? If we need this right away, are we
36 going to do a poll or how is this going to be passed?

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We should probably try
39 to get it accomplished today, because the hearing is
40 today, and we could have -- I think Geoff's going to be
41 going to the meeting. I don't want to delegate that
42 authority from our Regional Advisory Council to Geoff,
43 but, you know, not unless we take a break to go -- get
44 one of us sent over there to give testimony on that.

45

46 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Yeah, I was working on
47 that. I would like to make sure I get some comments, and
48 there were some specific comments about the

49 teleconference that they had last week about how our
50 cultural use would be different than individuals visiting

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1 the area to use it. And so I wanted to make sure some of
2 those comments were out also.

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: How does the rest of
5 the Council feel about that? Raymond.

6

7 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman, I was in that
8 teleconference last week, and I have a printed report,
9 and it's in your -- I forgot to carry it with me, but
10 it's in your wildlife biologist, whatever his name, got
11 the report I wrote, and it's typed, and to add what I
12 think I'm glad that Gordon brought it up, because we need
13 something, you know, in the letter, or resolution like
14 Ray was saying. The other reason I put out in that
15 testimony I have to Juneau was that in -- is the thing
16 I'm worried about, I know from Coldfoot on up to --
17 extend as far up as Coldfoot on up to Deadhorse, I'm
18 aware of it, and from that area, they don't have no
19 emergency services. I'm not aware of emergency services
20 they have from Coldfoot up to -- all the way to
21 Deadhorse, and I only am aware of only one Trooper that's
22 in Coldfoot, and probably these people over here are
23 aware of it, too. So that's why we need something in a
24 letter or resolution, or however it works out, that we
25 need to do that. I'm for that. Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond.
28 Any other comments from the Council? Ray.

29

30 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair, do we need to
31 make another motion as far as drafting this resolution
32 out as soon as possible for teleconference, or is that
33 going to be done by one of the Staff?

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think if we could do
36 that during our break.

37

38 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You can do an
39 amendment.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Make an amendment to
42 the motion to get this letter or resolution written.
43 Maybe it would be something that we could act on. You
44 know, like we normally take a break, and see about
45 getting it drafted.

46

47 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

48

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.

50

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1 MR. KOONUK: I make an amendment to the
2 motion that Staff -- one of the Staff members draft a
3 resolution before the teleconference hearing, and to have
4 one of the Board -- or Council member to present that
5 resolution on behalf of the North Slope Regional Advisory
6 Committee.

7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's a motion on the
9 -- an amendment.....

10
11 MR. BODFISH: Second.

12
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER:amending motion on
14 the floor.

15
16 MR. BODFISH: Second.

17
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Paul. All
19 in favor of the amending motion signify by saying aye.

20
21 IN UNISON: Aye.

22
23 (No opposing votes)

24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I should have asked for
26 any further discussion. But we already took the action,
27 so we'll just on, and go ahead. Now, for the main
28 motion, any further discussion.

29
30 (No discussion)

31
32 MR. KOONUK: Question called for on the
33 main motion.

34
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question is called
36 for on the main motion. All in favor of the main motion
37 signify by saying aye.

38
39 IN UNISON: Aye.

40
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any opposed.

42
43 (No opposing votes)

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank you.
46 So we'll have that resolution this morning or -- I didn't
47 get your name. Could you state your name, please?

48
49 MR. EASTLAND: Mr. Chair, thank you.
50 Members of the Council, I'm Warren Eastland, a wildlife

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1 biologist for the BIA. I'm also a Staff Committee
2 member.

3

4 Barbara and Helen have mentioned the new
5 communications protocols that are being developed for RAC
6 communications, RAC letters. And I would like to remind
7 you that you are an arm of the Federal Subsistence Board,
8 and by drafting a resolution and immediately presenting
9 it without the clearance of the Board, as Staff Committee
10 to the Board, I'm nervous about that, because you are
11 short circuiting part of the process, which is that
12 information flows from the user through the RAC to the
13 Board, and it is the Board that makes the final
14 statements, the final determinations, and also take the
15 heat. So may I caution you about the step you're taking.
16 Thank you.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr.
19 Eastland. If you could just sit there for a second. I
20 think we need to discuss this issue as to how we're --
21 what we just heard. And I agree with what you're saying
22 Mr. Eastland, but we need -- we're trying to address
23 something that is before us, and it's -- I'm not sure
24 length of time we have before the action is taken by the
25 Legislature, and how much opportunity we'll have to make
26 any comments that would be affecting this, you know, the
27 votes or whatever it takes to pass this legislation. So
28 maybe I'd like to ask the Council to see if there's any
29 other discussion on this. Or clarification that may be
30 needed here. Gordon.

31

32 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. I
33 don't think the North Slope Regional Advisory Council is
34 not going in an action mode that's affecting the
35 operation or what's happening with the Federal
36 Subsistence Board by an opposition of changing some
37 existing laws that are there to protect maybe the
38 pipeline and subsistence users on this corridor. It just
39 seems to me that regulations affecting the Federal Board
40 and changing what we're governing the animals by
41 proposals of that nature by a unanimous consent of the
42 Federal Subsistence Advisory Council writing a resolution
43 that is not affecting the Federal Board's way of
44 operation. I'm just wondering how that -- you know, it's
45 just probably my personal view, but the gravity of what's
46 going on and the time frame is kind of pressing.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.
49 Paul, do you have any comments

50

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1 MR. BODFISH: Maybe we could take a
2 little short break and kind of discuss this a bit.

3
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Paul. Ray?
5

6 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman, Raymond Paneak
7 here. I hear what he says. The only problem I think is
8 that we always run into the problem after it happens.
9 For one example, that I am aware of, witnessed, like when
10 we heard about this commercial guides and commercial
11 hunters that guiding north of Anaktuvuk. For example,
12 they always get a permit first from State, and they go to
13 North Slope Borough to get another permission. What --
14 nothing else that North Slope Borough could do, they
15 already get permit from State. And again, it happened.
16 Those guides always get permit, and we can't say nothing.
17 It's always after it happened. The same thing. We went
18 through that in Anaktuvuk. State always gave permission,
19 then North Slope Borough can't say no, they also give
20 permission to those guides and hunters north of
21 Anaktuvuk. I'm aware of that.

22
23 But if you heard the subject already
24 happen, we just can't do nothing, no matter how much
25 we're going to say so. And I'm aware of that problem
26 here, but we need something for this ATVs and ORVs.
27 That's -- I know it's already almost happening again, but
28 we need something in writing anyway. Thank you.

29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Warren.
31

32 MR. EASTLAND: I've told you what I
33 believe to be the situation with the flow of
34 communications, but I am also fully aware of the short
35 time frame, and I'll go ahead and shove my neck way out
36 on the block, and remind you of an old saying that we
37 used to have in the military. It's far easier to seek
38 forgiveness than it is to get permission. Thank you very
39 much.

40
41 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chairman, I hope that's
42 not a threat. I want to.....

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.
45

46 MR. KOONUK:make a comment there.
47 I strongly support Anaktuvuk and Nuiqsut as far as any
48 activity that's going to be going here, and our -- they
49 need to go out and hunt. They need to feed their
50 families. That's number 1. And I strongly support

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1 Nuiqsut and Anaktuvuk for their concern. And a comment
2 you just made, I sure don't appreciate that, so.....

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Ray. Maybe
5 at the time we could take a break and see if we -- could
6 ask the staff to see what.....

7

8 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. President.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER:the opinion from
11 -- Ray.

12

13 MR. TAGAROOK: Before we go on a break,
14 this is Terry.

15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Or, I'm sorry, Terry.

17

18 MR. TAGAROOK: Is there a chance of
19 putting this in the regulations? That would, you know,
20 really help if we had it in the regulations to -- I know,
21 and the tourist industry's big business, but shouldn't we
22 include the tourist season, you know, the animals that
23 are coming through Anaktuvuk Pass or Nuiqsut, or
24 anywhere, if we could put it, or we could put it in the
25 regulations, that would help with traffic control on the
26 Haul Way.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry. I
29 know it's -- that's been the issue about -- the traffic
30 regarding the Dalton Highway has been an issue for a long
31 time. It's -- you know, when we first started their Haul
32 Road, it was -- I shouldn't say we, it was probably the
33 State that got into play here, that they would manage
34 that road for industry use only, but then with the
35 funding that was used, it had to turn into public access,
36 so we're getting faced with these different dilemmas that
37 we're currently facing now, and we need to take some type
38 of action. I was going to ask if maybe if we could get
39 staff to get an opinion from maybe a solicitor during our
40 break, it might be helpful as to which way we proceed
41 forward on this.

42

43 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Mr. Chair.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Rosemary.

46

47 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I know that if that
48 bill passes, we as a Board are going to have to face
49 changes to the regulations that are in this book, because
50 those activities are definitely going to cause a reaction

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1 to our resources, and we're going to have to consider
2 changes to this book as a whole, as to all the multiple
3 resources that will be affected with those changes.
4 Thank you.

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.

7
8 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chair.

9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Earl.

11
12 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, I want to make this
13 brief, we get off. I fully support Rose and Raymond on
14 this, on my behalf for the record, from Anaktuvuk Pass.
15 Thank you.

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Earl. Paul.

18
19 MR. BODFISH: Yeah, I think we should
20 take a break and -- before we take any action so we can
21 do the appropriate paperwork if we need to.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I know we've already
24 taken action on what we want to get accomplished. It's
25 just that we need some kind of -- we had some information
26 that was passed on to us as to what we should seek. But
27 maybe if we could ask the Staff to see if we could get
28 opinion from a solicitor as to what action we've taken.
29 You know, I don't want to be stepping the bounds of what
30 we can do and what we cannot do as a Regional Advisory
31 Council, but we do have a concern that was -- is before
32 us, and it's going to affect our lives one way or the
33 other, if we don't take any action on this. So we'll go
34 on a break for now, and we'll come back in 15 minutes and
35 hear from our staff. Thank you.

36
37 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair?

38
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.

40
41 MR. KOONUK: Before we take a break,
42 yeah, we need to take action on this.

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We've already taken
45 action. Thank you.

46
47 (Off record)

48
49 (On record)

50

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1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for giving us
2 a little break. Do we have anything -- from the
3 discussion we had regarding these comments to the Alaska
4 Legislature, we're going to take full responsibility of
5 the actions of the Council, and I think we do have a
6 provision under our operations manual regarding ANILCA
7 under Section 805, it reads that we are able to make
8 comments to -- affecting our subsistence activities
9 within our region, so I will refer to that in taking the
10 action that we've taken this morning, so we'll go ahead
11 and get our resolution and excuse Mary, and was it, Earl,
12 that you wanted also to give public testimony this
13 morning, or was it just.....

14

15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Raymond.

16

17 MR. WILLIAMS: It was Raymond.

18

19 MR. PANEAK: Yeah.

20

21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond Paneak.

22

23 MR. PANEAK: Right.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Were you wanting to get
26 excused this afternoon also, Raymond, or was it just
27 supporting Rosemary's excusal?

28

29 MR. PANEAK: Maybe I will support
30 Rosemary maybe at this time. Maybe.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond.
33 Getting back to the ANILCA Section 805, in the third --
34 reading at number 3, Regional Advisory Councils in each
35 subsistence resource region, each Regional Advisory
36 Council shall be composed of residents of the region and
37 shall have the following authority. (a) to review and
38 evaluate the proposals for regulations, policies,
39 management plans and other matters relating to
40 subsistence uses of fish and wildlife within the region.
41 So reading that, and we'll take responsibility for taking
42 the action we're taking this afternoon, and we'll give
43 Rosemary the responsibility of providing the comments
44 regarding from the Council this afternoon to that public
45 hearing this afternoon.

46

47 Having said that, any other discussion,
48 comments to that.

49

50 MR. KOONUK: Are we in a motion?

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1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No, I think we acted on
2 the motion, didn't we? We acted on the motion to adopt
3 the resolution.

4

5 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You did.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, we did take the
8 amending motion and the main motion. Yes.

9

10 The next item we have on the agenda is,
11 unless we have any other Council reports that need to be
12 brought out? Any other concerns before moving on to the
13 next agenda item? We have a Chair's report. It says
14 it's under Tab B.

15

16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It's under A. It's
17 under A. It's under Tab A, right behind your minutes.
18 Your draft.

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It's under Tab A, right
21 behind the minutes.

22

23 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Right there. Tab A.
24 It's behind your minutes. It's your draft annual report.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Barb. It's
27 the concerns and issues that we had voiced through 2003
28 from our two meetings, spring and fall, and what we asked
29 before, that we bring out our concerns regarding our
30 annual report, the issues that we wanted addressed
31 through the Federal Subsistence Board, and the two are --
32 or three of them are identified there. It's already in a
33 letter to Mitch Demientieff.

34

35 The first issue is regarding the Grayling
36 in Kuparuk, Kuukpik Rivers. And then they're both on the
37 North Slope. That was one of the issues that we had
38 voiced from the fisheries.

39

40 Another one is Unit 26(A) moose. The
41 Council was concerned about establishing an early summer
42 moose harvest season for the northwest part of Unit
43 26(A). I know you've all heard of this, and we discussed
44 it during our meetings, establishing a July 1 to August
45 31 season with an expanded hunt area would provide an
46 opportunity to harvest moose during the summer.

47

48 And the third issue is on compensation.
49 The North Slope Council continues to be concerned wit the
50 lack of compensation for the Council members Statewide.

00030

1 These are the three issues that we have
2 identified from our 2003 annual report. Did I miss
3 anything, Barb, or Counsel members, do we have any other
4 issues that we want to get addressed? Barb?

5
6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I don't have any
7 unless the Council members need to add any more into the
8 annual report, and we can do it. This is still a draft
9 letter. Thank you.

10
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Thank you.

12
13 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

14
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond. Ray.

16
17 MR. KOONUK: Yeah.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Excuse me.

20
21 MR. KOONUK: Under compensation, we as
22 Council members get our what, per diem, or honorarium for
23 what, 80 percent, and I would recommend or make it by
24 motion that we receive our compensation at 100 percent,
25 because we end up waiting for the 20 percent of our
26 meeting, or whatever. I don't know what do we get,
27 honorarium or per diem, one of those two, but I would
28 recommend we, by motion, that we receive our compensation
29 at 100 percent instead of 80 percent.

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: A motion's on the floor
32 to amend the compensation from 80 percent to 100 percent.

33
34 MR. PANEAK: Second.

35
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Raymond.
37 Any further discussion on the motion?

38
39 (No discussion)

40
41 MR. WILLIAMS: Question.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question's been
44 called for on the motion. All in favor of the motion
45 signify by saying aye.

46
47 IN UNISON: Aye.

48
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And any oppose, same
50 sign.

00031

1 (No opposing votes)

2

3

CHAIRMAN BROWER: None known. So we'll
4 add that on, Ray, to the annual report regarding
5 receiving the compensation at 100 percent. Any other
6 comments or discussion regarding the annual report?
7 Steve.

8

9

MR. KESSLER: Hi, I'm Steve Kessler with
10 the Forest Service, part of the Interagency Staff
11 Committee. Mr. Chairman, I suggest that you might
12 consider adding this issue that you were just talking
13 about through the resolution into this letter, because
14 that is really the official way that this information
15 gets directly to the Federal Subsistence Board for their
16 actions. So the communications you're talking about
17 about off road vehicles with the North Slope -- I mean,
18 on the Haul Road, you might want to add that in here.

19

20

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Steve. I
21 just need some clarification from Barb. Would that be
22 possible to add that on to our 2003 annual report? I
23 think we're addressing something that we've already
24 addressed from our following meetings, is that correct?

25

26

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: If you want to add
27 that -- excuse me. If you want to add that into your
28 annual report, it's at your request.

29

30

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Thank you, Barb.
31 Any further comments from the Council regarding that
32 issue, putting -- providing that resolution that we just
33 discussed earlier regarding opposition of off road
34 vehicles along the Dalton Highway. James Dalton Highway.
35 Adding that language to our annual report. It looks like
36 we have consent, seeing heads nodding indicating adding
37 that onto the 2003 report.

38

39

MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

40

41

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.

42

43

MR. KOONUK: The reason I brought this up
44 is that, you know, we've been requesting Department of
45 Interior to raise our honorariums, and we've been
46 requesting that for years, and we never got nowhere with
47 this compensation. And that's the reason why I brought
48 this motion to where we could receive 100 percent of our,
49 you know, compensation for our meetings here. And as we
50 discussed yesterday, our, you know, economic situation

00032

1 here on the North Slope is declining. And there's
2 families that need the money to provide fuel, food for
3 their families, and that's the reason why I brought this
4 issue up. Thanks, Mr. Chair.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Ray.
7 Another issue that I've been involved in through, under
8 the Chairman's report, I've involved with the -- I was
9 selected through our Council to represent the Council,
10 and then through the 10 Regional Chairs, I was selected
11 to be representing the 10 chairs in this subsistence use
12 amount protocol, and we're still working on that
13 protocol. It's progressing forward, and we should be
14 hearing some updates on that. I think it would be at
15 this fall's meeting on how far we've proceeding in terms
16 of making recommendations for the Board on the amounts
17 necessary. It's amounts necessary for subsistence in the
18 State, and subsistence use amounts under the Federal
19 management program. Most are familiar, but definitions
20 -- but we need to be careful as to how you interpret the
21 two, so that's what we've been working with and trying to
22 clarify the definition for the two word, language used to
23 address the protocol.

24

25 And we've also made some changes to the
26 charge regarding what we're supposed to be doing when
27 we're meeting with the two agencies, Federal and State,
28 and as -- have a partner that represent the user groups
29 under the 10 Regional Council Chairs. Two of us were
30 appointed, one being from the Yukon, Gerald Nicholia, and
31 myself, and we're selected to represent the 10 Council
32 chairs, and we've been working on that.

33

34 And what we've been trying to address was
35 the Yukon fisheries, salmon fisheries. The hardest one.
36 We've noted that was one of the hardest one to try to
37 address, and if we could -- we had made the determination
38 within the 10 Council Chairs, that if we could get over
39 this issue about this Yukon salmon fisheries, then we're
40 able to follow that and use that as the means of
41 addressing the rest of the resources that we deal with
42 under the Federal Subsistence Management Program. So
43 we're currently working on providing information this --
44 during the fall meetings regarding that issue, so we'll
45 probably hear more from the Staff Committee during their
46 time in the agenda on that issue.

47

48 I'm trying to think of the other issue
49 that we had before us. I was placed in two protocol
50 meetings that we had. One was on the subsistence use

00033

1 amounts.

2

3 Any comments or questions regarding the
4 Chairman's report.

5

6 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond.

9

10 MR. PANEAK: I also want to point out
11 that we're so far south, but then we do get oil
12 companies, BLM, all the State, Federal visitors, and have
13 meeting, like they go to Nuiqsut, Anaktuvuk. And within
14 the NPRA, we as Anaktuvuk or Nuiqsut, we use the same
15 animals and fish, like you name it, western caribou herd,
16 Teshekpuk herd, central herd, we all use the same animals
17 travel to Anaktuvuk, even though we're not within NPRA,
18 but we also foothills of Brooks Range. We use the same
19 animals, same fur animals. We use that subsistence.
20 We're no different from coastal villages. I want to
21 point that out. We need to be included, because we use
22 the same, like I said again, central, western, Teshekpuk,
23 we use the same animals, even fish. Thank you.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond.

26 Any other comments or questions.

27

28 MR. KOONUK: Do we need to approve this
29 by motion?

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I was going to ask
32 maybe Helen or Barb, we need some direction here. Do we
33 need to make a form of a motion to adopt the Chairman's
34 report?

35

36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No.

39

40 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No. You just need to
41 go to here, and then do those. 11 through here, right
42 here.

43

44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Um-hum. Okay. There's
45 no indication we need to take any action on it. It's
46 probably an update for you Council members as to what
47 I've been -- how I've been representing you at these
48 different meetings, the Federal Subsistence Board
49 meetings. We haven't had any real issues to bring out.
50 And I know the one in December was on fisheries and

00034

1 wildlife, and we didn't have any proposals at that time,
2 so it sounded like we didn't have any issues in there,
3 although we do have a bigger fish, the whale issues, but
4 they're not under this Federal management program.
5 Raymond. Terry, excuse.

6

7 MR. TAGAROOK: How often do you go to the
8 meetings?

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I went to the winter
11 meetings and then we have the subsistence user amount
12 meeting, and that's been probably meeting every month and
13 a half. I think we've taken -- this is the longest break
14 we've had since last year, for a couple months. And I
15 think there's a meeting being planned to be held in
16 Anchorage again sometime this month. The date hasn't
17 been selected yet.

18

19 MR. TAGAROOK: So it's every month
20 or.....

21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It's not every month.
23 It's like every other month or month and a half,
24 depending on how much work that needs to get addressed by
25 the protocol committee working group.

26

27 Again, at the December meeting, we did
28 not have any fisheries proposals, or proposals to change
29 regulations at that time. It was -- I think we were the
30 quietest ones at the meeting. I could only express that
31 we were fortunate here that we don't have all the
32 competition like what I see down in these meetings that
33 voice a lot of issues on salmon fisheries, and all the
34 competition that they have to put up with for the
35 resource that they're faced with, you know, and on a
36 yearly basis, and the amount of fish that they catch.
37 It's something to see. It's quite depressing at times,
38 but it's something that they're faced with. And I could
39 only express the concern that we're very fortunate that
40 we don't have that type of competition on the North
41 Slope.

42

43 With that, if there's no other questions
44 or comments, we'll move on to the next agenda item.
45 Public testimony, it's agenda item number 8. This
46 opportunity continues throughout the meeting. Please
47 complete and submit testifier's forms at the sign-in
48 table, and then to the coordinator, who will give the
49 Chairman that information, and we'll proceed from there.
50 Was there any received this morning, Barb or Helen?

00035

1 None. Okay. Anybody from the public willing to give
2 testimony on any of the proposals?

3

4 Hearing none, we're moving on to agenda
5 item 9. Wildlife proposals for Council review and
6 recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board. And
7 there's a presentation procedure that we're going to --
8 for the proposals that we're going to be following. It's
9 indicated on the agenda. The first one is introduction
10 of the proposal and analysis. Two, Alaska Department of
11 Fish and Game comments. Three, other agency comments.
12 Four, Fish and Game Advisory Committee comments.
13 Five.....

14

15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Excuse me, Mr. Chair.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Helen. Or Barb.

18

19 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: If you will use your
20 orange procedural book, we have number 4 down as ISC
21 comments, and that's -- this is new. This is new for
22 this year. It's where the Interagency Staff Committee
23 give their comments now at this meeting, at these
24 meetings. So number 4 would be Interagency Staff
25 Committee comments. Five is Fish and Game. Six, summary
26 of written public comments. And then, seven, public
27 testimony. And eight is Regional Council deliberation.
28 And that's proposed -- that's the procedures that we
29 we'll be using. And also we have one more proposal, is
30 that right, Helen? Oh, no.

31

32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's on there.

33

34 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We're fine. Okay.

35 Thank you.

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Barb. So
38 the proceedings will be following the yellow agenda. So
39 that ISC stands for Interagency Staff Committee comments.
40 Okay. All right. Thank you. So we'll move on, continue
41 with that, starting with the wildlife proposals for
42 Council review and recommendations to the Federal
43 Subsistence Board. The proposals are before us, that
44 there's -- I'm not sure if Fenton's arrived yet or not,
45 but maybe we'll move on to.....

46

47 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: If you'll go to
48 Proposal WP04-1, that's a statewide on brown bears on the
49 back side of your orange proposal. Since we're having
50 Fenton here at 11:30, and then Jack Reakoff at 1:30,

00036

1 we'll start with those four proposals, 1, 65, 77 and 85.
2 And I think there's one more. Okay. That's 65.

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So then we'll start
5 from the bottom of the list and going up. Thank you,
6 Barb. Dave Fisher, you have the floor.

7

8 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My
9 name is Dave Fisher with the Fish and Wildlife Service,
10 Office of Subsistence Management in Anchorage. And what
11 we have here is a -- it's called a statewide proposal.
12 It would affect subsistence regulations statewide. It
13 was submitted by Sue Entsminger from the Community of
14 Tok. And it's requesting the allowance of handicraft
15 items made from the fur of brown bears. The proponent
16 states that the use of brown bear hides is not available
17 except for personal use. This proposal would benefit
18 subsistence users by allowing them to make handicraft
19 items from the fur of brown bears, and sell those items.

20

21 Current Federal regulations, current
22 Federal subsistence regulations allow the sale of
23 handicraft items made from the fur of black bear, but not
24 brown bear.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Fisher.

27

28 MR. FISHER: Yes.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Just a second please.
31 The proposal are found on page 104 of your booklet, for
32 the Council members.

33

34 MR. FISHER: Okay. Yeah. 104.....

35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

37

38 MR. FISHER:and through 113 in your
39 Council book. Let me just repeat a little bit.

40

41 This proposal would allow for the sale of
42 handicraft items made from brown bear fur. Current
43 regulations prohibit that, but they do allow for the sale
44 of handicraft items made from the fur of black bears.

45

46 The proposal does generate some legal,
47 biological and cultural concerns should this be adopted
48 by the Board. Some rural residents would find this
49 practice culturally objectionable. The sale of
50 handicraft items made from the fur of black (sic) bear

00037

1 could increase the potential for additional legal and
2 illegal harvest, possibly exploiting some brown bear
3 populations.

4

5 The brown bear populations in the State
6 of Alaska are pretty much stable throughout the whole
7 State, however they are usually small in number. They
8 have low growth rates, low sustainable yields and a
9 higher commercial value than items made from the fur of
10 black bear, and could be easily overexploited or easily
11 overharvested. The sale of items from brown bear fur
12 could exploit some of these populations that are small.
13 Adopting this proposal could increase illegal harvest and
14 provide economic incentives that may lead to the waste of
15 other parts of the bear. In some instances, maybe the
16 bear would just be harvested just for the fur and some of
17 the other parts would go to waste.

