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**NORTH SLOPE SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
October 5, 1994
Barrow, Alaska**

VOLUME I

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

NORTH SLOPE SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Fenton O. Rexford - Chairman
- Edward Itta - Co-Chairman
- Jackie Koonuk
- Frank Long, Jr.
- Gordon C. Upicksoun
- Harry K. Brower, Jr.

NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH FISH & WILDLIFE COUNCIL

- Edward E. Hopson, Sr.
- Leonard A. Tukul
- John D. Miller, Jr.
- Bijah Attungana
- James Kignak
- Charles Brower
- William P. Aguvluk
- Ben Hopson, Jr.
- Amos Aguasagga

* * * * *

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(On record)

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'll call the Bristol Borough Fish & Game Committee and North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council to order. Charlie, maybe we'll start out with you -- our group here. Call the roll.

MR. C. BROWER: John Miller?

MR. MILLER: Present.

MR. C. BROWER: Leonard Tukle?

MR. TUKLE: Here.

MR. C. BROWER: Elijah Attungana?

MR. ATTUNGANA: Here.

MR. C. BROWER: Jake Kignak?

MR. KIGNAK: Here.

MR. C. BROWER: William Aguvluk?

MR. AGUVLUK: Here.

MR. C. BROWER: We have -- the other group will be in this afternoon or later, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Barbara, you want to call our roll please?

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. I've got to write them down as I call them. Fenton?

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Edward?

MR. ITTA: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Harry?

MR. H. BROWER: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Gordon?

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1
2 MR. UPICKSOUN: Here.
3
4 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Frank?
5
6 MR. LONG: Here.
7
8 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And Jakie?
9
10 MR. KOONUK: Here.
11
12 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Ray is going to be here later today,
13 does anyone know?
14
15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Supposedly.
16
17 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Did he come in yesterday? Okay. We
18 have a quorum here.
19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Do we have a quorum here?.
21
22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You have a quorum, Chairman.
23
24 MR. C. BROWER: We have a quorum.
25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Before we move on to the
27 agenda we're going to maybe do some quick introductions.
28 Charlie?
29
30 MR. C. BROWER: Yes.
31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Maybe we'll start from that end down
33 here and work our way over that way. Salena?
34
35 COURT REPORTER: Salena Hile. I'm a court reporter for
36 the State of Alaska.
37
38 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I'm Barb Armstrong, coordinator for
39 Benton and Fish & Wildlife Service.
40
41 MR. KOONUK: Jakie Koonuk from Point Hope.
42
43 MR. LONG: Frank Long, Nuiqsut.
44
45 MR. UPICKSOUN: Gordon Upicksoun, Point Lay.
46
47 MR. H. BROWER: Harry Brower from Barrow.
48
49 MR. ITTA: Edward Itta, Barrow.
50

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1
2 MS. PRIOR: Lelania Prior.
3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: What's that?
5
6 MS. PRIOR: My name is Lelania Prior, GIS. My name is
7 Lelania Prior.
8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Fenton Rexford from Kaktovik.
10
11 MR. MILLER: John Miller, Barrow.
12
13 MR. TUKLE: Leonard Tukle from Nuiqsut.
14
15 MR. BAIN: Ray Bain, Anchorage.
16
17 MR. YOKELE: Dave Yokel with BLM, Arctic District.
18
19 MR. C. BROWER: Charles Brower, Executive Manager for
20 the North Slope Borough Fish & Game.
21
22 MR. ATTUNGA: Elijah Attunga, Point Hope.
23
24 MR. KIGNAK: Jake Kignak, Atkasuk.
25
26 MR. AGUVLUK: William Aguvluk, Wainwright.
27
28 MR. SCHILLE: Ulrich Schille, Correspondent.
29
30 MR. ULVI: I'm Steve Ulvi with the National Park
31 Service for Gates of the Arctic National Park.
32
33 MS. OPIE: Taqulik Opie with the Wildlife Department.
34
35 MR. PETERSON: Michael Peterson from the Barrow and
36 Arctic Slope Native Association.
37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. At this time we will
39 move on to -- I hope we got the same agenda here.
40
41 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah, they are.
42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: A moment of silence. Observe for
44 guidance and through our meetings and deliberations for this
45 day. A moment of silence.
46
47 (Pause).
48
49 Our minutes, we have a summary of minutes. We don't
50

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Have the verbatim or the transcripts as indicated in our agenda. So we have a summary of the North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Meeting dated February 22 and 23 and 24, 1994, meeting at USC NARL Conference Room. What is the wish of the council on this?

6

7 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair?

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward?

10

11 MR. ITTA: Move to approve the minutes of February 23
and 24.

13

14 MR. H. BROWER: Second it.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It's been moved and seconded to
approve the minutes of February 23, 24, 1994 of the North Slope
Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.

19

20 MR. ITTA: Can we have a minute to kind of go over them
and read them?

22

23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

24

25 MR. ITTA: All right. Mr. Chair?

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward?

28

29 MR. ITTA: Are we going to have Geoff Carroll here
sometime today on -- talking in regards to Page 2 where we
deferred Proposal 64 and 82 until he was going to be present.
Maybe we can notify him.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

35

36 MR. C. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, for your
information

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie?

40

41 MR. C. BROWER: he's supposed to be here today
anyway, but I can notify him as the time goes on.

43

44 MR. H. BROWER: Fenton?

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

47

48 MR. H. BROWER: Edward, if you keep going on to the
back Geoff said during that meeting on February 23 and 24, you

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had returned later on into the day. And we discussed those issues that were deferred 'til later on during that meeting -- of the meeting date.

4

5 MR. ITTA: Okay.

6

7 MR. H. BROWER: So they're in the back end of the Summary. He'll be here anyway, right?

9

10 MR. H. BROWER: Yeah. He'll be here. I sent him that information for our meeting.

12

13 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair?

14

15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.

16

17 MR. ITTA: Call for the question.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Question is called on the motion to accept the -- adopt the minutes of February 23, 24, 2994. All those in favor signify by saying aye?

22

23 IN UNISON: Aye.

24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed?

26

27 (No opposing responses)

28

29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'll need some help on reviewing the agenda and also approving that. I think we will have some -- a few changes made to our agenda.

32

33 MR. C. BROWER: Mr. Chairman?

34

35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie?

36

37 MR. BROWER: For your information, Mineral Management & Service people were supposed to be in by 10:30 on our morning flight. We can put those aside 'til they come in and make their presentation and have them move out to their trip to Wainwright. So we can defer those 'til they come in.

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

44

45 MR. C. BROWER: It would be appropriate. And also, Mr. Chairman, for your information, on nominees and election of Officers, North Slope Borough Wildlife Management Fish & Game Committee, will not have their reorganization at this point until the elections and verifications of nominees are approved

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by the assembly. So we will either excuse ourself while you have your elections for that purpose. In that regard I had thought the nominees and election of officers would be in order. But due to some difficulties of getting information from other villages I am postponing our election 'til the next meeting. So -- for your information.

7

8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Charlie. Barbara, anything?

10

11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I don't see any changes.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

14

15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: This is all up to you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Barb.

18

19 MR. C. BROWER: Also -- Mr. Chairman, for your
20 information

21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie.

23

24 MR. C. BROWER: John Miller, the vice-chair of the
North Slope Borough Fish & Game Advisory will sit as to chair
the other side if anything needs to be recognized.

27

28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Charlie. And also
we have -- there's some experimenting going on with some
whalers.

31

32 MR. H. BROWER: Fenton, I need to be excused.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So there will be Harry and Edward
will be excused for a little while, hopefully not all day.

36

37 MR. H. BROWER: No. Just this morning.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. So we have established a
forum. So whenever you need to leave, Harry and Edward we'll
do that and we'll postpone any action, if needed, until you
folks get back.

43

44 (In Inupiat).

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: At this time I will ask for or
entertain a motion to approve after reviewing the agenda.

48

49 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chairman?

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.
3
4 MR. ITTA: Move to approve the agenda as presented.
5
6 MR. UPICKSOUN: I second the motion.
7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Gordon.
9
10 MR. C. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, I have some discussion.
11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie?
13
14 MR. C. BROWER: In regards to the new business on -- we
15 have Pat Reynolds coming up to give us an update on muskox
16 issue that was brought out in our last meeting for possible
17 management within the North Slope of the muskoxs. I asked her
18 to be here, if she will. She will make a presentation on the
19 stock and disbursement of the muskox to see what the situation
20 is. So for your information she's probably coming on the
21 morning flight. I would insert her down on I with muskoxs, Pat
22 Reynolds of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.
23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Under 10(i)?
25
26 MR. C. BROWER: Yes. And also, Mr. Chairman, I see
27 Geoff is here and I can ask him if he wants to make any
28 presentation.
29
30 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Just a brief one.
31
32 MR. C. BROWER: All right. We can put him under J where
33 appropriate.
34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.
36
37 MR. C. BROWER: Geoff Carroll, ADFG. Thank you, Mr.
38 Chairman.
39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Charlie. Then we have
41 under new business, 10(i), muskox updated by Pat Reynolds and
42 also Geoff Carroll of ADF&G. Under J. Anything else? How
43 should we do this? I guess you made a motion to approve the
44 agenda with the insertion of Pat Reynolds under 10(i) and
45 (j). Is that good enough or should we -- Edward?
46
47 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair, I guess it's noted we're going to
48 have -- we're deferring item seven on down until the people get
49 here?
50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Just seven, just the seventh
3 one we're deferring until they get here. So we'll keep Number
4 7 flexible. These guys have to go on over to Wainwright after
5 they make a presentation. So that would be -- have to make a
6 trip out and over to Wainwright and also other offices here, so
7 they're on a tight schedule. That's why we have them up.
8 Thought they might be here early and kick it open.

9
10 MR. UPICKSOUN: And Eight is postponed, Mr. Chairman?

11
12 MR. MILLER: No. On the Wildlife side. You folks can
13 have your

14
15 MR. UPICKSOUN: Oh, okay. I don't have your agenda for
16 the Wildlife side.

17
18 MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman?

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: John.

21
22 MR. MILLER: Motion to approve the agenda as amended or
23 as noted.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

26
27 MR. MILLER: Question, I mean. Question on motion.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Question on the motion with the
30 additions of the agenda. Notably and we'll be flexible with
31 seven and we'll add 10(i), Muskox update by Pat Reynolds and
32 10(j), Geoff Carroll with ADF&G. Although in favor signify by
33 saying aye?

34
35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed, same sign?

38
39 (No opposing responses)

40
41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. We'll move on to Number 6,
42 welcome and introduction of our council and the agencies.
43 Introduction by Fish & Wildlife Council members by Warren -- or
44 that will be Charlie Brower of the North Slope Wildlife
45 Management. Charlie?

46
47 MR. C. BROWER: Good morning. My name is Charlie
48 Brower. I am the executive manager for the North Slope Borough
49 Fish & Game Management Committee. I'm glad that we're having

50

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this meeting as a joint. As I went through some of the federal papers I noticed that in there was the designated hunter community bay, and management status code which was being reviewed by the different five agencies and the chair, and my chair, of the Federal Advisory Councils. So in that regards I thought it was important enough to combine the Federal Advisory Council, North Slope Borough Fish & Game Management, together and iron out some of these recommendations that were brought to us by the task force to talk about bag limits -- for community bag limits as a designated hunter. And the other option is local management control within the tribal councils, which can have a major effect on some of our hunting species. So in that regard I talked with Fenton and initiated if we can have a joint meeting since we are in the same region as the Borough. We cover the whole North Slope. And as the Federal Advisory Council, as Region 10, you cover the same amount of land. And as you, the Federal Advisory Council, are advisable to the Federal Subsistence Board and the North Slope Borough Wildlife Management Fish & Game Committee, as the agency or governmental entity that complies with state and federal regs. And I thought it was important enough to combine a meeting like this even though we have different sides, but one feeling, that we can talk this thing over and get some -- get somewhere. And I know it's quite important to me to see something like this come out and to have voice come out from both sides. So -- and on behalf of the North Slope Borough Wildlife Management, I welcome everyone for being here 'cause there's no other -- there's -- like I say, this is one of a kind of meeting between the federal advisory and a governmental entity being allowed, I guess. So we might be breaking the law or something. But here we are meeting together. And thank you for being here.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Charlie.

34

35 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair?

36

37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.

38

39 MR. ITTA: Might I comment. Barbara, for the benefit of our -- the ones that don't know, can you call out the list of all our members and where they're from?

42

43 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. I just have to do it my memory. I had a list here but we also have -- besides the Council members here, we also have Ray Koonuk from Point Hope, and we have Harry Todruk(ph) from Wainwright. Then we also have Jimmy Aveoganna from Wainwright. And the only villages that aren't covered in this council at this time is Anaktuvuk Pass and (indiscernible). And I think that's what will be

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discussed later.

2

3 MR. C. BROWER: For your information, the other two I
4 didn't call off, Edward Thompson, Sr. is from Barrow. He will
5 be in later. And Amos Aguasagga from Point Lay will be later
6 too. Also our chairman, who is double chair here of the
7 Federal Advisory Council and the North Slope Borough Fish &
8 Game Management. I didn't bother introducing him.

9

10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Anyway, new members and North Slope
11 Borough Fish & Game Committee, our North Slope Subsistence
12 Regional Advisory Council works with the federal subsistence
13 board consisting of -- what six federal agencies. And they're
14 the federal subsistence board ended up making rules and
15 regulations on federal lands on our particular region. Any
16 federal lands in our North Slope area, they see to it that the
17 rules and regulations -- we'll try to comply, however, that's
18 very difficult. The rules and regulations do not comply with
19 our way of hunting and our way of life. So we're trying to
20 make some changes to that. So (In Inupiat).

21

22 So just a short summary, we are -- there's nine members
23 in the council and we act as an advisory council to the
24 subsistence board.

25

26 Okay. Anything else, Charlie? Or anybody else want to
27 add on to the welcome, Edward or anybody?

28

29 MR. C. BROWER: John Miller.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: John?

32

33 MR. MILLER: I'm currently the vice chair of the North
34 Slope Borough Fish & Game Management Committee and I think that
35 this is a very good opportunity for both of us to get together
36 both agencies to get together and express our common goal
37 and concern, which is management of our own resources. So
38 thank you very much.

39

40 MR. ITTA: You should let them know how often we meet.

41

42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We're meeting quarterly? Three
43 times -- every

44

45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Twice a year.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Twice a year? We're meeting twice a
48 year. One in the fall and one either in -- before April. So
49 we'll meet again before April.

50

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1
2 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That is when the council go over the
3 proposals that have been made on the federal lands. And that's
4 when they'll meet again, before April.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Now let's see, what else?
7

8 MR. ITTA: The -- Mr. Chair?
9

10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward?
11

12 MR. ITTA: Any proposals that get submitted by this
13 advisory council are forwarded to the federal subsistence board
14 which meets quarterly, correct?
15

16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum. (affirmative)
17

18 MR. ITTA: And Willie Hensley is the chair and a real
19 friend, I think, of the federal subsistence board. There's
20 been changes on the Federal Subsistence Board, the most
21 significant being that Willie Hensley's now the chairman of
22 that -- of that board. And you all know we're in a lot of
23 federal lands around here and I agree we got mutual concerns.
24 And I'm glad to see a meeting like this happen so we can start
25 understanding what all is happening here and what we can do
26 jointly. And I was especially glad when Charlie and Fenton
27 started talking, that we're going to have input from the local
28 perspective too, that will give us more -- I guess more clout
29 in presenting our case to the Federal Subsistence Board. And
30 Fenton, a little later on down the agenda, is going to make a
31 report on the meeting he attended down in Anchorage. When was
32 that?
33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: There was one in August.
35

36 MR. ITTA: August. And one in -- there was another
37 one?
38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And another one in April.
40

41 MR. ITTA: Yeah. We're just kind of trying to find our
42 way too. All right? And I think we're going to do all right.
43

44 (Off record comments).
45

46 MR. C. BROWER: For your information this is Edward
47 Hopson. He's one of our elders in our committee.
48

49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Welcome, Edward.
50

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1
 2 MR. C. BROWER: Edward, we were just high-lighting why
 we were meeting like this. I stated to them that from reading
 some of the federal papers that this task force initiated, or
 designated hunter task force and some working -- some other
 matters regarding our land use in the federal land, modifying
 some options for tribal management, community bag limits,
 designated hunter, which will go into the federal -- federal
 Board in their next meeting. I thought it was important enough
 to combine these two committees together to talk about what the
 task force is trying to do on our federal hunting grounds.

12
 13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Good morning, Eddie. Okay. Eddie,
 we're postponing that Number 7 until they get here, the
 Minerals Management Service update. Once they come into our
 conference we'll make room for them to make their presentation.
 So we're on to Item Number 8. Probably take, what, maybe 15
 minutes between the group here and we could probably -- Gordon?

19
 20 MR. UPICKSOUN: Five minutes.

21
 22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Five minutes. Okay.

23
 24 MR. C. BROWER: That will give enough break for -- for
 a cigarette break for the other half of us.

26
 27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. So Edward, just for your
 information, we're the North Slope Committee -- Fish & Game
 Committee. We were hopefully trying to get nominations for
 chairman but there's some delay in some village representation
 and also confirmation by the mayor and maybe the assembly?

32
 33 MR. C. BROWER: Right.

34
 35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So there's some seats that were
 expiring and we'll wait for the Fish & Game Committee to
 reorganize.

38
 39 MR. E. HOPSON: Who all's on the game committee now?

40
 41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: See, Jake and Raymond Koonuk from
 our committee, terms were expired this year. But we had some
 difficulty getting some names in from the villages. So -- and
 Aaktuvuk Pass is the only one that has not submitted a name.
 So in that regard I thought everything would be done by now.
 That's why we had -- put them in the agenda. So I've asked for
 a delay 'til the next meeting after the assembly ratifies and
 approves the nominees from the villages. We'll take a five
 minute break now.

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1
2 (Off record)
3
4 (On record)
5
6 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair?
7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.
9
10 MR. ITTA: I move to open nominations for election of
11 officers.
12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Edward.
14
15 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman?
16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?
18
19 MR. UPICKSOUN: I move that we re-elect you as our
20 Chairman, retain the officers -- all three of you, Edward and
21 Harry, I ask for unanimous consent from the board.
22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. There's been a unanimous
24 consent to retain Chairman Rexford, Vice-Chairman Itta, and
25 Secretary Brower. Any objection? Any objections? Harry?
26 None? Okay. So ordered.
27
28 MR. ITTA: Congratulations.
29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Gordon. Okay. They can
31 come back in now.
32
33 MR. ITTA: We are a lot more efficient than the federal
34 bureaucracy.
35
36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: So while you're here you guys can
37 discuss that 1995

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.
40
41 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: who's expiring in 1995? Does
42 anybody know, I don't have my book with me? Is it

43
44 MR. H. BROWER: I've been secretary for three years.
45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Terry and

47
48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Terry

49
50

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Me and Terry and -- I think we're
the longest ones.

3

4 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Yeah, '96 I think you and
Terry. Harry, you?

6

7 MR. H. BROWER: Um-hum. (affirmative)

8

9 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You and Gordon?

10

11 MR. H. BROWER: Yeah. I was only on for three years.

12

13 (Off record discussion - simultaneous talking).

14

15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: By next fall we'll need to order
that vacant seat by George Amouwak(ph). Either Ray or Jackie
has filled in that temporarily.

18

19 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Ray or Jackie filled that
one. I think Jackie did.

21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Ray or Jackie will fill that
term up that George Amouwak left 'cause he was elected mayor.

24

25 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I think he's in for three though.

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

28

29 MR. ITTA: Jackie would be right? Or -- what year was
that term?

31

32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It was in '95. It was a two year
term.

34

35 MR. ITTA: Two year term. And Jake is

36

37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Jackie is

38

39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Jackie is two year term?

40

41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Either one. I don't know which
one's Ray or Jackie got, which seat they got.

43

44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Oh, okay.

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So

47

48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Ray's got 'til '95? That's what we
were trying to ask. And then I -- when I did ask in front of

50

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the federal board they said no, it would be all three year terms. And I said well, that's going to mess up the three, six, nine

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. 'Cause

6
7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: But I have no say to that. If they give them three year term, then they give them three year term.

8
9
10 MR. ITTA: Do you think we need to formalize that after Ray gets here?

11
12
13 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We will check -- we can check to see. See, I didn't get nothing -- once I just -- I just got a call from them and said that they were signed. And that's why I started calling around to see and getting that information from the new members. So we need to figure that out and see -- get those papers. I thought it would be on that new paper. You might have passed one out to the new members.

14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21 MR. ITTA: I didn't bring mine.

22
23 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: There should be a member thing here.

24
25 MR. ITTA: A what?

26
27 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: With the new council members. A paper we passed out that looked something like this. It should be amongst your papers. But it's got all the council member names. Looks something like this with telephone numbers. It should be amongst your

28
29
30
31
32
33 MR. H. BROWER: This one.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

36
37 MR. ITTA: Federal subsistence board right there.

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Region 10. Yeah. It's either Ray or Jakie for that council seat E, which was vacant, left by George Amouwak. And then the next terms that are coming up will be Gordon's, either Jakie or Ray, and Jim Allen Aveoganna. Those three seats are

40
41
42
43
44
45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Gordon, Jim and then third

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

48
49 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Unless he's given -- unless

50

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Babbitt gave him a three year term. Unless Babbitt have him a three year term. Most likely he might do, is giving him a three year term. Then he will have to serve and there would be four serving three year terms starting this year. So we'll find that out. I'm sorry, I don't have it here.

6

7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It's right here, Barb.

8

9 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Oh, okay. So you guys have it in your packet then?

11

12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No. That was my -- my own.

13

14 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

15

16 MR. ITTA: Move to close nominations?

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We already have unanimous consent there, Edward.

20

21 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Okay. The other thing now --
22 your next move for the next two seats then. We should

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No. Barbara, I think either Ray or
25 Jackie will finish off '95, the way it looks.

26

27 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

28

29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those three, Edward, Frank, and
30 either Ray will have a three year. And then either Ray or
31 Jackie will finish off that term.

32

33 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. 'Cause when I did the report
34 I asked that Jackie be put in for three.

35

36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Oh, okay.

37

38 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And asked Ray be take George
39 Anouwak's and then they said no, we couldn't do that. That
40 they would be given all three year terms.

41

42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Oh, all of them?

43

44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: So

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Boy, that's going to mess our

47

48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. That's what I said. And I
49 said that and then -- but then they have higher power than I do

50

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for me to request. So there goes that

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Three, four, two. Okay. That's the
way it's going to be then. We'll

5

6 (Off record comments)

7

8 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. I think that's how it's going
to be. Okay. Then the other thing, while you guys are alone,
okay, for the next two seats you guys going to work on
Anaktuvuk Pass. Get representatives from Anaktuvuk Pass and
(Indiscernible). 'Cause you guys have one from Wainwright and
Point Lay. Ask Gordon to reapply and I'll back him up if he
still wants to be on the board. 'Cause he's the only one from
Point Lay.