18

19 A commercial trade in brown bear fur
20 handicrafts could lead to an increase in possible illegal
21 trafficking of endangered brown populations outside of
22 Alaska. They are considered an endangered species in the
23 Lower 48.

24

25 In 1998 the State approved the sale of
26 items made from black bear fur, and the Federal
27 Subsistence Board followed with a similar regulation.
28 However, we don't have very much information on how much
29 money this has generated or what type of handicrafts were
30 made, so we don't have a lot of information on that for
31 brown bears -- for black bears I mean.

32

33 The preliminary conclusion on this was to
34 oppose this proposal. That's basically all I have.

35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Fisher.
37 Any question from the Council to Mr. Fisher.

38

39 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

42

43 MR. G. BROWER: Your request for the
44 North Slope Federal Advisory Council to oppose this, and
45 to what extent is this proposal going to reach out to
46 others besides subsistence users? Does this have
47 implications to anything other than subsistence harvest
48 of brown bear?

49

50 MR. FISHER: No, this would affect only

00038

1 subsistence users on Federal public lands, and this would
2 be a statewide proposal, so it would be on Forest Service
3 land, BLM lands, refuge lands, and park lands throughout
4 the State. For, say, sport hunters, if they wanted to do
5 the same thing, the State would have to pass a similar
6 regulation for sport hunters. But this would be for
7 subsistence users.

8

9 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Continue, Gordon.

12

13 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, I would just like
14 to note, you know, we do, you know -- we don't harvest,
15 to my knowledge, that I've known, for consumptive use of
16 brown bear, but for polar bear, but we have harvested,
17 you know, before on an emergency basis and utilized the
18 fur for traditional uses, but I have not realized any
19 handicrafts made that I know of. But I'm sure it has
20 been something that's gone on before. And I think there
21 are similar provisions for polar bear, that handicrafts
22 can be made available for sale by traditional users when
23 they harvest. I don't know what the Council would think
24 about that, but.....

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon, any
27 other comments from the Council, or questions to Mr.
28 Fisher.

29

30 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond.

33

34 MR. PANEAK: Raymond Paneak here. We do
35 harvest brown and grizzly bear both, and there's some
36 handicraft made out of grizzly bear at home. Gosh, our
37 village was main founder of Eskimo masks, and people put
38 bear ruff, mostly for mask making, except for the claws,
39 not that many made of that, but mostly the fur parts are
40 used for Eskimo masks in our area. Well, especially
41 grizzly and brown. We do see brown bear once in a while.
42 And black bear. Thank you.

43

44 MR. FISHER: Mr. Chairman, if I could
45 respond just for a sec here. This proposal would only
46 deal with the fur of the brown bear, it wouldn't deal
47 with the claws. And you'd be able to make handicraft
48 items from the fur and then sell those.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Do you all understand

00039

1 what Mr. Fisher just stated? Gordon.

2

3 MR. G. BROWER: What was that again? You
4 said that we're -- the proposal would not limit making
5 handicrafts, but just for the sale of the items?

6

7 MR. FISHER: The proposal would allow the
8 use of the fur from the brown bear to make handicraft
9 items, and then you'd be allowed to sell those.
10 Currently it's illegal to do that for brown bear. You
11 can do that for black bear, but not brown bear.

12

13 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Continue, Gordon.

16

17 MR. G. BROWER: I would like to hear the
18 Council, you know, what they feel about this, but, you
19 know, there is some harvest of brown bears, and we do not
20 have to my knowledge black bear on the North Slope. And
21 that, you know, we live in a subsistence based economy up
22 on the North Slope where we try to provide the means of
23 utilizing our animals in traditional ways. And, you
24 know, I would just like to hear what some of the Council
25 members feel about this. I mean, I -- you know, once
26 again I'd like to bring out other examples. Even though
27 the polar bear has been on extreme endangered list, being
28 able to harvest it has been a traditional fashion to do
29 that, and to also make handicrafts that could help
30 support, you know, individual families that are
31 struggling, where they don't have other means of
32 providing. I don't think there has ever been a case on
33 the North Slope that I know of where wanton waste by
34 natives occur, because the animals have always been here.
35 We've always taken the time to harvest with depleting any
36 resource. And I think the animals are here today because
37 we're active environmentalist type coexistence, needing
38 these animals to be here. So I would really like to hear
39 what Council members would really think.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.

42

43 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

44

45 MR. FISHER: Mr. Chair, could I interrupt
46 here just for a second.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Fisher.

49

50 MR. FISHER: It was pointed out to me,

00040

1 and I want to read the definition of fur. I maybe misled
2 you a little bit earlier during my earlier presentation,
3 but the.....

4

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

6

7 MR. FISHER:skin, hide, pelt or fur
8 means the skin, hide fur or pelt of a bear shall mean the
9 entire external covering with claws attached. So you
10 would be able to use the claws. I apologize for the
11 wrong information. So you would be able to use the fur
12 and the claws for handicraft items. I stand corrected.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Fisher.
15 Ray.

16

17 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair, up at Point Hope
18 we get a few brown bears, and the skin is utilized, but
19 as far as the meat, I don't -- I guess it's -- you know,
20 has hardly been eating, just, you know, just using the
21 skin for traditional uses, and claws, and for arts and
22 crafts, so -- and we still continue to use the -- hunt
23 the brown bear.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Ray. I just
26 need to remind the Council and Gordon, Paul, if we could
27 follow the procedures, and we do have Council
28 deliberation and make recommendations on the procedures
29 that we have here. If we could hold off to make any
30 comments until at that time, I think it would be
31 appropriate if we could hear all the rest of the issues
32 that are going to come before us under this discussion,
33 or this proposal, I think it will help in the way in
34 forming discussions and making recommendations to such as
35 we're proceeding.

36

37 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

40

41 MR. G. BROWER: Excuse me. Yeah, I think
42 that would appropriate, but at the same time, I think we
43 should also just note that, you know, I think it could be
44 looked at by region as well. I mean, maybe some other
45 area may have some taboos concerning some of these, and I
46 read a lot of documentations elsewhere where bears and
47 ravens, you know, they have a very spiritual connection
48 to those type of animals, and that, you know, a statewide
49 proposal would probably not fit correct, but by region,
50 to look at this by a regional differentiation in culture.

00041

1 Thank you.

2

3

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for your
4 comments, Gordon. It's true that we do have the regional
5 differences within the State, so I don't think this --
6 again, I think I'll wait to make my comments for later,
7 so we'll just go ahead and follow the procedures as we
8 stated earlier. Do you have any other comments that you
9 would like to bring out, Mr. Fisher?

10

MR. FISHER: No, that's all I have, and
11 if there's any additional questions when you're
12 deliberating, I can answer those then. Thank you.

14

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. We'll go
15 ahead and follow the procedure. Alaska Department Fish
16 and Game comments.

18

MR. PETERSON: This is Sverre Peterson,
19 Department of Fish and Game.

21

If you look at page 113, you will see
22 what the State's position on this proposal is. And I can
23 either read the whole position for you, I can give you,
24 you know, the short answer, and that is -- I'll start
25 there, and the Department does not support this proposal.
26 However, that is the proposal as written. However, if we
27 hear, you know, some different ideas from this Council,
28 we may change our position. I'm not going to read you
29 the entire, you know, rationale here, you can look at
30 that, unless you want me to read it, or unless I'm
31 required to read it into the record.

33

But I want you to also know that the
34 Northwest and the Seward Peninsula Regional Advisory
35 Councils, they opposed this proposal, whereas the Eastern
36 Interior Regional Advisory Council supported the
37 proposal. So to give you some ideas here how to proceed.
38 So Northwest and Seward Peninsula oppose the proposal,
39 and the Eastern Interior supported it. And it may have
40 something to do with what Gordon was talking about
41 earlier in terms of prohibitions and special beliefs
42 people have about the meaning of the bears, culturally
43 and spiritually. So that's the State's response.

45

46

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sverre.
47 Thank you for the comment from the State. The next item
48 we have is the other agency comments. If we have any
49 other agency that would like to comment on this proposal,
50 you have the opportunity now. None noted, so Interagency

00042

1 Staff Committee comments.

2

3 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman, we have no
4 comments on this proposal.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No comments on this
7 proposal from the Interagency Staff Committee. Number 5,
8 there's Fish and Game Advisory Committee comments.

9

10 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Barb. Or, I mean,
13 Helen. Excuse me.

14

15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: One of us.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You two sisters
18 are.....

19

20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: One of those

21 Armstrongs.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER:I'm color blind
24 right now.

25

26 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Excuse me. I'm sorry
29 for the mistake there, Helen.

30

31 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Sverre so kindly
32 already addressed what the other Councils have already
33 voted, but we did want to add the Seward Pen and the
34 Northwest Arctic did oppose the proposal, because they
35 felt that it should be done on a regional basis. They
36 weren't opposed to it if it's just looked at region by
37 region.

38

39 But the Eastern Interior did have some
40 justification I think they wanted you to be aware of.
41 The proposal was done by Sue Entsminger, who is from that
42 region, and they said the Regional Council wanted to be
43 able to use brown bears taken for subsistence uses to
44 their fullest extent. They did not feel that selling
45 brown bear fur would be detrimental to brown bear
46 populations, or that it would be a law enforcement
47 problem. The Council stated that other wildlife furs are
48 currently sold from furbearers and other big game
49 animals. They also stated that hunting guides are
50 allowed to make thousands of dollars for taking someone

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1 out to shoot a brown bear, and that they would like to
2 allow for subsistence taken brown bears to be fully
3 utilized.

4

5 After we had already -- this proposal was
6 already in effect -- in the books, and it had already
7 gone out to the public, and we'd already started our
8 Council meetings, we did get a message from Sue
9 Entsminger saying that she didn't intend for it to be for
10 all brown bears. She thought it shouldn't include the
11 coastal bears. She saw them as a difference between
12 coastal brown bears and mountain brown bears, but that
13 came in very late. And to me, what that was saying was
14 it shouldn't have been a statewide proposal to begin
15 with, but, you know, it's certainly up to the Councils to
16 decide how they want to deal with that. And I'm not sure
17 what we were supposed to do with her commenting on it
18 after it had already been put into all of the proposal
19 books, but.....

20

21 There were no other written comments on
22 the proposal, is that right, Barb?

23

24 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: There's.....

25

26 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And no public
27 comments?

28

29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: There's three public
30 comments.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Barb.

33

34 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. I'm missing my
35 own marking here. I have three public comments and
36 that's with the Upper Tanana-Fortymile Local Fish and
37 Game Advisory Committee support it. The AHTNA,
38 Incorporated supported the proposal. And Neil Webster
39 from Alaska Professional Hunters Association opposed the
40 proposal. Thank you, sir.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Barb, Helen.
43 What we have now is number 8, Regional Council
44 deliberation and recommendations and justification
45 regarding the proposal. Okay. So we'll continue with
46 where we left off basically on what we heard from Gordon,
47 and do we have any other Council members that would like
48 to comment on this proposal. Paul.

49

50 MR. BODFISH: Harry, yeah, thank you.

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1 And his question about having black bear up in our area,
2 we do have black bear in our area and brown bear, and we
3 do consume bear meat when they're harvested, so we
4 utilize the whole animal in our region. I'm in support
5 of that proposal.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Paul. Any
8 other comments.

9

10 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Earl.

13

14 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, Earl. Anyway, I
15 have -- I'm kind of experienced with black bears and
16 brown bears around home area, and it tastes pretty good,
17 the back bones, potatoes and onions, and I'm kind of
18 familiar with that. And the only time I've seen them use
19 bear skin is when they take the fur off and use it for
20 like a gun case, and, you know, because it's really thick
21 and strong. That's the only purpose they use it for, or
22 for a mattress, too, and that's the only thing I've seen
23 them make, when they scrape it down. And, you know,
24 that's a lot of work scraping it down and saving the hard
25 skin. And I'd like to support on this, because I grew up
26 around this area, around my hometown area, and it has a
27 certain spirit on that, too, that, you know, like if a
28 bear -- if you're walking behind a bear, you could see,
29 walking on his trail, he'll turn around and stop once in
30 a while and look at you, but he ain't going to bother
31 you. He's going to try to figure you out. And they say
32 never shoot a bear, you know, because, you know, it --
33 and watch the animals, they say, you know, the elders,
34 that -- and protect the animals. And we don't hardly
35 shoot black bears or brown bears if it's needed them
36 days. But I've seen a lot of handicrafts made from like
37 the claws and the skin. And I'd just like to make
38 comment on that, because I kind of grew up on that.
39 Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Earl.
42 Rosemary.

43

44 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I'd like to voice
45 supporting this. I think that if people in our region
46 harvest these animals, they shouldn't be restricted on
47 their usage to the full extent possible of their
48 resources. There are people that do utilize these
49 animals for their harvest. It's not a high activity in
50 our area, but I wouldn't want to restrict someone that

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1 had the potential. Our declining revenues are really
2 dependent on our variety of uses of what's available to
3 us, and it's important to allow variations to occur.

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary,
6 for your comments. Any other comments from the Council.
7 Recommendations.

8

9 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

12

13 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, I would just like
14 to add that a statewide proposal like this, just to keep
15 in mind, that I would think that it would be better
16 served if it was written for the adoption by region, that
17 just a blanket approval of a policy or regulation to
18 cover the statewide, and where there are major beliefs
19 and concerns concerning harvesting of animals that have a
20 cultural tie. If you ever read the Koyukon people, I've
21 read the book on that during some of my anthropology
22 classes, and the spiritual tie that people have to some
23 of these animals is very high. And some of them have a
24 very deliberate taboo associated with it, something
25 handed down probably from their shamans and stuff like
26 that in the past, some spiritual connection. And to have
27 a policy or a regulation that just blankets, because in
28 rural lifestyle, some of the population may not be
29 native, but people who decide to reside there, but
30 doesn't have the same beliefs in the traditional ways.
31 So I would really, you know, encourage that some other
32 form of regulation that would be adoptable by regions,
33 region-specific. I mean, I kind of believe that, because
34 I have, you know, been -- you know, I have read lots of
35 literature on other cultures in Alaska, and some of them
36 are, you know, very -- they kind of stick to their old
37 ways in some places.

38

39 And I certainly believe for the North
40 Slope, you know, that we do harvest them, that's
41 indication of use, but it's not an every day event like
42 you're hunting caribou, but certainly making handicrafts
43 and being able to utilize that to help yourself. I think
44 it's not going to cause any overexploitation.

45

46 I think in its current form, maybe it's a
47 little too much. I'm not to sure, but in -- and maybe a
48 revision to it would be more appropriate, if a region,
49 area could adopt it by itself. Thank you.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Any
2 other comments from the Council.

3

4 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I support the idea to
5 make the revision to allow it to be regional.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary. I
8 think I have a question to Mr. Fisher, as to what you've
9 heard from our Council members, Gordon Brower and
10 Rosemary, in terms of making this proposal -- in being
11 addressed by each region in their own means, what would
12 your take be on this if that was the approach to be
13 taken?

14

15 MR. FISHER: Well, from the testimony
16 that I've taken, apparently you favor it in this region,
17 but your thinking then is it may not be applicable in
18 other regions. So I guess, could they amend the proposal
19 or.....

20

21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think what you'd
22 have to do is not support this proposal, but next fall
23 have.....

24

25 MR. FISHER: Submit a.....

26

27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG:your own proposal
28 for just the North Slope.

29

30 MR. FISHER: For your region.

31

32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: For your region.

33

34 MR. FISHER: Yeah.

35

36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And then it would go
37 forward I'm fairly certain.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So the -- you do
40 have.....

41

42 MR. FISHER: That would probably be the
43 easiest, but we want to get something into the record
44 that says that you would support this proposal for your
45 region, and you do plan to submit a proposal next year
46 for your region. Now, I'm not sure how this proposal
47 will play out when the Board acts on it. They may
48 approve it. If they do, then you're okay. But if they
49 don't, then you may want to send in another proposal for
50 your area. And if you do not support it, then you still

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1 have that option to submit another proposal next year for
2 your area. Anything else, Helen or Barb?

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. So what is
5 the wish of the Council, and the recommendation and
6 justification regarding this proposal. Ray.

7

8 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman, Raymond Paneak
9 here. I would have no problem region by region. The
10 only thing is Anaktuvuk, whatever unit, like Unit 26(A),
11 we also hunt along with our neighbors like Allakaket,
12 Bettles, down south we're able to hunt Unit 24. So
13 that's -- I don't have no problem region by region, but
14 surrounded by units -- like we usually use that Unit 24 a
15 lot, too, within our region. Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond.

18

19 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman.

20

21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Earl.

22

23 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, I'm Earl Uleya (ph).
24 I brought this issue up before about Unit 24 at this
25 meeting here, and what Raymond was saying. And, you
26 know, it -- we go down to Unit 24 and hunt that area,
27 because we're close right by it, and I really appreciate,
28 you know, putting this on the record, so we could -- like
29 he said, that we have to deal with not going to their
30 meeting and stuff, but like Harry explained it to me
31 before, that we didn't have to, you know, and I'd like to
32 see it on the record, you know, that we don't have no
33 conflict with them or nothing. Thank you.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Earl. I'd
36 like to make a comment, you know, regarding this
37 proposal, and it's I've seen the use of brown bear, you
38 know, from my view being a subsistence hunter and animals
39 being harvested. I know I've used them as food before,
40 and I've eaten brown bear, and it's just as tasty as the
41 polar bear, so I have no complaint about that. And the
42 use has been passed on for generations and generations.
43 It's the use, the availability of the resources not so
44 readily available. Like for the sports hunters, they're
45 able to get around with aircraft or other means to get
46 into the areas where there's a lot of brown bears, but
47 the subsistence hunters, we're having to traverse out
48 there, and opportunities to take an animal occasionally.
49 but we do also have incidents that occur that are life
50 threatening situations, and that's at time when a lot of

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1 the brown bears are mostly taken, because of life
2 threatening situations. And the fur is basically taken,
3 and occasionally a portion of the animal is used for food
4 and taken to share with other community members that like
5 to eat the brown bear. And I've seen, as stated earlier
6 by other Council members, the use of the fur for mitts,
7 mukluks, ruffs and that sort of thing. I seen it as I
8 was growing up here in Barrow, and these were taken --
9 animals that were taken opportunistically, not -- at the
10 time they were available or sighted by the hunter hunting
11 out in the country.

12

13 So in regard to the proposal as it reads,
14 allow the sales of handicraft, meat from brown bear, I
15 would support that, but then I would like to know that an
16 amendment be added and this be region specific. I think
17 that Gordon stated a real valid reason that should be
18 indicated on this proposal, you know, the different
19 cultural differences that we each have within the
20 different regions of the State are going to be affected
21 if this was adopted as a blanket regulation. And to keep
22 from getting into arguments with our counterparts from
23 the different regions, and saying that we support
24 something that's taboo for them, and yet we don't really
25 see it as much today as it was in the past, so that --
26 you know, it's just something that could create a problem
27 if we did just adopt the proposal as it is. But I think
28 an amendment to that would be if we could adjust it as in
29 terms of region specific and the use of the resources
30 that's been passed down for generations, that when we
31 were opportunistically harvesting resources to benefit
32 the livelihood of a community or certain group of people
33 needs to be looked into. Just an over-all blanketing
34 proposal is somewhat controversial. So I would make that
35 recommendation to amend that, you know, being region
36 specific and for the uses and the benefits of the
37 subsistence users. Thank you.

38

39 Do you want to take some kind of action
40 in terms of the recommendation and justification
41 regarding this proposal. We all could -- one could make
42 a motion to support the proposal as is, or we could amend
43 it and addressing it specifically for our region.
44 Gordon.

45

46 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah. Mr. Chairman, I
47 think that opposing it at this point would be
48 appropriate, but introduce a proposal at the same time
49 that would reflect our own views for our region. I think
50 that would be more appropriate at this point. I mean,

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1 what does the Council think about something like that? I
2 don't think opposing it is going to hurt us any right
3 now, because we've been status quo for a long time. And
4 to make it available for handicrafts and trade and
5 salable, I think it's in the interest of people on the
6 North Slope to think about this, but to outright just go
7 with the flow and be for something that's statewide where
8 we're probably going to conflict with some of our
9 neighbors. It would be better served by us to oppose
10 something like this and introduce our own proposal for
11 region specific.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon, would you do
14 that in the form of a motion.

15

16 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Continue, Gordon.

19

20 MR. G. BROWER: Yes, I would make that a
21 formal motion, that we oppose this language, this
22 proposed regulation, and propose alternatively that a
23 region specific regulatory action be made for regions
24 that want to decide on how the use will be.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We have a motion on the
27 floor.

28

29 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Second.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Rosemary.
32 The motion is to oppose the proposal as stated and at a
33 later time submitting another proposal that addresses our
34 needs on the North Slope. Does that cover the motion
35 there, Gordon?

36

37 MR. G. BROWER: That's pretty correct
38 there, Mr. Chairman.

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All in favor of the
41 motion signify by -- what am I missing here?

42

43 MR. KOONUK: Discussion, call for the
44 question.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any further discussion.

47

48 (No discussion)

49

50 MR. KOONUK: Call the question.

00050

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Call for the question.
2 All in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

3
4 IN UNISON: Aye.

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any opposed, same sign.

7
8 (No opposing votes)

9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. So we have
11 the next proposal before us. Proceed.

12
13 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair.

14
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Barbara.

16
17 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Rexford is here
18 for Proposal 86a and b. It's 11:30. Thank you.

19
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Barb. Mr.
21 Fisher was dealing with the issue for the time being, and
22 then we'll address these two proposals that we had
23 selected the time for. And that's appropriate. Thank
24 you. Welcome to our meeting, Fenton Rexford.

25
26 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
27 My name is Helen Armstrong. I'm with the Office of
28 Subsistence Management.

29
30 Proposal 86a is under Tab B, on page 26
31 in your book. Proposal 86a was submitted by the City of
32 Kaktovik, and it requests that the existing customary and
33 traditional use determination for moose in for Unit 26(B)
34 be changed to residents of Kaktovik only. This
35 proposal's a companion to WP04-86b, which requests a
36 moose season and community harvest quota of five moose
37 for 26(C).

38
39 Currently the customary and traditional
40 determination that is in the regulations right now for
41 moose is in Unit -- is for all residents of Unit 26, and
42 it was adopted by the Federal Subsistence Board from the
43 State determinations when we took over Federal
44 management. The Federal Subsistence Board has actually
45 never looked specifically at the c&t determination for
46 26.

47
48 The reason why this proposal has come
49 forward has bene that the moose season's been closed in
50 26(C) since 1996, because they haven't had many moose

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1 there. And the population has increased some. It's
2 still not really, really high, but it's increased enough
3 to consider a very limited moose harvest, and the people
4 in Kaktovik felt that the existing determination which
5 was for all residents of Unit 26 was too broad and would
6 include users who have never customary and traditionally
7 hunted moose in 26(C). As you know, 26(C) is almost
8 entirely part of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

9
10 I did a pretty -- as thorough a review of
11 the literature as I could, I may have missed something in
12 there, but to see what communities have in the literature
13 ever reported any kind of harvest of moose in 26(C), and
14 I didn't find anything. I also looked at the harvest
15 data base. I looked to see if Prudhoe Bay people, there
16 are a few permanent residents there, if any of those
17 people have ever taken moose in 26(C). So what I came up
18 with was that really the only community to be considered
19 here is Kaktovik. And so the analysis does focus on
20 Kaktovik and only Kaktovik.

21
22 If the Council has any additional
23 information, I mean, that's part of the purpose of us
24 bringing this forward to you, that you know of anyone
25 else who -- or any other communities of people who have
26 taken moose in 26(C), then I would certainly like to
27 know, and we'd add that to the analysis, and we would
28 take that to the Board.

29
30 So when we do a c&t analysis, we look at
31 all the eight factors. I'm not going to go through all
32 of them, especially because I know Fenton has a short
33 time period, but it is in the analysis.

34
35 Factor 1, a long-term consistent pattern
36 of use. As I said, Kaktovik is the only community I
37 found with a long-term consistent pattern of use. There
38 is a really good study that was done in 1982 on
39 subsistence uses in Kaktovik, and there are some other
40 studies as well that have shown that Kaktovik does take,
41 usually not very many moose, but a couple of moose a year
42 was what they were taking. That has, of course,
43 declined, because the moose populations declined.

44
45 The areas that they use are all
46 throughout 26(C), and all of the locations are listed in
47 your analysis.

48
49 The factor 8 is another factor we really
50 focused on, which is the pattern of use which relates to

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1 the reliance upon a wide diversity of fish and wildlife
2 resources. And as you know, Kaktovik people depend upon
3 a very wide diversity of fish and wildlife resources.

4

5 When I was reviewing this last night,
6 Harry, I was thinking about your questions about how they
7 came up with pounds people harvest, and, you know, there
8 were a couple of different times when they've estimated
9 that for Kaktovik. In '85 there were 327 pounds per
10 person taken, 433 pounds per person in '86, and then 885
11 pounds per person in 1992. Of course the years they get
12 bowhead whales that's going to go way up if they get a
13 lot of whales.

14

15 So the preliminary conclusion is to
16 support the proposal based on the information I provided
17 to you. And I would like to be sure that you don't think
18 anybody's being left out. There were some concerns from
19 various people who've reviewed this analysis that
20 implementing this proposal, because it narrows the c&t
21 and it's now cutting out everybody else in Unit 26, that
22 there may be people we'd eliminating. And with the c&t
23 determination we had, it meant that if somebody from
24 Point Hope, say -- well, if anybody from anywhere on the
25 North Slope were visiting people in Kaktovik, and they
26 happened to be going out to go for a moose hunt, that
27 then they could not legally hunt with them. They could
28 go out with them, but not hunt. And so there were some
29 concerns by some people in our office that we would be
30 making people illegal by doing that. We did bring that
31 up to people in Kaktovik, and I'll let Fenton address
32 that, but I don't think that they were too concerned with
33 that issue.