16

17 MR. UPICKSON: And for those two vacancies in
(Indiscernible) and Anaktuvuk, is it?

19

20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. We

21

22 MR. UPICKSON: Have the other board members terms
expire and we'll take that into consideration and

24

25 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We can just go to one -- one from
one village. See, we had a hard time getting Point Hope in.
So as soon as we had two applicants from Point Hope, that's why
we grabbed them. And

29

30 MR. UPICKSON: Down the road, as their terms expire,
you will settle (Indiscernible) and Anaktuvuk?

32

33 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum. And then there will just be
a switch off. It'll be easier that way.

35

36 MR. UPICKSON: Frank will be good for (Indiscernible).

37

38 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. He's easy to get a hold of.

39

40 MR. ITTA: Barbara, on the additional seat for Point
Hope, Warren's term's expired.

42

43 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Warren's is out.

44

45 MR. ITTA: My term expired and I got put back in mine.
So I'm still CG, correct?

47

48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

49

50

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1 MR. ITTA: So CH, which was Warren's, was that deleted
2 from Barrow and changed to Point Hope?

3
4 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, that's deleted from Barrow.
5 That's changed to Point Hope.

6
7 MR. ITTA: Okay.

8
9 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Because we have good representatives
10 right now on the board from Barrow. There's you, Harry
11 and

12
13 MR. ITTA: Right. Harry and I?

14
15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You and Harry. Yeah.

16
17 MR. ITTA: Okay. And how about Zack Hugo's? We never
18 did get an appointment or any

19
20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: There is -- it's either -- probably
21 Frank, Nuiqsut.

22
23 MR. ITTA: Okay. That's been changed to Nuiqsut?

24
25 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum.

26
27 MR. ITTA: And just for your information, if I'm right,
28 the dates of the Arctic, they still have representation from
29 the other region. Correct? Right? Region Six. They have
30 Anaktuvuk has representation on the board from Region Six,
31 correct?

32
33 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: On -- on the Gates?

34
35 MR. ITTA: On the Federal Advisory Council from Region
36 Six, they have a seat on there. Correct? Remember we had some
37

38
39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No, that's supposed to be for Gates.

40
41 MR. ITTA: Okay. Gates of the Arctic?

42
43 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That should be discussed under
44 boundary Six and 10. And then Steve Ulvi's here and then he'll
45 be the one to answer any questions that you guys might have on
46 that boundary line. See, what they were saying is that --
47 North Slope was saying that boundary was further down than
48 where it was before when I went to their meeting for a few
49 hours that morning? They said boundary line was further down.

50

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1 The original boundary line. And Delbert Rexford knows about
 2 it. The original boundary line. And somehow it got moved up
 3 - further up on North Slope and then -- and leaving that six
 4 down there more. And that's what they're arguing about. And
 5 then still, when it came down to it and they asked well, what's
 6 the problem? Then they said nothing, because everybody's --
 7 they'll go back and forth, whoever hunted on that site. And
 8 then Region Six didn't mind if we went down and hunted in that
 9 area and what not. But then they were just concerned about
 10 that boundary line in case -- you know how the federal
 11 government is once they start getting sticky about things.
 12 They all start saying well, here's the line. They don't want
 13 that down pat to say in case, and then now Delbert was trying
 14 Delbert knows about the original boundary line. And he was
 15 supposed to have gotten that on the map and sent it up. But
 16 then whaling season.

17

18 MR. ITTA: So we will be discussing it on the boundary?

19

20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You guys will ask Steve Ulvie once
 21 you guys get on that subject there. And then ask him what's
 22 going on. And then Raymond Koonuk supposedly had written a
 23 letter to Fenton. And I tried to get a hold of that letter
 24 back in my administrative record and I couldn't -- regarding
 25 putting someone from the North Slope in that Gates. That's
 26 with the Gates of the Arctic and that's what Steve Ulvie, you
 27 guys ask him about that.

28

29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. All right. So we got Frank
 30 Long expiring in '97?

31

32 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's how I think it would be.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Jakie in '97 and Edward '97?

35

36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum. And probably Ray in '97
 37 too. That could be possible right there. 'Cause when I asked
 38 that time Dick Pospahala said it couldn't happen. And he said
 39 all of them would be three year terms. So I will check on that
 40 for you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

43

44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And let you guys know.

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. So those three -- there'll be
 47 Gordon and Jim Allen Aveoganna.

48

49 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And possibly Ray Koonuk.
3
4 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Possibly Ray Koonuk. Okay.
5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right. So what is the wish of
the board on those representations getting APK and ATQ?
8
9 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair?
10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward?
12
13 MR. ITTA: Since it looks like we're going to discuss
14 on the boundary issue maybe we can defer to that.
15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.
17
18 MR. ITTA: The (indiscernable) issue on representation
19 under the boundaries. Shall we talk about it with Steve
20 then?
21
22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. You guys can ask him and see
23 if he knows about it. He said

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.
26
27 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: When I called in to ask him about it
28 he said he didn't have that much information on it. I says
29 well, your board -- your SRC was the one that wrote a letter to
30 Benton telling him about somebody needing to be represented on
31 the SRC board. So you guys can ask him about that one.
32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Anything else then on Number
34 B4 Anything else? Harry? Barbara?
35
36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: While you are here, you could get
37 under old business on Number 9. You can do a real quick
38 orientation for the new members while they're here. Or you can
39 wait 'til later. That's up to you. While Edward and Harry are
40 here.
41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.
43
44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You can just explain in these books
45 they should have their charters and then their

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Manual?
48
49 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: manual should also be there.
50

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You guys just go through here you'll learn all about the
~~F~~ederal government. You guys have a charter here.

3
 4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. This -- they have them in
 5 their booklet?

6
 7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. They should have them here.

8
 9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Maybe real quickly, the operations
 10 manual, at your leisurely, Frank and Jakie, shows what we're
 11 supposed to -- how we're supposed to operate as a regional
 12 council working with the Federal Subsistence Board. So they
 13 should give a time line or schedules and our activities that
 14 should happen within our council. And -- where is the
 15 references at here? And then the by-laws with the

16
 17 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It's number one here. Operations
 18 manual is under one.

19
 20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. There we go. Yeah. And then
 21 the regional council charter and our roles and responsibilities
 22 of the members. And also a map of where we operate.

23
 24 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That is in their booklet.

25
 26 MR. ITTA: Under the operations manual?

27
 28 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No, no. Their charter is under
 29 their booklet. They have both of them. Yeah.

30
 31 MR. ITTA: Oh, okay, all right.

32
 33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So the operations manual will show
 34 how our council will operate. Our charter

35
 36 MR. ITTA: Maybe we can do that under orientation under
 37 9(a) you can go through that.

38
 39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Okay. All right. We're
 40 pretty much done then with 8(d). Shall we call back the folks?

41
 42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, you can. And then that's
 43 where I was trying to get you to get this orientation done
 44 while you guys are alone.

45
 46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Frank.

47
 48 MR. LONG: So this is what we are entitled under cover
 49 of these operations manual?

50

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1
2 MR. KOONUK: Regional council.
3
4 MR. H. BROWER: Regional Council.
5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Federal Subsistence Regional
7 Advisory Council.
8
9 MR. LONG: Okay.
10
11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Okay?
12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.
14
15 MR. UPICKSON: We don't address the -- how the terms
16 expire and -- it's up to the

17
18 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It's up to Babbitt.
19
20 MR. UPICKSON: federal board to determine 'cause
21 we never addressed that issue in our charter? Like Barbara
22 says, we're going to make them all three years?
23

24 MR. H. BROWER: We don't have that control. It's up to
25 the board, right?
26

27 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. It's up to the

28
29 MR. H. BROWER: And then we make a recommendation to
30 change it.
31

32 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It's up to Babbitt to give how many
33 terms. When he appoints -- you guys are not elected. You guys
34 are appointed.
35

36 MR. LONG: Appointed.
37

38 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. You are appointed. So it's
39 up to Babbitt to give you how many year terms -- he can and
40 it's up to him.
41

42 MR. LONG: You got his phone number so I can call him?
43

44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I can get it for you.
45

46 MR. ITTA: Yeah. Remind him of our charter. It shows
47 that three shall serve -- three each shall serve until they're
48 all staggered

49
50

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1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. And if he goes through that,
2 so it should be staggered then.
3
4 MR. ITTA: It should be staggered. Yeah. Three,
5 three, three

6
7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.
8
9 MR. ITTA: instead of three, four, two.
10
11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. That's right. 'Cause there's
12 one of you and he should follow your charter. So one should
13 be serving one more year then. Okay. It's either Ray or
14 Jackie.
15
16 MR. ITTA: Yeah.
17
18 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. I'll check into that.
19
20 (Off record)
21
22 (On record)
23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thanks, Gentlemen and Ladies,
25 for waiting for a few minutes. We -- for your information on
26 the nomination and election of officers for the North Slope
27 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council are as follows.
28 Chairman, they unanimously, without objection, voted me back
29 in. Vice-chairman is Edward Itta, and secretary, Harry Brower.
30 So for your information then we have new members. That
31 possibly either Ray or Jackie will fill in the rest of the term
32 of George Amouwak for remainder of year '95. We have Frank
33 Bong, Jr. and Edward Itta that were appointed until 1997. So
34 for -- for your information.
35
36 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Which Jackie are you talking about?
37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Jackie Koonuk.
39
40 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Oh, all right.
41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. We're done with Number 8.
43 We'll move on to -- we'll move on to 9A under our agenda. We're
44 moving right along here. So it looks like we'll maybe get done
45 tonight. Orientation of new members. For your information
46 too, it will be good information for our Fish & Game Committee
47 of the North Slope. Barbara, I may need some help here. We --
48 we operate under federal code and regulations and we have
49 operations manual that we have for our council members. It
50

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shows us how -- or tries to tell us how we should operate and have different activities throughout the year and how we work with the Federal Subsistence Board. And we also have a charter or by-laws that we have to look at. And they're amended every two years, I think.

6

7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum.

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: If I'm not mistaken, so with the operations manual and the charter we operate under the code of federal regulations. Let's see. What else?

12

13 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Those are the two main ones. And then there's also a sheet here on which they have is the roles and responsibilities of the regional advisory council, still under two in the Federal Subsistence Management Program. They kind of give you guidelines on what the councils are to do in working with the making of the regulations.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Maybe I'll just run that by real quick. Now, I'll go over this real quick. As council of the Region, Regional Advisory Council in the Federal Subsistence Management Program, we review -- our council review, evaluate, and make recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board on proposals for regulations, policies, management plans, and other matters related to subsistence take of fish and wildlife on public lands. Meaning federal public lands within our Region. We also provide a forum for expression of opinion and recommendations by persons interested in any matter related to the subsistence use of fish and wildlife on public lands. We also encourage local and regional participation such as this with the North Slope Borough Fish & Game committed to helping make decisions. The process effect and the take of fish and wildlife on public lands within the North Slope for our subsistence uses. And annually we prepare and submit to the Board containing -- an annual report containing following current -- identifying current and anticipated uses of fish, wildlife population with our region. Evaluation of current and anticipated subsistence needs for fish and wildlife population within the region. Strategy for recommendation of fish and wildlife population to accommodate subsistence uses and needs. And also look at policies, standards and guidelines which will help implement the strategy for the regulations.

44

45 Also our -- one of our duties is to appoint someone to the National Parks Subsistence Resource Commission in their region in accordance to Section 808 of ANILCA. One of the important things that we'll be working on today is making recommendations and determination of customary and traditional

50

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use of subsistence resources. We will also look at and make recommendations on determination of rural status, allocation of subsistence uses among rural residents, pursuant to Section 17 of the Subsistence Regulation. And also develop proposals pertaining to subsistence taking of fish and wildlife and review such proposals submitted by other sources. And provide recommendation on the establishment of membership of federal and local subsistence advisory. So that's one of the things that our council is supposed to be doing.

10

11 And at least twice a year we'll meet. Each member will serve a three year term initially until things get staggered okay, then they may serve less than three years. These members will be appointed by Secretary of Interior and Agriculture. And the council members shall elect the chair of their council.

16

The support for our council -- administrative support for our council is provided by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Forest Service. Immediate local assistance will be provided by Barbara, who is the federal regional advisory council coordinator.

21

22 So that, in essence, is a summary of our role and responsibility of this side of the table. And we want to work with the North Slope Borough committee on making recommendations on the things that I just mentioned regarding recommendations, determinations and identifying current and anticipated subsistence uses of the fish and wildlife population in the North Slope. So somewhere in there I know it will be useful for the fish and game committee to get involved in working with the Federal Subsistence Board. So at this time we will be excusing Edward and Harry for the time being.

32

33 Okay. Any questions on this roles and responsibility of our council? Okay. If not -- Barbara, do you have anything else to add on?

36

37 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I don't have anything right now, Chairman.

39

40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Barbara. We'll move on to 9B. 9B and 9E, I'll combine those two together. The April 1994 Federal Subsistence Board meeting and also report on the chair and -- the State Federal Subsistence Advisory Council chairs and vice chairs meeting which were held sort of closely together. So I'll cover 9A and 9E.

46

47 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: 9B and E.

48

49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 9A and E. Oh, B and E. I'm sorry.

50

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1 Give me a minute to find the report here. Taquilik?

2

3 MS. OPIE: I've got the letter.

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Oh, okay, she's got the letter.

6

7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Is that the June 27th -- June 7th?

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. June 7th. Yeah. She's got
10. I've got extra copies made too. So -- oh, you have some
11 too?

12

13 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. I made copies too. But
14 that's okay. Go ahead.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: While Taquilik and Barbara are
17 passing out our summary of the Federal Subsistence actions,
18 they can -- at their meeting of April 11th through the 15th,
19 and the council chairs and vice chairs met a day prior to the
20 Federal Subsistence Board meeting. And I'll combine both of
21 those reports here real quickly. The vice chairman and the
22 chairman of the 10 regions in Alaska were invited to meet with
23 the staff and staff personnel and also a few of the Federal
24 Subsistence Board to go over what I just went through. Our
25 authorities, responsibilities, roles and powers of our council,
26 and how we were supposed to operate and help the Federal
27 Subsistence Board. So we went over -- going over annual
28 reports, the operations manual like I just did, our charters,
29 the appointments, our responses to indirect subsistence issues,
30 the coordinator's roles, like Barbara have. There are I think
31 what?, six coordinators in the state? Something like that.

32

33 (In Inupiat).

34

35 And on this June 7th is a summary from Ronald McCoy,
36 who was the interim chair of the Federal Subsistence Board.
37 I'll summarize the letter. They were very pleased that our
38 council and chairmen were involved in the Federal Subsistence
39 Management program. Our councils provide local knowledge and
40 experience needed to develop good subsistence management
41 decisions. So our role in the council was evident at the board
42 meeting in April.

43

44 Council chairs and vice chairs gave important
45 information on local viewpoint and practices. The presence of
46 the council members where representatives helped bring about
47 discussion on many other issues that will require further
48 cooperation between program managers and regional residents
49 engaged in subsistence use.

50

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1
2 So below is a summary of the board action that they
3 made during April 11th through the 15th regarding that -- the
4 proposal that effect our region, the North Slope. Where action
5 was modified, or where board was opposed to council's
6 recommendation. The board's rationale was also summarized.

7
8 Proposals 1 and 2, I think, were state wide regulations
9 and they dealt with same day airborne of taking wolves, lynx,
10 coyote, red fox, and arctic fox. This proposal was opposed by
11 seven regional councils, including the North Slope and was
12 rejected by the Federal Subsistence Board. The board found the
13 adoption of this proposal would enhance the likelihood that
14 provisions of the Federal Airborne Hunting Act would be
15 violated. Board members also found that adoption of this
16 proposal would increase the difficulty of enforcing the Act.
17 Finally, the board was swayed by the majority of the council's
18 position that taking of free wrenching fur bearers by same day
19 airborne means is not a customary and traditional subsistence
20 practice. This prohibition will not prevent same day use of
21 aircraft to access trap lines and dispatch legally trapped or
22 shared fur bearers.

23
24 Proposal 2, another statewide regulation modifying wolf
25 hunting, trapping seasons, to correspond with state regulation.
26 The board approved the council's recommendation to adopt that
27 portion of this proposal which effects the North Slope.

28
29 Again, Proposal 81 and 83 regarding extending the moose
30 hunting season in a portion of Unit 26 and recommended
31 prohibiting use of aircraft access to this area during the
32 extended winter season. The board adopted this proposal. The
33 board's actions is consistent with the North Slope Council and
34 staff committee's recommendations.

35
36 Proposal 82 recommended permitting use of motor driven
37 boats and use of firearms that shoot rip fire cartridges to
38 make swimming caribou. The board adopted a modified proposal
39 when that not only authorized the uses of motor driven boats
40 and use of firearms, but also authorizes use of snowmobiles to
41 make caribou as well. The board action is consistent with the
42 council's recommendation.

43
44 Proposal 85 recommended modified fall sheep harvest
45 limits in portions of Unit 26 from rams with some 7/8 curl or
46 larger to rams with full curl. The board followed the North
47 Slope Regional Council's recommendation and rejected this
48 proposal as an unnecessary subsistence restriction.

49
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1 Proposal 86 by the Kaktovik City Council to expand the
 muskox hunting season in Unit 26 (C) from October 1 through
 March 31. The board substantially modified this proposal to
 provide an expanded opportunity for muskox harvest but not to
 the extent recommended in the proposal by the council. The
 board agreed with the staff's committee's concern that muskox
 might be adversely impacted by hunting during mid-winter and
 that hunting disturbance may violate recognized principals of
 wildlife conservation.

10

11 Although the board was not opposed to the principal of
 allowing extensive harvest in winter, they wanted to get
 additional information from next year's hunt before making the
 final decision.

15

16 A similar proposal, Number 87, recommended season from
 November 1 through March 31. The board opposed this proposal
 due to reasons identified above, that the chair post a closure
 of the October season.

20

21 Again, the board appreciated our interest in federal
 subsistence management program and contributions you and your
 council members have made over the past year. The board looks
 forward to a continued and expanding working relationship with
 the council and residents of the North Slope. If you have any
 questions, call Barbara Armstrong.

27

28 Any questions on the Federal Subsistence Board's
 actions? Edward?

30

31 MR. E. HOPSON: Who is entitled to take permit for
 muskox on the North Slope? What communities?

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The only community right now,
 Edward, is Kaktovik. And there is some work by Charlie and
 when later on we'll be talking about proposal to have co-
 management by the North Slope to cover maybe the rest of the
 other villages.

39

40 MR. E. HOPSON: That's why I'm raising the question.
 Because muskox is seen all over at Point Lay. They're scaring
 caribou in the Point Lay area.

43

44 MR. ATTENUGANA: (In Inupiat).

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: (In Inupiat).

47

48 MR. ATTENUGANA: (In Inupiat).

49

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: (In Inupiat).

2

3 MR. E. HOPSON: Well, Mr. Chairman, while we're on this
4 subject, how about Point Hope area on muskox? I understand
5 they have some muskox there.

6

7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Geoff, could you enlighten us on
8 some of the work? I know it's going to be discussed a little
9 further on our agenda. But Geoff, we've heard that concern
10 from Elijah at the last fish and game committee meeting. So
11 we're working on trying -- trying to see what the population is
12 to hopefully get it open.

13

14 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Excuse me, Geoff. Can you come over
15 here to the speaker please, so we can tape you. Get close by
16 her.

17

18 MR. CARROLL: Okay. Yeah. I don't know how much we
19 want to go into this right now. Some of the federal
20 subsistence advisory committee members -- I've spoken at the
21 last couple of North Slope Borough -- or Fish & Game Management
22 committee meetings about developing a muskox management plan
23 for the North Slope. I mean we know we have a population down
24 at the Point Hope, Cape Thompson area that's -- well, as of the
25 surveys we did this spring and summer, seems to be expanding.
26 And so, anyway, just not go into too much but we'd like to form
27 a group of cooperators which would include the North Slope
28 Borough and Alaska Department of Fish & Game, whatever other
29 appropriate land managers there are and representatives from
30 the villages of Point Hope, Point Lay and Kivalina and some of
31 those villages that live in that area where the muskoxen are,
32 and work towards coming up with a management plan which would
33 include a, you know, hunt -- a legal hunt for the muskoxen in
34 that area that would -- you know, the number would be
35 determined by how many muskoxen we find in the surveys and
36 things that we've been flying there. So -- I don't know. I'd
37 just open it up to questions, I guess.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Edward, did he answer
40 your question?

41

42 MR. E. HOPSON: Yeah. Thank you.

43

44 MR. CARROLL: Okay.

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

47

48 MR. UPICKSOUN: That issue, the notice that the Federal
49 Subsistence Board is composed of five departments and an

50

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agriculture department, forest service, fish and wildlife. Okay. Our recommendations were all adopted except for the muskox issue. They modified that those -- we talked about it at our last meeting. It was hard to come up with a consensus that will satisfy everybody. But you'll notice that the Federal Subsistence Board modified issues of proposals on 86 and 87. They adopted our recommendations on all the other proposals except the muskox issue. So that issue will keep coming up.

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Geoff. Any other questions on the summary of the interim chairman of the Federal Subsistence Board -- on that letter? If not, move on to 9(c).
12 Barbara?

15

16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. That's just going to be a short report because that's when the federal board met on reconsiderations. Reconsiderations being that when there's a new proposal that is being made and sent into the federal board, and then all of a sudden anyone from -- like if there's any proposals from the North Slope or Northwest Arctic or Seward Peninsula that I'm coordinating, if anyone has any questions or opposed to any proposal that is being made, they go right back in and pull all these proposals out. And then at this time there isn't any from the Arctic region. From the three councils that I coordinated. There is one from like Southeast on goats or deer. And then there is one from the Region 5 on moose. They are having a lot of disagreements on their animals down there, more so than you guys do up here. You guys are more unified up here and then -- that's what they have a meeting for. Anything that comes up that they want to (In Inupiat), write them and then they call for a meeting. And then they meet on this and then they ask all kinds of little questions that you guys know internally and have lived it, anyway, up this way. And then -- but the federal people really don't understand you or they don't know us. And then so anything that comes up life with the muskox, they start wondering, well, do they really hunt it; do they really eat it, and all these other questions. Those things that they don't know, that they can't imagine themselves. They go out to see if this is really happening. And the state has more of an insight of understanding you people because they live out here with you. They stay out here with you. But the federal board, now since this came about on Title VIII, they're trying to do everything, anything that Title VIII tells them to do because they didn't want to fall aside and leave you guys on the side here. But then they also have to learn to (In Inupiat), learn to be with you, and also learn to talk with you. That's the thing. And so then when anything that comes up on any

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proposals that they have questions on or right away they want to have a meeting and understand why these proposals are being objected to. And then that's why on this, also April meeting, any kind of proposals that you guys make right now, Fenton knows that he'll be there to be asked questions by the federal board. And Fenton did real well in representing you last spring. And then we back each other up there. And then working with Fenton has been Grayton Edward, the chair for the North Slope. And then there's some from the Northwest Arctic too, and then Seward Peninsula. And that's what that August meeting was for, was reconsiderations on proposals.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Barbara. That 9(d), I think that was the type that was supposed to be the June 7th.