34

35 I also did want to say that we made this
36 a ceremonial use. There was a special action last fall
37 that we did for people in Kaktovik to be able to go out
38 at Thanksgiving and Christmas to take one moose in either
39 26(B) or (C) and Dave will talk a little more about that.
40 But because caribou were close by and they were able to
41 get enough meat, they did not end up taking any moose at
42 that time.

43

44 So that concludes my brief analysis, Mr.
45 Chair. Any questions.

46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions to Barb
48 -- excuse me, Helen, regarding the analysis. Gordon.

49

50 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

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1 There was some indications about Prudhoe Bay. I mean, I
2 know it's not included here, but it seems to me that is
3 an industrial area where a customary and traditional use
4 to emanate out of seems inappropriate to even talk about,
5 because it's an industrial complex designed only for
6 industrial activity. And I would hope, you know, the use
7 in future to determine such things out of an area where
8 these kinds of topics come up, be very cautious in
9 allowing any literature concerning industrial complexes
10 associated with customary and traditional uses.

11

12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Gordon, I totally
13 agree with you. And until we redo our rural
14 determinations which are in the process of being done,
15 you missed the discussion about this in the training, but
16 they are developing new methods to look at rural
17 determinations. That is one issue that they will be
18 looking at, and that when the rural determinations were
19 done before, Prudhoe Bay was not excluded, so it is
20 considered a rural community at this point in time. So
21 because it's rural, I have to include it in my analysis.
22 That doesn't mean you have to give them c&t, but I have
23 to put it in the analysis that, you know, looking at it.

24

25 And a couple years ago you may remember
26 that issue with Mr. Neal who had residency, he had a P.O.
27 box in Prudhoe Bay. He was asking for c&t for musk ox,
28 and he lived on the Haul Road. He ended up dying, and so
29 we ended up not ever addressing the proposal, but when I
30 was looking at that, because the question was are there
31 even permanent residents up there, there are a few, but
32 as far as I could find out, none of them do any hunting.
33 So I don't think it's -- you know, it's not a problem,
34 but I agree with you, that they shouldn't be included.
35 And until they're declared a nonrural community, then I
36 have to just put it in the analysis. Okay.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any further comment
39 regarding the analysis. Barbara -- or Helen -- I'm
40 totally colorblind this morning.

41

42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: You can just call be
43 -- yeah.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I have to apologize.

46

47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Just call me Ms.
48 Armstrong, and then you'll be okay.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ms. Armstrong. You

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1 know, I agree with Gordon's comments about this
2 Deadhorse.....

3

4 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER:complex in the
7 industrial. You know, when we look at the communities on
8 the North Slope, we don't indicate Prudhoe Bay as being a
9 rural community, and I think that needs to be carefully
10 considered when we're dealing with that. I hope that
11 gets addressed in the means where it's favorable to our
12 subsistence users, you know. I just bring out that
13 comment.

14

15 If there's no other comments regarding
16 the analysis from the Council, we'll continue on with the
17 next procedure is to hear from Alaska Department of Fish
18 and Game comments. Thank you, Helen and Dave.

19

20 MR. PETERSON: Mr. Chairman, this is
21 Sverre Peterson with Alaska Department of Fish and Game.
22 On page 34 is the Department's position, and shorthand
23 again, it's neutral. And we are, you know, willing to
24 consider your input in how we should, you know, craft our
25 final position on this.

26

27 I want to add this, however, that when
28 the initial c&t for moose for the North Slope was
29 discussed by the Board of Game, which is where this
30 really came from originally, the Federal Program has
31 basically in many cases just adopted the State's c&t
32 findings, and is now beginning to work them over for this
33 area. I participated in the discussion, actually crafted
34 the c&t together with residents from the North Slope in
35 '79 for moose and for other species. And at that time I
36 was counseled by North Slope residents to keep the c&t
37 determination as broad as possible on the North Slope,
38 that there was not an interest in dividing the North
39 Slope into different, you know, components, where if you
40 lived in one community, you couldn't carry out the
41 subsistence activity in another community.

42

43 And we listened to testimony from people
44 from Point Hope in fact, and from Anaktuvuk who told us
45 that in, you know, not the distant past, but in the past,
46 residents from those communities had in fact lived in the
47 Kaktovik area, and they had harvested resources in the
48 Kaktovik area. There are names, place names, for
49 instance, in Kaktovik that refer to residents who are in
50 Anaktuvuk, and some from Point Hope as a matter of fact.

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1 And so we tried to honor this. Or we did
2 honor that request at the time, and tried to keep this in
3 sort of an open range.

4
5 But if you in, you know, considering this
6 over time decide you would like to see, you know, a
7 change to the open range concept to one where you for
8 good reason narrow it down to residents only of a certain
9 community having access to a resource in a certain area,
10 we will respect that. But I just thought you needed to
11 know about the background here of why this is -- the
12 original determination was, you know, basically Slope-
13 wide and what the reason for that was. So, thank you
14 very much.

15
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you Sverre. Any
17 comments or questions to Sverre from the Council.
18 Rosemary.

19
20 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I also wanted to
21 support what he is saying. Our families travelled many
22 areas, and the concerns our community in Nuiqsut is
23 facing with the rapidity of changes occurring in our
24 community increase our dependence of travelling further
25 for our subsistence resources. And this is something
26 that really needs to be taken in consideration by this
27 board as we look at future proposed activities and
28 changes that we have to plan to react to. I know that
29 people in our area are travelling way up river, four or
30 five hours boat ride, to try to harvest caribou and moose
31 in the summertime. And putting restrictions so that it's
32 North Slope residents only or those type of things are
33 very important in our considerations of this process.

34
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
36 Any other comments.

37
38 MR. PANEAK: Yeah. Raymond Paneak.

39
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond.

41
42 MR. PANEAK: Yeah, I would support. I'm
43 aware of what's -- when the moose population went down in
44 the area, and we were affected by that. And there were
45 so many moose died by Anaktuvuk River and next river from
46 Anaktuvuk, I think maybe biologists, some of the
47 biologists are aware of that also.

48
49 But when they close the season just like
50 that, we are hurting. They could just us with just

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1 closing even to subsistence hunters. Because at the time
2 I think, I don't know, we can't catch moose that time
3 because moose season were low. But when they close that
4 just like that, subsistence hunters are hurting real bad
5 when there's no caribou around. Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond. If
8 there's no other.....

9

10 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Earl.

13

14 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, I support what
15 Raymond said. I fully support Raymond. Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Council
18 members, we need to keep in consideration that we have our
19 Council deliberation and recommendations at the bottom of
20 little note here.

21

22 Anyway, we'll move on with the next item.
23 Three, other agency comments. If there's no other agency
24 comments, we'll move into Interagency Staff Committee
25 comments.

26

27 MR. KESSLER: The Interagency Staff
28 Committee does not have any comments.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Number 5,
31 fish and game advisory committee comments. Came and
32 gone. None noted. Number 6, summary of public written
33 comments.

34

35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, there
36 aren't any public written comments at this time, thank
37 you.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Public
40 testimony. Mr. Rexford.

41

42 MR. REXFORD: Yeah. Thank you. Good to
43 see all of you here. I really appreciate the work that
44 you guys do. I know I sat in doing the things that you
45 are doing.

46

47 And this is close to home for our area.
48 Our moose up in -- you've heard all of the background and
49 justification for working on this particular proposal and
50 opening up moose, and it's been over nine years, almost

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1 pretty near 10 years that we've abided by the law, and
2 it's getting close. We're lucky to have caribou here
3 this winter. And, you know, when food is scarce and we
4 see a moose or two, or quite a few of them in fact, in
5 the same river, like Sadlerochit, people start asking.
6 And they started asking about four years ago to work
7 something out, and finally we're at this point. I think
8 we had one last year that was withdrawn for particular
9 reason I can't recall at this time, but I think there was
10 some proposals working on that maybe for some reason or
11 another.

12

13 But we support the c&t and the changes to
14 do it specifically. And I recognize the State or Mr.
15 Peterson's comments on people used to work on DEW line
16 like from Point Hope and Wainwright and Barrow and they
17 were part of the family, so they go up in the mountains
18 and help hunt and ship the food back home, wherever they
19 came from. That's -- I was involved early on in that
20 addressed, too, to make c&t Slope-wide. And since it's a
21 limited resource, to narrow it down, we're only talking
22 about -- I don't know what we're talking about, less than
23 100 moose in our area. I don't know what the specific
24 numbers are, but we're dealing with limited resource. I
25 support the work on the c&t determination. Or the City
26 does.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Fenton, thank you,
29 Fenton. If there's any other public testimony on the
30 proposal. None noted. Did you raise your hand, Helen?
31 Anyway, we'll move on to next agenda item is Regional
32 Council deliberation and recommendation and
33 justification. What's the wish of the Council.
34 Rosemary.

35

36 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I'd like to add some
37 discussion. In Nuiqsut, we've been faced with loss of
38 access to our subsistence resources. The demeanor in our
39 community greatly changes when we have those restrictions
40 placed upon us by outside activities. In our communities
41 during the wintertime, it's a long time before our
42 subsistence resources come back to us, because they come
43 on a seasonal use only. If we can gain hope to our
44 communities by allowing them to access other resources
45 when they're able to harvest them with the replacement of
46 their numbers, we need to allow that to happen. We have
47 to sustain hope. Our caribou are migratory. They move
48 throughout the seasons. Some seasons we do not have
49 access to them. If we have access to moose, we need to
50 be able to harvest them when it's available. It helps to

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1 project the long-term sustainability in our communities,
2 the strength of our social well being and the health and
3 nature of our people with our continued eating and
4 harvesting of our resources. Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
7 Any other comments from the Council. Gordon.

8

9 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. I
10 would support the proposal if you're looking at a
11 resource that's very limited at this point, where the
12 sustainability of that one population is very limited and
13 easy over-harvest may occur. And to have a specific need
14 from a village that has closer access and has a customary
15 and traditional tie to the use should be supported.

16

17 At the same time, I think there needs to
18 be some effort to look at these populations and to help
19 them. Maybe in the past a program such as relocation of
20 wolves had occurred. I think the State may look at these
21 kinds of projects in the past as models to help areas
22 that are having recovery problems, and to promote
23 projects to do whatever means possible to help the stocks
24 recover. I don't think there's a big genetic difference
25 between moose on the other side of the Brooks Range and
26 the moose on the North Slope side. But it seems to me if
27 you can put musk ox on Nunavak Island, reindeer on
28 Nunavak Island, you can transplant musk ox on the North
29 Slope, you can do the same with animals that are near to
30 depletion to help those stocks recover in a faster way.
31 And that's all I wanted to add.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.
34 Helen.

35

36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Actually I had a
37 question for Rosemary, but she left the room now.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: To?

40

41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: To Rosemary. I guess
42 what I want to ask her is if she thinks that customary
43 and traditionally people from Nuiqsut -- oh, there you
44 are. Do you think that customary and traditionally
45 people from Nuiqsut would have gone all the way over into
46 26(C)? I just wanted to put that -- you know, have that
47 on the record if -- and I know that Nuiqsut is a newer
48 community, and people were quite nomadic. You know,
49 would they -- if you look at the map, would they have
50 gone all the way over there?

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1 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Yeah. There is family
2 use histories that extended into those areas. My mom
3 would summer at the Franklin Bluffs area before her
4 parents passed. And there are other community members in
5 our area that travelled into Canada with their
6 subsistence use activities, as well as into the Brooks
7 Range, as well as all the way out towards Point Hope. So
8 in the past when we followed the resources, our migration
9 was greatly expanded. With the advent of Western society
10 and the changes to encouraging the families to move into
11 central locations, that decreased some of those
12 activities.

13

14 Our hunters currently travel into
15 Anaktuvuk Pass area and all the way out passing the Haul
16 Road at times in their efforts currently. White Hills
17 they travel to quite frequently, especially when they're
18 looking for the fur bearers.

19

20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Do they ever go past
21 the Canning River, do you think, right now?

22

23 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Myself, I don't know
24 specifically of people that have gone so far that way. A
25 lot of them have gone up to Teshekpuk Lake area and into
26 the mountains, Heruraguruk (ph), and that area and those
27 things.

28

29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't know what the
30 Council wants to do, but I mean, one thing you could do
31 is modify it if you wanted to include Nuiqsut based on
32 Rosemary's information that people went there
33 traditionally. You know, it's just a thought.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Helen. I
36 know we're into the council deliberations, and we have a
37 hand from the audience. If the Council don't mind, I'd
38 like to have him voice concern or issue to be raised.

39

40 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: My comment in response
41 to that is that I don't feel the numbers are sufficient
42 to allow extended range at this time. Kaktovik is closer
43 to the area, and their utilization with their limitations
44 with access to other resources are very important, and I
45 would support that at this time. If the numbers were to
46 continue to improve, then I would consider additional
47 areas adding to that.

48

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

50

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1 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond.

4

5 MR. PANEAK: I might add, when resources
6 are not there, we had a crew from Anaktuvuk travel all
7 the way to Peters Lake and Schrader Lake where Kaktovik
8 area for caribou hunting couple times through BIA
9 charter. We didn't have no caribou at the time, but we
10 travel all the way to this area, and go hunt caribou and
11 all that, because it's happened to us a couple times,
12 through BIA charter. I'm sure it's in the record
13 somewhere. When those resources are not there, we had to
14 travel that far even. But I think Fenton is aware we've
15 been hunting in the area south of Kaktovik.

16

17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Raymond, do you
18 remember approximately when that was?

19

20 MR. PANEAK: Well, this one is early 60s
21 I think, way back 1960s, something like that, between 50,
22 60, something like that. And one year when they close
23 the caribou hunter in 1975 in our area, that's when it
24 happened also. Thank you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond.
27 Helen, I think we have Sverre that wanted to make a
28 comment when we're addressing.....

29

30 MR. PETERSON: Yeah, this is Sverre
31 Peterson. I understand perfectly well, you know, the
32 conundrum, the problem here, and we're very sensitive to
33 the issue that the community of Kaktovik is raising. But
34 in terms of, you know, the mobility of people on the
35 North Slope and access to resources, you know, I can add
36 to your thinking here that, and I'm sure Harry and others
37 who live in Barrow are real familiar with this, but there
38 are -- you know, there are groups from Barrow who --
39 hunting groups from Barrow in the spring who travel all
40 the way over to Kaktovik and hunt all along. I think Iv
41 Brower is part of that group. And that's just one
42 example of how, you know, wide ranging hunters are on the
43 North Slope, and so when we're working with the c&t, you
44 just have to keep in mind that that's, you know, the
45 original intent there was to keep it open so that this
46 sort of intercommunity travel and harvesting activity
47 would be possible. And so you're setting a precedent if
48 you -- you know, you're making an example here, if you
49 change the c&t on the North Slope now to, you know, be
50 specific to a community, then you may end up with other

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1 communities doing the same thing, basically saying they
2 have, you know, priority to a resource over other North
3 Slope residents, and that's all, you know, that we were
4 trying to address when we originally passed this as c&t.

5
6 The situation in Kaktovik can be solved
7 in many other ways. This is just one way to deal with
8 it, and that the community has chosen to pursue. Thank
9 you.

10
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Thank you,
12 Sverre.

13
14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
15 I was just getting ready to say that, too, when Sverre
16 brought that up. Another way to deal with this, because
17 customary and traditional determination should not take
18 into consideration the size of the population of the
19 resource. It should take in the customary and
20 traditional uses of the people. And we shouldn't make it
21 a factor of how many of an animal there are available.

22
23 What you can do is Section 809 of ANILCA
24 allows you to further define when there's a shortage of a
25 resource, you can then look at who's in proximity, who's
26 closest to the resource, who uses the resource the most,
27 and there's one more. Proximity -- oh, and who's
28 dependent on the resource. We just did one like this for
29 moose for Unit 22(A) out on the Seward Peninsula, and, I
30 mean, what you could do is -- I mean, you could do a
31 bunch of things. You could narrow it more today if you
32 wanted to, but maybe not as narrow as has been proposed.
33 You could include Anaktuvuk, Barrow and Nuiqsut if you
34 wanted. You could oppose the proposal, or you -- and
35 what you could do then is Kaktovik could ask for a
36 Section 809 analysis next fall and we could do that then.
37 That would then limit it just to the people in Kaktovik.

38
39 I will say that we have been in our
40 program heavily criticized. There was some -- a lawsuit
41 that the Safari Club brought against us that criticized
42 and specifically criticized my analyses that I have done
43 on the North Slope in the past for c&t, because of doing
44 these broad ranged analyses, because there's no evidence
45 of people coming traditionally all the way from, you know
46 -- and we're talking about traditionally, you know,
47 people going from Point Hope all the way over to
48 Kaktovik. It's a huge distance. They didn't agree that
49 people would go that far. They also criticized us for
50 not being consistent in the way we did c&t analyses,

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1 because in other parts of the State they are more -- they
2 look really carefully at who really uses the resources,
3 and who -- where you have evidence of it. And we were
4 making analyses up here where we didn't have much
5 evidence.

6
7 So I think it's worthwhile maybe, you
8 know, revisiting the c&t, but, you know, it's up to you
9 whether you want to narrow it to Kaktovik, or you'd like
10 to keep it broad or make it a little broader, and then
11 you could do a Section 809 analysis next year. That's a
12 possibility.

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Gordon.

15
16 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.
17 Well, you know, bringing in light of, you know, thinking
18 about setting precedence on something like this, I think
19 and I'd like to hear the Council members as well, that we
20 try to refrain from setting precedence, because of the
21 nature of our subsistence practices, and availability of
22 resources, but still having 26(C) utilized for
23 subsistence activities for moose. And at the suggestion
24 of Helen, and just listening to the -- listening to the
25 alternatives, that provisions be in place should -- it is
26 required to do something other than everybody having
27 access to that, and that the resource when it is likely
28 to be depleted to a point where it cannot sustain itself,
29 that the area use have a priority. The village in that
30 neighborhood, but without having to set a precedent to
31 write it in that fashion.

32
33 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: In light of the
34 discussions that we've heard, I also would like to recant
35 my statement of limiting access. It's very important to
36 allow our traditional activities to occur, and the
37 sharing and especially in our times of hardship and
38 losses of family members, we have travels that occur that
39 allow harvesting in other access areas, and that's
40 important to allow it to continue to occur. Thank you.

41
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
43 Any other comments. I just wanted to add in, you know,
44 to add a little bit of what we talked about earlier about
45 travelling between villages. It's been going on from
46 many generations. We have different modes of
47 transportation nowadays. In the summer we have the boat
48 travel that goes between Barrow both directions, west and
49 east, and through the snow machines. I have my nephews
50 that have been travelling back and forth since they got

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1 up in age to travel on their own. You know, they've been
2 going to the different villages, hunting along the way
3 the resources available to them, so that -- you know,
4 it's not very well documented, but it still continues
5 today, you know. And the opportunity to take the
6 resource is available to them, and following the laws.
7 The resources, if they're able to go harvest the
8 resource, they'll take it. They're trying to follow the
9 laws. We have restrictions on the take of moose, and
10 they go into a different area that they're not familiar
11 with, they refrain from taking that resource, trying to
12 be law abiding citizens. But if we're subsisting and
13 that resource was -- truly subsisting, and that resource
14 was made available to us, we would have taken it. But
15 being good citizens of the United States, we try to
16 follow the laws, so we keep from taking those resources,
17 and doing so. You know, it's part of my teaching. I
18 teach my nephews what they can take, and what they can
19 take and where they can travel, and what they can do. I
20 try to keep them from placing limits on them, on the
21 extent of the travel, whatever way we can.

22

23 I agree with Rosemary and Gordon, setting
24 a precedent is something that we need to be careful of,
25 but I also want to support the Community of Kaktovik in
26 trying to provide another resource available to them for
27 subsistence foods. That's the reason that this customary
28 and traditional use determination is being in front of
29 us, being placed in front of us, to make that decision.
30 I know they've been faced with hardships over the years.
31 Caribou are not always readily available. Musk ox
32 population declining, and there's another resource that
33 could be made available to them, you know, if the
34 regulations were set right. So we need to be careful,
35 and I'm going to be supportive of this determination on
36 customary and traditional uses. So we're still under the
37 Regional Council deliberation, recommendations and
38 justification by the Council. Gordon.

39

40 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. Is
41 there -- maybe this is a question to biologist or Helen,
42 is there a current restriction on 26(C) for moose that
43 would not allow the residents of Kaktovik to take moose
44 in 26(C), and is that extended to the rest of the North
45 Slope population?

46

47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right now, and you'll
48 hear in a minute Dave's doing to do an analysis of
49 opening up a hunt and allowing some seasons and harvest
50 limits. Right now it is closed, but -- so it's not open,

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1 because of that. But there is a customary and
2 traditional use determination in place. So that if 86b
3 passes, to some extent there's a hunt that's allowed,
4 then that would mean that anybody who has c&t can --
5 could take a moose, so somebody from, you know, Point
6 Hope, or from -- the way the existing one reads is
7 residents of Unit 26 except Prudhoe Bay, Deadhorse
8 industrial complex, and residents of Point Hope and
9 Anaktuvuk Pass, so anybody on the Slope except in Prudhoe
10 Bay right now could hunt moose. If the season opens. If
11 86b passes.

12

13 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

16

17 MR. G. BROWER: The proposal that's been
18 brought out by Kaktovik, if that passes, it would be open
19 to anyone who has a c&t.....

20

21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Correct.

22

23 MR. G. BROWER:regardless of if
24 you're in Barrow.....

25

26 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.

27

28 MR. G. BROWER:or Nuiqsut.

29

30 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: If you chose to oppose
31 86a, that would mean you would be leaving the c&t as it
32 is, then anyone on the North Slope would have the right
33 to go in and get one of those moose if they allow the
34 hunt.

35

36 MR. G. BROWER: Okay. Wait, let me get
37 this again. I think I need a clarification, because I'm
38 getting a couple of mixed signals here.

39

40 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Oh, wait, I'm sorry.
41 86b actually is restricting it -- well, it's not been
42 passed, but it's being -- what's being proposed by the
43 Staff is allow a permit hunt, and the permits would be
44 for Kaktovik residents only, so it would -- you would
45 still have c&t in place for everyone, but the permits
46 would only be distributed to Kaktovik residents. Do I
47 have that right, Dave?

48

49 CHAIRMAN G. BROWER: Okay. It's a little
50 bit more clear. In light of some of the topic that's

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1 been dealt with here, and I mean, I would really not like
2 to set precedence in -- you know, but if there were
3 circumstances which may be existing right now, I'm not
4 too sure. In light of circumstances that should be
5 limited to preserve the stock, but without setting
6 precedence, a way of harvesting that you would -- it
7 would be open, because you have to get a permit anyway in
8 order to harvest for subsistence purposes from that stock
9 over there am I correct there? You would have to have a
10 subsistence permit on hand for the taking of moose in
11 that 26(C), and could that be handled to where if you
12 wanted to hunt for moose in 26(C), you're a North Slope
13 resident, and -- I mean, I'm not sure where I'm going
14 with this, but a way of distributing the permits would be
15 the issue. I'd just like to hear more about that. I
16 think there needs to be other ways of dealing without
17 like having to set a precedence. Like, if that happens,
18 then what other areas may look to see as way of hunting,
19 you know, that could move something, after it's been set
20 a precedence in that fashion. But, you know, I'd like to
21 hear more on it before we even -- I mean, you know, I
22 guess this is deliberation I guess.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon, thank you for
25 your comment. I know Sandy's been raising his hand. I'm
26 trying to figure out where anybody should -- you know,
27 since we're under Council deliberation, recommendation,
28 justification, I'd like to ask the Council providing
29 Sandy the time with the Council's approval to have him
30 maybe provide some more information regarding the
31 substance of the proposal.

32

33 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

36

37 MR. G. BROWER: I don't see a problem
38 with that. You know, if we're deliberating, and we need
39 some questions answered, we should have some expert.....

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Sure.

42

43 MR. G. BROWER:answers to help us
44 make some sort of reasonable decision that's going to be
45 adoptable.

46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.
48 Paul.

49

50 MR. BODFISH: Harry, yeah, I think we

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1 should break for lunch before.

2

3

CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm trying to keep from
4 doing that. I wanted to find out how much time Fenton
5 had for himself. He was somewhat limited as to being
6 here during our meeting, until we're able to go over
7 these two proposals. Fenton.

8

9

MR. REXFORD: I believe the other meeting
10 that I'm with is school board, and I believe it's at 2:00
11 o'clock or 1:30, somewhere thereabouts. So I know it's
12 lunchtime, too.

13

14

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Paul, could we just
15 tighten up the belt a little bit and see if we could take
16 care of his proposals. And I think that would -- I think
17 it would be helpful while Fenton is here at least to do
18 that, to try and take care of these two proposals.
19 Sandy.

20

21

MR. RABINOWITCH: I'm Sandy Rabinowitch
22 with the Park Service, and I'll just be very quick. A
23 suggestion I would make is procedural. And that would be
24 table this proposal, hear 86b, so you have both, you have
25 the information about both of them in front of you, and
26 then construct your motions for the two as a package.

27

28

I'll also add an editorial comment. I
29 think I -- you know, I've heard the discussion. I think
30 you can accomplish the kinds of things you're talking
31 about, and at the same time still be very respectful of
32 my perception of the wishes of Kaktovik. And I think
33 I've heard you all express that. I think you can get
34 there. Thank you.

35

36

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sandy.
37 Having heard that, what's the wish of the Council as to
38 the information just provided. Rosemary.

39

40

MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I'd like to take that
41 recommendation and table WP04-86a and hear b. Thank you.

42

43

CHAIRMAN BROWER: If there's no comments
44 from the Council? Hearing none, then we'll continue to
45 do that. We'll table this proposal and move on to the
46 next proposal. That's 86b.

47

48

MR. FISHER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I'll
49 handle 86b This is the other half of 86a, and it was
50 submitted by the City of Kaktovik, and what they're

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1 requesting, they're requesting a moose season with a
2 community harvest quota of five moose be established for
3 the residents of Kaktovik only. The new proposed season
4 would be July 1 through March 31st for residents of
5 Kaktovik only. The total community harvest quota would
6 be five moose by registration permit, and no person would
7 be allowed to harvest a cow accompanied by a calf.