15

16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Yes, it is. I realized that after I

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. I didn't

20

21 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: had that copied, I'm sorry.

22

23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: see that either. I was looking for June 27th letter. But I think we'll cross that off.

25

26 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

27

28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It's supposed to be -- supposed to be June 27th. (sic)

30

31 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Supposed to be June 7 instead of 27.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I will entertain a motion for a quick five minute break here for this side of the table. Is that okay with the folks here? Five minute, 10 minute break? What time is it? I think our other guests are supposed to be arriving here any time now.

38

39 COURT REPORTER: 10:35.

40

41 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman, I move we take a 10 minute break.

43

44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Moved to have a 10 minute break. All those in favor stand up.

46

47 (Off record)

48

49 (On record)

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We'll just do a little bit of
Housekeeping while we wait for the MMS folks. We want to try
And get done before lunch. Maybe we'll cut off at 11:30 to
Give time for our new members and our new folks that are coming
6o check into the hotel before lunch and we'll reconvene
Possibly around 1:30. But I hear that the MMS folks are coming
8p the stairs, or up the elevator. But again, we will maybe
9ry to cut off about 11:30 and reconvene our meeting at 1:30.

10

11 MR. C. BROWER: Mr. Chairman?

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie?

14

15 MR. C. BROWER: For your information I have six rooms
16 available and there is one room available now at Airport Inn.
17 One left.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any other little housekeeping
20 matters? Charlie?

21

22 MR. C. BROWER: Other -- we can have those folks that
23 just come in introduce themselves so we know who they are.

24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Let's see. We have some new
26 folks, Edward, here. Maybe we'll introduce them starting from
27 the back here.

28

29 MS. PETERS: I'm Shannon Peters from the District
30 Office in Anchorage. I'm serving as a reporter for this
31 meeting.

32

33 MR. KURTH: I'm Jim Kurth. I'm the manager of the
34 Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

35

36 MS. REYNOLDS: I'm Patricia Reynolds, anthropologist
37 for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

38

39 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm Helen Armstrong and I'm an
40 anthropologist for the Subsistence Office for the Fish &
41 Wildlife Service.

42

43 MR. BROCK: I'm Bob Brock with Minerals Management
44 Service in Anchorage.

45

46 MR. SIRES: I'm Beverly Sires. I'm with the Minerals
47 Management Service in Anchorage.

48

49 MR. NEWBERRY: I'm Tom Newberry. I'm an oceanographer

50

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With the Minerals Management Service in Anchorage.

2

3 MR. KOVACH: Steve Kovach. I'm a biologist with the
Fish & Wildlife in their subsistence office.

5

6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right. Thank you, folks.
Again, on my left here is the Federal Regional Advisory Council
for Region 10. And on my right is the North Slope Borough Fish
& Game Committee. So this is our first joint meeting and
hopefully we'll go a long ways with a unified position on
issues that pertain to the North Slope area.

12

13 At this time we have made accommodations, we're waiting
for the Minerals Management Service update on the off shore
industries activities by Mr. Bob Brock. I'll turn that over to
Mr. Brock.

17

18 MR. BROCK: All right.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Brock, if you could go up to the
center table over there so that we can hear you.

22

23 MR. BROCK: Good morning. I'm really glad to be here
this morning. And before I get started, I didn't have a chance
to ask how long on the program we had. I anticipated we'd take
somewhere in the neighborhood of 20 minutes to 30 minutes with
and then if you had questions that would be -- that would be
great. But that's what we're planning for if that's okay.

29

30 My name is Bob Brock. I'm the regional supervisor for
leasing and environment with the Minerals Management Service in
Anchorage. We're a part of the Department of Interior that
deals in -- strictly in the off shore oil and gas leasing
program, if you're not familiar with us. With me is Beverly
Sires, who is going to help me out if you ask me any hard
questions. And Tom Newberry is also from our office and he's
going to be talking a little bit about the circulation patterns
when I finish -- circulation patterns in the Arctic Ocean.

39

40 Last spring we were here and the -- at a meeting with
the mayor. And he said that he was really striving to work
together with us to make sure that we coordinated everything.
And what he was hoping for is that we would work things out in
advance and not end up in the court room as we proceed with --
with our sales program. And nothing could be closer to our
needs too. And so this is just one of the many meetings that
we plan to attend throughout the next couple of years to -- to
make sure that we have a good information exchange. And that's
our main goal here, is to make sure that we -- that we do

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coordinate with the North Slope Borough and the people here in the North Slope Borough.

3

4 I've got four topics that I want to bring you up to date on. Sale 144, which is our next proposed sale in the Beaufort Sea. What we call the simultaneous sale with the Russians. We have -- we'll be starting a new five year program. And in the studies program we're doing some strategic planning. So I'm going to kind of explain those four things.

10

11 As far as our program in the present, up through the early '90s we had about 1000 leases in the Arctic area. In other words, the Beaufort Sea and the Chukchi Sea. As of now we're down to less than 80 leases in that same area. The program, they've -- the leases have been expired or relinquished and there are no commercial developments at the present time.

18

19 Not only that but we have -- this year we had absolutely no activities in the Arctic Ocean anywhere by any of the oil companies and at the present time there are none planned for next year. That doesn't mean that a company wouldn't come in and request something. But at the present time there are none planned for next year.

25

26 So let's start out with Sale 144, as our numbering system, which is the next Beaufort Sea sale. We just announced the area identification of the sale. And I apologize for not having a big map. But the -- we just announced it here about a week ago and we haven't got our big maps made yet. So I will pass these around. And we have some more here, to make sure everybody gets a copy.

33

34 At the present time, during our process, we've had a call for nominations on Sale 144 and scoping meetings. So the 36 after the scoping meetings and the call for nominations is complete, we then announce an area identification. And what that means is that the area on the map that you see, which is 39 it's kind of small print. The western edge is just about to Point Barrow. The eastern edge is the Canadian line. And it goes off shore -- I don't know just exactly what that distance 42. Do you know?

43

44 MS. SIREN: I'm not sure.

45

46 MR. BROCK: But it goes off shore about -- less than what we had in the previous lease sales. I think it's somewhere around 60 miles but I don't have that figure right off the top of my head. It -- now that's the only decision

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that's been made at this point in time, is that we will write a draft environmental impact statement on that proposed area and hold public hearings. The draft environmental impact statement will be published in about a year. The public hearings will be around next Thanksgiving, a year from this present Thanksgiving, give or take a few weeks. But we'll keep you well informed of when those public hearings are. But they should be in November or December of 1995.

9

10 If things proceed and we hold the sale, the sale itself would be in probably early 1997.

12

13 Now, that brings us to the part of the public input that we want to be sure and coordinate with everybody here on the North Slope. And that is to keep not only you informed of our progress, but to keep us informed of your concerns and how we're proceeding with that. We haven't worked out the exact details of the plan but -- and that's one of the things that I would hope that we will get from you as time goes on, as to what you would like to see.

21

22 For an example, down in the Cook Inlet area on Sale 149 we have monthly meetings down in Homer and Kenai. And we -- and at each meeting we have a specific topic that we'll present. For example, we'll talk about water quality. And that will -- that will be the theme of that month's meeting. We'll explain what we're doing in water quality. They will get -- and then we'll get feed back from the people that attend the meeting as to what their concerns are dealing with water quality. We'll do the same with commercial fishing and various things like that.

32

33 So we're going to be presenting the mayor and the residents up here with a potential plan here in the near future with what kind of a program we would see. But off the top of my head I would think that we would probably be scheduling meetings up here in the Barrow area and the surrounding villages, about once every other month. And we'd have a topic, for an example, one of the topics would probably be -- like today's topic is circulation patterns of the Arctic Ocean, another topic probably will be the bowhead whale migration, what we know about it, to explain to you and get your input on that. And various things like that.

44

45 We'll have different staff specialists that will be available to come along, and actually those are the staff specialists that are writing the -- that portion of the EIS. And so you can directly communicate with those individuals. And we'll be scheduling those with not only here in Barrow but

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over in Nuiqsut, Kaktovik and Wainwright. And -- but as far as the exact schedule, we haven't got it worked out yet or the topics. But we'll be doing that shortly with the residents.

4

5 Again, the -- if you have any ideas on either timing of such meetings, frequency of such meetings, or topics for such meetings, I would certainly like you to give me a call and give me that information or Ray Emerson, who is the EIS coordinator. 9 And our telephone number is 271-6045 in Anchorage. And we do have an 800 number but I don't know what it is off the top of my head. Do we -- we will get you the 800 number. I remembered that halfway here. 6045 is my number and if you can't get me you can talk to Ray Emerson or literally anybody else in the office. Because I can't emphasize enough that what we're really interested in is your input into this program because we want to make sure that we -- that we proceed with you being involved in our process. And that's our main concern.

19

20 Now I'll shift gears. I'll go through all four topics and then I'll come back to anybody that has questions on any part of it.

23

24 You probably heard of the simultaneous sale that we have proposed with the Russians. Why don't you put a map on each table there and we'll -- this simultaneous sales is -- you heard, if you were involved at all, we had a Chukchi Sea sale on the schedule for this five year program. It was scheduled for late '97. What we've done is the Russians came to us and asked us if we would -- if we would work with them on developing a proposed process for their side of the -- of the line in Russia. We -- the vice president of the United States and I believe it was the vice prime minister, or whatever his title is in Russia, entered into a memorandum of understanding saying that we would work together on all future things in the Chukchi Sea. And one of those would be looking at a potential simultaneous sale. Meaning that the sales would -- could take place at the same time.

39

40 The role that the Minerals Management Service will play upon request of the Russians was that we will train the Russians in the process that we use. And the important thing here is what they wanted us -- what they wanted assistance on was looking at the environmental aspects and evaluation of the environmental concerns. They were interested in our public input process and our geologic evaluation process.

47

48 Now at this point we had already completed the call for nominations for the previous Chukchi Sea sale. We stopped that

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process based on the request from the Russians and we reinitiated the process from the start. And that's the -- we have -- and the only thing that's been done so far on the -- on the simultaneous sale is we've issued what we call a request for information and comment. This is just a general request out to the oil and gas industry and to the various publics. We sent copies all over to anybody that's ever been involved in our program or anybody near the area. And we asked the oil companies to respond if they're interested in such an area.

10

11 And the area that we're looking at is the area you see on that map in front of you. It's -- and you can see where the international date line is up through the center to divide the areas between the Russians and the U.S. But what we're asking for from the companies is their interest in that entire area. And then we're also interested in comments from any of the publics, any of the villages, the states, whatever, around there. This comment period closes in December. Dependent upon the interest and the response we get on that request for information, will determine whether or not we proceed the next step. If we proceed with the next step that will be a call for nominations and comments.

23

24 Now that -- the difference between that and the request 25 that the call is actually getting specific what areas are used and oil companies interested in having offered for lease 27 that area. And what are the specific concerns from the 28 environmental people, from the villages, from whoever, in that 29 area. The specifics. Right now we're just talking about just 30 general. And that's the part that closes this December.

31

32 We will keep you informed as to the process and we will also keep you informed as to the responses that we get from that. And whether or not there's a decision to proceed with the next step. If the process would continue through and we would end up holding a simultaneous sale, the sale would not be held prior to probably sometime in 1998.

38

39 Now, that brings me to the next topic which is the five year program. And the reason I want to cover all three of these is 'cause I don't -- I want you to -- there's going to be some -- we're going to be up here quite frequently and we're going to be talking about different programs over the next two years. The five year program will be started -- the present five year program that we operate under, the present five year schedule, is from 1992 to 1997. Congress requires that before we held any sales after 1997 we have to have a five year program approved by the president. That takes us about two years to get that program approved. So this summer we're going

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to be starting the 1997 to 2002 program. We'll be going out and asking for what you think should be on that program. And that's where this simultaneous sale will fit. It will fit in that period of time. It won't be on this five year program, it will be on the next five year program. But due to the fact that we plan -- that it could take place as early as 1998, we have to do some of the pre-sale steps early on.

8

9 So -- but we'll be coming back this summer and next summer talking about the five year program. So you have -- there's three different things going on. The 144 sale process, the simultaneous sale process, and the five year program. Those will be -- and we'll try to make sure we keep you informed of which one you're commenting on but we'll be back up on various times talking about all three of those different processes.

17

18 On the five year program there is an EIS and public hearings -- an environmental impact statement prepared and public hearings held. So we have the same general process for each sale in the five year program.

22

23 Now I'm sure I've confused you. And I hope not but I think that that's -- if I have left anything out I will try to fill that in.

26

27 The only other thing I wanted to mention is that our studies program, for an example, our whale migration study program, we're doing some tissue sampling on whales up here and various other studies. We're going to be going out for more of a public review of our studies plan than we have in the past. We call this strategic planning. Good bureaucratic buzz word. But that's -- but what it amounts to is that we'll be preparing a plan for the Beaufort Sea off shore studies program and we'll be running that past you also. Probably in the -- within the next three to four months to give you -- to get your input as to what you think the research end arm of the Minerals Management Service, what we do in research, what that should include.

40

41 So with that I'm going to shut up and open it up for any questions on what you might have. 'Cause like I say, our main purpose here is to get you informed of what we're doing and then get your feed back.

45

46 Sir, on the left?

47

48 MR. C. BROWER: I would question the recent block on this simultaneous leasing on the Chukchi Sea site, what's the

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intent on the Mineral Management to proceed even though there's
 a block for that stoppage right now? Wasn't there a block to
 stop the exploration on that simultaneous lease?

4

5 MR. BROCK: Well, there's a -- since we haven't come to
 a decision point yet on the simultaneous sale, the -- we will
 come to that as soon as we get comments on our existing request
 for information. Then we will come to that junction in the
 road that says, are we going to stop or proceed? And it will
 depend upon the comments and expressions of interest. And like
 I say, that will be -- the comment period closes in -- I
 believe it's

13

14 MS. SIREs: December 8th, I think.

15

16 MR. BROCK:

December 8th -- anyway, early
 December. And we will be making that decision probably by the
 18 January, February, somewhere in that period of time, whether
 or not we're going to proceed with the next step. If the
 decision is to not proceed, we will let you know that. If the
 decision is to proceed, we'll certainly let you know that. And
 we'll get to the next step. But it's -- we do this a step at a
 time. So at any where along the line it could be stopped.

24

25 MR. C. BROWER: I have one more question. I know with
 Russia just being opening up for businesses and stuff, and the
 oil interested in proceeding some exploration here on the
 Russian side and those folks being -- having a set back of 20
 or 30 years. Any oil response teams, have those been looked
 into for that process, this simultaneous lease sale?

31

32 MR. BROCK: You mean spill response? Is that what you
 33 oil spill response?

34

35 MR. C. BROWER: Right.

36

37 MR. BROCK: That -- of course we haven't covered that
 yet. Merely because we haven't gotten that far into the
 process. That is something that will definitely be developed
 prior to an environmental -- or prior to a decision for sale
 and essentially it would be developed prior to any leasing done
 out there. That will be something that we will cover in the
 environmental impact statement.

44

45 MR. C. BROWER: I have one more.

46

47 MR. BROCK: Go ahead.

48

49 MR. C. BROWER: On lease sale 144. You didn't point

50

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But far the lease sale was, I mean, from shore line. How far
is it out?

3

4 MS. SIERS: It's just the shaded area.

5

6 MR. BROCK: The shaded area is what -- what is in the
area identification.

8

9 MR. C. BROWER: All right. So that's what, three
miles?

11

12 MR. BROCK: No. The three miles is between the shore
line and the start of the shaded area.

14

15 MR. C. BROWER: All right. Fine.

16

17 MR. BROCK: That's three miles.

18

19 MR. C. BROWER: Right.

20

21 MR. BROCK: And I -- like I say, I don't know exactly
what the distance is but I would guess that that shaded area
goes from about three miles to about 60 or 70 miles. I forgot
to look that up.

25

26 Now, the federal government, which is who we work for,
only has jurisdictions from three miles seaward.

28

29 MR. C. BROWER: Right.

30

31 MR. BROCK: The state has the -- the program between
the shore line and out three miles. So we don't have anything
to do with the first three miles.

34

35 I thought I saw another hand. Yes, sir?

36

37 MR. UPICKSOUN: The block sale 144 is covered by a five
year plan already?

39

40 MR. BROCK: Right. It's in the present five year plan.
In other words, the plan -- so if it's on schedule -- if it
stays on schedule it will be held in early 1997 before this
five year plan runs out. If the decision is to proceed with
it.

45

46 MR. UPICKSOUN: And for instance, on the sale of 148
you don't have a five year plan for that? You're planning on
maybe a, what did you say, 1998 maybe?

49

50

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1 MR. BROCK: Right. That's -- see, it was on this five
 2 year program but we know we can't possibly get it as scheduled
 3 between now and 1997. So we're going to slip that into the
 4 next five year program. So it will be -- you'll be able to
 5 comment on the simultaneous sale which is -- is the same as
 6 148. Both -- on the sale itself and on the five year plan. So
 7 there will be a little bit of a mixture there.

8

9 MR. UPICKSOUN: Okay. And you say it was on this five
 10 year program. How can it be on this five year program when
 11 there's so many questions we have about the proposed
 12 simultaneous lease sale?

13

14 MR. BROCK: Well

15

16 MR. UPICKSOUN: You know, you can't just jump in and
 17 start leasing, you know.

18

19 MR. BROCK: No, that's right. And when we decided when
 20 after the Russians -- see, the Chukchi Sea side of the sale
 21 was on this five year program. When the Russians asked for our
 22 help then we backed up and started over again and we're going
 23 to slip it into the next five year program for comment. So
 24 you're right. We backed up and started again and we're going
 25 to put it in the next five year program and that approach. I
 26 just didn't want you to get -- I was trying to clarify.
 27 Because we were up here once before on sale 148 and I was just
 28 trying to clarify of where it sits now. And that's with the
 29 simultaneous sale, that's the Chukchi.

30

31 MR. C. BROWER: What's this sale, 159, Lower Point Hope
 32 -- looks like Kivalina or some where on there.

33

34 MR. BROCK: Okay. That was -- that, again, was a sale
 35 that was on this five year program. It's what we considered
 36 the Point Hope sale, which is really the -- or the Hope Basin
 37 area. And we hadn't started anything on that. So it's
 38 included in this simultaneous sale. But then again, it's -- so
 39 if it proceeds -- the simultaneous sale could proceed
 40 with

41

42 MR. C. BROWER: All of these right here?

43

44 MR. BROCK: all of these or any part of them.

45

46 MR. C. BROWER: Oh, any part of these.

47

48 MR. BROCK: Or none of them. Or it could just stop.
 49 Not that -- we've never held a sale in the Hope Basin area,

50

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Which is that lower chunk down here in this area here. That's the brand new portion of this area. The rest of the sale area, there have been lease sales on the U.S. side -- two lease sales on the U.S. side of that.

5

6 MR. C. BROWER: Thank you.

7

8 MR. BROCK: Yes, sir.

9

10 MR. LONG.: Yeah. I have a question on the simultaneous needs and 144 sale. You indicated that you would be doing studies of migrating whales. Will these studies take place during spring migration and the fall migration combined with the spring migration that is on this simultaneous lease sale?

16

17 MR. BROCK: Well, at the present time, since 1979, I believe was the first year, we have been doing migration studies. In fact, we've had a crew in Prudhoe Bay every fall. And I don't know how familiar you are with that program. We've been working it with the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission. But every year since 1979 we have followed the migration starting about the first of September, running through October. We've had an airplane in the air every day that we could see anything and we charted the migration. And this is the first year, by the way, that -- since this program has started, that there have been absolutely no activities in the Beaufort Sea. There had been no seismic -- no activities from the oil and gas industry. I'm sorry. It's -- but there have been no activities from the oil and gas industry in the Beaufort Sea as far as our program is concerned. And so -- and that's going to be important from the standpoint of how -- what the migration looks like this year. But we plan -- as long as we can get appropriations for it, we plan to continue that program. And that is something that we could expand or contract, or whatever. And that's one of the things we're doing with this -- what I refer to as our "strategic plan," is to see what kind of a study we need on the migration whale to continue, if this simultaneous sale does go forth. We had planned to do some work with the Russians this year but we just couldn't get our act together in time to do it. So we're going to have to postpone that 'til next year.

43

44 MR. LONG: Um-hum. But these programs will be going on regardless of conditions of open water or iced in (indiscernible - simultaneous talking)?

47

48 MR. BROCK: Well, like I say, we normally -- we normally start that on the first of September or the last week

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in August before the ice moves in. And then we continue them to about October 20th, or when the ice -- when we figure we've seen that last whale. Of course you never really know. But when it ices up, or whatever, we -- and we usually get National Marine Fishery Service to go along with us to -- and they will formally determine that the migration has been complete. That's their responsibility, not ours.

8

9 All we're trying to do at this point in time is to chart where those whales are and which direction they're going. And we have done some of those studies over here in the Barrow area and even east of here -- I'm sorry -- west of here. However we have not done that in the last couple of years. We've come about as far as Barrow and that's just about it. We haven't gone west of Barrow. I'm under the assumption, and like I say, we're going to need a lot of input from other people besides me on this.

18

19 But I'm under the assumption that if this simultaneous sale proceeds we will do some kind of whale monitoring in that area too, although no plans have been formulated for that at this time.

23

24 Sir?

25

26 MR. UPICKSOUN: Yeah. You say you work along with the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission. And then is the National Marine Fisheries the only agency that determines whether or not the whales are still moving or do you consult with Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission?

31

32 MR. BROCK: National Marine Fishery Service does that usually. I mean we weren't with them. But they're the -- National Marine Fishery Service have the authority as far as the federal government is concerned, when to make that determination. They normally -- they always work with the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission, and what not. But they're the ones that, as we refer to it, call it. But we try our best to -- both in our program -- designing the program to start with, we work with Burton Rexford (sic) very close in trying to set that up. And in fact, as we've invited him to go out on -- he usually goes out with us a couple times during -- during the whale migration to look with us and see what our program consists of.

45

46 MR. C. BROWER: I have one question. You stated there's no activity in the Beaufort Sea right now and there is a survey of where the migration is going -- is ongoing right now?

50

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1
2 MR. BROCK: Right. We have a plane over in Prudhoe
Bay. I don't think they flew today because of the ceiling.
But they're literally flying every day that they can. And they
will be up and through about the 20th of October.

6
7 MR. C. BROWER: Even though there's no activity in the
Beaufort Sea, there's some high water traffic or barges and
stuff. Is those included in the study of spotting whales or
where they're at or just a migration route?

11
12 MR. BROCK: Well, they -- we fly -- we have the
Beaufort Sea divided up in squares

14
15 MR. C. BROWER: Right.