8

9 Currently as Helen has mentioned, there
10 is no season in 26(B) and 26(C). There is no State
11 season. There was a special action passed last fall that
12 was submitted by the residents of Kaktovik. This special
13 action was modified by the Federal Subsistence Board.
14 They did this in order to minimize the effects on a very
15 low moose population in 26(C), and their modification was
16 no more than one moose be harvested from Unit 26(C). The
17 other moose could be harvested from Unit 26(B). However,
18 there was no harvest at all, because caribou were plenty,
19 and people harvested caribou instead of the moose.

20

21 A little bit on the biology of the moose
22 in this area. When you get east of the Canning River,
23 you run into very few moose. The Refuge has done
24 surveys, not a lot of surveys, but they have done
25 several. In the year 2000 they only counted 14 moose in
26 and around the Kongakut River.

27

28 Moose numbers are also low on the Canning
29 River area compared to what they were historically. And
30 in the year 2003, the Refuge did do a complete survey of
31 the coastal plain in all of 26(C) from the Canning River
32 to the Canadian border. They did observe 52 moose in
33 this area, and over half of these moose were observed in
34 the lower Kongakut and Egaksrak River drainages. So that
35 is a little distance from the Canning River, east of the
36 Canning River.

37

38 And to my knowledge, things haven't
39 changed. The moose population is still low. The refuge
40 does plan to do additional surveys next year.

41

42 A little bit about what this proposal
43 would do. Reopening the Federal subsistence moose season
44 in Unit 26(C), and they're proposing here a nine-month
45 season with a five-moose harvest quota, could have
46 negative impacts on the recovery of a depressed moose
47 population. There could be five cows harvested which
48 would really set the population back.

49

50 What we're proposing is to modify this

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1 proposal and with a limit of two bulls, and we want to
2 reduce the proposed harvest quota of five moose to two
3 bulls, and we want to also modify the proposal to line up
4 with what the special action was, with only one moose
5 being harvested from Unit 26(C). The other moose could
6 be harvested from 26(B).

7

8 Our feeling is that a two bull moose
9 harvest quota should not impact this low population, and
10 it would still allow for some harvest. And we do have a
11 conservation concern with that low population in that
12 area.

13

14 Our proposed regulation would be Unit
15 26(B) and 26(C), one bull by Federal registration permit.
16 The harvest quota would be two bull moose. Only two
17 Federal registration permits will be issued. Only one of
18 these may be harvested from Unit 26(C). Federal public
19 lands are closed to the taking of moose except by
20 Federally qualified subsistence hunters. So what we're
21 proposing here is to modify the proposal to line up with
22 what the special action was.

23

24 That's basically all I have. Thank you,
25 Mr. Chairman.

26

27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chairman, if I
28 could just add a little, or comment.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Barbara -- or Helen.

31

32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The original proposal
33 asked for a designated hunter, and that was not included
34 in the final recommendation, because last year we had a
35 statewide change where designated hunter permits are
36 allowed for moose statewide, so that it wasn't necessary
37 to add that into the regulation.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So following this
40 proposal, we need to go through with our procedures
41 again, and hearing the comments from Alaska Department
42 of Fish and Game regarding this proposal, WP04-86b.

43

44 MR. PETERSON: Mr. Chairman, this is
45 Sverre Peterson, Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The
46 Department's position on this proposal, and I want to
47 emphasize that it is on the proposal that the
48 Department's position is taken, and that is that we
49 oppose the proposal. We have not made a decision about,
50 you know, the final outcome of our position. You know,

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1 there is a Staff proposal, and we're neutral on the Staff
2 proposal, and we'd like to hear what the Regional Council
3 has to say on this before we take a final position on it.
4 Yeah, that's basically it.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sverre.
7 Other agency comments. None noted. Interagency Staff
8 Committee comments.

9

10 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman and Council
11 members, I'm Steve Kessler, member of the Interagency
12 Staff Committee, and with the Forest Service. I'm here
13 to present some questions and concerns that the
14 Interagency Staff Committee has with this proposal before
15 you; however, before I get started, I would like to take
16 this opportunity to clarify what the Staff Committee is
17 and why we are making this change in the presentation to
18 the Council.

19

20 There are two staffs who are involved
21 with the Federal Subsistence Program. First is the
22 technical staff, which is primarily with the Office of
23 Subsistence Management. They're the ones who prepared
24 this analysis, and the other analyses for each of the
25 proposals for the Council. It is their recommendation,
26 if there is one, that you find at the end of these
27 proposals that you consider.

28

29 The second staff and the one that I'm a
30 member of is the Interagency Staff Committee. Our job is
31 to review the OSM staff's analyses, the Council's
32 recommendations, and then to advise the Federal
33 Subsistence Board on the proposals, after including our
34 deliberation -- and then after concluding our
35 deliberations, agency specific concerns that we may, as
36 well as to incorporate the public testimony and the
37 Council deliberations that are going on right now. So we
38 make those recommendations to our Board members, and to
39 the Federal Subsistence Board as a whole.

40

41 The Interagency Staff Committee is made
42 up of one or two members from each of the five agencies
43 that make up the and the representative of the Board
44 Chair. Currently the Interagency Staff Committee has two
45 members each from the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Park
46 Service, and the BIA, and the BLM and the Forest Service
47 and the Chairman of the Board are each represented by one
48 member. We individually advise our Board members and as
49 a group, the entire Board.

50

00070

1 In the past this function of the Staff
2 Committee has not been well understood by the Councils.
3 This misunderstanding of the role of the Interagency
4 Staff Committee has unfortunately caused confusion. And
5 we have two purposes in presenting the Interagency Staff
6 Committee concerns to the Council. First is to inform
7 you of what our thoughts are on proposals that may have
8 ramifications beyond those normally considered by the
9 Council. We hope that this may help clear up our
10 function, what I've talked about, and allow us to work
11 together to make the entire Title 8 process go smoother
12 and benefit the subsistence users.

13

14 The second function is to allow us to do
15 our jobs better by getting more direct focused input from
16 the Council regarding our questions and concerns with
17 these proposals.

18

19 So I just wanted to give you a little bit
20 of that background, and then just talk just a little bit
21 specifically about this proposal.

22

23 The Interagency Staff Committee has
24 concerns about both the long and short-term capability of
25 Unit 26 to support this harvest of five moose.
26 Substantial Staff work and Interagency Staff Committee
27 Work went into the preparation of the special action that
28 we talked about earlier, Number 03-04, to determine what
29 a sustainable harvest would be. We agree with that Staff
30 analysis presented here, with the two bull limit with
31 only one from Unit 26(C). If more than two moose or two
32 bulls are desired, then perhaps you could consider an
33 additional moose that would come from 26(B). So right
34 now there's the recommendation has one moose from, one
35 bull moose from 26(C) and one that could come from 26(B).
36 We feel that probably 26(B) could increased harvest, it
37 would not be detrimental also.

38

39 Those are the comments that I have, Mr.
40 Chair.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Steve. The
43 next item we have is the fish and game advisory committee
44 comments. None noted. Nobody's stepping forward.
45 Summary of the written public comments.

46

47 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: There are none, Mr.
48 Chair, thank you.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Sverre.

00071

1 MR. PETERSON: This is Sverre Peterson.
2 I'm going to put myself in kind of an awkward position
3 here. I'm going to talk to you as a private individual,
4 not as a representative of the State, because I think
5 there's some information that I have that would be useful
6 for you to hear in making this determination.

7
8 I had the privilege of working up in the
9 Kaktovik area since about 1978, '79. I have spent a lot
10 of time travelling with hunters from Kaktovik into, you
11 know, the Sadlerochit area, the Hulahula, Okpilak, along
12 the coast, many different areas. I watched the harvest
13 patterns, observed uses of the resource, and spent a lot
14 of fine times with people from Kaktovik in their area.
15 And I have observed some moose hunting, and I have kept
16 records on moose hunting in that area. And I have some
17 experience in accessing the area where typically the
18 moose harvest occurs in Kaktovik, and that is in sort of
19 the Sadlerochit area. It's an area in between kind of
20 the Sadlerochit River and the Hulahula River, in the
21 uplands between those two drainages.

22
23 And there have never -- you know, in the
24 times that I have been in there, and this is typically in
25 the spring, there have never been a population of moose
26 in there. There have been moose in there. There have
27 been two, three, four moose in there. And since the time
28 I started travelling into that area, people in Kaktovik
29 have taken moose from that small group when they have
30 needed to. And I have not observed that the moose
31 population, if you can use that term, has decreased in
32 that area, because the next year you come into the same
33 hunting area and there's two or three moose there again.

34
35 So what, you know, what we're probably
36 looking at here is this is a group of moose that are on
37 the fringe of the distribution of moose in that part of
38 the world. And it is not a consistent group of moose
39 that live in that area all year round. They probably
40 leave that area in the spring and summer, go further to
41 the west, and in the fall or early winter, another group,
42 maybe not the same group of critters, come back into the
43 area in the upper Sadlerochit. So, therefore, you know,
44 in my view to look at this as a population of moose, is
45 probably an overstatement. It's moose that are on the
46 fringe of the distribution of moose. And so harvesting
47 moose from that population, from that group will probably
48 not have a population effect, because I have seen people
49 hunting consistently moose in that area over the years
50 when there's been a very low number of moose in the area,

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1 and there's sort of a recharge that occurs each fall, and
2 so, you know, although my training is in wildlife
3 management, and I understand population dynamics, et
4 cetera, very, very well, this is a tough issue here. But
5 I -- you know, what is important here is that you get,
6 you know, not just the Council here, but also others who
7 are working on this issue, understand that there's been a
8 consistent harvest of moose from this low group for a
9 long, long time. And it probably occurred long before I
10 came onto the scene and was able to observe this. So I
11 just think that that needs to be on the record here. And
12 we haven't really found another meaningful way to get it
13 in other than my providing this to you as basically a
14 public, and a private individual passing this information
15 on to you. So thanks for the opportunity to do so.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sverre.
18 We're down to number 7, public testimony. If there's any
19 other public testimony at the time. Fenton.

20

21 MR. REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
22 Chairman, Regional Council members, it's again a pleasure
23 to see you. I see a couple of new faces. Hello, Peter,
24 Rosemary and Ray, I'm glad that you guys are
25 participating in this.

26

27 You know for some reason I would have to
28 agree with the State. It's a rare thing that I agree
29 with a biologist from the State, but personal-wise, I
30 think what Sverre has said is true. When we get down to
31 this -- or when this thing got started, and it's getting
32 close to 10 years now, nine years, '96 though today, it's
33 been closed, and I'm not sure if the Federal Government
34 put a closure to subsistence hunting, and that was going
35 to be my question. Is this area closed to subsistence.
36 I know that there was a State hunt or a State regulation
37 separate from hunting regulations, but did the Federal
38 Government close the moose hunting down? You know,
39 that's a separate question.

40

41 When we look at the analyses, and I'm
42 glad that Sverre touched up on our areas that we
43 particularly go to, Sadlerochit, that's -- the
44 Sadlerochit River is just about five or six miles west of
45 Hulahula, and that river follows the mountain, kind of
46 goes west and east, and then hit Schrader Lake and Peters
47 Lake, and Kekiktuk River's noted in here, but there is --
48 there's always been moose in Sadlerochit River. And I
49 know we started at five. We have to start somewhere. We
50 submitted one I think a year or so ago, and that was

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1 tabled, because they didn't have a count or a survey. So
2 they did a fly-over survey last spring I believe, and
3 then they want to continue again this year. I would like
4 whoever's doing the survey -- I know it's not going to be
5 done until next year, so we have to base our -- the
6 Council has to base their decision on what the Staff have
7 counted, and that's 52 moose. And I'm inclined to say
8 that although we would like to take all five, but I could
9 understand that we put -- we didn't specify whether it
10 should be a bull or a cow, so we started very broad, and
11 come to this point. The Staff did a very good analysis,
12 and this background for decision. And any number or any
13 moose is appreciated.

14

15 And if it's two, let's keep it within
16 26(C), and again it's very good to hear from a private
17 resident and taking his hat off as a state agency and
18 mention that we hunt in Sadlerochit River, and they still
19 come back. I mean -- and Okerokovik and Aichilik River
20 is where they did most of their -- where the majority of
21 their count that they had, and those are just east of
22 Kaktovik. So although we would like to get more than
23 two, I think we're at a point where at least one or two,
24 we'll take that at that recommendation, but I think if we
25 kept it within Unit 26(C) -- is 26(B) when you get over
26 to where the Canning River, that's starting to get 70, 80
27 miles into the Refuge land. The Refuge land starts up
28 around Kavik River, and that's, I don't know how many
29 miles up inland that is, when you look at the map, where
30 the Refuge boundaries, where the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
31 boundaries. And then north of that it's the State
32 jurisdiction. What they're looking at is 26(B) would be
33 within the Federal lands. So that's getting way, way up
34 inland in 26(B). And I would urge the Council and the
35 Staff, the Federal Subsistence Board.....

36

37 We're fortunate to have caribou, that's
38 right in town, or right on the island this year. That's
39 a once in a lifetime. Our elders saying, I wonder what's
40 happening here, what's going to happen to see people
41 going out, coming right back. The caribou get scared a
42 little bit, and come right back to town. So we're pretty
43 fortunate this winter. Don't know what it's going to be
44 like next winter, so any additional resources or
45 alternative resources other than sheep or caribou, which
46 is scarce at time, but this winter we're pretty fortunate
47 to have them hanging around.

48

49 And the community will take care of the
50 permitting issue, and I think that's good. There were

00074

1 some questions, I don't have them at this time, from the
2 Council, the City Council, have talked this over and over
3 again like what I mentioned earlier, three, four, five
4 years ago, wanted to start processing or submitting
5 proposals, so finally we're at this point. There is a
6 count, 52, and I would really urge that this Council
7 support, although it might not be what the Staff
8 recommendation is, you listen to the justification here,
9 and then when you get down to the Federal Subsistence
10 Board, that's where the decision is made. You know, you
11 can always disagree with the Staff, and then get down to
12 the Anchorage area, you know, say this Council supports
13 the take of two within 26(C), within the parameter of the
14 Refuge. I think that's what it says, they want one, only
15 one in 26(C) and one in 26(B), and that's -- you know,
16 that's quite a ways from the village.

17
18 And again, like in Nuiqsut, I don't know
19 if they have a limit in the river, and that's been going
20 on for a long time, and they don't have a specific number
21 that they catch in Nuiqsut. It's not one or two or three
22 or four or 10. You know, there's been subsistence
23 hunting going on in Nuiqsut area, and there's still moose
24 around them over there. So anything to keep it in the
25 confined area rather than zones. We've dealt with zones
26 in musk ox, and I appreciated it when we were working on
27 the special action to keep away from zones. You know,
28 zone A, B or C is where you can catch so many moose or so
29 many musk ox here, so many here, and divide it up into
30 that. It should be the whole area should be open rather
31 than say from this drainage or from this unit.

32
33 So in closing again I really appreciate
34 this Council's work and effort and I know there's lots of
35 other proposals, but in this particular one, we -- the
36 Community of Kaktovik put their heads together in several
37 meetings, and the Tribal Government is in support of this
38 proposal at five, but we had to start somewhere. And I
39 want to thank the Interagency Staff, the Staff
40 recommendations, but again you can disagree with them.
41 You hear their justification, and I think it's
42 sustainable. We're looking at what, a five percent
43 sustainability, that's 2.6 moose. You can look at it one
44 -- three percent, you know, or those kind of things,
45 those figures when they look at sustainable yield. I
46 think two moose can be replenished by the time next year
47 in 26(C), and I hope that this Council will support
48 taking two moose in 26(C). Thank you.

49
50

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Fenton. Any

00075

1 other public testimony. Geoff.

2

3

4 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I'd like to speak as
5 a private citizen, too. And I've been kind of looking at
6 this all along, and, I mean, first I don't think that
7 five is sustainable. I think I'd probably agree with
8 that. Then, you know, I think two, and I was pretty
9 adamant about it being bulls only for biological reasons,
10 but then it was pointed out that probably the best time
11 to hunt is in the spring, it's the get time to travel,
12 and that's when they may be harvested. And at that time
13 it's difficult to, you know, sex moose accurately. And,
14 you know, the way we've dealt with that with musk oxen in
15 26(B) is that we thought we'd have the same problem with
16 that, create an enforcement problem. And so what we've
17 done is made it either sex, but, you know, we just always
18 request that the hunters take a bull if they can. Then
19 -- and Nuiqsut people have been very good about that.
20 They've all -- you know, there's been a couple cows
21 taken, and thankfully we didn't have to make it an
22 enforcement issue, because it was an either sex hunt, but
23 most of them they're taking are bulls.

23

24 And I think with the immigration issue,
25 moose coming in from 26(B), I think they replenish that
26 population. And I mean, I think it's just a great burden
27 to ask people to travel all the way to 26(B) to harvest a
28 moose. I mean, that's a long, long way from Kaktovik to
29 the nearest moose in 26(B). So that's all I've got to
30 say. Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Geoff. Any
33 other public testimony.

34

35 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Mr. Chair, Rosemary.

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Rosemary.

38

39 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I just wanted to also
40 recognize that it is traditional, if we harvest these
41 types of animals, that we give a community mean in which
42 we share with the whole village. Even if there is a
43 limitation, the village will benefit from this resource
44 as a whole. Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.

47 Paul.

48

49 MR. BODFISH: Yeah. I'm back what Fenton
50 says in keep it to Kaktovik to harvest these moose in

00076

1 their area. (In Inupiat) 86a would be Kaktovik (in
2 Inupiat).

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Paul.

5

6 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.

9

10 MR. KOONUK: I support Kaktovik. They
11 need to feed their families, and I support what Fenton's
12 saying, and, you know, we can't let them go hungry. They
13 need to get some meat, put some meat on their table for
14 their families. So I support.

15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Ray.
17 Raymond.

18

19 MR. PANEAK: Yeah, I'd support. And, you
20 know, the family's food come first, or food on the table.
21 And I agree for some of the Advisory Council said that,
22 you know, moose don't stay in one place. They travel a
23 lot. It just -- they're all over, just like caribou
24 wandering around, the same thing with moose. Moose do
25 travel a lot in our area. So I would support Kaktovik
26 for family food, food on the table. Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond.

29

30 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Earl.

33

34 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, I support Fenton on
35 this, and, you know, like they say, you know, we've got
36 to have food on the table, and in the long term, and I
37 know the kids will get into that, too, so, you know,
38 that's part of generation. So I just want to make
39 comment on that. Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Earl.
42 Gordon.

43

44 MR. G. BROWER: I do support after
45 listening to the talk on this of 86b. And I would also
46 like to ask, because we do have some comments from the
47 ADF&G why they would oppose 86b and be neutral on 86a.
48 Is it because of the c&t determination of setting a
49 precedence, and if that's the only factor. And I would
50 really like to just get a little bit more clarification

00077

1 on those two proposals, and if we can satisfy Kaktovik's
2 needs through 86b.

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.

5

6 MR. PETERSON: This is Sverre Peterson
7 with Alaska Department of Fish and Game. I'll try to
8 answer your question. And the simplest way to put it is
9 this, is that if you look at the original proposal, the
10 Kaktovik proposal is five moose in 26(C), and the way
11 that the Department was analyzing this issue, or this,
12 you know, proposal, is basically the same way that the
13 Federal Staff was analyzing it, and that is that, you
14 know, they were looking at the moose as part of a
15 population. And they found that, you know, if there's
16 five or seven moose in this particular area, and you call
17 that a population, taking those five moose is not
18 sustainable. So that's what the Department position is.
19 So therefore that proposal was opposed.

20

21 The Staff recommendation was to either
22 decrease the harvest or spread the harvest out, and that
23 the Department is neutral on, because we wanted to hear
24 what the Regional Advisory Council had to say about that
25 suggestion. So does that clarify it?

26

27 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, that's makes it a
28 little bit more, because I'm a little bit toss up on the
29 two proposals here, and what would work without having to
30 hurt the others by setting a precedence. Only in cases
31 where the population is -- you know, if there was a
32 recovery, but, you know, still understanding, according
33 to taking the hats off, that these moose are transient.
34 They move in and out at will, so it's hard to say that
35 there is a resident population, but a transient
36 population that's going on here, and that it routinely
37 gets recharged. And that five moose is sustainable. And
38 if that's the case, and you guys are well-known
39 biologists, and I commend you for taking your hats off to
40 take some of this pressure of looking at harvest patterns
41 and the nature of the animal, a transient animal being
42 able to come at will, not going to be depleted by
43 harvested by five moose when you know it's going to be --
44 when there's been a sustained hunt in an area, and not to
45 try to declare a population that's resident.

46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.

48 Helen.

49

50 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I wanted to offer

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1 another suggestion in terms of terms of dealing with the
2 c&t issue that, you know, if the Council chose not to
3 change the c&t, what has been done in other areas is that
4 the permits could only be distributed from Kaktovik, so
5 that it would most likely reduce the likelihood that
6 anybody would come over from another community to get the
7 permits. So it could be that they could only give them
8 out from Kaktovik. That would be one option.

9

10 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

13

14 MR. G. BROWER: And just a question to
15 Helen. If that were the case, and looking at the Staff
16 recommendation, would that be the modification to that,
17 to support 86b with modification, and would that cover
18 that?

19

20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's right. You'd
21 have to -- 86b you'd want to support the original
22 proposal with modification. So you'd want to look at the
23 proposal as it is on page 36, or it's actually also on
24 page 35. It's both places, and modify it to say -- and
25 actually the originally proposal, it does say except to
26 residents of Kaktovik, but I think you'd want to clarify.

27

28 MR. G. BROWER: Would that be the
29 modification to that to support 86b with modification and
30 would that cover that?

31

32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's right. You'd
33 have to -- 86b you'd want to support the original
34 proposal with modification, so you'd want to look at the
35 proposal as it is on page 36 or it's actually also on
36 page 35, it's both places, and modify it to say --
37 actually, the original proposal does say except to
38 residents of Kaktovik, but I think you'd want to clarify.
39 I was asking Sandy can they do that if there's C&T for
40 everybody and we both think that probably -- it made us a
41 little uneasy to just say only to residents of Kaktovik
42 when all of the North Slope has C&T, but you could say
43 Federal public lands are close to taking of moose by non-
44 Federally-qualified subsistence users and then say
45 something about the permits would only be distributed in
46 Kaktovik.

47

48 I'm not even sure -- would it have to
49 even be in the regulation.

50

00079

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm not sure it
2 would have to be.

3

4 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm not even sure it
5 would have to be in the regulation. I know when we did
6 it in Seward Peninsula it wasn't in the regulation.
7 That's just the way we distributed them. We went to
8 different communities and gave out a certain number of
9 permits in each community.

10

11 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

14

15 MR. G. BROWER: Just one question to
16 Fenton. Is that something that's good for Kaktovik to
17 make that little modification that the permits only be
18 distributed out of Kaktovik? It's sort of like giving
19 the first opportunity for the residents to capture the
20 permit without having to make a critical change or
21 setting a precedence in customary and traditional
22 determination.

23

24 MR. REXFORD: We've dealt with a very
25 uncomfortable issuing of permits in Kaktovik for muskox.
26 I know there might be a way to work on C&T determination.
27 We had a drawing permit or permit issuance of muskox
28 early on and we had pretty near a riot. I think we got
29 in the noose a couple times because there were some folks
30 that camped outside of a building and saying that they
31 were in line already two days before the issuance of
32 permits and we don't want to come across that problem
33 again.

34

35 There are ways, I think, to work this
36 issue. My recommendation would be, and this would be my
37 personal opinion, that if the population rebounds -- we
38 know we're dealing with a certain population and if the
39 population is -- I don't know what the number is that you
40 can talk about that allows other residents to come in and
41 take moose.

42

43 Helen brought up a good question about
44 whether this can be -- just leave C&T as it is and then
45 deal with it on the drawing permit. I think that's
46 workable. I think that's what it was on -- wasn't it on
47 muskox that we -- it's an area wide -- or I mean sheep
48 might be an example where residents of Arctic Village and
49 Point Hope and other places can -- and I recall that we
50 -- I've said that there are residents or people from

00080

1 Point Hope -- Lodge Rock (ph) was one of them. He was
2 part of our family or part of our friends and he, with
3 his parents Allen and Francis, were living there and I'm
4 sure that they sent the catch that they did to their
5 folks at home. And they were temporary residents, they
6 weren't full-time residents, but we took them in and then
7 people from Barrow. Those kind of things.

8

9 I don't know. It's an interesting
10 question. Maybe leave C&T as it is and maybe work on the
11 permitting part of it. I don't know how to answer your
12 question. Whether that answered your question there,
13 Gordon.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Fenton.
16 Helen.

17

18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And what you could do
19 is go with that this year, take that little risk of
20 leaving the C&T as it is and then next year we could do
21 an 804 analysis that would then narrow it. It wouldn't be
22 changing the C&T, it would just be doing an 804 analysis
23 saying that Kaktovik people should be the only ones who
24 have the right to hunt and then you wouldn't have to
25 worry about it. So it would just be this year we'd have
26 to get through by just giving out the permits in
27 Kaktovik.

28

29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Fenton, did you have
30 any comment? I just wanted to make a couple of.....

31

32 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chairman.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

35

36 MR. TAGAROOK: Just a comment. Looking
37 at the regulations on the moose, 26(B) and (C), there's
38 no open season. Why can't they just open it with a bag
39 limit for Kaktovik?

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry, I think you
42 heard Fenton's comments that's a long distance to travel
43 for -- in the current readings, it's a long distance for
44 them to travel from Kaktovik to the area in 26(B) in the
45 Federal lands. It's well over 100, maybe 80 miles, 80 to
46 100 miles, for a person to travel to harvest a moose from
47 that area, so that's one of the concerns that was voiced
48 earlier.

49

50 I was wanting to make a comment about how

00081

1 fortunate Kaktovik was last fall because of the caribou
2 that traversed over the Dalton Highway and spent the
3 winter there in Kaktovik, which provided them a resource
4 available to them throughout the winter. If that hadn't
5 been the case, they would have been faced with a very
6 hardship of not having the resources to harvest this
7 winter. I'm trying to depict a picture that something
8 else could have occurred without the caribou being there.

9

10

11 Kaktovik has experienced the loss of
12 muskox. They're not able to currently harvest moose like
13 they would like to. Without the resources being there,
14 there would have been a great hardship for some other
15 resource to be able to utilize as food. I just wanted to
16 make that point and make sure you see what Kaktovik has
17 been faced with over the years. It was very fortunate
18 that this caribou did cross the Dalton Highway and spent
19 the winter in Kaktovik, which provided a resource for
20 them to get by through the winter. I just wanted to
21 implant that into your minds a little bit before making a
22 decision.

23

24 I think we need to be supportive of a
25 community requesting to take a few animals which either
26 way will sustain a harvest. It's not that they're going
27 to go and wipe out the whole population. They're just
28 wanting to provide a means of a resource to be made
29 available to them. The caribou might not make it again
30 across the Haul Road next fall. We don't know. We're
31 not the ones to be able to make that decision or judgment
32 and then make a prediction as to what's going to be
33 happening with those resources next fall. I think this
34 is an issue we need to be very diligent about in
35 supporting and providing a resource for them to be able
36 to subsist throughout the winter. Thank you.

37

38 Were still on the Regional Council
39 deliberation and recommendations. Rosemary.

40

41 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I'd like to support
42 Fenton's response to our interactions with these
43 discussions. His recognition of the likelihood of the
44 wording of these proposals before us have a possible
45 reaction to other communities and they're customary and
46 traditional use of the resources is available under the
47 current regulations that are in existence and protecting
48 our customary and traditional sharing and traveling in
49 our areas is very important and keeping that protection
50 in place is something we have to keep recognizing that

00082

1 there's a willingness to work on the permit process and
2 amending those changes is an avenue to adequately make
3 the changes without jeopardizing our traditional sharing
4 and use patterns is important to recognize. Thank you.

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
7 Gordon.

8
9 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, I'd like to support
10 that as well, what Rosemary's comments are. I think that
11 86b should be supported with modifications to having the
12 permits issued out of Kaktovik in a way that may ensure
13 the residents have a first go at receiving those permits
14 for the full five moose from 26(C), recognizing that
15 there's been testimony given about this animal, that this
16 animal has been hunted traditionally in this area without
17 depletion and these animals come and go in a transient
18 fashion, that they do replenish themselves and that I
19 think that is a sustainable and honorable request for
20 areas on the North Slope that depend on natural resources
21 to feed families. I'd like to make that in the form of a
22 motion.

23
24 MR. KOONUK: Second that motion.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon and
27 Ray. Further discussion on the motion.

28
29 MR. BODFISH: Call for question.

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question has been
32 called. All in support of this motion presented by
33 Gordon signify by saying aye.

34
35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any in opposition.

38
39 (No opposing votes)

40
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank you,
42 Gordon. I have a question in terms of what we tabled
43 before we took action on this. Is that something that we
44 could take up after a lunch break or before Fenton leaves
45 we should take some form of action?

46
47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Is the Council ready
48 to just make a motion on 86a?

49
50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I would like to pose

00083

1 that question to the Council. Is the Council ready to
2 take action on 86a?

3

4 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

7

8 MR. G. BROWER: For myself, I think we
9 heard quite a bit on this and I think if the rest of the
10 Council is willing to do so, I'm certainly willing to
11 entertain that now.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think we're in
14 agreement on taking action, Gordon, so we could proceed
15 with that before going into a lunch break.

16

17 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Continue, Gordon.

20

21 MR. G. BROWER: Looking at the provisions
22 for 86a and the need to make changes to customary and
23 traditional uses in order to make this provision -- what
24 it has in its provision and listening to Rosemary and
25 others concerning customary and traditional uses, the
26 sharing provision of our culture and the nature of how we
27 travel to get to places to harvest, that I would make a
28 motion that 86a not be adopted if that is the wish of the
29 Council.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's a motion on the
32 floor to oppose 86a.

33

34 MR. KOONUK: Second the motion.

35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Ray. We
37 have a motion before us to oppose 86a. Any further
38 discussion on the motion.

39

40 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

43

44 MR. G BROWER: Just to make it clear, 86b
45 provides an avenue for Kaktovik with five moose without
46 having to change the customary and traditional
47 determinations of other areas that have sharing, like
48 Nuiqsut, that if 86a was put down the avenue for Kaktovik
49 in 86b is an appropriate measure that we voted on, so I
50 think 86a we wouldn't have to change. You know, we

00084

1 wouldn't have to tinker with customary and traditional
2 determinations for 26(C).

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.

5

6 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Mr. Chair, I want to
7 officially take a leave at this time so I could attend
8 that hearing. I have presented discussion related to
9 this that's relevant for it. Thank you.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary. I
12 have just a quick question for you, Rosemary. Do you
13 need to bring this with you?

14

15 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: No. I just wanted to
16 have something prepared that's there so you'd have a
17 draft.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Did you need it?

20

21 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Well, we haven't acted
22 upon it and we need to act upon it, so I just drafted
23 something of our discussions today so it's available.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Thank you.
26 She's referring to that resolution that we were
27 discussing earlier. We're still under a motion to take
28 action opposing this customary and traditional use
29 determination for moose in 26(C). Any further
30 discussion.

31

MR. BODFISH: Call for question.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question has been
34 called. All in favor of supporting opposition of this
35 proposal revising the customary and traditional use
36 determination for moose in 26(C) signify by saying aye.

37

38 IN UNISON: Aye.

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed same sign.

41

42 (No opposing votes)

43

44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank you.
45 We'll take a little break for lunch. We'll be back here
46 by 2:15.

47

48 (Off record)

49

50 (On record)

00085

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'll call the Council
2 back to order. We are in the process of discussing the
3 proposals for consideration by the Regional Advisory
4 Council. We were on Proposal.....

5
6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: 82, 83 and 56 are
7 joined together, Mr. Chairman.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: 82, 83 and 56 are
10 joined together. And you're going to be presenting them?

11
12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'll be presenting
13 those.

14
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We also have Jack
16 Reakoff with the Western Interior to speak on these
17 proposals. We'll follow our procedures. Jack, I'm not
18 aware if you're familiar with our procedures in doing an
19 analysis on the proposal.

20
21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: He is.

22
23 MR. REAKOFF: Yes, I'm on the Western
24 Interior Regional Council and there's certain
25 presentations and I'll take my turn.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Helen, you
28 have the floor.

29
30 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
31 Proposals WP04-56, 82 and 83 were all submitted by Andrew
32 Bratstrud and he requests that the existing customary and
33 traditional use determinations for caribou in Units 24
34 and 26(B) be expanded to include all residents of the
35 Dalton Highway Corridor north of the Yukon River.

36
37 Proposal WP04-83 originally requested
38 that Stevens Village, Tanana, Galena, Kobuk and Koyuk, as
39 well as the residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor
40 north of the Yukon River be added to the C&T
41 determination for caribou in Unit 26(B). However,
42 Mr. Bratstrud later modified his proposal in a written
43 statement and he provided to the Council coordinator, and
44 deleted Stevens Village, Tanana, Galena, Kobuk and Koyuk
45 from his proposal. As a result of that, that made the
46 proposals for 82 and 83 identical. There was no
47 difference. Just as a side note, we were told later by
48 someone else, not the proponent, that he had intended one
49 of those to be for sheep, but we had it in his
50 handwriting that they both said caribou, so we stayed

00086

1 with caribou. We were unable to get a hold of him
2 because he doesn't have a phone.

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Helen, just identify
5 what pages we're on.

6

7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm really sorry.
8 It's page 48 under Tab C.

9

10 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chair.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Jack.

13

14 MR. REAKOFF: I'm having a hard time
15 hearing what she's saying. If she could step a little
16 closer to the mike.

17

18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'll move over there.
19 You will, however, have trouble hearing everybody else in
20 the room, I'm sure, so I don't know what we're going to
21 do about that.

22

23 Okay. So 56, 82 and 83 were then all
24 joined because they all requested positive C&T for
25 caribou along the Dalton Highway Corridor for residents
26 north of the Yukon River.

27

28 The only communities along the Dalton
29 Highway Corridor in these units are Wiseman and Coldfoot.
30 They're both in Unit 24. Wiseman already has a positive
31 C&T determination for 24. The analysis is going to focus
32 on Coldfoot and all the residents residing permanently
33 year round north of the Yukon River in the corridor.

34

35 Right now the extent of the Federal
36 public lands in Unit 24, 63 percent is managed by BLM, 20
37 percent Fish and Wildlife Service and Park Service has 21
38 percent. The Dalton Highway Corridor is administered by
39 BLM.

40

41 The history on this proposal, C&T for
42 Unit 24 caribou was originally proposed by Jack Reakoff,
43 who is online with us, in 1996 and later resubmitted by
44 the Western Interior Regional Advisory Council in '97.
45 The original proposal asked for a positive C&T for all
46 rural residents of Unit 24 but was to exclude all
47 residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor management area
48 except for Wiseman. The Western Interior, the Eastern
49 Interior and this Council, the North Slope Council,
50 supported the modified proposal, as did the Inter-Agency

00087

1 Staff Committee and the Board.

2

3

4 In June of 1997, a couple of our Staff
5 members drove the Dalton Highway and they discovered that
6 there were some isolated houses with long-term, permanent
7 residents along the corridor and there was some concern
8 that maybe some people who have lived there long term had
9 been excluded. In 1999, Jack Reakoff, who lives in
10 Wiseman, made a proposal to allow residents of the Dalton
11 Highway Corridor who have lived there longer than a year
12 have a positive C&T for caribou in Unit 24.

12

13

14 The Board did not support that proposal
15 because adding a one-year residency requirement wasn't
16 necessary because our Federal regulations already require
17 an individual to live in Alaska for a year and to obtain
18 an Alaska resident hunting license. Well, to obtain an
19 Alaska resident hunting license requires you to live here
20 one year to qualify as a Federally-recognized subsistence
21 user. The Board then modified Proposal 43 to give a
22 positive C&T for all residents of Unit 24, which included
23 residents along the Dalton Highway Corridor, but that was
24 only within Unit 24.

24

25

26 The only portion of the corridor that
27 does not already have a positive C&T in 24 is the portion
28 of the corridor in Unit 20, which is north of the Yukon
29 River to the Unit 24 border. So it's just a little
30 stretch in there that is being requested that doesn't
31 have C&T. That's for 24.

31

32

33 Then in 26(B), the current customary and
34 traditional use determination was made by the Board in
35 1997. Coldfoot was not included in the C&T at that time.
36 Wiseman was included. Coldfoot was excluded because, as
37 had been earlier discovered in the earlier C&T analysis,
38 it had been determined that the community didn't have a
39 long-term permanent population and there was no data to
40 support a community pattern of use of caribou.

40

41

42 Park Service eligibility regulations
43 further limit who may hunt in Gates of the Arctic
44 National Preserve. Even if the C&T use determination is
45 expanded as requested, they limit it to residents of the
46 resident zone communities as defined by Park Service
47 regulations.

47

48

49 What we've done in this analysis and I
50 know it will seem a little bit odd to people, but we were
instructed by our lawyers that when we do C&T we have to

00088

1 look at the uses of the people in the area and not the
2 users. So we have to look at other people in the area
3 and not necessarily just the people, in this case the few
4 people who live along the corridor, as well as people who
5 live in Coldfoot. It kind of sits sort of funny, you
6 know. It's odd to me, too, I guess. Coldfoot is the
7 only community in -- well, Coldfoot was included in the
8 Unit 24 C&T, but it's not included in the 26(B) C&T.

9

10 Just to give you a little bit of history
11 about Coldfoot, it was established in 1900 when a gold
12 mine was in the area. By 1912, the mine had been
13 abandoned and the town was pretty much abandoned, then
14 the post office was shut down. Up until 2000, there
15 weren't any records from the U.S. Census of people living
16 in Coldfoot. There may have been people there, but there
17 wasn't anything in the U.S. Census. In 2000, there were
18 13 residents in Coldfoot, only three under the age of 18
19 and they were all non-Native.

20

21 I did call and talk to a woman who lives
22 in Coldfoot and she gave me more information about
23 Coldfoot and she said right now there are 15 adults there
24 and she said in the summertime there are probably 40
25 seasonals there. I asked her if she could find out for
26 me how many people lived along the corridor and north of
27 the Yukon River and, according to her research, she said
28 there were seven adults and one child. There are six
29 more adults in the area, but they don't live along the
30 corridor, so we're not talking about a lot of people

31

32 I'm going to focus as I did on the
33 earlier C&T determination on factors 1, 2, 4 and 8. The
34 rest of them are incorporated by reference, but, in the
35 interest of time, we're going to not go through these too
36 much.

37

38 In the past, the Board's earlier C&T
39 determinations used the lack of information of long-term
40 use as evidence to deny a positive C&T for the corridor
41 residents. As I was saying, the lawyers have instructed
42 us that as long as there's an abundance of a resource
43 that C&T really needs to be inclusive and not exclusive
44 and that we should have differentiation between users in
45 consideration of long-term uses of individuals shouldn't
46 occur unless we look at doing an ANILCA Section 804
47 analysis like we were talking about earlier this morning.

48

49 So, until there's a shortage of the
50 resource, the Board should consider the uses of the

00089

1 resources and not the users. What we've done is looked
2 at the uses of other residents in Unit 24 because we
3 don't have any data on the residents along the corridor
4 and we don't have -- there's no available information on
5 the uses of the people in Coldfoot.

6
7 So, when we look at factor 1, long-term
8 traditional pattern of use, in Unit 24 we do have
9 communities who have, as a group, a long-term, consistent
10 history of harvesting caribou for subsistence and for
11 cultural reasons. There's a lot of documented
12 information on the anthropological use of caribou and
13 also community use studies as well.

14
15 Caribou are found throughout Unit 24,
16 although there is variation on their availability over
17 time. Per capita, number of pounds of caribou consumed
18 in the North Slope villages is greatest in Anaktuvuk Pass
19 with an estimated average of 227 pounds of caribou meat
20 per person. In Anaktuvuk Pass, which also uses 26(B), we
21 know that caribou are used extensively.

22
23 Factor 2, pattern of use of recurring in
24 specific seasons. Before there were legal restrictions
25 imposed on wildlife hunting in Unit 24, residents of Unit
26 24 and 26(B) harvested caribou year round. The harvest
27 peaked in the fall, early winter and spring. They were
28 all in conjunction with the timing of the migration of
29 caribou throughout the central and western Brooks Range.

30
31 Factor 4, the harvest and use of fish and
32 wildlife in a particular area. In Unit 24, historically,
33 the Nunamiut in Anaktuvuk Pass harvested caribou
34 throughout the central Brooks Range. Even after the
35 consolidation of the community of Anaktuvuk Pass in 1950,
36 the Nunamiut hunters have continued to pursue caribou
37 over a vast area.

38
39 Since the 1980s, caribou have been
40 abundant near Anaktuvuk Pass and hunters have usually met
41 community harvest needs within a 30-mile radius of the
42 community, primarily in 24 and 26. In Unit 24, the
43 Koyukon hunters in parts of Unit 24 have to travel longer
44 distances to find caribou, sometimes as much as 80 miles,
45 and caribou are only seasonally found in some areas of
46 the unit. In times when caribou are not available, the
47 hunting range extends much farther than in times when the
48 caribou are available closer to the community.

49
50 In factor 8, the reliance upon a wide

00090

1 diversity of fish and wildlife resources. The Koyukon,
2 Nunamiut and Inupiaq traditionally relied on a wide
3 variety of local fish and wildlife and that reliance
4 continues today.

5
6 If we adopted this proposal, it would
7 allow year round, long-term permanent residents along the
8 corridor, as well as a few permanent residents in
9 Coldfoot, to hunt caribou. This would probably add a
10 number, under 30 people, to the existing C&T
11 determination. There aren't too many people living
12 there. The proposal would still not allow any of the
13 potentially enfranchised hunters to hunt inside the Gates
14 of the Arctic unless they obtain a Section 13.44 permit
15 from the Park Service.

16
17 There had been a concern that there would
18 be people who are transient people who would be able to
19 hunt, but these people, if they're transient, they don't
20 live there year round, would still not qualify. And you
21 still would have to live at least in Alaska for a year in
22 order to qualify.

23
24 The preliminary conclusion is to support
25 the proposal. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Helen.
28 Alaska Department of Fish and Game comments.

29
30 MR. PEDERSON: Mr. Chairman, Sverre
31 Pederson, Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The
32 department is neutral on these three proposals. We could
33 change our position based on input from the Regional
34 Advisory Council. I could read the justification for our
35 neutral position, but I presume that you all have the
36 book in front of you and can see on page 61 what the
37 department's position is based on. Thank you.

38
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sverre.
40 Number three is other Agency comments.

41
42 (No comments)

43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's no other Agency
45 comments. Is there Inter-Agency Staff Committee
46 comments?

47
48 MR. KESSLER: There are no comments from
49 Inter-Agency Staff.

50

00091

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No Inter-Agency Staff
2 Committee comments. Number five, Fish and Game Advisory
3 Committee comments.

4

5 (No comments)

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None represented today.
8 Summary of written public comments. Anybody presenting
9 written public comments this afternoon? Barb.

10

11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: There's one support on
12 56, 82 and 83 by Susan Henderson. She supports. Thank
13 you, sir.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Barb.
16 Number seven, public testimony on Proposals 56, 82 and
17 83. Jack, I think this is your opportunity to provide
18 some comments.

19

20 MR. REAKOFF: My name is Jack Reakoff.
21 I've lived in Wiseman since 1971, before the Haul Road
22 and pipeline were built. Regarding Proposals 82 and 83,
23 I am not opposed to them. You've got to understand what
24 the community of Coldfoot is. It's a truck stop and
25 everybody that lives at that place, their year round
26 employment is the truck stop. There are people that work
27 at the truck stop currently in the last few years that
28 used to live in Wiseman. They used to hunt from Wiseman
29 and go to Unit 26(B) to hunt caribou. The other
30 residents that were enumerated by your anthropologist
31 actually have lived in Wiseman before, so I would not
32 be opposed to those people who live within Unit 24,
33 including Coldfoot, on a year-round basis having C&T in
34 Unit 26(B). I would not be opposed to that.

35

36 I do have concern with allowing 20(F) --
37 there's nobody that lives in 20(F) that ever hunted
38 caribou in 26(B) and I would be opposed to inclusion of
39 the entire corridor rather than those two units of 26(B)
40 because I don't feel that they -- currently, there's no
41 one living in 20(F) in the Dalton Highway Corridor.
42 There's seasonal people who live there on a seasonal
43 basis in 20(F) of the Yukon River crossing truck stop.
44 Those people that live there in 20(F) have never hunted
45 in 26(B) for subsistence. I would be opposed to the
46 inclusion of the 29(F) portion of the corridor for C&T
47 eligibility. Those are my comments.

48

49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Jack, this is Helen
50 Armstrong. I have a question. Do you know whether Andy

00092

1 Brattrud lives in that section?

2

3

MR. REAKOFF: He's not living in 20(F).
4 He's trapping on Hathe Creek, which is below the Dalton
5 Highway Corridor. He's living down in Hathe Creek, which
6 is south of the Yukon River. There's nobody living in
7 the Dalton Highway Corridor in 20(F). There's not even
8 pump stations there. There's nobody there, 20(F).

9

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Does Brattrud even
10 live along the corridor?

11

12

MR. REAKOFF: He came to Coldfoot two
13 years ago at this time of year and he worked in Coldfoot
14 for a one-year period, then last summer he went down to
15 the truck stop at the Yukon River crossing and he worked
16 there this summer and then they closed that truck stop in
17 October. From that time, since October, he's been living
18 in Hathe Creek, south of the Yukon River, outside of this
19 area that he's proposed. So I'm concerned about allowing
20 C&T for people who are not even present. There's
21 physically no one present in 20(F) on a year-round basis.
22 The truck stop has been closed for many years, several
23 years, in the winter time. There's no one who actually
24 qualifies for a year-round permanent residency in 20(F),
25 so I'm opposed to that portion and I'll present that to
26 my council when I talk about this issue.

27

28

So, as it stands right now, I'm not
29 opposed to a C&T inclusion of the residents of the
30 corridor who reside within the corridor in Unit 24. I'm
31 not opposed to them. I'll leave it now in the Region
32 10's hands to make the decision on that.

33

34

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Do we have any further
35 public testimony or any questions of Mr. Reakoff from the
36 Council on Proposals 56, 82 and 83?

37

38

MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah.

39

40

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Earl.

41

42

MR. WILLIAMS: I was going to ask Jack do
43 they have a problem with hunters there? I don't know how
44 many people live there. I was just concerned about the
45 hunters around there since we're having this problem
46 about corridor.

47

48

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Jack, did you
49 understand that question? He was a little far away from
50

00093

1 you. Did you hear him?

2

3 MR. REAKOFF: I can barely hear anything.
4 I can hear the Chair and you.

5

6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Earl Williams
7 from Anaktuvuk Pass asked if you've had any problems with
8 hunters coming through that area.

9

10 MR. REAKOFF: You mean as far as local
11 hunters?

12

13 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right. Subsistence
14 hunters.

15

16 MR. REAKOFF: No, the subsistence hunters
17 that live in Unit 24 are not a problem here. We've got
18 caribou around here this year. They're all around.
19 They're not a problem.

20

21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: He thanks you.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other public
24 testimony.

25

26 (No comments)

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Council deliberations,
29 recommendations, justification. The wish of the Council.

30

31 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond.

34

35 MR. PANEAK: Hello, Jack. Can you hear
36 me?

37

38 MR. REAKOFF: I can hear your voice,
39 Raymond.

40

41 MR. PANEAK: Good afternoon, Jack. This
42 is Raymond Paneak. I made it up here. I heard what you
43 said. I know I'm aware of people that hunted in the area
44 at Wiseman, Alatna, Allakaket, Bettles, Anaktuvuk. We
45 use that Unit 24 caribou that travels through Anaktuvuk
46 then down to headwaters of North Fork and Coldfoot and
47 also down to Bettles this year. Anyway, I'll support you
48 on your comments. Thank you.

49

50 MR. REAKOFF: I appreciate that, Raymond.

00094

1 You know, the people that live in Unit 24 in the corridor
2 here are just a few people. If they go to 26(B) to get a
3 caribou or something, I don't think it's going to be a
4 big problem, but I'm a little bit concerned about
5 allowing people from down by the Yukon River to come up
6 here. They've never been here before. I don't think
7 it's correct for them to get C&T.

8

9 MR. PANEAK: Yeah, I agree with you,
10 Jack. Thank you.

11

12 MR. REAKOFF: Thanks a lot, Raymond.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Just to clarify this
15 proposal, we're being asked to make a recommendation on
16 the Proposals 56, 82 and 83 and you said there were two
17 of them that were combined, 82 and 83.

18

19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: All three of them are
20 combined. They're actually all asking for the same thing
21 because the proponent of the proposal, Andrew Bratstrud,
22 changed his proposal after we had already put them in the
23 proposal book. He originally had asked for C&T for
24 Stevens Village, Tanana, Galena, Kobuk and Koyuk and then
25 he withdrew that request because he didn't really know
26 anything about those communities, so he only asked for it
27 for the Dalton Highway Corridor.

28

29 So what's being asked is, if you look at
30 page 48 and 49, bottom of 48, top of 49, the bottom of 48
31 has the existing C&T and then the top of 49, the part
32 that's bolded, is what would be added. So Unit 24, it
33 would be adding residents of Dalton Highway Corridor,
34 north of the Yukon River, and 26(B). That would also be
35 added. In 24, they already have it because residents of
36 the Dalton Highway Corridor are residents of Unit 24, so
37 the only thing you're adding is that portion north of the
38 Yukon River, which is in 20, and Jack is saying that part
39 he doesn't agree -- I think what Jack is suggesting, to
40 make it maybe easier, is that you would modify it to say
41 residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor in Unit 24 and
42 26(B) so that you wouldn't have that portion north of the
43 Yukon River. And the same thing for 26(B), that it would
44 say residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor in Unit 24
45 -- well, actually, the 24 would say and residents of the
46 Dalton Highway Corridor in Unit 26(B) because 24 is
47 already included. And 26(B) would say residents of
48 Dalton Highway Corridor in Unit 24.

49

50 Did that make sense? Did I confuse you

00095

1 totally?

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CHAIRMAN BROWER: I need to get this clear. So we need to take out some of the wording here.

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: North of the Yukon River.

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: And insert.....

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: In Unit 26(B). Actually, I don't think there are any residents living in that part, but that was that David Neal proposal. When he was alive, he lived up there.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: So that would be the modification.

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right. And then this part, in 26(B) it would say residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor in Unit 24 and not north of the Yukon River.

MR. REAKOFF: Right. I agree to that.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. So, did the rest of the Council hear the clarification? There's some wording changes to modify the proposal. On page 49, the proposed Federal regulations are customary and traditional use determination for caribou in Unit 24 and then the rest continues to read Unit 24 caribou residents of Unit 24, Galena, Kobuk, Koyuk, Stevens Village and Tanana and the residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor in Unit 26(B). The remaining language reads that customary and traditional use determinations for caribou in 26(B). Unit 26(B) caribou, residents of Unit 26, Anaktuvuk Pass, Point Hope and the residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor and Unit 24. That would be the modification that's been presented to us.

Council deliberation, recommendation and justification. I'm trying to get some discussion from the Council members here. We need to take some kind of action; support, not to support or not to make any determination in terms of what the Council wishes.

00096

1 MR. PANEAK: I shall move, Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So moved to support the
4 proposal.

5

6 MR. PANEAK: Yes.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's a motion on the
9 floor to support the proposal with the modified language.

10

11 MR. WILLIAMS: Second.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Earl. Any
14 further discussion on that proposal.