16
17 MR. BROCK: if you will. And what we do is we
pick a block -- a square block every day that we can fly. And
we just criss-cross that block on a pattern. And we count all
the whales we see regardless of what traffic. It all the way
from the shore line out. So we include that. And the point I
was trying to make is there was no off shore -- off shore oil
and gas permitted activities at this time. There is some other
activities. And yes, those -- in other words, if we see a
whale and see a barge at the same time we will record that and
make -- make note of that.

27
28 MR. C. BROWER: Thank you.

29
30 MR. BROCK: Okay. Well, I'll be around. We'll stick
around for a while after the meeting. But right now I'll turn
this over to Mr. Newberry.

33
34 MR. LONG: I have one more question.

35
36 MR. BROCK: Yes, sir.

37
38 MR. LONG.: On this sale 44 (sic) along with your whale
migration studies, is there going to be activity such as
seismic?

41
42 MR. BROCK: Undoubtedly prior to the sale that some
companies will run some seismic. Right now there aren't any
at there now

45
46 MR. LONG: Right.

47
48 MR. BROCK: And right now we don't have any permits --
application permits on the table. We will -- that's something

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that I -- that I heard quite a bit about, was a major concern up here. And we certainly will be working with you when we get an application to make sure that we don't create an undue controversy there. And we'd definitely like your input on any ideas you might have so that the two -- the two functions can work together, if possible.

7
8 MR. LONG: Yeah. The reason I'm asking all these questions, I'm in the center of all this?

10
11 MR. BROCK: You're what?

12
13 MR. LONG: I'm right in the center of your -- of your
14 -- your 144 lease sale.

15
16 MR. BROCK: Oh, your whaling area?

17
18 MR. LONG: Right.

19
20 MR. BROCK: We'll probably get some more input from you when before this is over. Right? Good.

22
23 MR. LONG: I guess you'll get more than an ear full.

24
25 MR. BROCK: That's what we're looking for. Any other questions for me? Okay. Tom?

27
28 MR. NEWBURY: I'm going to put the overhead -- oh, thank you -- up on the table 'cause I brought some overlays. I'm going to try to give you some information on

31
32 MR. BROCK: Tom? Just a moment. Beverly was just telling me that she brought along some other information that I forgot to mention. And that's that we do have the -- for an example, the request for interest on the -- that we put out on the simultaneous sale with the questions we asked. We've got some fact sheets that tell you about the process and some other things like that. And Beverly will leave a stack of those over here on the edge of the table some place and that will give you a chance to review those, plus it has our address and telephone number on there. And feel free to take them and -- and ask any questions you might have, or call us and talk to us about it.

43
44 Go ahead, Tom.

45
46 MR. NEWBURY: I'm Tom Newbury. I'm going to talk about probable trajectories, fate of pollutants that might come from the Russian side of a Chukchi Sea sale. The -- I'm going to start with a list of concerns that Caleb Pegauie(ph) put

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together for a conference in Anchorage. The things that he thought were of particular concern.

3

4 The main one I'm going to address is this one. A major crude oil spill in arctic waters. Again, one from the Chukchi side rather than from the U.S. side. There have been lease sales on the U.S. side out in this area. We know what the trajectories are. I think you probably know better than I do the direction in which the ice moves. What I'm going to talk about is this area over here, the amount of information we have, the possible trajectories, the migration patterns of the animals through that area. Again, with the migration patterns you'll know the information I think better than I will.

14

15 The next three overlays show the sources of the information that I'll be talking about. About a year and a half ago there was a large conference in Anchorage on arctic contaminants. Some of the information comes from that. The next one shows a cover page of some of our information, transfer meetings of proceedings for meetings that we hold. And the third one is a conference that just took place in Vladivostok, Russia that I attended where Russians, as well as U.S. scientists presented information.

24

25 The next overlay. I've tried to lay out a sequence of major crude oil spill in the western part of the Chukchi Sea. Again, that's what I was going to emphasize. Probable trajectories both of contaminants in the ice, contaminants in the water. And then I'm going to talk some about migrations of the animals through the western Chukchi, particularly your subsistence animals. Bowhead, the Beluga, walrus and polar bear.

33

34 The next one. This is a buoy that was on ice. And the movement of ice is obvious to you. I don't need -- I really shouldn't have to go to buoy information. I mean you can describe it. We have the same information over on the Russian side. The next transparency shows the -- this is Alaska, Point Barrow, Point Hope. You can see that the ice is all moving to the west. It's not difficult to get information on the movement of ice. Satellites don't respect international boundaries. They'll collect as much information over in the Russian area as they do in the U.S. area.

44

45 The next overlay shows a Russian model that was put together of ice drift. To show you that they -- their model, and it really is excellent. Partly because they do so much shipping along their north coast. This is Greenland in the model. Here's the Beaufort Sea. This is Alaska. And this

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comes down into Hope Basin right here. Well, again, all the trajectories are moving north -- are moving west across the Russian north slope. It's very unlikely that a contaminant in the ice would move toward the Alaskan coast line along here. This was put together, again, by two Russians.

6

7 The next figure shows that just the same way we collect data from the Russian side, they collect data from our side. I'm going to have you turn this around. This is Greenland right here. Keep rotating it. Greenland, the Arctic Islands, just keep rotating it. Here's Alaska. Keep rotating it. Here's Alaska, Point Barrow, Point Hope. They have information right down into Kotzebue Sound. But at any rate, they've modeled the oceanographic currents. They've modeled the movement of ice. And they get the same sort of trajectories that we do.

17

18 The next figure shows the area over which we model the currents. Point Barrow, Point Hope. In order to project the currents in the Chukchi Sea and on the North Slope, this is the area for which a model is prepared. It extends into the Russian side, the western Chukchi Sea. Just the same way it does on the U.S. side. What I'm trying to bring out is that we have good data. The ice trajectories indicate that any pollutants in the ice would move to the west, not toward the Alaskan coast line.

27

28 The next figure shows the water circulation. Here's Point Barrow, Point Hope. Water moving up to the Bering Strait and along this coast line. But in the western Chukchi side there's a current that comes down here along the coast and then moves off to the northwest.

33

34 The next figure. Probable trajectories of ice, of water. My conclusion is an oil spill from the western Chukchi exploration site will probably drift westward away from the Alaska coast. Even though pollutants would drift to the west, the animals that you harvest for subsistence migrate through the area, they could possibly bring contaminants. In other words, even though the contaminant might not come to the Alaska coast, the animals that you harvest could possibly be effected by contaminants.

43

44 So I'm going to go through some of their migration patterns, especially in the western Chukchi Sea. The bowhead whale, the Beluga, the walrus, the polar bear. This again is very obvious to you. It's the bowhead whale. It's the sightings that Bob Brock was talking about. But -- I mean you know this is fall. You know where they go and they come by

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Here and they move down the coast but then they move out across the Chukchi Sea. They don't go down as far as Point Lay. This is where the areas where there was exploration, oh, two, three years ago out in the Chukchi Sea.

5

6 The next figure shows the general area where they go. Here's Point Barrow and Point Lay, Point Hope. If they move out across the Chukchi Sea, over to the Chukchi coast line, there's a question mark out here. Because that data is not -- there isn't as much data for this migration as there is for the area along this coast. Tom Albert and I think Warren Metumeak, in fact were just over on the Chukchi Sea coast line trying to get help from Chukota(ph) Natives, sighting bowhead whales and documenting when it is that bowheads first appear against that coast line, how long they stay there, whether they feed. All of that would influence the likelihood of animals being affected by a spill in this area. Again, even if the spill doesn't come over here, if the animals migrate through that area, they could possibly be effected by it.

20

21 The next overlay. We have the same sort of information for Beluga. Their sightings, moving out across the Chukchi Sea. The next overlay shows we again don't have good information or their movement along that Chukota coast line. The Russian Chukchi Sea coast line. This is information from Yungblood. As autumn progresses, sightings shift toward the Bering Strait. Little is known about the migration route from the packed ice edge of the Chukchi Sea to the Bering Sea. In other words, how fast they move down that Chukchi Sea coast line, how much they feed. I made a note to myself here again, because Tom Albert and Warren Metumeak were just over in Russia I think trying to get the residents, the natives over there to help document that information.

34

35 The next transparency. This is the movement of polar bear. Again it's very obvious to you, this was a tagged one. You don't need to see the results of a tag to know where polar bears move. Much of the movement is east/west. This one happens to be tagged over by -- over by Prudhoe. But they move east/west out in this area also.

41

42 The next overlay shows the distribution of polar bears near the ice edge. This represents the ice edge and this ice edge moves up into the Chukchi Sea. The polar bears stay north as it moving east and west across the Chukchi as well as north and south up and down the Chukchi Sea. That means that if there was a contaminant over there that they would probably -- shouldn't say probably be effected, but they would be in the area. Whales -- I mean in this case it's polar bears that

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would be over on the Alaska coast line.

2

3 The next overlay. The same sort of information for
4 walrus. This is the distribution of walrus. I don't have a
5 specific thing on the migration patterns of walrus within this
6 area.

7

8 The last transparency. These animals, the polar bear,
9 the walrus, the Beluga, the bowhead, are moving through those
10 areas. It means if there was a contaminant there that they
11 could possibly come in contact with it. Well, NOAA, the
12 National Oceanographic Atmospheric Agency runs a monitoring
13 program looking at the tissue of subsistence animals to see if
14 they have picked up contaminant. They could be contaminants
15 even that come from the Bering Sea. This is just a
16 presentation that describes the program. And the next overlay
17 shows the results of -- this is a paper that was presented by a
18 fellow named Javit Hameti(ph), who you may be aware of, about
19 transporting contaminants in the Chukchi Sea. And he's
20 pointing out that there was a small fraction of chlorinated
21 hydrocarbon -- that's something that's used in a pesticide, was
22 found in Beluga whales. Well, that doesn't come from oil and
23 gas activity. That comes from agriculture work. I put it up
24 here to show that a contaminant really anywhere, if that animal
25 comes in contact with a contaminant anywhere in its migration
26 path, it's the same animal that you harvest here. And there's
27 reason to worry about that.

28

29 The next overlay. My general conclusion then about the
30 animal migrations through the western Chukchi Sea is that
31 subsistence animals could be effected by contaminants anywhere
32 along their migration route.

33

34 I'm going to stop for a minute there and ask if there
35 are any questions. I have some information on radio isotopes
36 and radioactive contaminants that are in the Russian North.
37 And I'll be glad to talk about that. But first I'd like to
38 answer any questions you have about the oil and gas
39 information.

40

41 MR. C. BROWER: I have one. How effective or
42 synchronized are those water currents moving from east to west
43 on the continuous basis? Is that what is figured out now by
44 the study of satellite work or is a buoy actually attached to
45 the ice flow and stuff?

46

47 MR. NEWBURY: Yes. The time it takes -- that's ice
48 motion. I should know how long it takes an ice flow to make a
49 complete gyre there. There were some ice islands that -- on

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Which they put camps. Both the United States and Russia has done that. And they sit out there for a period of years going around in that gyre. Meaning it takes a period of years to complete that gyre. So it's not a rapid thing. It's not something that's spilled here that it would come back around in a period of a month or two months or even a winter, that sort of thing.

8

9 MR. C. BROWER: Well, I have spent some time on the ice stations up there by the

11

12 MR. NEWBURY: Yeah. Well, you can answer your question then.

14

15 MR. C. BROWER: But I'm just wondering, with that rotation going around and most of the contaminants are coming from the far east on the Russian side and as far as Siberia where there is a lot of activity of contaminants being poured through the river and being collected by the ocean current and attaching to the ice, would that portion of the contaminants be heavier when it reached Alaska waters as it makes its rotation around, or does it decline to a less part?

23

24 MR. NEWBURY: It would probably effect the north Atlantic the most. And I can show you some -- Doctor Weeks, at the University of Alaska, looked at that specifically. Was it likely that radioactivity that has been dumped along the coast line here, is it likely to effect the United States coast line? And he came to the conclusion that it was going to effect the North Atlantic. And that -- there's a lot of ice that moves out through the pass between Greenland and Spitzbergen(ph). That doesn't mean we wouldn't be effected by it. But we would be effected. At the same time, many, many people in the Northern hemisphere would be effected by it. It would be general. It wouldn't be specific.

36

37 Any other questions?

38

39 MR. C. BROWER: I think we got a lot of questions. But we have some traveling to do to take some people out for lunch and stuff. Is it appropriate to take a break right now and come back? Or are you guys in a rush to take off this afternoon?

44

45 MR. NEWBURY: I'm not in a rush. At 2:00 o'clock

46

47 MR. BROCK: No, we -- we can spend time. We're here at your disposal. They -- Bev and Tom have to catch a 2:45 flight to Wainwright.

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1
2 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah. We're due back at 1:30.
3
4 MR. NEWBURY: I think that's all right for us.
5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any questions?
7
8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah. I'm wondering if there's
any preliminary information on the likelihood that there is
commercial (indiscerable) quantities of oil on the Russian side
in the Chukchi Sea?
12
13 MR. NEWBURY: If there is I don't know about it. I can
tell you what I do know though. Is that the -- three years ago
a company applied to us for geophysical work in the area out
here and they had permission -- it was Western Geophysical.
They had information to continue that seismic work on to the
Russian side. But I have no idea what they -- what they found.
I just know that there has been seismic work done on that side
of the border. On the U.S. side I think there were five
exploration sites. There were discoveries but they were not
large enough to be economic. And there were more prospects
that were bid upon but they didn't go on and explore them.
Again, I don't know what the geology is like over on the
Russian side. Whether it's the same as this or whether there
are different structures. I just don't know.
27
28 The exploration that's occurred in Russian waters has
not been down in the Bering Sea or way west on the arctic coast
line. I don't know of any exploration in this area.
31
32 MR. BROCK: We should get some kind of indication of
what with this request for interest, at least what the
companies think about that.
35
36 MR. NEWBURY: I appreciate the chance to talk with you.
I'll be glad to -- at 1:30, to talk some about the information
that I have on the radioactive pollution in the Russian arctic.
39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any questions from the
council members? If not, I'll ask that we entertain a motion
to recess until 1:30.
43
44 MR. LONG: So moved.
45
46 MR. UPICKSON: Second it.
47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded. All those in favor,
signify by rising.
50

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1
2 (Off record)

3
4 (On record)

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Call the meeting back to order.
7 Good afternoon and welcome back everybody. Let's see. We
8 were -- this is in the closing section of the MMS and I'm
9 glad you guys came up and gave us an opportunity to find out
10 what's going on off shore wise. And I'll turn it back to you.
11 I think we were -- Charlie, did you have something?

12
13 MR. C. BROWER: No, no. I don't.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Questions? Okay.

16
17 MR. NEWBURY: I wanted to say a little something about
18 the information that I have on radioactive contamination that's
19 been dumped by Russia. The sources of this information is the
20 same as the previous. It was the conference I went to in
21 Vladivostok and a conference in Anchorage about a year and a
22 half ago.

23
24 There's a couple of dump sites in the northern Bering.
25 In the Pacific. This is Camp Chatka, the Bering Straits would
26 be up here. Siabakus(ph). There's a dump site there. And a
27 dump site out here. Vladivostok would be down here. As far as
28 I know there's no leakage from these. Other countries have off
29 shore dump sites. It's now outlawed. The main sources -- the
30 next one -- the main sources of the contamination have been the
31 rivers flowing out to the Arctic Ocean. This is a newspaper
32 article. It came from the National Geographic Society. The
33 Lena River, the Yenasi(ph), the Olde(ph). There's nuclear
34 processing sites up those rivers. And they just haven't been
35 operated very cleanly so that there is sediment moving down
36 those rivers and now they've found large banks, sand bars of
37 sediment that are slightly radioactive. Over in the part --
38 the eastern part of Siberia it mentions mining blasts.

39
40 The next figure shows -- oh, I'm sorry. This next one
41 shows the main place in the Arctic Ocean itself where there is
42 contamination. This is the western part. Let me flip back to
43 that previous one. Here's Novyisemya(ph). Much of the
44 pollution, the debris -- radioactive debris that's been
45 discharged was discharged right around that island. That's the
46 island. There's many sites near that island where reactors
47 have been dumped. Old submarine reactors. Reactors out of an
48 breaker. They are leaking. There is radioactive
49 contamination in this area. Very low level. They basically
50

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sealed the reactors. I mean I say they dumped them. I think actually they put them there trying to store them. They sealed them in a plastic -- something like latex that they just put around the reactors. They were sunk on barges in the bottom. At any rate, there's a lot of concern about those. Some of them have fuel rods in them. This again is a very low level waste dump site where they would just dump clothing and things like that that had been contaminated.

9

10 The Office of Naval Research has funded a lot of cruises in this area trying to pinpoint these things, trying to figure out whether or not they're leaking.

13

14 The next figure shows a river in the -- and again, this is the Bering Straits and this is eastern Siberia. It shows another river which, according to this publication -- this again was a newspaper article that was contaminated. Possibly it was contaminated the same way the Lena River was contaminated, by mining blasts. I have no data on how much contamination there in that river. I assume that relatively low level compared to those sites in the western Arctic near Novyisemya where there are reactors on the bottom.

23

24 The next shows the main rivers where contamination is coming out with the sediments. The Olde, the Yenasi, the Lena. These are again areas where there's nuclear reprocessing facilities farther up river. They just haven't been operated recently. And the sediment has become contaminated and it's moved out into these deltas.

30

31 The next figure. These numbers, by the way, are -- that's the discharge of fresh water. That's not a measure of the radioactivity.

34

35 This is a paper that was given at the conference I was at a couple of weeks ago. Those are very impressive people. And if you ever have a chance to bring people up to talk with you more about the radioactive contamination, this fellow Shamp(ph) is excellent. He's in Texas. They gave a report on their preliminary results and this is where they say in the lower region, the Yenasi River, a large depositional zone, meaning a sand bar of contaminated bottom sediments, was found to contain five to 10 times the background level. This is of Cesium(ph). It's -- it's not likely, I think, to move to the east.

46

47 The next overlay. It's most likely to move to the west because of the circulation, the movement of ice. I think in the next overlay is an abstract of a paper by a person at the

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University of Alaska-Fairbanks, Doctor Weeks -- Willie Weeks. He looked at the drift of ice and came to the conclusion, "I believe it can be concluded that chances are extremely slight that hazardous material would be transported by the ice cover from these regions to the coast of Alaska or the Bering Sea. It's most likely to come out into the Bering Sea, Greenland Sea, and the North Atlantic." It's, in that sense, going to become a world wide source of contamination that effects all of us. Very much like the atmospheric testing. Very low level, background levels that just spread everywhere.

11

12 The next figure shows the contamination that was distributed around the world by the nuclear testing. The atmospheric testing back in the '60s. This is for New York. This is Cesium. And I don't know what element that is. At any rate it peaked -- and it would have effected the animals and the people up here also. In fact, it's this same peak in natural -- I shouldn't call it natural. The same peak and background radioactivity that's -- that Don Schill(ph) uses for studying the growth rate of bowhead whales.

21

22 The next transparency shows -- this is that figure showing years with the radioactivity coming from the atmosphere and a large increase in the early '60s. This is bowhead whale baleen, samples of it. This is just the yearly growth cycle. But this is the ratio of radioactive carbon in the baleen. And it since has become a marker that he's used to determine how old are bowhead whales. When did that marker first appear? Is it one-third of the way along the baleen? Is it two-thirds of the way along the baleen? Well, at any rate I mention this to say that that contamination is very likely to spread quite widely and have the same sort of effect. Just be picked up by animals in general.

34

35 The next one -- that sounds kind of grim. I wanted to end on a better note than that. There has been -- there was a London -- something called a London Convention which said countries should not discharge radioactive material on the sea bottom. But it was -- it wasn't binding. It was a commendation. Well, this article indicates that it just became binding. The one problem is that all of the countries didn't sign it. I've lost it -- here's the London Convention. At any rate, Russia is not one of the countries that signed it. Oh, here. Russia, Britain, France, China, and Belgium has abstained from the vote. But I think that there's going to be sufficient international pressure so that they won't work against that.

48

49 Any questions? The other stuff I have is -- it's fine.

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1 I appreciated the chance to talk about that.

2

3 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah, I do have one. The contaminants
4 that build up on the sand bar, they might be quite heavy on
5 contaminants for radiation or whatever and also with the
6 current going from west to east, all around the arctic, does
7 that sand bar, if it gets lifted off, how far does it travel
8 from one end to another before it settled again, and on and on?
9 Like 40 mile strips on a storm maybe? Or -- on a real stormy
10 day with current

11

12 MR. NEWBURY: During the talk he said that there wasn't
13 any evidence that there had been a big discharge of water from
14 the river that washed a lot of that material out. But that
15 that could happen. For example, if there was a large -- an
16 unusually high precipitation in say a 50 year, 100 year storm,
17 that it would flush that material out in the Arctic Ocean and
18 that's what then would drift westward toward the Bering Sea and
19 the north Atlantic.

20

21 MR. C. BROWER: And in some case, like they might have
22 September storm, October storm yearly where that thing has
23 settled in. And year by year after each storm the silt travels
24 with the current and keeps moving from one end to another.

25

26 MR. NEWBURY: Again, I don't think that there is --
27 that it's contaminated the area or the Arctic Ocean water that
28 badly. There's a nuclear reactor in England that's pretty
29 sloppy. And it -- in its affluent there is radioactive
30 particles. They can detect those radioactive particles all the
31 way up by Greenland -- by Norway. And because they can detect
32 those it means that the level of radioactivity coming from the
33 Arctic is not that high yet.

34

35 MR. C. BROWER: One more. It concerns the ecosystem
36 and the plankton, anthropoids, popapods(ph), whatever. Would
37 them rotating with the current and making -- does it collect so
38 much contaminate for the species of seal, fish,
39 (undiscernible), and you know, builds up to a point?

40

41 MR. NEWBURY: I think a lot of people will be looking
42 for that. I mentioned that the Office of Naval Research has
43 been funding a lot of research to detect is any of that
44 radioactive contamination coming over in animals, in birds, and
45 whatever. And I don't think anybody has found signs of it yet.
46 I certainly hope that there is enough concern about it that
47 the Office of Naval Research goes on funding that. I don't
48 think that what you were saying, will they take it up and come
49 around? I don't think that's very likely. Well, I shouldn't

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say it's not very likely. It'll happen over a long period of time. Just like the spread of the radioactivity from the atmospheric testing eventually spread all the way around the Northern hemisphere.

5

6 MR. C. BROWER: Well, you know, we just recently found out that all the contaminates that are being poured into the river and draining to the Arctic Ocean, has been going for all these years. And from that point of time 'til recently when they started realizing that the Russians had been dumping those radioactive, that might have been what, a 50, 60 year span. We don't know. But that's the concern I have.