15

16 MR. BODFISH: Question.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been
19 called. All in favor of the motion with the modified
20 language signify by saying aye.

21

22 IN UNISON: Aye.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any opposing.

25

26 (No opposing votes)

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: They're absent. So the
29 proposals are adopted with the modified language. Thank
30 you, Jack.

31

32 MR. REAKOFF: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think we'll jump the
35 agenda a little bit and move on to Proposal 55 and that's
36 on page.....

37

38 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's on page 72. This
39 is Helen Armstrong again. This one we'll do right along
40 with the other one. It's very similar. The same person,
41 Andrew Brattrud, is asking for C&T to be modified for
42 brown bear in Unit 24 to expand it to include all
43 residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor north of the
44 Yukon River. He originally asked for Stevens Village,
45 Tanana, Galena, Kobuk and Koyuk to be added, but then
46 later modified it and withdrew them.

47

48 So it's the same thing we just went
49 through on the other ones except the one is asking for
50 brown bear and it's only asking for Unit 24. The

00097

1 existing C&T is for Unit 24, that portion south of the
2 Caribou Mountain on public lands within and adjacent to
3 the Dalton Highway Corridor management area. Residents
4 of Unit 24, Stevens Village, Wiseman, but not including
5 any other residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor
6 management area and then Unit 24 remainder is for rural
7 residents of Unit 24 and residents of Wiseman but not
8 other residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor management
9 area.

10

11 What he's asked for is that it be for
12 Unit 24 not including any other residents be deleted and
13 they add residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor, north
14 of the Yukon River, and the same thing for Unit 24
15 remainder.

16

17 All of the information that I gave you
18 for the previous proposal would be the same. We're
19 dealing with the same issue. We looked at long-term
20 consistent pattern of use of people in the region and, as
21 you know, there is long-term, consistent history of
22 harvesting bears in the region and long-term, consistent
23 pattern of use in specific seasons.

24

25 Since it's already 3:00 o'clock, I'm
26 going to skim through this. We did make a recommendation
27 to support the proposal. I think given Jack's
28 information, I would also be in support of not including
29 those residents north of the Yukon River but just --
30 although residents of Unit 24 already have C&T, so the
31 only part that's extra, and this is those residents that
32 are in that little part in 20.

33

34 MR. REAKOFF: A change would be including
35 all of the residents of Unit 24 Dalton Highway Corridor
36 residents. That would be the change. Instead of just
37 Wiseman, it would be residents of the Dalton Highway
38 Corridor within Unit 24. I still don't feel comfortable
39 with 20(F) residents because there aren't any.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So that's the analysis,
42 Helen?

43

44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right. So, Jack, I
45 think, would want it to be the same as we did before so
46 it would say residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor in
47 Unit 24 north of the Yukon River, deleting that. Any
48 questions? I didn't go through the whole analysis, given
49 our short time frame.

50

00098

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We'll go through the
2 procedure that we've been following. The next item is to
3 hear comments from Alaska Department of Fish and Game on
4 the Proposal WP04-55.

5
6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Sorry, Harry. All
7 residents of Unit 24 already have C&T, so actually all we
8 would need to do is oppose the proposal.

9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Oppose it.

11
12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Oppose it, yeah,
13 because they already have it. The residents of Dalton
14 Highway Corridor are in Unit 24, so they already have
15 C&T.

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We'll continue to
18 follow the procedure that we've been going through. So
19 we have Alaska Department of Fish and Game comments.

20
21 MR. PEDERSON: Mr. Chairman, this is
22 Sverre Pederson, Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The
23 department's position on this is neutral and we're
24 looking for direction from the Regional Advisory Council
25 on this particular proposal. Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sverre.
28 Other Agency comments.

29
30 (No comments)

31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Hearing none. The next
33 item is Inter-Agency Staff Committee comments.

34
35 MR. KESSLER: No comments.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No comments. Number
38 five, Fish and Game Advisory Committee comments.

39
40 (No comments)

41
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Oops, they just went
43 by. Number six. Summary of written public comments.

44
45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chairman, Susan
46 Henderson supports. Thank you, Barbara.

47
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Number
49 seven, public testimony. Mr. Reakoff, this is your
50 opportunity again to provide additional comments

00099

1 regarding this proposal.

2

3

4 MR. REAKOFF: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
5 highly disagree with the Staff. This proposal only
6 allows Wiseman and no other residents of the Dalton
7 Highway Corridor. This proposal would include other
8 residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor from the Yukon
9 River throughout Unit 24. I suggest modifying the
10 proposal to be adopted but only the residents of the
11 Dalton Highway Corridor in Unit 24, but not the portion
12 of 20(F). The current C&T does not include the other
13 residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor.

13

14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Actually, Jack, you're
15 right. I just pulled up the reg booklet. It does say
16 that. Residents of Unit 24, Stevens Village and Wiseman,
17 but not including any other residents of the Dalton
18 Highway Corridor management area. You're right.

19

20 MR. REAKOFF: That brown bear C&T was
21 made a long time ago by the Board of Game back when they
22 were doing C&T.

23

24 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So, to correct what I
25 said earlier, what we really want to do is support the
26 proposal with modification to only allow the Dalton
27 Highway Corridor residents within Unit 24, correct?

28

29 MR. REAKOFF: Right.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So you all understand
32 the clarification, it is to support the proposal with the
33 modified language to address the residents along the
34 Dalton Highway Corridor.

35

36 Any other public testimony.

37

38 (No comments)

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None. Number eight,
41 Regional Council deliberation, recommendation and
42 justification for Proposal WP04-55.

43

44 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

47

48 MR. G. BROWER: Just listening, I think
49 it would better serve to look at this with the residents
50 in Unit 24 that are on the Dalton Highway Corridor to be

00100

1 inclusive with that modification.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, it would.

4

5 MR. G. BROWER: I'd make a motion to make
6 that amendment to that proposal.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion to support
9 Proposal 55 with the modified language to include the
10 residents of the Dalton Highway Corridor management area.

11

12 MR. KOONUK: Second.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

15

16 MR. G. BROWER: Within Unit 24, is that
17 what we were referring to?

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The remainder of Unit
20 24, the residents of Wiseman and the residents of the
21 Dalton Highway Corridor management area.

22

23 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chairman.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We're in deliberations
26 right now, Mr. Reakoff. Was there a second to the
27 motion?

28

29 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, I seconded.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Ray. Any
32 further discussion.

33

34 MR. BODFISH: Question.

35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question has been
37 called. All in favor of supporting the proposal with the
38 modified language inserted signify by saying aye.

39

40 IN UNISON: Aye.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any in opposition.

43

44 (No opposing votes)

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. So we have
47 acted on the proposal. Mr. Reakoff, was there something
48 that you wanted to add before we move on to our next
49 agenda item?

50

00101

1 MR. REAKOFF: No. I just wanted to say
2 if you include the residents of the corridor in Unit 24,
3 then you wouldn't have to have Wiseman in there as part
4 of the language, but that's okay.

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Thank you.
7 I need a little bit of help housekeeping as to where we
8 are in terms of the proposals. We've been jumping back
9 and forth.

10
11 MS. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, 67 is the next
12 one and that one Jack Reakoff also wanted to be online
13 for.

14
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. So, Jack, we'll
16 be moving to Proposal 67. I'll give the floor to Dave
17 Fisher. Would you identify what page it's on, please.

18
19 MR. FISHER: Proposal 67 is on page 85 of
20 our North Slope book. Before I get started, I'd like you
21 to turn to page 94 and there's a map there and I want to
22 point out one thing on the map. At the north part of
23 that unit where the John River drainage goes, there's
24 some Anaktuvuk Pass land that's not parkland. It shows
25 all parkland. And there's some village corporation land
26 there that's considered private land. I wanted to point
27 that out.

28
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

30
31 MR. FISHER: This proposal was submitted
32 by the Gates of the Arctic National Park and it's
33 requesting the Board make several adjustments to Unit 24
34 moose seasons, harvest limits and hunt area descriptions.
35 The reason we're considering this proposal is it's
36 considered a crossover proposal because the residents of
37 Anaktuvuk Pass have C&T determination to hunt moose in
38 Unit 24.

39
40 The proponent states that the current
41 regulations are complex and rely on hard-to-find
42 boundaries for hunt area descriptions. By this proposal
43 they're offering to make an effort to simplify the
44 affected regulations, change drainage descriptions that
45 are labeled on maps and identifiable in the field.
46 There's also some changes here that are intended to be
47 responsive to the declining health of the moose herd by
48 reducing the seasons and limiting cow harvest to protect
49 this component of the population.

50

00102

1 What this proposal would do, it's going
2 to shorten the antlerless season in the John River
3 drainage, reduce the fall/winter season and eliminate the
4 March season in the Alatna River drainage, it's going to
5 replace the March antlerless season with a December
6 antlerless season in the north fork of the Koyukuk and
7 it's going to make regulations for the National Park
8 Service lands in the Dalton Highway Corridor management
9 area consistent with all other lands in the highway
10 corridor.

11
12 I also want to point out that there are
13 several proposals that the Board of Game is going to be
14 considering in Unit 24 and that will be at their meeting
15 this month in Fairbanks. Apparently some of the Board of
16 Game proposals will be similar to this proposal.

17
18 Surveys in Unit 24 conducted from 2000 to
19 2003 shows a decline in the cow population and also a
20 decline in the calves and yearling bull recruitment.
21 Because of the ongoing declines in moose calves and
22 yearling bulls, additional restrictions on the cow moose
23 harvest are necessary to compensate for these losses.

24
25 There is a moose working group in that
26 area and they have developed a five-year management plan
27 that establishes management guidelines for hunter harvest
28 when conservative measures such as these are proposed or
29 necessary. Due to the decline in the moose abundance in
30 this area, conservative management is required. A
31 reduction in the fall antlerless moose season is
32 necessary to conserve the cow component and we know how
33 important cows are in maintaining the moose population.

34
35 There was a predation study done in 1998
36 and 1999 on moose calf mortality. At that time, black
37 bears accounted for at least 40 percent, and wolves and
38 grizzly bears were the other primary predators. I wanted
39 to point that out. That is one of the reasons we have a
40 declining population there.

41
42 A little bit on the harvest history.
43 There is support for the conclusion that moose harvest in
44 Unit 24 have remained consistent. This was pointed out.
45 It's on page 93 of your book. Subsistence harvest has
46 remained fairly consistent; however, it's taken
47 subsistence hunters a little bit longer time to complete
48 their harvest.

49
50 The Staff recommendation is to support

00103

1 the proposal with modification and these include changes
2 to the boundary descriptions in the John River and Alatna
3 River drainages, retain the longer season in the Alatna
4 River drainage within the park and make the March hunt
5 for bulls only. If you look on page 97, you'll see there
6 where the modifications fit in with the proposal. The
7 second paragraph from the bottom of the page we made a
8 modification to make all the regulations in the Dalton
9 Highway Corridor management area the same.

10

11 The proposed regulatory changes would
12 still provide for long-term subsistence opportunity in
13 Unit 24. We talked a little bit about the survey showed
14 the population has decreased. The modifications would
15 shorten the antlerless season to protect cows and
16 boundary changes made with simplified regulations and
17 these changes are consistent with what the working group
18 or the management planning group are calling for when
19 regulatory changes on antlerless moose harvest are
20 necessary.

21

22 That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Dave. We
25 have Alaska Department of Fish and Game comments on
26 Proposal WP04-67.

27

28 MR. PEDERSON: Mr. Chairman, this is
29 Sverre Pederson, ADF&G. The department does not support
30 the proposal as written and it's continuing to evaluate
31 the sub-area descriptions being proposed. Staff plans to
32 attend the Western Interior Regional Council meeting.
33 We'll discuss the concerns the department has with the
34 Council and develop a final position on this proposal
35 after the Regional Council meeting. Thank you.

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sverre.
38 Other Agency comments.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Inter-
43 Agency Staff Committee Comments.

44

45 MR. KESSLER: Staff Committee has no
46 comments on this proposal.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Inter-Agency Staff
49 Committee has no comments for Proposal 67. Fish and Game
50 Advisory Committee comments.

00104

1 MR. REAKOFF: Mr. Chairman, this is Jack
2 Reakoff. I'm vice chair of the Koyukuk River Advisory
3 Committee and there's a fairly broad proposal that
4 addresses the decline and our committee advised that we
5 trim our season down from March 1 to March 10, to reduce
6 that to March 1 to March 5th and we wanted to put those
7 five days on the end of the September season. Instead of
8 closing September 25th, we wanted that season to run
9 through the 30th to give more bull opportunity. We made
10 that amendment to a proposal that was submitted to the
11 Game Board. So that's where the Koyukuk River Advisory
12 Committee stands on how to address this moose decline, is
13 to give more bull opportunity at fall time and reduce the
14 antlerless hunt in the springtime or the March season.
15 So I'll comment for that committee.

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Reakoff.
18 That was a proposal to the State Board of Game.

19
20 MR. REAKOFF: That was a comment to the
21 State.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Fish and
24 Game Advisory Committee comments.

25
26 (No comments)

27
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Six, summary of written
29 public comments.

30
31 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, there are
32 no public comments for this proposal. Thank you.

33
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Number
35 seven is public testimony. Mr. Reakoff, I think you
36 wanted to give public testimony on Proposal 67.

37
38 MR. REAKOFF: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chair.
39 I also sit on the Gates of the Arctic Subsistence
40 Resource Commission. We hoped to talk about this issue,
41 but our commission could not come up with a quorum, so we
42 didn't get to address this proposal.

43
44 From the Western Interior perspective,
45 the language is fairly complex and I suggested to the
46 Park Service when they were writing this proposal in
47 December to modify the language to include the Federal
48 public lands of the Alatna, the John River, the Wild
49 River and the North Fork drainage and not to get real
50 complicated with all the boundary descriptions basically

00105

1 of the park.

2

3

4 Then at the Western Interior I plan on
5 discussing the modification of these seasons to still
6 allow some antlerless moose harvest in the March 1 to
7 March 5th season, extending the bull season to the 30th
8 of September. One thing the Staff has not presented is
9 the harvest within the Gates of the Arctic Park. They're
10 referring to the unit-side harvest as being consistent.

11

12

13 The harvest of moose within the Gates of
14 the Arctic Park is very low, but I feel that if somebody
15 needs a moose badly and they come to a moose and it's a
16 cow, then they should be able to harvest it but have a
17 more limited time frame in winter and that would be March
18 1 to March 5th.

19

20

21 I talked to Rachel Riley up at Anaktuvuk
22 about that. She kind of agreed with that. I'll be
23 talking about that at the Western Interior Regional
24 Council. The harvest of moose in the Gates of the Arctic
25 Park, the area we're discussing, is very low. It's far
26 below the sustainability, so we're talking about one
27 percent or less by subsistence users, so it's not a big
28 problem there. It doesn't address the population
29 decline, but I don't feel the subsistence users should be
30 totally cut out from any kind of antlerless moose
31 harvest, cow harvest in the springtime March hunt and
32 that's my position. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

33

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Reakoff.
36 Any other public testimony.

37

38

(No comments)

39

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Number
42 eight, Regional Council deliberation, recommendation and
43 justification. What is the wish of the Council on
44 Proposal 04-67?

45

46

MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

47

48

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

49

50

MR. G. BROWER: It seems to me that it's
pretty much complicated here with a whole bunch of
language and deletions and additions of areas and I'm a
little bit hesitant to make any type of decision either
way. It seems like there's a Staff recommendation to
approve with some modification, an ADF&G Staff with some

00106

1 opposition to the proposal pending some more deliberation
2 and contact with the other RAC that's involved. It seems
3 to me there may be time to work on this to make a better
4 clarification on what's to be needed here. That's just
5 my view.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Mr.
8 Fisher.

9

10 MR. FISHER: If I might offer a
11 suggestion. Raymond and Gordon, you could defer your
12 comments to the Western Interior Council and perhaps
13 maybe this Council would want to defer this proposal to
14 them and let them kind of iron out the kinks. I don't
15 think there's really anything there that's going to
16 impact you. It is a crossover proposal and it's going to
17 affect people who live in Anaktuvuk Pass because they
18 have C&T to hunt moose in Unit 24. But you kind of see
19 from what I presented and what Jack has talked about the
20 basic concern is low population going down and then
21 cutting out but not totally eliminating the harvest of
22 cows and then changing the boundary descriptions. It is
23 a confusing proposal. That's just a suggestion I have.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Gordon, go
26 ahead.

27

28 MR. G. BROWER: I think that suggestion
29 is a good one to where we would defer those comments over
30 to the Western Interior. It seems to me it wouldn't
31 affect us very much except for Anaktuvuk, but I think it
32 wouldn't be hard for Anaktuvuk to be included by the
33 other Regional Advisory Council.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. We
36 have three options. We could support the proposal, oppose
37 the proposal or we could defer to take any action. I'll
38 leave it up to the Council to make that recommendation.
39 Raymond.

40

41 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman. Like I said,
42 we do hunt in two different units here, 24 and 26.
43 Seasons change. I don't know how long. Sometimes the
44 seasons seem short, like sheep hunting. I would agree
45 with Jack, but seasons do change whether you're in 26 or
46 24. We do hunt moose down in Unit 24. That's where most
47 of the moose are harvested. That's all I have. Thank
48 you.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond.

00107

1 Anaktuvuk being right on the boundary, it's been placed
2 in a hard spot there. Your comments are well taken,
3 Raymond. Recommendations from the Council.

4

5 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

8

9 MR. G. BROWER: I'm still having a hard
10 time understanding the benefits it will provide. Is
11 there an extension or reduction in the season in areas
12 that would affect Anaktuvuk on this proposal? Maybe I
13 need some clarification.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think there was a
16 couple ways to answer your question, Gordon. They wanted
17 to extend the season during the fall, prolong the season
18 by a few days and then shorten the season in the spring
19 during the antlerless hunt.

20

21 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, just to
22 maybe Earl and Raymond, is that beneficial to Anaktuvuk
23 with extending the fall and reducing the spring harvest?

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think before you
26 answer, Raymond, could I just ask Mr. Fisher to state the
27 dates as to when that harvest is supposed to occur.

28

29 MR. PANEAK: Yeah, this is Raymond. We
30 do on fall moose more than spring hunting. I would agree
31 with that. We hardly catch any spring. Unless maybe
32 caribou are out, we don't do spring hunting hardly.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Fisher.

35

36 MR. FISHER: Yes. If you look on page
37 97, that pretty well points out what the modifications
38 are for the season changes. The second paragraph down
39 they're recommending a season of August 1 through
40 December 31st. That's the existing season. However,
41 antlerless moose may only be taken from September 21 to
42 25th and that deals with that portion that includes
43 Federal public lands within the John River drainage.

44

45 If we go down to the next paragraph, that
46 portion that includes Federal public lands within the
47 Alatna River drainage, one moose, however antlerless
48 moose may only be taken from September 21st through
49 September 25th. There they're reducing the antlerless
50 season.

00108

1 The next paragraph down, all drainages to
2 the north of the Koyukuk River upstream, the season is
3 August 25th to September 25th; however, only antlerless
4 moose may be taken from September 21 through September
5 25th. There they are eliminating the March antlerless
6 season.

7
8 I think Jack recommended another
9 modification to allow for a five-day March hunt. So
10 basically what we're trying to do here is to reduce the
11 cow harvest, protect that portion and then with the
12 amendment or the change that Jack recommended still
13 allowing for some antlerless hunt in the spring.

14
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Now I'd
16 like to get the permission from the Council. We're in
17 Council deliberation and Sandy is wanting to bring in
18 some comments. I'll ask you folks and see if you allow
19 him to bring in some more comments to further the
20 discussion on this proposal. Gordon.

21
22 MR. G. BROWER: I'd entertain having a
23 little bit more information.

24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, Sandy, we'll
26 allow you to comment on this Proposal 67.

27
28 MR. RABINOWITCH: Thank you, Mr.
29 Chairman. The reason I raised my hand was that I think I
30 can give a more concise answer to the question that
31 Gordon Brower just answered. I believe everything Dave
32 Fisher just said is correct, but here's a shorter version
33 of the answer.

34
35 The Park Service, being the proponent of
36 this, we put some time and energy into it. In terms of
37 the John River drainage, which we believe is the primary
38 place that Anaktuvuk residents hunt for moose, to the
39 extent that they do, the proposal from the Park Service
40 proposes no change. So, for the John River drainage,
41 we're not proposing anything change, that it just stays
42 the way it is. Unless I'm getting something mixed up, we
43 propose that it stays the way it is.

44
45 For the Alatna River drainage, which the
46 Park Service believes is very little used for moose
47 hunting by Anaktuvuk Pass residents -- in fact, I asked
48 Sverre Pederson this morning what he knew and every place
49 I've gone what we hear is very little use in the Alatna
50 drainage by Anaktuvuk Pass residents. There we do

00109

1 propose a change and it's somewhat significant.
2 Currently there's an August 25 to September 25 season.
3 I'm sorry. Currently there's an August 25 to December 31
4 season and we propose that being August 25 to September
5 25. So that's a big shortening of that season in the
6 Alatna. Then there's also a March 1 to 10 season and we
7 propose changing that to a December 1 through 10
8 substitution.

9

10 We had originally proposed the December
11 season because we had been talking with the Department of
12 Fish and Game earlier in the fall, in October, when we
13 were originally putting this together and that was
14 something that they had interest in at the time. I
15 believe in their current State Proposal 201 that you've
16 heard mentioned that they are also recommending a
17 December 1 through 10 one bull season at that time.

18

19 So I just wanted to talk about the John
20 and the Alatna and give you that piece. I agree, it's
21 very complicated. If we could have made it any simpler,
22 we would have. We just didn't have a silver bullet to do
23 that. Thank you.

24

25 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, just one
26 follow-up question. To what percentage of impact will
27 this have to the other region versus the Anaktuvuk, our
28 side over here?

29

30 MR. RABINOWITCH: I would actually defer
31 to Raymond and Earl and maybe a little bit to Sverre
32 Pederson who have more experience than I do. My
33 understanding is that to the extent they hunt moose,
34 which is a secondary resource, caribou being more
35 important and fish even more important than moose, so
36 moose is maybe kind of third on the list for Anaktuvuk
37 Pass in terms of priority. Again, I defer to others on
38 that. That's what I know about it. It's not the primary
39 resource they're after. But when caribou aren't there,
40 when fish aren't there, then the interest in moose, of
41 course, goes up.

42

43 MR. G. BROWER: I was trying to find out
44 -- I mean the Alatna area where there's a very low
45 percentage of use by Anaktuvuk, it's not to say they
46 don't hunt there. I'm pretty sure they do. Is that area
47 used by another village more extensively than Anaktuvuk?

48

49 MR. RABINOWITCH: What I know about that
50 -- the short answer is I believe that the lands in the

00110

1 park are not used very much. To the extent they are
2 used, it would be from Alatna and Allakaket, who would go
3 up river to get there. The problems they run into when
4 they go up river this time of year is that the water gets
5 low and they can't get up river so easily. And as the
6 water is getting low, the temperature is going down and
7 so the water starts to freeze up, so they have to deal
8 with low water and freeze-up both and they both present
9 real problems to people getting up river. That said, I'm
10 sure occasionally some from Allakaket and Alatna do.
11 There I would defer. Maybe Jack Reakoff could speak to
12 that. He's closer to those areas.

13

14 We also have a 1985 study done by
15 Department of Fish and Game by Jim Marcott and Terry
16 Haynes that mapped the moose hunting areas, and I have a
17 copy here with me, and they showed the areas used in just
18 a couple years and they showed it stopping before it got
19 to the park boundary. But I emphasize this was only a
20 couple year period. It wasn't a real long time frame.
21 That's what I know. Others may be able to add to that.
22 Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sandy.
25 Gordon.

26

27 MR. G. BROWER: I think it would be
28 appropriate for us to go ahead and entertain a motion to
29 approve this with the modifications that were talked
30 about primarily because it seems that Anaktuvuk may be
31 the periphery of use to that area and it might be
32 beneficial to Anaktuvuk and to make some decision on it
33 for them. I don't know what else the Council would think
34 on that. It seems to me the periphery of use doesn't
35 extend to that portion of the use area except for
36 Anaktuvuk. It's a low use, but it's still a use.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any further comments.
39 Earl.

40

41 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman, I want to
42 make a comment on that. The reason why a lot of moose is
43 found around Unit 24 is there's a lot of willows down
44 there. When you have a bull moose around the village,
45 people go out for it. Like last fall, a couple boys went
46 out and they shot a moose down there. That was a pretty
47 fat moose. I know it's quite a ways down there. When we
48 hear about a moose, we go out and go for it. I think we
49 should put that on priority list. Thank you.

50

00111

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Earl.

2 Raymond.

3

4 MR. PANEAK: I think he's right, that we
5 hardly travel to Alatna River ourself, but our neighbors
6 do travel there. I think I like the idea myself. I
7 don't know about the season. We have to live with the
8 season. We follow that ourselves. Of course, we don't
9 hunt moose all the time. Just when the caribou are
10 scarce or something like that we just go. I haven't
11 gotten a moose myself in a long time, but within a few
12 years people have been killing quite a few moose up in
13 John River. Thank you.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond.

16 Gordon.

17

18 MR. G. BROWER: Just from observation, it
19 seems to me the March hunt is not as important except in
20 times of need. The extended season in September and also
21 moving to include a December 1 to December 10, is that
22 what I'm hearing, to offset that? It seems to me like a
23 winner. If the season is too short in the fall, then you
24 have an opportunity in December.

25

26 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond.

29

30 MR. PANEAK: I wanted to point out one
31 more thing though. I witnessed in going to a village
32 like Allakaket, Alatna, that when they lost a loved one,
33 they had a potluck and any time of year they could catch
34 a moose. In Anaktuvuk, we're deciding to see if we could
35 do that when caribou are scarce and see if we could get
36 something for potluck and ceremonial or something like
37 that. Anyway, I know the neighbors spring hunt also. We
38 hardly do any more spring hunt. Many years back we used
39 to. Nowadays we hardly see anybody catching moose in
40 spring time.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond.