13

14 MR NEWBURY: Yeah.

15

16 MR. C. BROWER: That portion might have traveled up to the Arctic Ocean up to where we are by now.

18

19 MR NEWBURY: Again, when they run cruises and sampled the water off the Arctic coast, the levels haven't been that high. The background level is really quite low. Lower than the water coming from England, coming in the north Atlantic current. And I think that there's good plans here to keep -- to adjust for what's happened. They -- at the sloppy nuclear reprocessing plants and places the -- the cooling water is behind earthen dikes. And I think there's very definite plans to reinforce those things so that they, in an earthquake, don't give way with a lot of radioactive contamination going out the rivers.

30

31 MR. C. BROWER: All right. One more question. The Beluga that we harvest in Kotzebue Sound, you say that they found some HCH and

34

35 MR. NEWBURY: It's a pesticide. Yeah.

36

37 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah. And that stock is taken either by people from Point Lay and Point Hope. And have they realized where the source is coming from? I'm not for sure yet.

41

42 MR. NEWBURY: I don't think -- it's DDT. And DDT was used all around the world for a long time. It's now outlawed in the United States. I don't know whether it's outlawed in Russia. But it too was spread all over the oceans. And the animal doesn't pick it up in just one spot. It's -- it's high in the food chain. And that's part of the reason it probably picks it up. Bowhead feeds very low on the food web on plankton whereas Belugas are eating fish. Like the polar bear,

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they can concentrate a lot more of those elements.

2

3 MR. C. BROWER: So in that finding, what is the
4 percentage of Beluga to be eaten by people to be long ranged
5 for pollution?

6

7 MR. NEWBURY: I think it's extremely low level right
8 now. Meaning it takes very sophisticated equipment to detect
9 the radioactivity in a piece of baleen or the -- or the
10 chlorinated hydrocarbons in Beluga. I think the -- the sources
11 of -- the subsistence foods are probably far better than what
12 we get out of the grocery store.

13

14 MR. C. BROWER: All right. Thank you.

15

16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible) contamination in
17 the Bay, do you have any data on Beluga, walrus or -- for
18 instance, the polar bear?

19

20 MR. NEWBURY: I don't.

21

22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: New data as compared to baleen
23 that came from the bowhead?

24

25 MR. NEWBURY: I don't. I think the groups will start
26 measure the radioactivity. Or they'll look at the tissue to
27 see if there's radioactivity in it. Don Schill looked at
28 radioactivity in baleen, not because he thought it was
29 contaminated but because he was trying to use it as a means of
30 determining the growth rate. It's extremely low level. It's
31 the kind of radioactivity your body would show if you got a
32 dental x-ray. That sort of thing. It's very low level. I --
33 again, I don't know of any measurements of radioactivity in
34 bowhead meat. I know they're looked at other things. At heavy
35 metals, that sort of thing, like magnesium and potassium. But
36 not radioactivity.

37

38 MR. UPICKSOUN: But that -- where he got the bowheads
39 that area, that was contaminated or were they -- someone
40 use -- where did he get this data on this low level
41 contaminated baleen that you're talking about? Was it caught
42 there in that area? Were they feeding on plankton over there?
43 How did he get his data?

44

45 MR. NEWBURY: I think he just measured baleen that he
46 got up here. The bowhead does not extend that far west in the
47 Beaufort. It moves down into the Bering Sea. And they got it
48 the same place I got it. Meaning it's in the atmosphere. It
49 came from the atmosphere testing. And the people in New York

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got it. It was a bad period, in a sense, in our -- in our military testing. We eventually stopped atmospheric testing and I think Russia has now. All countries have stopped atmospheric testing. But again, I don't think it came from a specific river or delta. It spread through the -- in the atmosphere in the northern hemisphere and spread all the way around the earth.

8

9 I appreciate the chance to talk with you about that.

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

12

13 MR. BROCK: Just wanted to make one closing comment. And that's that we're going to leave these handouts here. You're welcome to help yourself to them. We'll just leave them and they're on various phases of the program. That 800 number that I told you we had, we ran it down. It's 800-764-2627. And it's got a recorder on it so you'll probably get a call back most of the time on that if you use that number. But you can call toll free to our office and we'll get you a call back as soon as we get a hold of it. But we'll leave those handouts. And thank you very much for having us up.

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And we thank you Bob and your friends there. And we wish you a safe trip to Wainwright and the other villages to pass this information out to. So thanks once again for your time.

28

29 MR. BROCK: Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. That brings us down to Item 30(a), Council Information Exchange. Charlie, I'll need some help with this.

34

35 MR. C. BROWER: How?

36

37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'm slow here this afternoon, Charlie.

39

40 MR. C. BROWER: No problem.

41

42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Council (In Inupiat).

43

44 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah. That's just like concerns -- village concerns and stuff.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. All right. At this time we'll hear from each of our seats, our representatives from each village to see if you have any concerns regarding issues

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Within our region. You know, hunting or any concerns. Maybe I'll start with Wainwright.

3

4 MR. AGUVLUK: I'm chairman from Wainwright. Our caribou, we got more small caribous coming in. About six to 500 herd. The polar bear -- some polar bears coming in. They just got a polar bear about a couple days ago.

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, William. Jake.

10

11 MR. KIGNAK: At the present we got no problem on those caribous. We do have fishing, if somebody want to go fishing free. Only you have to pay your plane fair, that's all.

14

15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Fishing time. Okay. Elijah?

16

17 MR. ATTUNGANA: Yeah. We have some caribou this summer. August. There was some coming in from south. And right now they're still gainful. But there's not as many as some -- very few but they're still getting some -- some hunters. Some are good caribou -- bad ones. Some got -- got a pass on them, I guess what they have. Very few. And also the fishing is -- it's kind of poor. You know, we got fishing every fall time up the river and I never get fish and some get very few. Trout -- we used to get trout and grayling. And I think there's too many land otters that come into our river. You know, there used to be very few. Long time. You know, they show up once in a while. But I think right now that land otters coming to Point Hope and eating all that fish or scaring the fishes. That's the problem. I think that's the problem we have.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Leonard Tukle from Nuiqsut.

34

35 MR. TUKLE: From Nuiqsut, caribou hunting season has been good this summer except for the bulls. The bulls were pretty much skinny and when I went out boating we spotted a few bulls that were caught but they left -- they left the upper parts (In Inupiat). But they keep taking the -- the meaty parts. And these bulls were pretty much green, like some dotted color, or something. And the rest of the caribous were good. They were fat too. Fishing was good. Other than that and everybody is going fishing. And only thing, relating to Naktovik for sending some muktuk over and I think Geoff for this year's whaling. From the Village of Nuiqsut, I think what's about it.

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Leonard. John, Arrow?

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1
2 MR. MILLER: Okay. Caribou is a lot better this year,
3 it seems, than last year. There were some around this summer.
4 Some that seemed to be sick. I don't hear too much about that
5 this last month or so. A lot of fish. Good for fishing. A
6 lot of good fish around. And hunting's pretty good especially
7 with the snow now, it was hard before. That's about it.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, John.

10
11 MR. KIGNAK: (In Inupiat).

12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Geoff, Jake was saying

14
15 MR. KIGNAK: (In Inupiat) I just heard it on
16 (indiscernable) a couple of weeks ago.

17
18 MR. CARROLL: Okay. I'll try to get a hold of you.

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry?

21
22 MR. H. BROWER: Um-hum. (affirmative)

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any issues regarding issues around
25 Barrow?

26
27 MR. H. BROWER: I haven't really read the proposal
28 package or anything. So I don't have anything right off. I'd
29 have to read the package and I'll get back with you later on,
30 you know.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think our time line, Barbara, or
33 someone, may enlighten us, there's another meeting in April or
34 we have another meeting in February?

35
36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. From February. And we will
37 discuss what dates you guys would like to meet. It can be
38 January 29th 'til March. And you guys pick the date that you
39 guys want to meet on the proposal.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Gordon? Good afternoon.

42
43 MR. UPICKSOUN: Good afternoon. You mentioned land
44 otters. Last year we had a bunch of them up where we normally
45 were fishing. When there are land otters around it's hard
46 trying to (indiscernible). I don't know their season why they
47 remotely come by every once in a while, but when they're around
48 there's no fish like we had. We had that problem last year.
49 Caribou, the first part of the year we got some real bad ones.

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1 They were gone all summer towards the end of August when they
 2 came back. They were all good. We know that the herd is real
 3 Big now. Maybe that has something to do with it. It increased
 4 like 500,000 that we got up there now supposedly. That may
 5 have something to do with that. Pretty interesting the Muskox
 6 issue how we finally resolved, you know, you have so many
 7 allocated in your area where other people come in and hunt them
 8 and then (Indiscernible - paper rattling) available for the
 9 people here in the (indiscernible - paper rattling). And we'll
 10 be getting ready for polar bear. Once again the problem with
 11 the polar bears are the same as here. We got the same problem
 12 at home. Watching out for the safety of our children. We'll
 13 be starting the polar bear watch as part of the community
 14 (Indiscernible). Other than that I'm looking forward to going
 15 fishing, where I belong.

16

17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Gordon. Frank,
 18 know you're fairly new and I want to welcome you as being
 19 appointed by Secretary Babbitt and those involved in getting
 20 you appointed. So I want to wish you good luck here during the
 21 next three years. I know this is your first meeting. What we
 22 generally try to do from each village is hear any concerns
 23 regarding issues on subsistence or hunting regulations or --
 24 This council, Federal Subsistence Council, hears from the
 25 villages. So if there are concerns or we want to make changes
 26 regulations, this would be where we could get assistance
 27 from this council to ratify a proposal that the village wants.
 28 And that -- that is reason why we want to try and hear from
 29 some of the villages. Maybe we could try and fit regulations
 30 and rules -- hunting rules to fit our way, our customary and
 31 traditional. So have you any concerns, or anything, regarding
 32 Federal lands in Nuiqsut?

33

34 MR. LONG: Okay. I can comment on that. Observing
 35 wildlife in our area is part of our (indiscernible). We know a
 36 little bit better about the animals that we (In Inupiat). We
 37 have to know the condition of our wildlife in a specific area.
 38 So observing caribou this summer, and hunting the way we do,
 39 caribou is in very poor condition. I don't know what makes it
 40 have puss that turns green and stuff like that. But out of
 41 maybe 20 to 50 there would be, at least, one caribou that would
 42 have puss, meat is green and where we get them, you know, is --
 43 anybody can hunt another animal. Hunting was very good but
 44 fishing was always kind of poor because this summer we had a
 45 high tide in the river of nine feet. The river all over the
 46 face. And that -- and I'll thank you for accepting me as your
 47 council member. I'll do my best to try to work with you all.
 48 And I've been expecting this for some time and I'm proud to
 49 hear that when Fenton called me that I was a member of this

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council. And I've been trying to get into something like this for some time to help our people understand what's going on with wildlife and federal lands and not only federal lands, other agencies too. And thank you for welcoming me aboard.

5

6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right. Thank you, Frank. Jakie is also one of our new members and he's fairly new to what we're trying to accomplish in our Federal Subsistence Council. 9 And also through the North Slope Borough Fish & Game Committee. I want to emphasize being involved early on before Federal Subsistence Board was formed I wanted to make the other villages know that through the system you can make changes to your -- to our hunting rules and regulations. And I want to use muskoxen as an example. I know muskoxen is our regional issue and we'll be getting into this later on. And through this forum of our council we have opportunities to write our own proposal. Any person can write or suggest changes to the rules and regulations of the Federal Subsistence Board which they -- they adopt or they issue and those present federal subsistence regulations, I want to make you folks aware they simply adopted the state hunting regulations. And other regions realized that the state hunting regulations do not fit our customary and traditional way that we hunt. Their season is not our season. You know, they have different hunting seasons that they open up. And those state regulations were primarily tailored to the sports hunting. So I know it's going to be a tough road ahead. But as to designated hunter issue that we're going to be dealing with, Designated Hunter Task Force will show another example of cooperation and work with the various federal agencies and state agencies and the regions, will prove successful if we hear from the villages like Point Hope, Wainwright. And that cause it to fit our way and style of gathering our subsistence food. That will fit to us. That's my goal that I want to see as this council, to end up making our -- maybe under local management, we can go that way. So, Jakie, if you know of any concerns in federal lands or regulations or of anything, you know, we'd like to hear. At least, I want to welcome you. For the next three years you'll be our regional council member for Point Hope area. So hopefully before you leave town you'll have some idea of how our council works. At least, trying to change regulations or help the Federal Subsistence Board, who eventually make the regulations. So do you have anything, Jakie?

44

45 MR. KOONUK: I don't have too much to add to what Elijah said. But as far as federal land is concerned, we've got 100,000 acres that was transferred over to our tribal government, our regional corporation. And we're just now starting to develop a land use plan for that 100,000 acres.

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But the last meeting that the -- by the way, wildlife and park for Native (indiscernible). The last meeting that the IRA Council had -- I recommended that if they're going to draw up any land use plan for any land that is utilized by Native people and people who owns that land, they should always confer first with the elders and find out how the elders want to control that land. So that's where we're at right now in the land use plan.

9

10 And then of course I still got some maps of the Point Hope area for that 100,000 acres. And we get a lot of complaints about bears. We got a lot of bears down there too. All over. And probably most everybody has heard of our Project Chariot. And we got it cleaned, we got the mountain cleaned up but everything else just all there. All the old barrels and equipment that they used years ago are still there. The only thing they did was take that radioactive waste out of there. They didn't take anything else. So the clean was just partial to us. They did not listen to us. The Department of Energy did not listen to us. We -- their plan was to take away some place, probably Washington D.C. and they came in for a public meeting concerning that. But most of our questions asked have never been answered as far as cleanup is concern. So we still got a lot of work to do at Project Chariot, cleaning it up. And right now that's where are caribou is running all over the place.

27

28 And since I've been only with this title since November of last year. Almost a year now. And so far my job is to monitor all wildlife and rivers, ocean -- where we hunt and whatever we hunt. And if anything seems abnormal -- reported or, we send it off for analysis. And last year we sent in seven rabid foxes that we caught in town. And we just had a quarantine on dogs last week because of rabies. Where that came from we don't know. But anything that is abnormal, it is reported. And we get some specimens and we try to have it analyzed. And most of the time we send our specimens to the North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife. That's what we're doing there.

40

41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Edward -- Eddie, we were just hearing village concerns or exchanging information -- council information exchange. So do you want to say something about anything on your

45

46 MR. E. HOPSON: Well, Mr. Chairman, I haven't been actively hunting for the last couple of years. But I'm glad to be participating in a meeting like this -- to be part of a meeting like that I don't have any particular concerns

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although in our area here in Barrow some of our -- maybe we would have a few people here, representatives from North Slope Borough Fish & Game here on the committee. And they're probably expressing their concerns.

5

6 I have -- not a local concern but at our fish and game meeting, the last one, they were reporting sick caribou and buss and something green. You know, I think I hear the same concerns from Frank Long here. My concern about that is have they been tested for what is causing -- if there is a disease in the animal, have they been tested by a biologist? That's not the first time I hear that report, Frank. If any game or caribou or any other game that looks sick, I think they need to be -- I think you have the right to send to a biologist at the North Slope and find out what the problem is. And if they're diseased, what's causing it. That's about the only concern I have. Otherwise I don't think I have any other concerns, as far as I know, there are no complaints. I mean around here, fish and game as usual, subsistence hunting people, hunting caribou and other animals.

21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Eddie. Charlie, did you have something?

24

25 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah. The reporting of these caribou whether they're abnormal or whatever, most of our hunters that are out hunting don't carry any bags or -- to take any samples. But that's what needs to be done. If any of the hunters are out and see something like this, it's best that they get a sample and put it in a plastic bag and try to save it from contamination or being exposed. That's the only way we can do it. I mean there's no way of freezing it in the summertime, with hot weather, they get rot real fast. But in the winter time if they come up to something like that and they're -- within their sled or something, have plastic bag, they can cut a piece off when they find this stuff and freeze them and take it back and send it to us. That's the only way we're going to find out what's effecting these caribou. Either some disease or they're low on fat, or whatever, any kind of sickness. That's the only way we're going to find the results is bring them in and get them tested. I know it's pretty hard in the summertime. It gets hot real quick. And put something in a plastic bag, they rot faster. We have to keep air and everything on them. It's best to keep them in a cool spot.

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

47

48 MR. C. BROWER: And some of my concerns, I've been out in hair in the trap line -- fish line. Most of our people that

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have been fishing here in the rivers were stating that either we had too much high water in our rivers that they can't catch much fish like they used to. And the caribous are starting migrating south, I guess. And people are just -- those camping are going to get a lot of caribou now but one of the major concerns that I heard all -- when I was out hunting was that it was a poor fishing season in the two rivers, or three rivers. Either too high water or we had that high tide all summer long where it over flooded some of those creeks, rivers, and probably took our fish out somewhere. And that's some of the concerns that I heard while I was out hunting. And I just wanted to bring that out, Mr. Chairman.

13

14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

15

16 MR. UPICKSOUN: Mr. Chairman. Maybe Geoff Carroll from the state level can give us some insight about what might be causing these problems with the caribou. We know we have published reports of how big our herd is now. It might be over populated. Do we have any insights on that from the state level?

22

23 MR. CARROLL: Well, I think just what you said --

24

25 COURT REPORTER: Could you come up here, please.

26

27 MR. CARROLL: I think what you said is right, Gordon. I mean caribou -- all the arctic caribou herds have been growing rapidly and they're probably reaching -- you know, coming close to the carrying capacity of the range up here. And that's something you start to see when a population is real crowded. They come into contact more with each other and there are more diseases. Plus they're probably not in as good a condition because they're not getting as much food. You know, that's something I've seen. You know, we watch the Western Arctic caribou herd go across the Kobuk River each year and, you know, the bulls, three or four years ago, almost any big bull was big and fat. You know. And you see the bulls now and oh, maybe, you know, less than half of them are in good condition. There are a lot of skinny animals. You know. There are some observations like that that just indicate that the herd might be kind of over populating. I know that some of the caribou that were -- people harvested up here and didn't look very healthy were -- had, you know, pussy caribou and things, were brought in and turned over to the Borough Wildlife Department. And they're looking at them to see what that is.

47

48 But, you know, it's -- I think mostly it's an indication of a very large population. And, you know, who

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knows, it might be -- the last census of the Western Arctic Herd -- you know, the -- that we did in 1993, we counted 350,000 animals in it. The one three years before that we counted 415,000. And it -- and the -- during the 1990 5 count we felt that we had missed some animals, you know, we 6- the weather conditions weren't quite as good. And so, it 7- very well could be that, you know, there was almost no growth 8- during that three years where before that it's been growing 9- rapidly. And it might be kind of reaching the peak of the 10- herd. And so, you know, it's not surprising to see more 11- disease with that many caribou around.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie?

14

15 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah, some of the concerns I heard also 16- were the -- there's a lot of calves and does versus bulls, 17- young bulls, and my feeling is there is -- why there -- we 18- don't see any fat caribou right now is there are too many 19- females out there now, no, and they're keeping them busy, you 20- know.

21

22 No, what happened, while I was out there, I heard a 23- story that here they came, a herd of caribou of 60 or 70, and 24- there were quite a few females and some males in there. 25- Knowing this time of the that the bulls are usually fat, and 26- they're -- they didn't have as much fat as they used to, and 27- after a day or so, here comes these just six bulls came 28- walking, trotting by, and they got shot, and they -- they had 29- excess fat on them, and the first thing that guy says, he said, 30- "I think there's too many females out there for these poor 31- males to keep up," so, you know, what to do? You know.

32

33 MR. CARROLL: But I'd like to repeat what Charlie said. 34- When people find diseased animals, if -- you know, if we just 35- hear after they get back to town that they saw a sick caribou 36- out there, there's, you know, really nothing we can do to see 37- what the disease was or anything, and I know it's extra trouble 38- and everything, but if people can get samples of -- of the 39- diseased part of the animal and get them back to town, we've 40- got a lot of option for having those looked at and studied and 41- determine just what the problems is, so

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Geoff. A concern 44- from Kaktovik, really no concerns, however, that very few 45- caribou. The next time you see some, try and send them over 46- easterly. But, yeah, there have been very few caribou except 47- for the Porcupine that comes in early summer. They don't stick 48- around very long, and the concern or wishes of some of the 49- villages and Kaktovik is to see the number of muskox taken from 50-

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ten to a sustained yield, or to an amount a little higher than ten, because there's been a lot of people on stand-by or that are rejected. We will see how that goes.

4

5 Other than that, thank you for your time. I really want to thank all the villages, the people from Point Hope to Kaktovik and in between here, passing on their concerns, and I reiterate what Geoff and Charlie was saying. If you happen to hear from people that caught those, try and save a sample. I don't know what part of the animal would be best to conserve.

11

12 MR. C. BROWER: It's best to get them where they've seen these green figurations, jelly or whatever,

14

15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, pus. We see that, too, and talked about it.

17

18 MR. C. BROWER: just to cut right down to the bone and take a slab off, put it in a bag. That would be most helpful.

21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Gordon?

23

24 MR. UPICKSON: How many muskox are observed in the village of Kaktovik? And is there a sport hunt in Kaktovik allowed in the muskox around Kaktovik?

27

28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Only -- only ten are taken. I don't know how many they have taken under Tier II. I think maybe two or three

31

32 MR. CARROLL: Just two are taken. Two taken.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That's west of Canning. The ten are mostly for the rural residents of Kaktovik.

36

37 All right. That brings us -- and there's no other concerns or any information exchanged between the Council members, we're moving onto customary and traditional, Unit 20(b). And after that we have likely designated hunter report. Maybe before Helen starts out, entertain a motion for a quick recess.

43

44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Just as long as everybody comes back.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yep. Yep.

48

49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's fine.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Barb -- I mean, Helen. I
~~get~~ Helen and Barbara mixed.
4
5 (Off record)
6
7 (On record)
8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Barb -- or Helen. Barbara-
~~Helen~~. Maybe I should just start saying "Ms. Armstrong". Then
I wouldn't make mistake.
12
13 Okay. We have Helen Armstrong. She's the -- works,
~~what~~, as an anthropologist?
15
16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum. (affirmative) Got it.
17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: She's going to be -- talk to us
~~about~~ the customary and traditional use eligibility
~~of~~ terminations in -- it's like just Units 26(b) and (c), is
~~that~~
22
23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, actually what I want to do is
24 is kind of backtrack from that, and go
25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.
27
28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: more general. Okay?
29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Could -- yeah, could you explain
~~what~~
32
33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm going to start
34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: customary and
~~traditional~~
37
38 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'll start from the top, okay?
39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Right. There you go. Thank you.
41
42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Since a lot of you are new to all of
~~this~~, when the Federal subsistence program was initiated, and
~~we~~ were trying to decide how to do it, we didn't have time to
~~go~~ in and do -- figure out what the State had done right, and
~~what~~ they'd done wrong, so we just as -- and I think Fenton was
~~talking~~ a little earlier about how we adopted their regulations
~~initially~~, and now we're sort of fine-tuning and seeing where
~~we~~ want those changes to be.
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1
2 It's also true with the C & T determinations. We just
3 adopted what the State did. And now we're going back through
4 the process of looking at those determinations to see if any
5 changes need to be made.

6
7 What this is, and I want to kind of go in some detail
8 about it, because people have some confusion, is the customary
9 and traditional, which we often call C & T, it's kind of the
10 lingo in the business, that customary and traditional use
11 eligibility determinations are done to determine who can hunt.
12 Which communities, not which individuals, which communities
13 can hunt specific resources in what areas. And this is to make
14 sure that the people who have always been using that resource
15 in that area have the -- have the eligibility to do that.

16
17 The State has done determinations in most of the State
18 for most -- most of the large mammals. They did not do black
19 bears in most places. They have not done most of the small
20 mammals, the, you know, foxes and things like -- things like
21 that.

22
23 We are going -- we've divided the State up into areas,
24 and we're trying to look at each area and -- as sort of chunk
25 a time. And we're looking at all of the large mammals in
26 that area. So for the -- for the North Slope, it would just be
27 caribou, moose, sheep, black and brown bears and muskox.

28
29 Right now we're in the process of doing a C & T
30 determination for the Kenai Peninsula and one for the upper
31 Tanana region. The National Park Service is doing the upper
32 Tanana and Fish and Wildlife Service is doing the Kenai. In a
33 very short period of time, the -- there will a Federal Register
34 Notice coming out with those recommendations of what those
35 determinations should be.

36
37 And I'm really mentioning this so you know, but also
38 because you might want to pay some attention to those, because
39 these will be the very first ones that the Federal Subsistence
40 Board makes a decision on, so that they are precedent setting.
41 Now, I don't know how much the -- you know, the North Slope is
42 pretty -- I think is what I'd call more less cut and dry,
43 because it's not on the road system, and you don't have a lot
44 of non-natives living here, and people who've moved into the
45 area. It's more of long-term, long-standing communities.

46
47 But -- but anyway, those Federal Register notices will
48 be coming out I think in -- sometime in the early part of
49 December if I'm remembering right, and it will be open to
50

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public comment for 60 days. And then we'll go to -- during that time period, we'll go to the Regional Councils for their recommendations, then go to the staff committee for their recommendations, and then finally to the Federal Subsistence Board for their decision.

6

7 The -- I want to talk a little bit about the process we're doing to do this. We are in -- in all of the areas where we're doing C and T determinations, we first are going out to the people in the region and asking for comments on the C and T determinations. And I've already done that in the North Slope. 12 started last June. I sent out letters to the North Slope Borough, ASNA, all the city council people, the State agencies, the Federal agencies, anybody I could think of who might have some concern, to get their comments. And I've gotten some comments back, so that's -- the first step in this process of doing C and T is we're doing scoping, asking people for comments, making -- so we can make sure we've covered -- we're covering -- we don't leave somebody out somewhere.

20

21 And then after the scoping, we write up our analysis, determine if there's -- there's information we don't have that we absolutely have to have in order to do it, make a recommendation, and then it goes to the -- it comes out in a Federal pub- -- a Federal Register notice, goes out to the public and we get the Regional Council's opinion on it, and then it goes forward to the staff committee and the Board. But we are trying to do a lot of involvement with people on the local level so that we have their input.

30

31 That's -- that tells you about where we are with everything else in the State. It's going to be a fairly lengthy process, because it is time consuming, and we're not -- we are fairly short-staffed, and some of the other agencies are quite short-staffed. The Forest Service will be doing some, and BLM, and they -- they essentially don't have anybody at this time to do any of their C & T determinations, as well as BSM. So Park Service and Fish and Wildlife are the only ones working on them right now.

40

41 I'm working on the North Slope, just 26(b) and (c) determinations. The reason I'm not doing the whole North Slope is because the way we've divided it has been according to who manages the -- the most amount of land in that region, and the BLM is the primary land manager in 26(a), so I'm not doing (a). BLM will be doing that sometime down the road.

47

48 I came up here and talked to some people in Barrow in June, and I went to Kaktovik to talk to people, to -- to find

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but how people felt about the determinations. And at that time we were hoping to have this process pretty much wrapped up by now, but it was a little bit too optimistic, and with a lot of other things on our plates at the same time, we're not going to stick with that schedule. We also felt that maybe it would be better if the Board only had one -- they just had the two, Kenai and upper Tanana, to deal with at once. I don't have a schedule defined at this point exactly, but it would go -- I know it will go into regulations by July. Our regulations begin in July. And so the new -- when the regulations go into effect for 1996 is when these will be going into effect. I suspect the decision will be made some time before that, but

14

15 When I came up in June and talked to people in Barrow and Kaktovik, some of the things I found -- well, we went through all of the C & T determinations, kind of one by one, and I don't know if we really want to do that here or not, but there was -- we -- there was a consensus to leave the brown bear determination alone, that that -- right now it's for everybody on the North Slope, and people felt that that was accurate and we should leave it that way.

23

24 For caribou, the State did their determinations by herd, and we're going to do our by species and not by herd, so that rather than having a determination for the Western Arctic caribou herd, we will have a determination for caribou in Unit 28(b) and (c). And so as a consequence, we'll be changing those determinations from the way they exist right now.

30

31 There -- we had some discussion about who comes up to 28 to hunt caribou, and I think that people were pretty -- had 33-- there was a fairly wide consensus that it was primarily people from just the North Slope, with possibly some people coming up from -- I -- there was some question whether there -- anybody came up from Wiseman or not to hunt caribou here.

37

38 MR. C. BROWER: I have one question.

39

40 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Sure.

41

42 MR. C. BROWER: Stating that people within the North Slope hunt the western herd or the central herd, or Gussacord (ph) herd, Porcupine herd, I realize that at the same time you have these sports hunters coming into the Brooks within our boundaries and harvesting the same herd.

47

48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: What -- I guess what I need to clarify is for under subsistence regulations.

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1
2 MR. C. BROWER: Um-hum. (affirmative)
3
4 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Their hunt -- they're hunting under
State regulations.
6
7 MR. C. BROWER: Um-hum. (affirmative)
8
9 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And the C & T determinations don't
have anything to do with the State regulations. That's a good
question, though,

12
13 MR. C. BROWER: At the same time,

14
15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: to clarify that.
16
17 MR. C. BROWER: I don't see any changes to be
made on all our caribou, western, central, Gussacord,
Porcupine, and whatever. I think what I'm understanding is for
the Federal Subsistence Board to make determinations on C & T.
21 -- the way I think, all the herds within the North Slope are
C & T, no matter which unit, part of a unit they're in, either
(a), (b) and (c).
24
25 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.
26
27 MR. C. BROWER: And you're putting a point where by
land selection of wildlife refuge or whatever 26(b)'s under.
29
30 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, B, here's a good map.
31
32 MR. C. BROWER: B is under the Park Service or

33
34 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We've got a lot of State land in B
actually.
36
37 MR. C. BROWER: State land. To go that process, I'm
kind of opposed to that factor, that you just don't put land
selections on what you feel is out there. We consider the
whole North Slope a land of our own uses, and determine -- to
determine customary and traditional use by sections, I don't
believe in that. Why should have -- why should 26(c) because
they're Arctic National Wildlife Refuge have something
different to 26(d) where there's State land, versus 26(a) where
there's all mostly Federal land?
46
47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, I'm not saying that it would
be different for 26(a), it's just that Fish and Wildlife
Service isn't going to be writing that report. It may end up
50

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being the same determination, and I mean mostly will be, with maybe some exceptions, but it won't -- it's just that we won't be doing the report. They'll be doing the report.

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I wonder who at BLM is a good
6 contact to get them on here to work with?

7

8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Tom Boyd would be the one to talk to
9 I think. He's our staff committee representative from BLM.

10

11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I think what they're kind of asking,
12 Helen, is that 26(c) -- 26(b)

13

14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: B.

15

16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: as a whole instead of being
17 divided into (a), (b), and (c) like the State. Is that what
18 you're saying, Charlie?

19

20 MR. C. BROWER: No, I mean, I don't mind 26(a), (b) and
21 (c), it's just that one land selection like 26(c), they trying
22 to consider that as Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. That
23 might come under different status, regulation to use, than
24 (b) will be something different considering State land, park
25 land, and corridor, the Dalton Highway. And here we are at
26 (a) where we're in open country, we're under the Federal
27 land, and anything within -- what I see, within our Region on
28 Region Ten or the North Slope, I determine the way I see it to
29 have one regulation instead of dividing it into different
30 sections of

31

32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum. (affirmative)

33

34 MR. C. BROWER: who owns the land where.

35

36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, it's -- it isn't according to
37 who owns it, but it is -- except in the situation of whether
38 it's State or Federal Land, but I mean, if -- for example, in
39 (b) or in (c) for that matter, I think (c) has some State
40 land, but wherever it's State lands, State regulations apply,
41 and when it's Federal land, Federal regulations apply, but
42 there won't be a difference depending on whether Park Service
43 there or BLM or Fish and Wildlife.

44

45 MR. C. BROWER: Well, take ANWR, and Arctic National
46 Wildlife Refuge, within that area Kaktovik city limits to about
47 miles is state land. The rest of it is wildlife refuge
48 land. And part of it might be BLM. You have three different
49 entities in there, and might comply where there's heavier

50

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restrictions on the wildlife refuge for hunting. Is that right? There's a heavier -- you just can't go into a wildlife refuge to go hunting as a tradition -- customary and traditional use.

5

6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, our regulations would apply whether it's -- I mean, in the -- in the -- unless it specifically has something in the reg booklet, but in this case there isn't, it's going to be the same whether you're on Fish and Wildlife refuge land or whether you're on BLM land. It's the same regulation. And I -- sometimes there are differences, but those would be mentioned, you know, that in the park there might slightly different regulation or something, but in general, no. The regulation applies to Federal lands, not to 15 there's no distinction between them.

16

17 MR. C. BROWER: Well, that's what I'm trying to say.

18

19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

20

21 MR. C. BROWER: Federal versus State, then Federal, there's -- there's three

22

23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Well, and that -- that is a problem, but that's -- that's a problem bigger than -- bigger than I.

24

25 MR. C. BROWER: Um-hum. (affirmative)

26

27 MR. UPICKSON: Helen, why is the Fish and Wildlife Service and like you say the BLM doing different studies on traditional and customary use in Region 10? Why are they two agencies? Why can't you guys work together on

28

29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well,

30

31 MR. UPICKSON: traditional and customary use within Region 10?

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: You know, I think that's a really good question, and I've -- I've actually approached that a little bit, but I think the base -- the real problem is BLM does not have any staff to do it. And -- but I have to say, Gordon, that as I've been doing this, I've been trying to write my notes up so that my thought was I could make it very easy for the person who does 26(a), because I can give them what I have on my notes, and they can take that and then do it, because -- you know, rather than only focus -- I mean, so much of what I read might -- applies to the whole Slope, which is

34

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Why I think it probably make

2

3 MR. UPICKSON: You say they have

4

5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: some sense to do the

6

7 MR. UPICKSON: no staff, but then that's half of
the land in Region Ten is BLM, and that's 26(a). You say they
don't have any staff, and then you're doing traditional and
customary use studies on just a part of it. I -- it's hard to
I can't understand why there's two agencies doing studies on
the same traditional and customary use in Region 10, and one
has no staff and

14

15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think maybe that might be
something that would be appropriate to write a letter to the
Federal Subsistence Board asking that it be done as one, if
that's what you want to do. I -- it's not something that I --
that I have a whole lot of control over, and I can -- I mean, I
can appreciate it. When I do the work, I can see where it
makes a lot of sense to do it all at once, because so much of
the -- what you read is about the Slope as a whole. It's not
beated in separate chunks like, you know, in general.

24

25 MR. UPICKSON: Are there other regions where different
agencies are assigned to do traditional and customary use
within the same region? Take Five for instance, just as an
example. Do you have several agencies doing traditional and
customary

30

31 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think

32

33 MR. UPICKSON: use studies?

34

35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Just speaking off the top of my
head, I'm trying to remember our map, I'd say that it's not --
that in general that you don't have that problem. The North
Slope is just such a large region, large -- physically large
area, that I think it got -- it is split, but that in general,
no, I don't think that -- well, the upper Tanana/Copper River
Basin at one time was going to be done all at once, but that
was too large a region for them to handle, so they split that
one,

44

45 MR. UPICKSON: Um-hum. (affirmative)

46

47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: but it's still being done by
Park Service. I'm trying to think of other examples, but I
think -- like the Forest Service is doing most of Southeast.

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All of Southeast really because they're the predominant area in numbers there.

3

4 MR. UPICKSON: And during the course of your studies on traditional and customary use in Region 10, will there be several studies

7

8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, yeah.

9

10 MR. UPICKSON: for the same thing and within our region that means we'll have to go to Fish and Wildlife Service, then BLM who has no staff will come later on?

13

14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, that looks kind of -- I see that

16

17 MR. UPICKSON: Something is screwy some place.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: discrepancy, too. Because if you look at -- looking at the regulations, you'll see -- because 20(b) and (c) have regulations on C & T, and where's BLM's work, you know, on 26(a). Or the

23

24 MR. UPICKSON: And water (ph) rights are stuck, there hasn't

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: There hasn't been any

28

29 MR. UPICKSON: been able to

30

31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: determination made, because -- because BLM is understaffed. Do you see what

33

34 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. I don't know if -- I'm speaking for BLM, I don't know if Dave Yokel, if there's anything

37

38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I think it's a

39

40 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: he wants to say, but

41

42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: good suggestion though that we should write. Write to the Board to get BLM and Fish and Wildlife Service together to work on it. Altogether at once.

45

46 UNIDENTIFIED: (Indiscernible) Dave Yokel is here from BLM.

48

49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, I know. Dave, did you have

50

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anything you wanted to add to any of this discussion? I know you haven't probably been a part of this, but I hate to speak on behalf of BLM when I -- I did work there once upon a time, but then I left, and then they didn't have any staff to do this, but

6

7 MR. YOKELE: My name is Dave Yokel. I'm with BLM, Arctic District, not from -- not from our State office in Anchorage where these kind of discussions generally take place. But Helen is correct that we do not have the staff in our agency that some other agencies have dedicated funding towards, and that is the reason is why we are not currently doing any of these C & T determinations. As far as plans to do any in the near future, I couldn't answer that. I don't believe that there are any plans to do any this coming fiscal year.

16

17 MR. UPICKSON: But that is half the land within Region 10 that you have no plans of doing traditional and customary studies on.

20

21 MR. YOKELE: I said we have no plans of doing any in this coming fiscal year, which is starting -- just started the end of last week, and so for the next 12

24

25 MR. UPICKSON: And how will this impact the traditional and customary use study in our area when you've got no fundings to study half the area within Region 10?

28

29 MR. YOKELE: I'd have to get out the regulations and look at the specific determinations that have been made and refresh myself in order to answer that question correctly, but I believe that for now there are very little conflicts

33

34 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum. (affirmative)

35

36 MR. YOKELE: in GMU 26(A), and so my

37

38 MR. UPICKSON: Um-hum. (affirmative)

39

40 MR. YOKELE: my impression is that there will be a great effect to you in the short term or even the long term.

42

43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think that's true, and I have to say that even when BLM does get, if they get some staff to work on these, this won't be their top priority, because the top priorities will be the places where there are conflicts. And the -- they have some problems with the Dalton Highway Corridor, for example, that they could -- they need to resolve, and some things in eastern -- Western Interior I think that

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would be a higher priority, so not only can they not do it right now, they probably won't do it for quite a few years, to be very honest about it. And that's just a -- that's a problem with Federal funding, I mean, just not having the funding to staff appropriately, so

6

7 But I think Dave brings up a good point, that if you look at the C & T, in your green book that you have, and the C & T determinations are on that -- listed on that page, that with the exception of perhaps muskox, there -- I don't think that there are any -- because right now there is no C & T determination for muskox in -- anywhere except in 26(c), I don't think there are probably any conflicts that -- it would actually be interesting for you to look at that and see if there's anything that you think that should be changed, so it may not be that big a deal, if it's not done right now.

17

18 MR. C. BROWER: Mr. Chairman?

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie?

21

22 MR. YOKELE: Because there are no roads anywhere in Unit 26(a), there is -- there's no ready access for people outside of 26(a) to come in and hunt under Federal Subsistence Regulations, and that's why there is no conflict in that unit at this time.

27

28 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah, there's no conflict because we're 29 we're determined by C & T, and at the same time half of our species are being hunted by other entities, the sports hunters, where in that regards, there's no C & T determination on 26(a). 30 Anyone is welcome to come in there and harvest anything within that range.

34

35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, there is a C & T -- I mean, what we've done is adopted the existing one from the State, and with the exception of black bear, I think there are determinations on everything else, so and muskox, there are determinations on everything else, so that we do go by the existing determination until such time when we decide that it needs to be changed.

41

42 MR. YOKELE: And in terms of the sport hunters, Charlie, where -- they are hunting under a different set of regulations, and the only way the Federal regulations would affect those individuals hunting under State regs is if it was determined that there were not enough game to go around for everyone. Then if the Federal priority were to kick in, say, for that area, then it's possible that the Federal Subsistence Board would close Federal lands to sport hunters.

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1

2 MR. C. BROWER: Well, the recent census has been
 3 ongoing with the western herd, it's open season on that herd
 4 right now, since it's in the high yield right now. Anyone can
 5 come in from the lower North Slope, anywhere from Alaska and
 6 come into 26(a) and start harvesting the caribou, because it's
 7 a high number right now. It's open season. And here we're
 8 determined to take five per day, and when you see five a day,
 9 and when you see -- when I travel, you see more than, you know,
 10 whatever amount of caribou taken out of the same herd, these --
 11 taken out by sports hunters.

12

13 And for C & T determinations, I -- I'd rather see the
 14 whole thing with -- under one agency instead of two or three
 15 different agencies, utilizing their entity to say you can't go
 16 to this part of the land, even though it's on North Slope,
 17 because we're allowing no one to go out and hunt in one
 18 portion. I mean, my feeling is, I feel like the whole of
 19 26(a), (b) and (c) should be open country for the residents of
 20 the North Slope.

21

22 MR. YOKELE: I think your suggestion has some merit in
 23 terms -- as Helen said earlier, that one agency take the lead
 24 for the entire GMU; however, that's a separate issue from
 25 whether or not people would be able to come up into say 26(a)
 26 and hunt under State regulations.

27

28 MR. C. BROWER: Uh-huh. That's why I want to 26(b) and
 29 26(c) and hunt me a muskox. That's why I don't have any
 30 determination for.

31

32 MR. YOKELE: Well, you see, they'll -- they will be
 33 taking care of that, one way or the other.

34

35 MR. C. BROWER: Anyway, thank you.

36

37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. I just wanted to make a -- I
 38 think we needed to talk about muskox a little bit, but first
 39 I'd just go through this.

40

41 One of -- one thing we're going to be doing with sheep
 42 that the existing determination gives C & T for Arctic
 43 Village, Chalkyitsik, Fort Yukon and Venetie, as well as the
 44 residents of 26(c). And the consensus at the meeting we had
 45 was that that should be left alone. We've gotten some comments
 46 from people at the National -- the Arctic refuge, that has --
 47 have said that they were -- they would like to see us document
 48 that people in fact do still go all the way from Arctic Village
 49 and Chalkyitsik and Venetie over to hunt in 26(c). Our

50

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preliminary talking to people is that people do in fact go over there. We're going to do a little bit of research on that with 3- we have an existing cooperative agreement with the Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments, and we're going to -- we're intending this winter sometime to go in and talk to people in those villages so that we can document what their uses are today, as well as what they have done customary and traditionally.

9

10 Otherwise, sheep people felt should be left the same.

11

12 We had some discussion on black bear, and some people in Kaktovik told me that there -- occasionally they see black bears up there. I've heard some people's opinions in the refuge office, and I don't know, there seems to be some dissent about whether black bears ever go up there or not. But I -- but at the moment there's no -- there is a no subsistence determination for black bears, and I'm looking at whether or not that needs to be changed for Anaktuvuk Pass and 20 -- I think it will be up to the Board to decide whether occasional, very brief use causes -- would mean that they'd get 22determination or not.

23

24 And moose they felt -- people felt that it was accurate, everybody in 26 -- all of 26 has a determination for moose.

27

28 And then muskox. We had a lot of discussion, and I think

30

31 MR. C. BROWER: What's that on moose?

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Everybody in 26, all of 26 has a determination for moose. And they can

35

36 MR. C. BROWER: Well, I had one question. The proposal that was brought in by Point Hope some months back, you know, some of them go out hunting in July, and when -- whatever happened to that proposal? I know I've -- I mean, it might -- 40 might have been dropped or something, where

41

42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, it went forward.

43

44 MR. C. BROWER: It went forward? Where Point Hope residents asked to extend it one month before hunting season opened to go hunt moose, because they're in their range. Once the season opens, they're beyond that range, and they can't get any where that red meat was available, it's now gone. I think that was -- that was the reason they had a request to extend it

50

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1 to July. Right?

2

3 MR. KIGNAK: July 1.

4

5 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah. Now it's August -- no, it's
6 August

7

8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm trying to remember. Charlie, I
9 might have to get back to you on that, what happened -- what
10 the final

11

12 MR. H. BROWER: Charlie, yeah, somewhere I've got some
13 information. We acted on a proposal that addressed that moose
14 hunting July from Point Hope. But a lot of it got -- land
15 transfer was -- had been enacted.

16

17 MR. C. BROWER: Um-hum. (affirmative)

18

19 MR. H. BROWER: A lot of that State -- Federal -- what
20 used to be Federal lands was transferred back to the State, and
21 there's only a small portion of that area is now Federal lands.
22 But we had tried to make some identification of boundaries
23 where Federal lands existed, to have them hunt within that area
24 for moose.

25

26 UNIDENTIFIED: Wasn't there a question of access, how
27 you would get in there.

28

29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Harry, if you look on page 129,
30 (Indiscernible, simultaneous speech)

31

32 MR. H. BROWER: No, this is from my summary on

33

34 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Point Hope is in

35

36 MR. H. BROWER: Twenty-three.

37

38 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: in Unit 23 instead of 26.

39

40 MR. C. BROWER: What's that?

41

42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And you look up on the right

43

44 MR. ITTA: What page is that?

45

46 MR. C. BROWER: 129.

47

48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: do you see there, it says July
49 t?