43 Rosemary.

44

45 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I would like to
46 comment that I think it's important to consider this
47 option in March. Coming from a community that has had
48 subsistence resources impacted from our ability to
49 harvest and having multiple resources impacted from our
50 ability to harvest, having hope in the spring time early

00112

1 to try to continue to subsistence in our traditional ways
2 is very important and that the risk during our needs
3 would be very high for having individuals taking this
4 upon them. As you know the statement hunger knows no
5 law, that's very strong in March when we've gone many,
6 many months without our resources and we have nothing
7 left and it's months yet before all of our resources
8 return. Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
11 Recommendations, justifications on Proposal WP04-67.

12

13 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

16

17 MR. G. BROWER: This is pretty
18 complicated, you know, when you have different times,
19 also when you have needs of residents. I try to listen
20 and be very careful in how I listen to make sure we're
21 sensitive to each other because we're a community up here
22 on the North Slope. The reasoning behind the regulators
23 to make proposals that are so complicated, it's a little
24 bit hard to take it in and understand what's going to
25 happen after we make a recommendation, but it should be
26 clear and understandable so we know what's going to
27 happen when we say something. I understand there's needs
28 and conservations methods that are trying to be enforced.
29 I would really like to hear a little bit maybe from --
30 because I hear two different things. There's some
31 ceremonial needs that are being presented, but I think
32 those proposals can be made at any time to do a
33 ceremonial proposal to include a potlatch event besides
34 what we're trying to encounter right now.

35

36 I also see the events being made by
37 biologist to conserve and protect the stocks with some
38 exceptions for altering days and times and to include a
39 mid-winter short season, December 1 through the 10th. I
40 think a proposal to entertain as needed basis for a
41 ceremonial event could be entertained by Anaktuvuk at
42 will. That can happen. I'm not saying that it's going
43 to happen every year, but I think when it needs to happen
44 that they have the opportunity to harvest for ceremonial
45 events.

46

47 I think that's as clear as we can get it
48 to try to make a reasonable determination on this.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Any

00113

1 other comments from the Council.

2

3

(No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Now we have the
6 three options. We can support the proposal with the
7 modification, we can oppose the proposal or we could
8 defer to take any action on this. I leave it up to the
9 Council to make that determination. Paul

10

11 MR. BODFISH: I move to adopt the
12 proposal with modifications.

13

14 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair, I second the
15 motion.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor and
18 seconded regarding supporting the proposal with the
19 modifications presented. Any further deliberations or
20 comments from the Council.

21

22 MR. KOONUK: Call for the question.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been
25 called. All in favor of supporting this proposal with
26 the modifications signify by saying aye.

27

28 IN UNISON: Aye.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any opposed.

31

32 (No opposing votes)

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank you.
35 I think we'll take a 10-minute break.

36

37 MR. FISHER: Mr. Chair, could I get maybe
38 a point of clarification here.

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.

41

42 MR. FISHER: You support the proposal
43 with the Staff modifications. That's kind of what I
44 understand.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

47

48 MR. FISHER: Okay. Thank you very much.
49 Sometimes it does get confusing when we get back to the
50 office, really what did they mean. So thank you very

00114

1 much.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I understand. Thank
4 you, Mr. Fisher.

5

6 (Off record)

7

8 (On record)

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We have completed our
11 discussions on the proposals that needed your input, so I
12 thank you for your participation.

13

14 MR. REAKOFF: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15

16 (Off record)

17

18 (On record)

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Call the Regional
21 Advisory Council back to order. It's 4:00 o'clock. We
22 have a few more proposals that we need to address yet.

23

24 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

27

28 MR. G. BROWER: Just a little bit more
29 clarification on that proposal we just passed with
30 recommended amendments. The amendments that we were
31 referring to were the timeline issues. I think Jack
32 pointed them out real clearly when he was making his
33 testimony and that would be the ones that we were
34 thinking were most beneficial to Anaktuvuk.

35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And those were the
37 dates that he was referring to at the time of the
38 harvest.

39

40 MR. G. BROWER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, those
41 were the dates on the harvest with that extra time that
42 was being talked about when Jack was doing his testimony.

43

44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Mr.
45 Fisher, did you have any additional comments before we
46 start on the next proposal as to the clarification of
47 what we're talking about?

48

49 MR. FISHER: I think probably what we're
50 going to have to do and I'll check with Barb on this, but

00115

1 I think we're going to have to wait until a transcript
2 comes in and then take a look at the transcript. And
3 then I guess get back with Harry and read those by Harry
4 and make sure he agrees with it, that's the amendments
5 that you wanted.

6

7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Since I have them on
8 e-mail now, I have most of the Council on e-mail. Once
9 we do the recommendations for the North Slope, I'll put
10 them on and then we'll have Dave and Helen check them and
11 I'll put them out to you for any comments you have, then
12 we'll bring them back and then submit them. Would that
13 be okay?

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes. Gordon, did you
16 have any other comments?

17

18 MR. G. BROWER: No.

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. We have
21 Proposal.....

22

23 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: 84 and 65.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Barbara. So
26 we'll start with Proposal WP04-84, Unit 26(C) sheep. Mr.
27 Fisher.

28

29 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
30 Proposal 84 was submitted by Mr. Harold Schetzle of
31 Chugiak, Alaska. What this proposal would do is it deals
32 with sheep in Unit 26(C). It would divide Unit 26(C)
33 into two units, Unit 26(C) Hulahula River drainage and
34 Unit 26(C) remainder. The harvest limit for sheep in the
35 proposed Unit 26(C) Hulahula River drainage would reduce
36 the harvest limit from three sheep to one sheep.

37

38 The proponent claims that the sheep
39 population has declined from around 3,000 in early 1990s
40 to around 1,000 in 2003 and reducing the harvest limit
41 will help the population recover in the Hulahula River
42 drainage.

43

44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Excuse me, Mr. Fisher.
45 Please indicate what page that's on.

46

47 MR. FISHER: I'm sorry. It's on page 64.

48

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

50

00116

1 MR. FISHER: Current customary and
2 traditional use determinations for sheep in Unit 26 are
3 the rural residents of Unit 26, Anaktuvuk Pass, Arctic
4 Village, Chalkyitsik, Fort Yukon, Point Hope and Venetie.
5 They all have a positive C&T use for sheep in 26(C).

6
7 There were relatively high populations of
8 sheep during the 1980s and, however, these populations
9 have declined in recent years. Human use harvested sheep
10 also increased along with the population increase, but it
11 has also declined as the sheep numbers have been reduced.

12
13
14 A complete census of the sheep in the
15 Hulahula drainage were conducted in 1986 and 1993 by
16 Department of Fish and Game and the estimates at that
17 time were 3,200 in 1986. The population dropped down to
18 around 1,500 in 1993. Declines are primarily attributed
19 to severe winters in the early '90s.

20
21 The refuse biologist from the Arctic
22 National Wildlife Refuge did a survey in 2003. At that
23 time they counted a little over 900; however, they only
24 surveyed about half of the area. They do plan to
25 continue additional surveys.

26
27 Kaktovik residents are the primary
28 subsistence users for sheep in Unit 26. Their harvest
29 has varied over the years from some years only a few to
30 as many as 50 in other years. It depends on the
31 availability of other resources.

32
33 What this proposal would do would divide
34 Unit 26 into two separate sheep hunting areas, Unit 26(C)
35 Hulahula River drainage, and Unit 26(C) remainder, and
36 the harvest limit would be reduced in the Hulahula River
37 drainage. Subsistence hunters who specifically hunt in
38 the Hulahula River drainage would be restricted to only
39 one sheep per regulatory year.

40
41 I did talk at some length with the refuge
42 biologist there for the Arctic Refuge and based on their
43 input they're saying that because they only surveyed a
44 little over half the area, they're saying that the
45 population in the Hulahula River drainage is variable,
46 but they claim it's able to sustain the current harvest
47 level and further restrictions are not warranted at this
48 time.

49
50 Therefore, Mr. Chairman, our preliminary

00117

1 conclusion would be to oppose the proposal. That's
2 basically all I have.

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Fisher.
5 The next procedure would be going through Alaska
6 Department of Fish and Game comments.

7

8 MR. PEDERSON: Mr. Chairman, this is
9 Sverre Pederson, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.
10 Shorthand answer to the question here is that the
11 department opposes this proposal. The rationale for the
12 department opposing the proposal is listed on page 70.
13 Thank you.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sverre.
16 Other Agency comments.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Inter-
21 Agency Staff Committee comments.

22

23 MR. KESSLER: The Staff Committee has no
24 comments on this proposal, sir.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No comments from the
27 Inter-Agency Staff Committee. Number five, Fish and Game
28 Advisory Committee comments.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Number
33 six, summary of written public comments.

34

35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, I have
36 three. The City Council of City of Kaktovik, Fenton
37 Rexford and Native Village of Kaktovik all oppose this
38 proposal. Thank you, sir.

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: They all oppose the
41 proposal?

42

43 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: They all oppose.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Public
46 testimony.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Number

00118

1 eight, Regional Council deliberation, recommendation and
2 justification. What is the wish of the Council. Earl.

3

4 MR. WILLIAMS: Can I clarify something
5 for a minute here. It was Chalkyitsik. Chalkyitsik is a
6 Native word which means that -- Chal means hook, ky is
7 the mouth of the river, sik is what you fish with at the
8 mouth of the river, so I just want to clarify that for
9 the record. Thank you.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Earl. Now
12 we have the real definition of Chalkyitsik.

13

14 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Earl.

15

16 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

19

20 MR. G. BROWER: Is there a current sport
21 hunt on the sheep in this area? I would like to listen
22 on that a little bit because it seems to me when it's
23 becoming a declining resource, that would be the first
24 area to be reduced before you touch any of the
25 subsistence-related activities to that resource.

26

27 MR. FISHER: Yes, there is a current
28 ADF&G season for Unit 26(C) sheep. It's found on page 64
29 there at the bottom. It's Unit 26(C), one ram with a
30 full curl horn or larger August 10th through September
31 20th, or three sheep by registration permit October 1
32 through April 30. So there is a sport hunt.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

35

36 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, I think
37 after hearing testimony and listening to some of the
38 departments and the needs of Kaktovik and their
39 recommendation in opposition to this, I'd make a motion
40 that we oppose this as well.

41

42 MR. KOONUK: I second that motion, Mr.
43 Chairman.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Ray. Motion
46 on the floor to oppose Proposal WP04-84 as presented.

47

48 MR. G. BROWER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I
49 think I would really like to say that if any reduction is
50 proposed that it should go to the sport hunters that are

00119

1 just wanting to claim a full curl for their rack or
2 something. That's where a cut should be automatically
3 made before it is detrimental to subsistence users.

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Any
6 further discussion.

7

8

MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Mr. Chair.

9

10

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Rosemary.

11

12

MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I'd like to know if
13 there is any studies to determine the reason for the
14 population decline and what type of monitoring activities
15 will occur to attribute to the causes for these declines.
16 Is there going to be some interactions in watching the
17 subsistence harvesting, is there going to be some
18 interactions in watching the predator control issues out
19 there and all those other type of factors that could have
20 a negative effect on this population?

21

22

MR. FISHER: I'll try and answer that.
23 I'm not sure of any studies that are ongoing. I can look
24 into it. Declines in the past have been primarily
25 weather related, severe winters. Maybe there's somebody,
26 BLM or Fish and Game can answer the thing on the studies.
27 If we can't get an answer today, I will talk with the
28 refuge people and get back to you on it.

29

30

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any further discussion

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We also have Proposal

00120

1 65, which is a handout, and then we'll have Proposal 85
2 and Proposal 77, then we'll be done. We have three more.

3

4 MR. FISHER: I'm sorry. We have three
5 more.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Can we name the numbers
8 again, please.

9

10 MR. FISHER: 77, 65 and 85.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: 65 is the one that's
13 the handout?

14

15 MR. FISHER: Yes. We handed that out
16 yesterday. It's a crossover proposal and I'm hoping it
17 will go pretty fast because we talked about it. It deals
18 with moose in 21(D), I think, and 24. We talked about
19 moose in 24.

20

21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Which are we going to
22 be discussing now, '85?

23

24 MR. FISHER: Let's do 65.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: 65, thank you. Mr.
27 Fisher.

28

29 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
30 This is Proposal 65. It was submitted by the
31 Koyukuk/Nowitna National Wildlife Refuge and it's
32 requesting the closure of the fall antlerless moose
33 seasons in Units 21(D) and 24 within the Koyukuk control
34 use area. The affected lands here are all within the
35 Koyukuk National Wildlife Refuge.

36

37 What I'd like to do is just address that
38 portion of the proposal that's going to impact primarily
39 the residents of Anaktuvuk Pass. As we discussed in our
40 previous proposal, they have C&T use to hunt moose in
41 Unit 24. We talked a little bit about the decline in
42 moose numbers and more conservative management is needed,
43 particularly the protection of the cow portion.

44

45 I also mentioned there is a working group
46 that has developed a five-year management plan that
47 established guidelines for managing harvest when
48 conservative measures are needed. So they are aware of
49 that and they have a plan to implement when conservative
50 management is needed.

00121

1 Residents of Unit 24 and Anaktuvuk Pass,
2 Koyukuk and Galena have a positive C&T use determination
3 for moose in Unit 24. We talked a little bit about the
4 hunting that takes place there by the residents of
5 Anaktuvuk Pass, hunting in Unit 24.

6
7 I also mentioned a little bit about the
8 surveys that were done in Unit 24 from the year 2000
9 through 2003 and the decline. They're estimating that
10 four years of successive poor calf survival and
11 recruitment, less than 20 calves per 100 cows and less
12 than eight yearling bulls per 100 cows for the decline
13 that they noticed over those years. They're estimating
14 that due to the poor recruitment, it's resulted in an
15 estimated decline of about 25 percent of moose in Unit 24
16 during the last four years and more conservative harvest
17 measures are needed.

18
19 Moose are a very important subsistence
20 resource in this area. Used quite widely by the
21 residents of the interior region. Human consumption as
22 well as using the hide and so on for clothing and other
23 articles. What this proposal would do would shorten the
24 antlerless moose season to protect the cow population.
25 What the refuge is recommending to support the proposal
26 based on similar actions taken by the Alaska Board of
27 Game at its upcoming meeting here in March. If you'll
28 turn to page 263 of your handout, you'll see what the
29 recommended proposal would do to cut back on the
30 antlerless hunt.

31
32 I'll go ahead and read this. Rural
33 residents of Unit 24, Koyukuk and Galena, and remember we
34 said the residents of Anaktuvuk Pass have C&T use here
35 for Unit 24, that portion within the Koyukuk controlled
36 use area, one moose; however, antlerless moose may only
37 be taken from August 27th through August 31st if
38 authorized by announcement of the Koyukuk/Nowitna
39 National Wildlife Refuge manager.

40
41 So what they're going to do, they're
42 probably going to wait until the last minute when they
43 have all their survey data and then they would announce
44 the season. They further make a recommendation that
45 announcements for the antlerless moose and 10-day winter
46 season would be conducted after consulting with the Fish
47 and Game area biologist, the chairs of the Western
48 Interior Regional Advisory Council and State Fish and
49 Game Advisory Committees in those areas. So they are
50 proposing a winter season, but that would be a to-be-

00122

1 announced season.

2

3 That's basically all I have, Mr.

4 Chairman.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Alaska Department of

7 Fish and Game comments on Proposal WP04-65.

8

9 MR. PEDERSON: Mr. Chairman, this is

10 Sverre Pederson, Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The

11 department's position here is to support the proposal

12 with modification, contingent upon Board of Game action

13 on a similar proposal at its winter 2004 meeting and that

14 meeting is ongoing, so we don't have the results of any

15 Board action. Also, there is a desire to hear what the

16 Regional Advisory Council for Western Interior has to say

17 about this. Thank you.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sverre.

20 Other Agency comments.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Inter-

25 Agency Staff Committee comments.

26

27 MR. KESSLER: Staff Committee has no

28 comments on this proposal.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Five, Fish

31 and Game Advisory Committee comments.

32

33 (No comments)

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Summary of

36 written public comments.

37

38 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, there

39 aren't any for this proposal. Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No written public

42 comments. Public testimony.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Eight,

47 Regional Council deliberation, recommendation and

48 justification. Gordon.

49

50 MR. G. BROWER: I'm not fully aware how

00123

1 far Unit 21 is from Unit 24 where Anaktuvuk is in reach
2 of this area and if that's conflicting with what we made
3 proposals to earlier with a provision with an extended
4 season, if that's outside of the periphery there. It
5 would be nice if we had maps associated with these with
6 each proposal.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond.

9

10 MR. PANEAK: I don't have a problem with
11 that because I'm aware of where it is. I know that moose
12 travel north of Alatna and Allakaket, but I don't see no
13 big problem with that proposal.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond.

16 Any further comments from the Council.

17

18 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

21

22 MR. G. BROWER: I would move to go ahead
23 and approve this with the modifications that were talked
24 about, pending the Board of Game meeting on a similar
25 proposal if that would be the appropriate route for this.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion to support the
28 proposal with the modifications pending the outcome of
29 the Board of Game meeting that's happening at the same
30 time as we're holding this meeting.

31 Is that what I heard, Gordon.

32

33 MR. G. BROWER: Yes, that was the
34 recommendation. I think we should go ahead and follow
35 through with that.

36

37 MR. G. BROWER: We have a motion on the
38 floor.

39

40 MR. BODFISH: Second.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any further discussion.

43

44 MR. PANEAK: Question.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been
47 called on the motion to support with the modifications
48 and the decision pending on the meeting that's occurring
49 as we meet and that should be forthcoming here soon. All
50 in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

00124

1 IN UNISON: Aye.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any opposed same sign.

4

5 (No opposing votes)

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Hearing none. Next
8 proposal, please.

9

10 MR. FISHER: Mr. Chairman, I'd like the
11 next proposal to be Proposal No. 85. That's a little
12 more controversial and that's on page 128. That's a
13 little more controversial than 77 which deals with bears
14 and we'll save that for last.

15

16 This is a proposal that was submitted by
17 the North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council and
18 what this proposal would do is revise the hunt area,
19 revise the aircraft restriction and the harvest limit for
20 harvest of moose in part of 26(A). Each summer a few
21 moose from 26(A) move away from their major river
22 drainages and across the coastal plain and provide a
23 hunting opportunity in the summer for a few residents
24 that live in that part of 26(A), sort of the northwest
25 portion. Then after their movement they return back to
26 their habitats in the fall.

27

28 The intent of this proposal as it appears
29 in the proposal book and also the executive summary,
30 which is on page 127, apparently there was some confusion
31 on the Staff versus what the proponent was proposing, so
32 that proposal as it appears in the book and also in the
33 executive summary does not really provide the original
34 intent of the proponent. I talked this over with Geoff
35 Carroll and he did talk with the Council chair, so we did
36 kind of get it straightened out. The intent of the
37 proponent was to establish a separate season and harvest
38 limit for the northwest part of 26(A) for the early
39 season. This is on page 129 at the top. So we did get
40 that straightened out.

41

42 The proponent wanted a separate season.
43 That portion of Unit 26(A) north of 69 degrees, 20
44 minutes north latitude and extending west of and
45 including the Ikpikpuk River, one moose; however, you may
46 not at any time take a calf or a cow accompanied by a
47 calf and antlerless moose may only be taken July 1
48 through August 31. That was the original intent of what
49 the Council wanted and we did check with Harry on this
50 and did get the clarification.

00125

1 Rural residents of Unit 26, except the
2 Prudhoe Bay, Deadhorse Industrial Complex and residents
3 of Point Hope, Anaktuvuk Pass, have a C&T use
4 determination for moose in 26(A).
5 Federal public lands consist of the Gates of the Arctic
6 National Park and Preserve and then the National
7 Petroleum Reserve.

8
9 The Board of Game did adopt a similar
10 proposal last November. The same dates, same harvest
11 limit, but a little bit different hunt area and we'll get
12 to that in a minute. Surveys from 1974 to 1991 showed an
13 increase in the moose population in 26(A); however, the
14 population declined in 1992 through 1996. At that time,
15 this prompted cutbacks in both the State and Federal
16 regulations. However, the population did start to
17 increase after 1998 and we're estimating around five, six
18 hundred animals in 26(A).

19
20 There is a small population that has
21 existed in the Ikpikpuk River drainage prior to the
22 overall unit decline in 1992. There were 11 animals
23 noted there in 1992. However, in the year 2003 there was
24 only four animals observed by Department of Fish and
25 Game. The harvest over the years has kind of tended to
26 parallel both the population increases and declines.
27 Prior to the controlled use area in Unit 26, most of the
28 hunters were non-residents and non-locals; however, when
29 they did put the controlled use area in, that restricted
30 aircraft for moose hunters and most of the harvest has
31 occurred by locals.

32
33 The intent of this proposal is to allow
34 for an earlier summer season for moose that disperse to
35 the coastal plain. Not a lot of them, but it would allow
36 for a take of animals that do get out there during the
37 summer. The proposal also would extend the aircraft
38 restriction to July 1 to go along with the proposed
39 opening of the moose season, which is July 1. However,
40 expanding the hunt area to the east to include the
41 Ikpikpuk River area with an early summer season and an
42 either sex harvest we feel would impact a small moose
43 population that does exist in this river drainage. If we
44 went with that, then the proposal would not align up with
45 the current State Fish and Game regulations and could
46 create some confusion.

47
48 Like I mentioned earlier, Geoff Carroll
49 did discuss this with the Chairman Harry Brower and
50 explained the biological situation with the moose

00126

1 population in the Ikpikpuk River area. At that time, the
2 Chairman decided to modify the area and not extend the
3 area to the east and he agreed to modify the proposal to
4 align with what the current Fish and Game regulations
5 are.

6
7 So our preliminary conclusion would be to
8 modify the proposal for the hunt area that is 156 degrees
9 west longitude and 69 degrees 20 north latitude, one
10 moose, July 1 through September 14th, however, antlerless
11 moose may only be taken from July 1 through August 31st.

12
13 And if you'll look on Page 130, there's a
14 map there that shows the hunt area.

15
16 So what we're proposing is to align this
17 up with the current Fish and Game regulation and the hunt
18 area would be 156 west longitude, that line goes down and
19 matches up with a line that is 69 degrees 20 north
20 latitude. That would be the proposed hunt area. And we
21 would be excluding Ikpikpuk River Drainage because of the
22 low moose population there.

23
24 And that's basically all I have.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Fisher.
27 Alaska Department of Fish and Game comments.

28
29 MR. CARROLL: Yes, thank you, Mr.
30 Chairman. This is Geoff Carroll. Yeah, the Alaska
31 Department of Fish and Game supports the Staff
32 recommendation with the area not including the Ikpikpuk
33 River for two reasons. One, that way it would align with
34 the State regulation and not create confusion for hunters
35 trying to work under two different regulations.

36
37 The reason we didn't include the Ikpikpuk
38 area in that was the intention for the regulation was to
39 allow, you know, when a moose shows up at Atqasuk or
40 Point Lay or Wainwright in the summer, it's nice for
41 those guys to be able to harvest them. And so we're
42 trying to make that a legal activity, so that was the
43 intent.

44
45 These moose that have disbursed away from
46 the major river drainages, they just occasionally go on a
47 walkabout, you know, out across the tundra and seem to
48 show up at villages occasionally and so it allows these
49 people an opportunity to harvest these moose, probably
50 their own opportunity, they're not likely to travel over

00127

1 to the Colville River during the moose hunting season.
2 So trying to extend the opportunity.

3

4 And that's -- the Ikpikpuk situation.
5 There has been a population of 11 to 15 moose on that
6 river in the past. We had a big decline in the entire
7 population and we didn't see any in there for a few
8 years, now, when we fly up there there's two or three or
9 maybe four in the area. We did see a cow with a calf in
10 there last spring and so we're just saying we think it's
11 better for everybody to let that population build up in
12 there, back to higher levels and then people can
13 regularly harvest moose out of there.

14

15 I'm afraid that if it was opened up now,
16 you know, to both sex moose harvest and was open a lot of
17 the summer they would probably be harvested probably in
18 one year and that would be that.

19

20 So State's recommendation is to support
21 the Staff recommendation.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Geoff. Any
24 other agency comments.

25

26 (No comments)

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Inter-
29 Agency Staff Committee comments.

30

31 MR. EASTLAND: No comments on this
32 proposal.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No comments from Inter-
35 Agency Staff Committee. Thank you. Fish and Game
36 Advisory Committee comments.

37

38 (No comments)

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No comments. Summary
41 of written public comments.

42

43 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, there are
44 no public comments for this proposal. Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Regional --
47 no, public testimony.

48

49 (No comments)

50

00128

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None given. Regional
2 Council deliberation, recommendation and justification.

3

4 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Mr. Chairman.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Rosemary.

7

8 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I just wanted to note
9 that Nuiqsut's usage of this area has increased in recent
10 years. The accumulation of all the activities
11 surrounding our community has pushed our hunters way up
12 Chandler River. We've had hunters go 50 miles up trying
13 to get their moose up the Chandler River. We had one
14 boat with five families represented go maybe 60 miles up
15 that river.

16

17 We've had upwards of 60 boats probably go
18 near Umiat in the summer time working on trying to
19 harvest caribou. We appreciate the changes in the
20 regulations to allow us to attempt us to harvest in July
21 because that's more in line with our access to the areas.
22 As you know, we do fall whaling in September and we can't
23 divide in two and be on the ocean and up river when the
24 moose are available to us.

25

26 So I just wanted to make sure you're
27 aware of our reliance upon this area has greatly
28 increased.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
31 Any other comments from the Council.

32

33 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. To
34 draw a line in an area where subsistence activities and
35 an opportunity to harvest seems to be kind of arbitrary
36 to put a line straight down and exclude an area when the
37 next river on the other side is having the opportunity
38 just so it would be legal.