50

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1
2 MR. ITTA: 129?
3
4 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah.
5
6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It says Unit 23, that portion north
and west of and including all the (indiscernible) Kukpuk and
8upik (ph) rivers, one moose, July 1st through March 31st.
9What was where that got changed.
10
11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Is that Point Hope?
12
13 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. That includes -- that
14includes Point Hope.
15
16 MR. C. BROWER: So people from Region 10 can go into
17Region 20 -- or what is -- what is Unit 23? What region is
18that? Mr. Chairman?
19
20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Unit 23 is that

21
22 MR. C. BROWER: I mean, what Region is that under the
23Federal Subsistence?
24
25 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Oh, Eight? What region is that?
26
27 MR. C. BROWER: 22.
28
29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Region Eight.
30
31 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Eight.
32
33 MR. C. BROWER: Huh?
34
35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Eight.
36
37 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Region Eight.
38
39 MR. C. BROWER: So they can go from Region

40
41 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Seven is Seward Peninsula.
42
43 MR. C. BROWER: 10 to Region Eight and harvest a
44moose in July, and they won't be cited for

45
46 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.
47
48 MR. C. BROWER: that extensive hunting. Why is
49it on 23 when

50

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1
2 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Why -- why is

3
4 MR. C. BROWER: is that a split between the
Boundary line

6
7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

8
9 MR. C. BROWER: where the mooses are? Where the
mooses are?

11
12 (Laughter)

13
14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's just a split where the -- so
the Point Hoppers can -- it's just a division. The -- under the
State, they -- these boundaries are State boundaries, the GMU
boundaries, which we don't -- we don't call it GMUs any more,
we call them units, to get the sport terminology out of there,
that -- and we didn't -- we didn't follow those boundaries for
our regional council boundaries, because we didn't feel like it
followed existing -- yeah.

22
23 MR. C. BROWER: See, that's -- that's the
hardship

25
26 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: If

27
28 MR. C. BROWER: Point Hope might be going through
if they didn't -- if they can go into 26 -- 23, and they live
in 26,

31
32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.

33
34 MR. C. BROWER: and there's moose available,
they're being -- they're not harvesting what is needed. Now,
if the people from Point Hope go back and say -- and let them
people know that they can hunt under 23

38
39 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

40
41 MR. C. BROWER: in July, then there will be no
problems.

43
44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Do people

45
46 MR. KIGNAK: On the 100,000 acres that they have, yes,
you can hunt moose there, because that's been transferred to
the traditional government, IRA.

49
50

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1 MR. C. BROWER: To IRA?

2

3 MR. KIGNAK: To IRA.

4

5 MR. C. BROWER: Um-hum. (affirmative)

6

7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Charlie, do people generally -- are
~~8~~ they not -- do people generally know what GMU boundary they're
 9- what they're within?

10

11 MR. C. BROWER: Well, it's pretty hard right now to
~~12~~ determine with the Unit 10 versus

13

14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Region 10.

15

16 MR. C. BROWER: Unit Eight, and it cuts right
~~17~~ through Point Hope.

18

19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

20

21 MR. C. BROWER: It's like Anaktuvuk Pass, it's Unit
~~22~~ ~~23~~

23

24 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The same

25

26 MR. C. BROWER: and Unit 10.

27

28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The same problem, yeah.

29

30 MR. C. BROWER: And under the Federal

31

32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Maybe we could have made it easier
~~33~~ by following the GMU boundaries, but we felt that Point Hope
~~34~~ would want to be in with Region 10.

35

36 UNIDENTIFIED: Yeah.

37

38 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Is it true? Or maybe that was
~~39~~ actually not something we determined as much as by -- from what
~~40~~ people here talked to us about. I don't know. I wasn't in on
~~41~~ the discussions of making those boundaries, but -- Okay.

42

43 Maybe we can talk about muskox a little bit, and I
~~44~~ don't know if there was going to be any discussion about the --
~~45~~ from the State and the North Slope Borough about this muskox
~~46~~ management plan that's being worked on, but right now under
~~47~~ Federal subsistence regulations, the only people who can hunt
~~48~~ muskox are in Kaktovik. And from my reading of the literature,
~~49~~ I'm -- I think that that probably could be changed for other

50

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communities. The question is, is whether or not Nuiqsut residents would go onto Federal lands. I don't know if they would go all the way over here or all the way down here to hunt muskox, because it is, you know, a long way away.

5

6 MR. C. BROWER: I can -- one of the -- one of the concerns I had was there is muskox within 26(a), (b), and (c), and they're within a 50-mile radius of a village, they should be able to harvest them. And there's -- that's my concern. And here with the introduction of muskox in the early 70s and stuff, they -- we -- they claim saying that we have no C & T, and that was C & T determination expired on us some long years ago when for some reason they were all wiped out on the North Slope. And I think it's in the interest of people that survive here that long, there always has been C & T to any resources that were within the North Slope, even though they were depleted at one time and reintroduced. And to set a hunting privilege to one area to the introductions and high rate of reproduction, and leaving the other two behind where a dispersement is slowly out -- spreading towards the -- from east to west, west to east, either from the Seward Peninsula or Cape Thompson herd, and from the ANWR herd. And once I tasted muskox, my feeling is, I need to hunt it. So -- no matter where I am.

25

26 So that's my -- that's the whole thing I'm -- that's what I'm fighting for is for people within the whole North Slope to hunt muskox the way they see if it's like -- like a 50-mile radius from Barrow, and they see it up there in Ship Cove or somewhere, that's within 50 miles. You can harvest it. Or from my fish camp.

32

33 (Laughter)

34

35 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman?

36

37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon, and then Frank.

38

39 MR. UPICKSON: Could we have maybe from -- from the North Slope Borough Wildlife Management about whether right now they'd like to hunt, because of number of muskox there, or from Jacob? About their feelings about muskox, whether they can hunt -- hunt them or not, and why just Kaktovik when they've got quite a few muskox in their area also?

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Go ahead. (In Inupiat)

47

48 MR. ATTUNGA: There -- some of us, they are talking about getting some muskox, too, and I haven't eaten it yet,

50

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muskox, before, but they say it's a good meat. And a lot of time we're out of caribou, maybe a whole year or more, and we have to go somewhere else to get our caribou meat, maybe Moatak, Kivalina. And there's the muskox in Point Hope. Just about 20, -- 20, 30 miles. And when we wished -- we always wished to get a muskox, but -- and there's a law we cannot shoot him. And we wanted to eat. And I was going to ask a question, too, if we can go to Kaktovik sometimes during muskox season, could we get one in Kaktovik?

10

11 UNIDENTIFIED: No.

12

13 MR. ATTUNGA: I think that's the only way. Maybe chance.

15

16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right now they only have -- they have a drawing for the permits from Kaktovik, and they only have ten permits, and you have to be a resident of Kaktovik to qualify for being in the

20

21 MR. ATTUNGA: You have to be a family in Kaktovik?

22

23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum. (affirmative)

24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: A resident. Yeah, a resident.

26

27 MR. C. BROWER: And the only way you can hunt is when you apply for Tier II hunt, and that you might have a chance, but the closer to the point of where you're applying your Tier II permit is a possibility of getting a permit. But if you're at what I'm saying is right off that you're away, you can hunt you cannot just get one, unless you're within that vicinity, right?

34

35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The way the rule is, yeah.

36

37 MR. C. BROWER: So hunting we will go.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Jakie, do you want to add to Elija's comment?

41

42 MR. KOONVK: First of all, I used to be with the guys over there across the table, Fish & Game, for many years and I fought hard to get rid of muskox, because we had no reason for them. We couldn't hunt them, we couldn't harass them, we could do nothing with them, so I fought for many years to get them out of there. But I just gave up, about the only thing I would suggest is that they become all part of Unit Ten -- Region Ten.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Eddie?

2

3 MR. E. HOPSON: Yeah, talking about muskox, I guess I
 4 really -- I raised my hand without knowing what to say. The
 5 problem with muskox in the area like Point Lay and Point Hope,
 6 we have two residents here from Point Hope, muskox is
 7 available. The problem with muskox is they will scare caribou
 8 away from that area, but Fish & Game have an argument, and say
 9 that caribou and muskox are friends, and they associate
 10 together. No way. No way that happens, but there is -- there
 11 is an argument, because I heard it at one of our Fish & Game
 12 Board meetings, that muskox and the caribou will associate
 13 together. They're friends. But as far as we can see, those
 14 people that are watching caribou and muskox, Point Lay, a few
 15 muskox were hanging around there, they kept the caribou away
 16 from the subsistence hunters. The same way -- it would be same
 17 way in Point Hope, because the muskox are in the vicinity, the
 18 caribou as soon as they see a muskox, they're going to run as
 19 fast as they can away from muskox. This is the fact.

20

21 The regulations as they suggested by people that are
 22 involved in those areas, why does this request that I've heard
 23 earlier today, the City Council of Kaktovik who asked for
 24 extended time to catch muskox, what is the -- what is the
 25 adverse effect? Adverse effect of extending time? There's
 26 only maybe ten permits can be issued only to Kaktovik
 27 residents. Because the time, extended -- time to catch a
 28 muskox is extended, that doesn't mean that everybody at
 29 Kaktovik is going to go out and go chase muskox. It only be so
 30 many to take, and only so many people with permits can go and
 31 take them. What is the adverse impact of the extended time for
 32 catching moose for Kaktovik as they requested?

33

34 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think maybe since Pat Reynolds is
 35 here with us today from the Arctic Refuge, she's our muskox
 36 biologist. Maybe Pat would like to talk. I know she talked to
 37 the Council last year and to -- for the benefit of the
 38 gentlemen here who didn't get to hear her last winter.

39

40 MS. REYNOLDS: I think the whole question of muskoxen
 41 is a question of what people want to do with the population of
 42 muskox on the North Slope. Do they want to have a population
 43 that is increasing over the entire North Slope so the villages
 44 at Barrow and Anaktuvuk Pass, Nuiqsut and Atkasak have animals
 45 sometime in the future?

46

47 The muskoxen have been present now for about 30 years.
 48 The population is growing, but starting with 35 animals in
 49 northeastern Alaska, and similar numbers down in the Cape

50

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Thompson areas, the populations, although they are growing, still don't have a lot of animals. They're still -- we're still talking a few hundred animals. Perhaps in northeastern Alaska 400 animals in the refuge, in Unit 26(c), and another 550 to 200 in Unit 26(b), which is primarily on State land.

6

7 With the objection -- the objective of allowing this population to increase so that animals would be available to people like Charlie who sounds like he wants to hunt them, we have proposed, or have had a fairly conservative harvest, as everybody knows. It's conservative. It's taking now about 5% of the bulls from that population, and in the Arctic Refuge.

13

14 The Arctic Refuge population -- portion of the population has more or less stabilized in the last -- since 1986. It's not growing. It's been quite similar, about 350 to 400 animals in that time period, so we're not seeing rapid increase in that area, but those animals are the animals that are providing source of animals to the people westward, in Uqsut, in Atkasak, animals that are now in 26(B), living between the Sagavanirktok and the Canning Rivers, have come from the Arctic Refuge, and they're now starting to increase. And their population -- that section of the population is actually growing faster than the population section that's in the Arctic Refuge.

26

27 So the harvest has been conservative. There have been ten permits issued for the past few years to the residents of Kaktovik. The season has been limited in terms of a month, now six weeks in the fall and a month in the spring.

31

32 I had some concerns in terms of that harvest being extended throughout the winter, not just for a couple of weeks, but throughout the whole winter in that muskoxen in the winter some reduce the size of the areas they're using as an energy conservation mechanism. They go into areas and they stay there pretty much the whole winter, and they do that because, unlike caribou, they survive on the North Slope by being conservative with their energy. They have very warm coats, they can survive this cold weather, they can eat very low-quality food, unlike caribou that have to move into more southern areas and eat higher quality food. And they can survive there, because they do reduce their energy consumption in winter by not moving around a lot.

45

46 My concerns were that, not so much that people might run animals to death during a hunt, but that animals, when they're repeatedly hunted always move around a little. They may not move very far, they move -- may move long distances in

50

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Some cases, but that causes some energy consumption. And that energy consumption can over time, particularly for females, reduce the amount of energy they have for -- available to put into a calf for the following year, and to put into milk for that calf the following year. So you can get declines in productivity that -- that again will not allow the population to grow as fast, to increase over the whole North Slope, so that other people who really want to hunt muskoxen have a population available to them in the future. And that's -- that's the basic reason for a conservative harvest at this time.

12

13 I guess we all need to talk about, you know, what our objectives are for that population, and that's the question that I think we all need to discuss, you know, whether people would like to see animals available in their villages or around in their areas, if they don't want to have animals in their area, because of concerns with caribou, that they -- they feel that muskoxen is something they don't want to hunt, then those are issues that I think we all need to discuss.

21

22 MR. C. BROWER: The question I have is like take -- take

24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward?

26

27 MR. C. BROWER: the one -- oh. Sorry.

28

29 MR. E. HOPSON: I'd just like to say this: I don't -- don't misunderstand me. I'm not looking for taking muskox as soon as I see it and shoot it down though. I'm -- I support the management on the muskox. I want to see it grow. I'm not looking for additional take. I like the idea, the way it's managed, limiting it so it will grow. I just want to make that statement. I don't want you to misunderstand me. I'm not trying to take -- kill them all. That's -- that's something -- that's the only thing I want to say. Don't misunderstand me, I'm not trying to -- trying to get rid of muskox. I want to see it grow, so we all can maybe some day be able to take them. They're available here, too, you know, they've seen them. As a matter of fact, I have one son that shoot down three of them here a few years ago. They were

43

44 MS. REYNOLDS: Out near Point Lay, was that out there

46

47 MR. E. HOPSON: Muskox got stranded down there on the coast, about 15, 20 miles from here on the coast, and he was going to jail, except that I had a granddaughter about yeah

50

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high, just old enough to talk, was down there, visiting the
 Uncle's camp, and Fish & Game was all -- every day asking
 questions, and this little girl heard what was going on, and
 went right up to this Federal man and Seth (ph) said, "We were
 really scared," the little girl, my granddaughter, start
 talking to this Trooper. "We were really scared. they were
 chasing us. And my Uncle Dennis shoot three of them down,
 that's when they stopped. They almost eat us up." A little
 girl about yeah high talked, saved my son from going to jail.

10

11 Don't misunderstanding me, I'm not against the
 management, I like the idea of the muskox grow, but I think you
 people that are responsible for making these regulations should
 listen to those local people.

15

16 MR. LONG: Mr. Chairman?

17

18 MR. E. BROWER: I don't see any adverse thing that
 extended time for Kaktovik requested, is all I'm going to say.

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie had his hand up, Frank, and
 you'll be next after Charlie. Charlie?

23

24 MR. C. BROWER: The question I had was, take the Cape
 Thompson herd. Those were put in 30 -- almost 30 years now,
 with the option of hoping that they will grow to a herd like
 the one at ANWR. And it being that long, and still the
 residents of Point Hope and Point Lay cannot harvest them,
 because there's some factors that's keeping them from growing.
 And to a point, but they've grown to a certain number at that
 rate of 25 to 30 years now, and still they're told not to
 harvest those, and some of those herds are just dispersing into
 the central North Slope, and coming from the east side, too,
 and making a stock of their own. And that's where I have a
 problem, is they were told they'd be able to hunt them in 20
 years, now they can't even hunt them, because the reason is
 their growth rate is too slow. And at the same time, it
 dispersed what caribou comes around within their region, and
 that's the only source of red meat sometimes available, and
 that's why my -- my intent to work on these for residents of
 North Slope to take muskox as where -- as they see it fit.

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Frank?

44

45 MR. LONG: Yeah. Talking about muskox, I'd like to
 comment on that. In addition to what Eddie Hopson was saying
 earlier about muskox and caribou don't go hand-in-hand. At
 this point in time we have two different types of herds, or
 three. The herd that migrates from the east, the central herd,

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the herd that migrates from the west coast passed Teshekpuk, right now muskox is still abundant, and we can't even hardly see a caribou. And my question is why can't we like Kaktovik have a B and C, you know, given -- given authority to have a limit source of hunting muskox per season?

6

7 MR. C. BROWER: That has to be determined.

8

9 MR. LONG: At this time, when we -- we have seniors at the -- at the village that are Eddie's age and older, and they're wondering why can't we hunt muskox when it's available, because the longer it sticks around, the more -- the more that we don't see the caribou. You indicated that they were moved from certain areas. I believe you, because we've had muskox in this certain area for a couple of months, and within 15, 20 miles, you can't see caribou. Either they think of them as bears or just a piece of chunk of ground that move, all in -- you can't recognize muskox until you come up closely. It looks like a hairy piece of something.

20

21 And I'm wondering, usually we drive down the haul road, and we can get to 26(b), there's muskox that is available. And we can only -- and we can only hunt them in 26(c), in the Wildlife Refuge where we can hardly get at them. And that's a long ways.

26

27 You go for a Federal permit. I applied for a permit a few years ago, thinking that I might be able to go hunt in the area and harvest a muskox after tasting the meat, but permits are given to people like in Anchorage, Fairbanks, somewhere else down south that don't even exist up here. Why not us?

32

33 MS. REYNOLDS: I have a comment, and Geoff, you correct me on this, but I think the muskoxen in Unit 26(b), there are 35 -- essentially no muskoxen on Federal lands in Unit 26(b).

36

37 MR. LONG: There is muskox

38

39 MS. REYNOLDS: They're on State

40

41 MR. LONG: on Federal lands.

42

43 MS. REYNOLDS: lands and they're under the jurisdiction of the State of Alaska. The population in Unit 45(b), as I said, is growing, but it is under Federal jurisdiction. It's on State lands, is that correct Geoff?

47

48 MR. CARROLL: I could -- I don't know, (indiscernible) annual muskox -- I mean, I was planning on about this later,

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but I could answer some of Franks -- do you want to

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Do you want to talk about it?

4

5 MS. REYNOLDS: Come on up.

6

7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Come on up.

8

9 MS. REYNOLDS: Maybe I'll leave.

10

11 MR. CARROLL: Well just to -- Frank, just so you'll
 understand, there is a State Tier II muskox hunt in 26(b), and
 as you've been through the application process, you know, you
 have to fill out how many years you've hunted in the area and
 everything, and you're given -- given a score according to how
 long you've hunted in the area, how close you are to the area,
 how dependent you are on that resource, et cetera, and the Tier
 I hunt, it's not in ANWR. It's -- but it is east of Haul
 Road, so it is a fair ways to travel to

20

21 MR. LONG: Um-hum. (affirmative)

22

23 MR. CARROLL: get to the area where you can hunt
 them. And, you know, that Tier II permit, you know, it's one
 of those things that in theory is set up to be fair, and
 basically it turns out whoever tells the biggest stories on
 their application wins. You know, whoever makes themselves
 sound like the -- you know, answers the questions in the right
 way to get the most points. And a lot of times the person
 that's totally honest with his answers is penalized, because it
 doesn't give him as many points as somebody that exaggerates a
 lot, and it's -- you know, it's not a very good system. I
 agree with you.

34

35 One thing we've been talking about at this interim
 hearing that -- the North Slope Borough Fish & Game Management,
 I believe is to form kind of a group up here, you know, kind of
 a cooperative group between Alaska Fish & Game, you know, the
 other agencies and the Borough and come up with a muskox
 management plan that would be fair, you know, that would --
 that would work out so the people are able to hunt where they
 should be able to hunt, and, you know, we've talked about this
 population in -- over here in Cape Thompson, in that area, you
 know, and starting a legal hunt over there. You know, as you
 said, there's -- there's a fair number of muskoxen in this area
 to the west of the Haul Road, too, and it would probably make
 just as much sense for people from Nuiqsut to be able to hunt
 those, you know, instead of travelling way over here, and,
 anyway, it's something, you know, we need to work on, and we're

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planning on doing that.

2

3 But, you know, as it is this year, the Tier -- with
 those Tier II permits, basically nobody from Nuiqsut applied,
 you know, and if they -- if they had, you know, there were
 those two permits available. As it was, the nearest guy --
 Well, one went to Ray Smith from Umiat. I mean, he does have a
 long history in that area. But the other one went to a guy in
 Fort Yukon. I think he was the closest one to that area that
 applied.

11

12 So, I don't know, I'm just trying to -- I agree with
 you, it isn't the greatest set up in the world, but we're going
 to try to work on it, and make it work better. Part of -- one
 of the complicated things about this is, you know, you've got
 Federal land, State land, and it's, you know, this hodgepodge
 of different management groups, but basically, you know, this
 is a State hunt in this area. There isn't much the Federal
 people can do to help you out there, but I'll try to work with
 you through the State system to make that better.

21

22 You know, the -- you know, there's a State system just
 like the Federal system, with the State Board of Game, and, you
 know, you make proposals to it, and propose that there, you
 know, be muskoxen, you know, that you could take muskoxen in
 that area. I -- and that's the way you get the regulations
 changed.

28

29 MR. LONG: So what you're saying is that the State is
 management for relating to muskox?

31

32 MR. CARROLL: It is in this -- it is in this area here.
 I mean, it's just -- you know, the State does it on State
 land, the Federal Government does it on Federal land, and
 that's part of the, you know the complicated mess we're into
 now with, you know, both State and Federal management up here,
 and, you know, it's something we kind of have to live with, but
 I don't know, I think we're -- I'm here anyway just to try to
 try to keep it as -- you know, as fair as possible for the
 people up here that, you know, want to hunt and use these
 animals, and, you know, we just kind of have to work through
 the system.

43

44 MR. LONG: Yeah, there's muskox in Nuiqsut, less than
 five miles out.

46

47 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

48

49 MS. REYNOLDS: But basically I will state that most of

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the animals, the bulk of the population, and most of the cows and calves are living in this area right here, and they're not on Federal land, and there are some animals over here, but by far the largest part of the population, and the population portion that's growing, and going to contribute to animals over here is right here, and it's east of the Haul Road. I mean, that's where they are right now. Some years later there's going to be more. Maybe not, you know. We

9

10 MR. LONG: There's -- we know there's

11

12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie?

13

14 MR. LONG: more muskox, but the penalty is really
15 they're penalizing them more -- more than we can hunt.

16

17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie?

18

19 MR. C. BROWER: You know, the question -- the question
20 have is people with -- people living in Nuiqsut versus people
21 with long extensive use from Fort Yukon or from some other
22 small -- that is an on-going issues where the State -- the
23 State people see these people saying they have a long -- long
24 use on them, and giving them priorities versus, you know,
25 people from Nuiqsut start filing every year for Tier II permit,
26 know for a fact that out of two permits going to be issued,
27 one might be issued to a Nuiqsut person, but the other will
28 depart further south where someone else is requesting it. And
29 don't think that -- you know, I've always considered that a
30 wrong move where a Tier II permit is one where you're qualified
31 to be the closest area.

32

33 MR. CARROLL: Well, you know, these Tier II permits
34 have -- this is the first year there's been someone's that
35 really off the Slope has gotten one. A couple of years ago
36 that -- I mean, it was just some, you know, like Bud Helmrix
37 and his wife got the permits, which, you know, was crazy. You
38 know, they don't -- they don't live up here 12 months a year,
39 but he claimed residency up here, and nobody could prove that
40 he didn't have residency. You know, there were things like
41 that that happened that make the system not work very well.

42

43 This year, you know, there were -- you know, I got the
44 thing first, and I said, you know, there's a person from Umiat
45 and a person from Copper Center that got -- that got the
46 permits, and I said, "Copper Center?" you know, and got on the
47 phone and called up and had them look at his permit, you know,
48 and he just lied all the way through it, and then the next
49 seven people, the same thing. They'd lied through the whole --

50

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through the whole permit, and so we eliminated, and finally they got down to the guy from Fort Yukon, and basically couldn't find where he'd told any lies and, you know, so, you know, he got it that year. If you'd applied this year, Charlie, you would have gotten it.