39

40 It seems to me it's a little bit -- it's
41 just a little bit discriminatory in a harvest allocation
42 when there's a need for residents that live on the
43 Ikpikpuk River. To what extent do you believe that a
44 harvest that's going to be legalized by an area close to
45 Atqasuk, that animal came from Ikpikpuk and we would not
46 be able to harvest it unless it crossed that arbitrary
47 line to be legal.

48

49 Is that what I'm getting at?

50

00129

1 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, the idea of the
2 regulation was when -- like often happens, when one of
3 these moose shows up at one of the villages, and it
4 includes Barrow, too, you know, if a moose wanders up
5 here, it allows a legal avenue for people to harvest it.
6 That 156 line was just kind of picked because it included
7 the four villages up here. As I say the Ikpikpuk
8 situation, it's just a biological issue. Personally, I
9 think it would be better to let that -- see it's a
10 recovering moose population, there were more in the past,
11 they disappeared and now they're coming back. I just
12 think the Ikpikpuk situation, it'd be better for
13 everybody involved to let those moose rebuild their
14 population in there and then you could have a regular
15 harvest year after year instead of, you know, harvesting
16 them all in one year.

17
18 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I
19 didn't want to put anybody on the spot, but my area is
20 the Ikpikpuk area, you know, that's where I live, you
21 know, and it's a very good habitat. And I've seen moose
22 there sometimes, it's not all the time. And to think
23 that the moose will recognize a boundary and stay on the
24 side of the Ikpikpuk when it's moving and grazing around
25 and then it becomes legalized to harvest an Ikpikpuk
26 moose if it's wandering over that line to that side. It
27 seems to me a little bit funny.

28
29 But I guess that's a way of creating an
30 opportunity without disturbing the habitat, I guess.

31
32 MR. CARROLL: Well, almost all the moose
33 that are harvested in those villages will have come from
34 the Colville, I mean that's where the big population
35 center is. And they will disperse away from the Colville
36 and end up showing up at one of the villages, so it
37 isn't, you know -- and hopefully some of those Colville
38 moose will go set up housekeeping in the Ikpikpuk, too,
39 and build that population up.

40
41 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Gordon.

44
45 MR. G. BROWER: I think there should be
46 active biological support for these moose in the Ikpikpuk
47 area if there is a resident population there that has
48 declined and raised up, you know the moose that comes in
49 range from over here could come in from another area that
50 was, you know, maybe an Ikpikpuk area if that was a stock

00130

1 identified. But certainly I would hope people that are
2 having restrictions because of population decline, there
3 should be some way to -- besides just limiting the
4 harvest but actually happening that population come up.
5 Maybe transplantation of animals to help support it.

6

7 I mean seems to me I could get a moose to
8 go over to the other side of the line to harvest it, you
9 know. I mean I think it's been done before and there
10 should be some effort by the wildlife and Fish and
11 Wildlife Service to help these population, not just by
12 restriction but by active engagement in protecting the
13 stock.

14

15 If the stock could be suffering from
16 genetic problems because they're not finding suitable
17 mates, maybe that's what you need to do is find a
18 genetically different make up of a moose to help it breed
19 better, you know, there could be possibilities of these
20 animals not having enough mates to do their recruiting.

21

22 You know, it's like, you know, the
23 genetic pool needs to be increased in a very low -- very
24 low population of moose.

25

26 I don't know.

27

28 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I mean our normal
29 policy on that is whenever possible to let, you know,
30 populations spread themselves naturally. You know, the
31 upper Ikpikpuk is very close to the Colville and, you
32 know, they'll move in there naturally.

33

34 I think probably if we went over and
35 caught a Colville moose and turned it loose in the
36 Ikpikpuk it will walk back home, you know, that's what
37 moose usually do. They're fairly kind of home-bodies,
38 you know.

39

40 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

43

44 MR. G. BROWER: I would move to adopt the
45 proposal with the line.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 MR. BODFISH: Second that motion.

50

00131

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's a motion the
2 floor and seconded supporting Proposal WP04-85. Further
3 discussion.

4

5 (No comments)

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I would like to make a
8 comment before we go calling the question and acting on
9 the proposal.

10

11 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon, just a second.
14 I wanted to make a comment that I'm going to be getting a
15 post over there right next to my cabin up there and
16 putting a chain on it and make sure it doesn't go beyond
17 that 156 line. And I'm going to make sure it stays on
18 that side until it's big enough and then I'm going to
19 make it cross that line and I'm going to have my hey day.

20

21 (Laughter)

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I just wanted to make a
24 comment, you know, we've been trying to work on this
25 moose proposal for several years and trying to make it a
26 legalized hunt for our residents on the North Slope,
27 which have been harvesting moose without a season and bag
28 limits in these identified areas. So that's what the
29 main reason is for getting this proposal in was to try to
30 get it a legalized hunt during that timeframe that's been
31 indicated on July to September for those residents in
32 that area.

33

34 I know that was a concern that we started
35 voicing from our North Slope Department of Wildlife
36 Management and working through our documentation process,
37 there's indication there's moose being harvested, you
38 know, at several times during the summer months so that's
39 why we had formalized the proposal.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 Gordon.

44

45 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, I think the motion
46 with modifications to change the east boundary of the
47 proposed hunt area to 156 longitude to match the State
48 regulation would be more appropriate than just the line.

49

50 (Laughter)

00132

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. So
2 the motion would read to adopt the proposal -- supporting
3 the proposal with the modification with the wording
4 presented as 156 longitude, 62 20 west, I think it was.

5
6 Any further discussion.

7
8 (No comments)

9
10 MR. PANEAK: Call for question.

11
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question has been
13 called on the motion. All in favor of supporting this
14 motion signify by saying aye.

15
16 IN UNISON: Aye.

17
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any opposed, same sign.

19
20 (No opposing votes)

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Thank you,
23 Geoff.

24
25 MR. CARROLL: Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Dave.

28
29 MR. FISHER: Thank you.

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, we'll continue on
32 with the next proposal.

33
34 MR. FISHER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, thank you
35 very much with a clarification on that line.

36
37 (Laughter)

38
39 MR. FISHER: This next proposal is
40 Proposal No. 77 and I think we can get through this
41 pretty quick. This was submitted by the Alaska
42 Department of Fish and Game. And what they're attempting
43 to do here is simplify brown bear hunting regulations in
44 Units 19 through 21, 24 through 25 and Unit 26(C).

45
46 The proposed regulatory changes would
47 treat 26(C) as a separate unit. And what I'd like to do
48 today is just address that part that's going to affect
49 you people and that's 26(C).

50

00133

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Fisher, could you
2 please indicate what page the proposal's on?

3

4 MR. FISHER: I apologize. 117.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: 117, thank you.

7

8 MR. FISHER: Harvest regulations for
9 brown bear for most of the Interior and Eastern Arctic
10 have become more complicated and conservative over the
11 years. This has made management of these populations and
12 harvest confusing for hunters and has resulted in some
13 indications -- in some instances of lost hunting
14 opportunity.

15

16 The existing Federal regulation for brown
17 bear treats Units 26(B) and 26(C) one bear September 1
18 through May 31st. And what this proposal would do is
19 make 26(C) a separate unit, Unit 26(C) one bear August
20 10th through June 30th. So we have a separate unit,
21 26(C) and we have a longer season.

22

23 The brown bear populations in Unit 26(C)
24 are considered to be stable. Surveys in recent years by
25 Department of Fish and Game in the 26(B) and the western
26 portion of 26(C), they estimate a little over 17 bears
27 per 1,000 kilometers.

28

29 Management objectives by the Department
30 of Fish and Game are to maintain a brown bear population
31 capable of sustaining an annual harvest of 19 bears with
32 a minimum of that 19 percent to be 60 percent males. And
33 as I said the brown bear population in 26(C) is stable.

34

35 The overall harvest in 26(C) has been
36 fairly stable in recent years. Brown bear harvest for
37 the last 10 years shows an average of a little over seven
38 bears being reported harvested per year, about 70 percent
39 of the harvest being males. So the harvest is currently
40 below what the Fish and Game has a management objective
41 with an annual harvest of 19.

42

43 So that is one of the reasons why they
44 set 26(C) as a separate unit and expanded the hunting
45 season.

46

47 So what this proposal would do is
48 simplify the brown bear harvest regulations in much of
49 the Interior and Eastern Arctic region. Would provide
50 for less confusion to the hunters and would increase

00134

1 subsistence hunting opportunities with that longer
2 season.

3

4 The preliminary conclusion was to support
5 this proposal.

6

7 That's all I had Mr. Chairman.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Fisher.
10 Alaska Department of Fish and Game comments.

11

12 MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, this is
13 Sverre Pedersen, Department of Fish and Game. The Alaska
14 Department of Fish and Game supports this proposal in
15 concept.

16

17 You know interested in comments and
18 recommendations this Council may have and also presented
19 this proposal to the Board of Game for its February/March
20 2004 which is ongoing at the present time.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sverre.
25 Other agency comments.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Inter-
30 Agency Staff Committee comments.

31

32 MR. EASTLAND: Staff Committee has no
33 comments to this proposal.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. No comments
36 from the Inter-Agency Staff Committee. Fish and Game
37 Advisory comments.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Summary of
42 written public comments.

43

44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None given. Public
47 testimony.

48

49 (No comments)

50

00135

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None identified.
2 Regional Council deliberation, recommendation and
3 justification. What's the wish of the Council on
4 Proposal WP04-77.

5
6 MR. BODFISH: Mr. Chairman.

7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Paul.

9
10 MR. BODFISH: Yeah, I move to accept
11 Proposal 77.

12
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Move to accept the
14 proposal as presented.

15
16 MR. PANEAK: Second.

17
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Second. Any further
19 discussion.

20
21 (No comments)

22
23 MR. TAGAROOK: Question.

24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question's been called
26 on the motion. All in favor of supporting the motion
27 signify by saying aye.

28
29 IN UNISON: Aye.

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed, same sign.

32
33 (No opposing votes)

34
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank you.
36 Any other proposals before us.

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If there are no other
41 proposals, we are on Agenda Item 10.

42
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair.

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Helen.

46
47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'll address those.
48 Most of those agenda items are informational, it's just
49 the Fish and Wildlife Service -- or sorry, wrong number,
50 it's Steve Fried's turn.

00136

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Number 10?

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Fisheries Information
6 Service.

7

8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It has my name there
9 but Steve Fried's doing it.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Steve. Mr. Fried.

12

13 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

16

17 MR. G. BROWER: I would ask to be excused
18 at this time. I have to pick up my child at the day care
19 and that wouldn't be any problem.

20

21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I don't see any problem
22 in that Gordon. Thank you for all your participation
23 throughout the day. Mr. Fried.

24

25 MR. FRIED: Good afternoon. What I have
26 to say is informational also and I'll try to make it
27 quick. It's not in your books. I gave you three
28 handouts.

29

30 One is a report on the status of all the
31 studies that have been funded through the Fisheries
32 Resource Monitoring Program since it started in 2000.
33 And basically for this area of the state which we call
34 the northern region, that includes the North Slope, the
35 Northwest Arctic and the Seward Peninsula region, we
36 funded a total of 30 studies since the year 2000.

37

38 Out of these 30 studies have actually
39 been finished. And what I mean by finished is there's
40 either a final report that's available or the final
41 report's being reviewed. If you're interested in seeing
42 the reports, the ones that are completed are on our web
43 site so you can download it or read it on the web site.
44 Or, you know, you can call the Office of Subsistence
45 Management, it's probably easiest to call me and I can
46 send you a paper copy of the report.

47

48 Okay, the other 18 studies that were
49 funded, there's eight that are still going on. The other
50 10 are funded to start this year, so they haven't started

00137

1 yet but they will fairly soon.

2

3

4 The third hand out is a map and it
5 actually shows you the location of these 18 studies that
6 are either still going on or that are going to begin
7 within the next month or two so you can get an idea of
8 where they are.

8

9

10 Basically out of the 18 there's five
11 within the North Slope, and they're color-coded so that
12 you can see that the ones that are under way are those
13 blue circles, and the red stars are the ones that are
14 approved for funding in 2004 that haven't gotten started
15 yet. They're waiting for their funding to come through.

15

16

17

18 The report also has some short, a
19 paragraph or two of these ongoing studies so you can get
20 an idea of whether or not they're going to be completed
21 on time as planned, whether or not they're in budget and
22 also what they've found to date, you know. I'm not going
23 to go through that unless anybody has questions but it's
24 for your information to read and look at later if you're
25 interested.

25

26

27 So if anybody's got questions about these
28 studies I can entertain them now, otherwise I've got just
29 one more item to go through.

29

30

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions.

31

32

(No comments)

33

34

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Continue.

35

36

37 MR. FRIED: Okay. Yeah, we have covered
38 some of this, you know, during training session, but if
39 you have any questions, you know, just feel free to call.

39

40

41 The other thing I'd just like to bring to
42 your attention. There's another hand out with these
43 little blue copies of a slide show, I'm not going to show
44 slides today but these were the slides. It's called
45 strategic planning for the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
46 Program. And basically we covered this a bit, yesterday,
47 too, during the training session and what this is is a
48 way to determine what the most important information
49 needs are for Federal Fisheries management in each of the
50 study regions.

50

00138

1 Up to now, what we've done is gone in
2 front of the Councils, during usually during the fall
3 with the list that's been developed from the Councils and
4 asked that they look at the list, see if there's some
5 items that need to be added, maybe there's some items
6 that need to be taken off. And also see if there's
7 anything on that list that might be more important than
8 others. And what we do is when we put out a call for
9 proposals each November, we also provide people that are
10 going to apply for funds to run a study with these lists
11 so they can get an idea of what we're looking for. And
12 also when we get the proposals in we also use these lists
13 to try to help us figure out whether or not, you know,
14 these studies are hitting the issues that have been
15 identified for each region.

16
17 One of the difficulties that's occurred
18 is the fact that we only have a limited amount of money
19 and you might get -- you usually get each year more
20 studies that you can fund and it's very likely that all
21 of them might hit an item on the list of the information
22 and issues, and it's often difficult to try and figure
23 out, you know, which ones are more important unless
24 there's an obvious conservation problem with the resource
25 or if people aren't meeting their subsistence needs,
26 usually we'll hit those first. But other than that it's
27 very hard to say which one is more important than the
28 other ones.

29
30 So what we're going to do is run a series
31 of workshops. We're going to invite about 15
32 participants. The participants would be people that
33 represent the Federal and State agencies and also we'll
34 have one or two members from each of the Councils, and if
35 there's a local organization that's been involved in
36 subsistence resource studies, you know, we'll probably
37 invite somebody from there, too, we're going to try to
38 hold it around 15 people to keep it manageable. If it
39 goes a little bit over, that's fine, too. We're going to
40 have a facilitator to help run the workshop. And
41 hopefully that in these workshops, we're looking for
42 three different things.

43
44 One, we want to make sure everybody can
45 come to an agreement on what the goals, objectives and
46 information needs are for each of the fisheries within
47 each region within the state. Then we're going to take a
48 look at what information is available already, what
49 studies are done, which ones are going on to get an idea
50 of whether or not there's already information that's

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1 either been collected or being collected to address these
2 issues and needs. And then what we're going to do is
3 prioritize the things that we don't have enough
4 information on so that we can use that to help us better,
5 you know, ask people for -- you know, we want proposals
6 and we are really interested in, you know, maybe these
7 four issues or these two issues. It doesn't mean they
8 can't provide proposals on other things but here's what
9 we're really interested in. So those would get top
10 billing too when we're doing the review, you know, is we
11 know oh, boy, this one is our important issue we probably
12 need to fund it this year if it's a good proposal.

13

14 So we're going to have these, there's a
15 schedule, this very last little blue slide, you know, for
16 the northern region of which this one, this Council is a
17 part, we're going to hold -- you can see we want a draft
18 plan by November 2005 so we still have some time. We're
19 going to start on some of the regions this spring and
20 we're going to have them all done by November 2006 for
21 that call for proposals. So within the next two years we
22 want to have this done for all the regions.

23

24 Just because one other region goes first
25 doesn't mean that region's more important, we just, you
26 know, decided that some regions have more problems in
27 fisheries than others and we probably should look at
28 those first. And so before we do the workshops -- and so
29 for this region we're just going to operate the way we've
30 done, we'll come back to the Council this fall and just
31 ask them to look at their existing list, you know, if
32 there's anything to add, anything to subtract and which
33 things they might think are more important, you know,
34 until we get to hold these workshops.

35

36 So that's kind of all I wanted to say
37 about that. If you got questions I can answer them now
38 or if you can think of anything you're curious about
39 later, you know, give me a call.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Do we have your phone
42 number in the information items to make contact with you
43 on this material?

44

45 MR. FRIED: I sure hope so otherwise I'll
46 dig out some cards and leave them with you. And if you
47 get confused you can always call Barbara Armstrong and
48 she can just transfer you to me.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Fried.

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1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Helen.

4

5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The 800 number, the
6 toll-free number is in your Regional Council book and you
7 can call that number and then ask for Steve.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Number 11.
10 Agency reports.

11

12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Barb told me I have to
13 be brief.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Helen.

16

17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: This is Helen
18 Armstrong. The first is Office of Subsistence
19 Management. Almost all of those are informational. The
20 first on is Council topics, Barb, do you want to do that
21 one.

22

23 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Go ahead.

24

25 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We just need to know
26 if there are any topics that the Council wants to have
27 presented at the Federal Subsistence Board meetings. If
28 there's subjects needed for the discussion, they should
29 be provided to Harry.

30

31 I don't know if you want to talk about
32 that now.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Rural update is
37 in your book. It's informational only. The Governor's
38 request, I talked to the Council yesterday about that in
39 our training. That was the request to have a member from
40 the State on our -- a non-voting member from the State on
41 Federal Subsistence Board and that was denied and instead
42 a liaison is going to be appointed to the Federal
43 Subsistence Board.

44

45 Staff Committee role, that's also
46 informational and in your book.

47

48 Draft Predator Management Policy is in
49 your book.

50

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1 The Safari Club litigation is not --
2 needs just a little bit of discussion.

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Page.

5

6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's in your book
7 under Tab C on Page 145. There was finally a ruling on
8 January 16th from Judge Holland on the Safari Club
9 Litigation. We prevailed on almost all of the points in
10 the litigation. One of them was, I talked about it a
11 little earlier today, was their criticism of our C&T
12 determinations but Judge Holland determined that there
13 hadn't been any injury -- none of the plaintiffs had
14 shown any injury as a result of the decision. So that
15 was dismissed.

16

17 The second component was a complaint
18 about the memberships of the Councils. This was part of
19 the issue of having to change the membership to 70
20 percent subsistence users and 30 percent sport and
21 commercial. And while he didn't disagree with that
22 policy he said we didn't follow the correct
23 administrative procedures for that. So we are
24 implementing that, we have to do a Proposed Rule. And
25 there's not enough time to actually go before the
26 Councils with the Proposed Rule, we've been ordered to
27 implement this by the fall, but we do want to know if the
28 Council has any comments on the 70/30. We did bring this
29 to you last year so it's nothing new but if there's
30 anything you wanted to comment on, you could make a
31 comment at this time.

32

33 For example, if you want me to help you
34 out a little bit here. You might want to -- I know in
35 the past and yesterday when we talked about this in our
36 training, this Council was concerned that you don't have
37 enough people to fulfill the 30 percent so you may want
38 to make that comment again. I know it's been made in the
39 past.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any comments from the
42 Council.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Did we need to make any
47 kind of decision at the moment regarding these
48 informational items?

49

50 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, it's just -- no,

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1 you don't have to, it's just if you want to you can. It
2 will be the last opportunity you have to make any
3 comments on it.

4

(No comments)

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm kind of speechless
8 right now from all the things that we've been doing all
9 day. I might be going color blind here pretty soon, so
10 maybe we better move on.

11

(Laughter)

13

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Next item.

15

16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That concludes the
17 Office of Subsistence Management briefings.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Helen. We
20 have 11b, National Park Service, Sandy Rabinowitch -- no,
21 Fred Andersen, how did that get changed.

22

23 MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
24 We have no formal report. We've probably taken more than
25 our share of time, your time today with that Proposal 67
26 and we appreciate the time and diligence you spent on it.

27

28 The only announcement that I make is that
29 we're having the Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource
30 Commission meeting, Earl knows about this, on April 20th
31 and 21st in Fairbanks, and any of you that are able to
32 make it are more than welcome. It will be Sophie's
33 Station. And Rachel, I can send you, Mr. Chairman, the
34 notice of that if you'd like.

35

That's all I have.

37

Thank you.

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr.
41 Andersen. I think that would be appropriate if you could
42 send notice on that Subsistence Resource Commission
43 meeting.

44

Thank you.

46

47 It looks like we missed C in the
48 alphabet, we got D, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
49 Arctic Refuge, Wennona Brown.

50

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1 MS. BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
2 Wennona Brown for the Arctic Refuge. Again, we have no
3 formal report. I got a handout that I brought regarding
4 caribou. I think Barb's already passed that out.

5
6 I just wanted to briefly state that due
7 to weather conditions this spring the Arctic Staff has
8 not been able to get out to do muskox surveys or, you
9 know, the spring caribou monitoring surveys so we're just
10 sort of in a holding pattern on those waiting for
11 appropriate weather conditions.

12
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Wennona. I
14 think I forgot to mention this morning. I did have some
15 communications from a resident of Kaktovik voicing
16 concerns of their subsistence cabins being abused by
17 other recreational users within the Arctic National
18 Wildlife Refuge. I was asked to voice that concern under
19 the earlier topics this morning, but I think while you're
20 here Wennona, I think I'd like to bring that out, and
21 just pass that message on to U.S. Staff members to the
22 Arctic Wildlife Refuge folks.

23
24 I guess there's been some complaints to
25 the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Staff in previous
26 community meetings in Kaktovik, but there hasn't been
27 really any action taken to address that issue regarding
28 that abuse of the cabins that are built by the local
29 residents within Kaktovik, that some of their Native
30 allotments or their hunting sites and people flying in
31 and using those cabins, abusing them and trashing them,
32 it's beginning to be a concern and they're voicing that
33 to me. And I was, in turn, wanting to bring that out
34 this morning but it just slipped my mind with all the
35 activity that was happening.

36
37 I think that's something that needs to
38 get addressed at some point in time and maybe monitoring
39 activity of the time these recreational uses are within
40 the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to maybe show a
41 little more respect to the areas. You know, if those
42 buildings were not there they wouldn't have any use for
43 them -- I mean the use wouldn't be there. You know, I
44 guess there's been some padlocks and buildings that are
45 locked up and people breaking into those buildings and
46 just trashing the buildings after entering the buildings,
47 these cabins.

48
49 And Terry, I think if you could help me,
50 have I missed something?

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1 I'm trying to think of what other issue
2 that was being asked of us to bring out. Anyway that's
3 the main thing I could bring out right now while we're
4 under the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

5
6 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chairman, I would ask to
7 be excused, we have to catch our flight.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. All of you?

10
11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We tried to check them
12 in electronically and we couldn't do it, they had to show
13 up in person at the airport by 5:30 at least.

14
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. I think maybe
16 we'll -- do you have any other comments Wennona?

17
18 MS. BROWN: No, just thank you. I've
19 made note of that and we'll take it up with the Staff
20 when I get back.

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, very much.
23 Noting the time, and the lateness of the day that we've
24 been here and trying to address all these concerns, I'm
25 not sure who's all going to be left if you all leave, me,
26 so maybe we could bring up these other issues at our next
27 meeting.

28
29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well,.....

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We need a time and
32 place of the next meeting.

33
34 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, you may do that,
35 13, your winter 2005 meeting, and in the back of your
36 book is your calendar, open it.

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, could you just
39 help us select a date there, it's in the back of the
40 booklet and I think we'll be able to get by from there.
41 Fall 2004/2005 -- Fall 2005 Regional Advisory Council
42 meeting, February 21 through March 25.

43
44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We have Seward Penn
45 meeting February and 24, and that's the other Council
46 that I work with and the other part of the window is open
47 for you.

48
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Well, we're going to
50 have to make it March 21 and 22, no, I don't know.

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1 (Laughter)

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: How about the end of
4 February or is that too late.

5

6 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: February tends to have
7 such bad weather, March, first week would be better, I
8 think.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I don't know we had
11 pretty bad weather just the first two or three days of
12 March.

13

14 (Laughter)

15

16 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I don't mind. I've
17 had to cancel out some meetings these last two months.
18 But I think for me, the first week of March might be
19 better.

20

21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. There's a
22 recommendation for the first week of March.

23

24 (Council nods affirmatively)

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So ordered. First week
27 of March.

28

29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We'll select a date as
32 long as it's not too stormy.

33

34 (Laughter)

35

36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: March 2 and 3.

37

38 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Yeah, 2 and 3.

39

40 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, March 2 and 3.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So we'll skip through
43 the rest of these agenda items and we'll move down to
44 Item 14.

45

46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We don't have no one
47 from the Fish and Wildlife field office, we just have BLM
48 and Sverre -- I mean and Geoff.

49

50 MR. CARROLL: I could pass.

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1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, Geoff could
2 pass. We just have two people, it might just take 10
3 minutes, five minutes each.

4
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I don't know if these
6 guys are going to be able to make it to the airport and
7 check in on time so let's go ahead and adjourn.

8
9 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

10
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So that's what kind of
12 leading to.

13
14 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

15
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Maybe just adjourn the
17 meeting at the time and we could pick up these next items
18 at the next meeting, unless they're pressing matters that
19 we need to bring out.

20
21 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Is that okay with you,
22 Sverre? Sverre, is that okay with you.

23
24 MR. PEDERSEN: Yes, next time.

25
26 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, thank you.

27
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you all. Thank
29 you for your participation in the meeting all and taking
30 the time away from your families so thank you very much.

31
32 Move to adjourn, so moved, so ordered.

33
34 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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1

C E R T I F I C A T E

2

3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

4)ss.

5 STATE OF ALASKA)

6

7 I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for
8 the state of Alaska and reporter of Computer Matrix Court
9 Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

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17 THAT the transcript is a true and correct
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22 THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party
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Joseph P. Kolasinski
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My Commission Expires: 04/17/04 _

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