6

7 MR. C. BROWER: I know. I know. Only I didn't apply
8 this year.

9

10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Geoff.

11

12 MR. CARROLL: Okay.

13

14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We're going to be discussing muskox
15 depth here a little further on. Maybe we'll continue with
16 Helen's -- did you have something, Gordon?

17

18 MR. UPICKSON: Take another break?

19

20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, I think that's about it.

21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Let's see what Helen has
23 here, and then maybe we'll go on a ten-minute break.

24

25 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I guess I do have a question whether
26 I mean, just out of curiosity whether the -- Leonard, you're
27 the only one from Nuiqsut here, are you?

28

29 MR. TUKLE: No, Frank.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Frank. Frank.

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Oh, Frank is. Oh, okay. Frank's --
34 okay. I was curious whether people from Nuiqsut would go
35 muskox hunting all the way over here to this purple band,
36 whether they would go that far?

37

38 MR. TUCKLE: Why can't we do it on the orange land?
39 Right here.

40

41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, because right -- I mean, just
42 right now they don't have C & T right now over there. And are
43 there -- are there very many muskox over there?

44

45 MR. LONG: Yes, ma'am.

46

47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: In here?

48

49 MR. LONG: There's -- they come in way in -- way in the

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bottom, quarter mile, too. Muskox.

2

3 MR. TUCKLE: And some down Fish Creek and

4

5 MS. REYNOLDS: A few, there's a few. But there's no
6 substantial population with lots of cows and calves. Like I'm
7 talking on these animals.

8

9 MR. LONG: Yeah, but those few muskox

10

11 MS. REYNOLDS: There's at least probably 25

12

13 MR. LONG: that are in that area,

14

15 MS. REYNOLDS: at least 25

16

17 MR. LONG: and changing around of the caribou.

18

19 MS. REYNOLDS: Yeah. Oh, you mean at Point Hope, or
20 over by Nuiqsut?

21

22 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: By Nuiqsut.

23

24 MS. REYNOLDS: Oh, okay. I don't know where they are
25 over by

26

27 MR. LONG: Changing the route of the migrating caribou
28 in that orange area, and the -- that western herd and the
29 central herd and the Porcupine herd will go around muskox about
30 ten miles.

31

32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Helen, was your question
33 answered?

34

35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No. I wondered if people -- how far
36 people would go. I mean, this is just hypothetical, but if
37 Nuiqsut got C & T for muskox, and that's all hypothetical, but
38 I don't know if they would go -- if they

39

40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Helen, there's -- there's been folks
41 going back and forth from Nuiqsut and maybe from Barrow for --
42 for a long time, but recently they haven't been, but there is
43 there is records that families do make routes from Nuiqsut
44 to Canada, and vice versa, so

45

46 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: You see, I -- the reason I'm asking
47 I guess partly is that -- I mean, I know the Board will want to
48 know not only what people did, but what they do, and then they
49 have to weigh that. That's -- and then they're going to want

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to know both of those pieces of information. And in -- I have stalked with Spir Pederson, because he's done some work in Nuiqsut about the harvest use patterns, but he thinks that what has been documented as use patterns have changed significantly from Nuiqsut, because of Prudhoe Bay oil fields, in, you know, going closer and closer to Nuiqsut. So he thinks that what he has is not accurate.

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Barbara?

10

11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: The other thing that you should understand, which I do like what I'm seeing here, if you guys want anything to be passed by the Federal Board, the other person that goes through it is staff committee. You have to request -- you should request to go in front of the staff committee, because whatever Dick Pospahala and his other staff members recommends, the Board will just blanket, and document that as it. That's where you guys would have to ask if -- if you guys are going to work on muskox or anything, that's who you guys would tackle first, the staff committee. And that's who they listen to. They really listen to Pat Reynolds, because when Kaktovik is -- requested that emergency order, I heard Pat Reynolds all the way from Kotzebue objecting, adamantly objecting for that emergency two weeks that Kaktovik requested. And it's only an emergency opening. The Kaktovik people didn't want to go there and kill off all the muskox. And then when we finally got down to it, it ended up with a quota of two, and that's the kind of things that you need to realize, to check out. And whenever your requesting anything, I think you guys should start with the staff committee, and then you should -- because the Board will listen to the staff committee. And you guys have the power to do it. Thank you.

33

34 MR. C. BROWER: I just have one comment,

35

36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie?

37

38 MR. C. BROWER: Mr. Chairman. You know, let me make a sample here. Take the bowhead, for instance. The local people here has been telling these scientists and people with degrees that they -- there's more than 2,000 whales and they go underneath the ice, break the ice and breath. And it's common knowledge. And after how many million dollars worth of spending of scientific study, they finally come and say, "Oh, you're right. You were right." \$200 million worth of work later, and that's where this C & T determination is going to come into. Just to determine that we have C & T, they're going to have to spend so many million dollars, so many dollars just to determine that we have C & T, and they don't -- and our

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traditional knowledge is not taken, because either we don't have the degree, we don't have a master's, we don't have nothing in black and white. All we say is on verbal. And that's what I'm coming under C & T determination, that they're going to go through the same process and finally determine ten, 15 years later, "Oh, you were right. My God. We're broke." Let's do it, and so -- thank you.

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right, Charlie. Helen, do you

11

12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't have anything to say. I think

14

15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Nothing else?

16

17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Not after that one, that was a good comment.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Yeah, we'll be discussing the Nuskox a little further on in our agenda, so I'll call for a ten-minute break under Gordon's orders.

23

24 UNIDENTIFIED: Thank you, Gordon.

25

26 (Off record)

27

28 (On record)

29

30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Maybe we'll try and round up the other members from out in the hall or -- call our short break back to order.

33

34 We just got done with another issue we'll probably revisit. We were asked to pay close attention to a Federal Register that will be coming out in December, so we'll see what the outcome of the C & T determinations are made at Kenai and around the Nenana area. We'll be watching that very closely.

39

40 The next item on the agenda here unless there's any other -- any other things that before we leave 10(b)? We'll move on to 10(c), designated hunter report. Tom Lohman was going to be helping me with this, but he had other commitments that were done before -- I mean, after the agenda was made, 45

46

47 You have hopefully in your packets -- it's quite lengthy, I'll try and summarize it quite quickly, or try to summarize it so most or all of us can understand what this

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important document is about. It's the designated hunter -- report of the Designated Hunter Task Force. I'll give a brief summary on the report.

4

5 April -- this spring, April, 1994, the Federal Subsistence Board considered four proposals from various regions in Alaska, and they were primarily from Southeast and Kodiak/Aleutian Islands Regional Advisory Councils, requesting flexibility in the Federal regulations to allow their qualified hunters to harvest on behalf of others that weren't able to go out, so those four proposals were considered again in April. And these originated -- they -- when they first were originated by the various different parts of Alaska, they were requested under the State -- they were requested to adopt the State's proxy system into -- into what we're looking into now as the Federal regulations, but they were modified to provide for any qualified hunter to harvest deer and other wildlife on behalf of others.

19

20 So the Board was concerned about the potential impacts on wildlife populations, and the lack of specific administrative system for this wide-ranging application of the designated hunter approach. So the Board asked the Office of Subsistence Management to work with the ten Regional Advisory Councils, the State of Alaska, Department of Fish & Game, and other Federal agencies to identify and review alternatives that would apply on all Federal public lands in the State.

28

29 So there were two meetings, one in July and one in August with the Advisory Council chairs, or their representatives, from eight regions, the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, and five Federal agencies, and the Office of Subsistence Management staff met to go over this work that was ordered by the Federal Subsistence Board. The first meeting was successful at airing key concerns and identifying four major options for further review on this subject of designated or under the task force. So at the next meeting in July we drafted chapters defining options -- the options and the conditions under which they would be appropriate that were developed. At the August meeting, the draft report was reviewed and extensive additions and revisions were made. So this is the outcome of those additions and revisions during the July and August meetings.

44

45 So the report of the Designated Hunter Task Force or Permit Task Force will be distributed, as it is now, to the meetings -- during our meeting here, so the report examines the various options of managing -- or management by local government ordinances, tribal management, community harvest

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limits, and a flexible designated hunter permit. The first two options, it was pointed out, requires significant changes, meaning the two options local government or local management option, and the tribal management option, would require significant changes with which the -- under the authorities of the Board as established in the current regulations. So on the second two options, the community harvest limit and the designated hunter permit, fall within the existing regulatory framework as exist now.

10

11 So again, if we were to adopt a local management or local government management or tribal management, it would require significant changes. Although the local management and tribal management options, number one and two, go beyond current regulations, the Task Force recognized that these approaches represent important aspirations for many Alaska Natives and other rural residents.

18

19 In welcoming remarks at the August Task Force meeting, Dick Pospahala expressed appreciation for the convictions shown in the discussion, meaning the various agencies involved in it showed that it could work out in complex issues. He made a commitment to pursue further clarification of this policy from Washington, D.C. regarding the tribal management approach as it was raised in the 1993 annual report of the Seward Peninsula Regional Council, or Nome area, Unalakleet area. This clarification will be provided at the winter meetings, so we'll probably hear of that report, policy -- a clarification of policy from D.C. probably in February meeting or so.

30

31 The reported is intended -- this report is intended to provide guidelines for more detailed consideration of specific proposals by the Regional Councils, meaning our Council here. The Regional Council should not vote for preferred option among the four options presented. Rather, the Councils should use the report as a guideline for developing proposals that would be appropriate for their regions, keeping in mind that the local management and tribal management options cannot be implemented at this time.

40

41 So I'll go over this report real quick. Again, the preamble and the four -- four options. I feel it's important to know that a lot of work was put into this, and I'll summarize maybe each chapter.

45

46 The preamble, meaning what's -- what is the mission, what is the objective, what is the meaning of a Designated Hunter Task Force?

49

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1 "Subsistence, a human right. As the old adage says,
 2 we are what we eat.' In the -- in the case of the indigenous
 3 people of Alaska, or the Alaska Natives generically and
 4 generally to the people, Congress and Federal Government of the
 5 United of America, this is especially true. Why? Because the
 6 indigenous peoples of Alaska have been customarily and
 7 traditionally harvesting, processing, utilizing, consuming, and
 8 sharing with extended family, friends, and fellow community
 9 members indigenous, annually renewed natural resources since
 10 time immemorial. Subsistence, in quote, to the dominant
 11 Western Society. Our indigenous, annually-renewed natural
 12 resources are the energy sources which sustain and nourish us.
 13 Harvesting, processing, consuming, storing and sharing these
 14 renewable resources are the skins, sinew, and bodkins with
 15 which we daily sew the customs and traditions which become the
 16 outfitwear of our culture and society. Regardless of what mere
 17 words on a piece of paper may say or mean as to which greedy
 18 souls may temporarily claim to own the land which God renews in
 19 His seasons, our culture keeps us attuned to the very pulse of
 20 life, and ever-grateful to the God of life for the provision of
 21 such a bountiful living.

22

23 "We, the indigenous peoples of Alaska, along with the
 24 indigenous peoples of the Lower 49 States and the indigenous
 25 peoples of the world over, hold our indigenous inherent rights
 26 harvest indigenous renewable resources without outside
 27 interference; for example, subsistence rights is but one of our
 28 inviolable human rights."

29

30 And this was written by Sheldon Katchatag in August,
 31 and we wanted to make sure that the Federal agencies knew who
 32 they were working with as far as trying to make regulations for
 33 our way of living since time immemorial. So that was very
 34 important to make that -- to make it aware to the Federal
 35 Subsistence Board, that subsistence is a human right.

36

37 And, again, the introduction on page four, five,
 38 quickly, the Board, meaning the Federal Subsistence Board, in
 39 their April meeting considered the proposals from Southeast
 40 Regional Council to authorize hunters to take wildlife on
 41 behalf of others. So the proposals were initially worded to
 42 allow residents disabled by age or physical handicaps to
 43 designate other qualified subsistence users to take wildlife on
 44 their behalf. In the modified versions, the Southeast Regional
 45 Council extended the approach to authorize any subsistence user
 46 residing in Management Units One through Five to designate
 47 another qualified subsistence user from the same area to take
 48 wildlife on their behalf. So they considered that in April.

49

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1 Again, another one from Kodiak, authorizing qualified
2 rural to hunt deer for another.

3

4 The Board considered -- or expressed concern about --
5 from these two regions could have serious implications on which
6 -- which required further examination, so therefore the Board
7 directed the working task force -- I mean, which became the
8 Designated Task Force to look at this designated hunter to hunt
9 for somebody that cannot hunt any more for

10

11 This report describes, analyzes, and offers
12 recommendations on several alternative approaches to
13 authorizing hunters to take wildlife on behalf of others.
14 These chapters result from an extensive consultation and team
15 writing effort. Representatives of the Regional Councils, the
16 Federal Interagency Staff Committee, the Federal agencies, and
17 the Alaska Department of Fish & Game met in July and also again
18 in August.

19

20 So between those two meetings, we came up with four
21 options, one being local management option, you see on page
22 seven, a tribal management option, these meaning how they would
23 manage the designated hunter if it was to be passed. Tribal
24 management option, community harvest option approach, and the
25 designated hunters option approach. And there are some
26 appendix and other information related to that fact.

27

28 So I'll go ahead and do the summary for each of the
29 options real quick. Is there any question so far on this?

30

31 So, working on the designated task force, we came up
32 with four options, or different committees had various options
33 to look at, so Tom Lohman and myself and the people from the
34 North Slope, I thank them very much, we worked on the local
35 management option section. Sheldon Katchatag and others worked
36 on the tribal management option, and so on and so forth for the
37 other two options. Various different committees came up with
38 these, so

39

40 In summary, the local management option provides for
41 local, sociopolitical bodies, such as the North Slope Borough
42 would be an example, or a city government, for the bodies to
43 manage the harvest of subsistence resources.

44

45 The local management option provides for a management
46 system which could be tailored to meet local customs,
47 traditions, and conditions including the harvesting of
48 resources for others.

49

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1 It most likely proves successful in communities and/or
 2 areas that are socially, politically and culturally
 3 homogeneous.

4

5 The local management option most likely prove
 6 successful in communities and/or areas with governmental
 7 infrastructures already in place, like -- like I was saying,
 8 North Slope Borough or those other villages that have the
 9 governmental infrastructures in place.

10

11 Most likely prove successful in communities and/or
 12 areas that have some experience in self-regulation of
 13 subsistence harvest.

14

15 And, again, the local management option would most
 16 likely prove successful in communities and/or areas where
 17 stocks of species are contained within the geographic region or
 18 regulatory control.

19

20 In there they have different scenarios, will it work
 21 for communities fewer than 400? More than 400 to 1,000? Or
 22 all this management work for areas that have communities more
 23 than 1,000 residents? Again, in summary, it would most likely
 24 prove successful in the local political bodies were in place.

25

26 Tribal management option. I'll go over the summary on
 27 this. Again, they gave a scenario, will this work in
 28 communities with 400 or less, like in Lime Village or Kaktovik?
 29 Will it work to 400 to 1,000 people, like maybe Point Hope,
 30 Fort Yukon, Glennallen, and also 1,000 residents or more, like
 31 Sitka and Barrow.

32

33 I know I'm kind of going over this real quick light. I
 34 wanted to go over the summary of each option, so it will give
 35 an idea of what this management option may -- may provide.

36

37 Again, tribal management option provides for local
 38 tribal bodies to manage subsistence resources.

39

40 It could be tailored to meet local customs, traditions,
 41 and conditions, including the harvest of resources for non-
 42 hunters.

43

44 The tribal management option provides for hunters to
 45 harvest subsistence resources which could be -- would be shared
 46 with the village.

47

48 The option may prove successful with tribal bodies that
 49 have some experience with self-regulation of subsistence

50

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harvests.

2

3 It may prove successful if area stocks of species are
4 contained within the area of a tribal regulatory control.

5

6 The customary and traditional practices will determine
7 the nature in harvesting and sharing of resources.

8

9 And it will also could allow harvest monitoring by
10 tribal officials.

11

12 There were special situation questions and
13 considerations made on these tribal management option, and --
14 any questions on that option while we're there?

15

16 MR. C. BROWER: Mr. Chairman?

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie?

19

20 MR. C. BROWER: I have something to say. Whoever wrote
21 this did a good work on their behalf to determine what is
22 designated hunter, community bag, self-management, local
23 management and stuff like that, but to be recognized long
24 before we were recognized as the tribal for IRA council, we
25 were recognized in early -- if I'm write, in early '34,
26 somewhere around there, and that act gave us from the Federal
27 status point to manage our own human resources, or natural
28 resources that are within our surrounding. And to make a
29 report kind of advice us of going a direction, reading by these
30 folks, is overriding the act that was provided -- provided to
31 us in early '34, where we are Federally-recognized tribes and
32 we have that option in our -- in that Act to have management
33 control. And for someone to tell us to go this way is out of
34 line. But whoever wrote these did their best to compromise
35 with what -- what is their jobs. So that's all I wanted to
36 say.

37

38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That 1934 Act is the

39

40 MR. C. BROWER: When -- where all tribal

41

42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: the Federally-recognized
43 tribes?

44

45 MR. C. BROWER: Yes. And in that they're recognized to
46 manage their own resources.

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That is one of the reasons why
49 tribal management option is in there. We did not want to lose

50

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that option to manage -- possibly manage our own resources, so that could be an option under that, what did you say, 1934 Act, or the IRA councils, or what that were, local borough.

4

5 MR. C. BROWER: And also, Mr. Chairman, to appoint a designated hunter, it's quite obvious as an indigenous people throughout Alaska, we always have hunted for the people that can't go out and hunt no more. It's a common sense, it's our customary and traditional way of providing fresh food for the elderly, for the disabled, and who can't provide them for themselves, you know, that has been on-going for as long as we've lived. I mean, your Uncle Edward could

13

14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Eddie? Edward?

15

16 MR. E. HOPSON: Well, I don't know, these are many options. And I have a question about are there any regions that are -- that the management is under the tribal authority or whatever in the Native community in Alaska?

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I think -- yeah.

22

23 MR. E. HOPSON: Are they managing their

24

25 MR. ITTA: Maybe

26

27 MR. E. HOPSON: fish and game like that?

28

29 MR. ITTA: Maybe I can help our Chairman out, and that's a good question, and that's a good question. During the meetings with the Federal Subsistence Board, a lot of regions weren't happy with the way this system got set up like it is right now. And they talked about just what you're saying. How come we already have this right? How come we can't manage locally?" And what the issue is right now is what's in place what's in place. (In Inupiat) Just what you said, even with the ICS, the regional council, or the local government, the North Slope Borough, or even more local to the local level. (In Inupiat) They're trying to look at all of those, and then start discussions on how best can we manage our own, the ones that have been here, that live here, that live off the land, how can we manage better and have control? I just wanted to make that clarification. A lot of those concerns came up at the regional meeting to the Federal Subsistence Board along with the Wildlife Service, the agencies we deal with on how come we can't, how come it's got to be this way, so I just wanted to make that little bit of clarification, that now these are options that are being discussed that are before us, and are going to continue to be before us, and hopefully we're going to

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get to a point where we will be able to manage and have the authority to be able to manage or co-manage our own resources. (In Inupiat) And that's about the nuts and bolts of I think, Winton?

5

6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yep. Exactly. But to

7

8 MR. C. BROWER: Now, Mr. Chairman

9

10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: answer Edward's question, I think in Lime Village or -- there's a caribou management -- who is that run by? Can somebody answer?

13

14 MR. C. BROWER: Lime Village is -- Venetie is a reservation and they have their own tribal

16

17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No, there was one over by Seward Peninsula. Could -- Jim or -- Elim?

19

20 MR. H. BROWER: Oh, Elim, yeah.

21

22 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The caribou, the Kobuk, is that what you're talking about?

24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Kilbuck, yeah.

26

27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Kilbuck, yeah.

28

29 MR. KURTH: Kilbuck is

30

31 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's in Unit 18.

32

33 MR. KURTH: Yeah. And that's a little bit different. There basically we've got a cooperative management group that work with the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, and we all will plan together on how that -- that herd would be managed, set targets of what numbers would be killed, and then we decided there, and in a couple other places, that the villages decided how to divide up the harvest by themselves. We didn't say this village gets this many. They decided how to do that. We've done that, too, in the Nushagak caribou herd down by Dillingham. We've got another cooperative management group that basically sits down together and writes a plan on how the resource should be managed. People from the village are part of writing it, and they have a big role in making those decisions.

47

48 And I think that's the thrust of a lot of this is we don't know there's a lot of laws that maybe I don't understand

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too much that constrain how we go through the steps, but the goal is to make sure that the people in the villages who use the resource have a lot of say on how the seasons and the customs and traditions are accommodated, and I think Fenton worked very hard on this group, and I think that was the overriding theme, is how can we allow for the custom and tradition of sharing resources in the villages, knowing now that our regulations constrain that. How do we get to a point, and that's why we've asked you folks for help.

10

11 MR. E. HOPSON: All right. The reason why I raised the question is we people on the -- on the North Slope, we talked about the tribal governments which are either IRA or we talk about the native villages in each community, and maybe we have some -- some villages on the North Slope that are capable of taking over the management in their -- in the community, but we're talking about being in the North Slope, being resident of the North Slope, we are -- we have a pretty well established fish and game boards within the North Slope Borough, but if we leave it as it, because it is well organized, rather than say, here, Barrow, you be, in Inupiat community of the -- of the Arctic, which is IRA, or Native Village of Barrow.

23

24 Is there anything that we could be missing as far as regulation go, like this subject we're talking about? He goes out and take caribou for me, because I'm disabled. Are we going to be barred from doing that if we were to take over the management or co-management with the Fish & Game? Is that -- are we going to be prohibited from doing that as -- because of our co-management with Fish & Game is with the municipality and North Slope Borough? That's my question.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. I don't think so, Edward. The -- that's what the various options come up for, to -- each region or each region will have different options for maybe a community harvest for sheep. Right now it's a designated hunter. And if the Borough were to take it over, they -- they could follow the

39

40 MR. E. HOPSON: Well, you can make -- the Borough can make use of a lot of the home rule charter, that

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Right.

44

45 MR. E. HOPSON: that is.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It would probably be more -- a lot more flexible

49

50

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1 MR. E. HOPSON: Yeah.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: than the

4

5 MR. E. HOPSON: The North Slope Borough is also --
6 ought to be in -- in that charter. The reason why

7

8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, right now they're saying that
9 the

10

11 MR. E. HOPSON: The reason why I'm mentioning all this
12 because unless -- unless the Inupiat Community of the Arctic
13 or the Native Village of Barrow, here I'm talking about Barrow,
14 unless they are fully organized with staff and all of that, you
15 know, where they can have all kinds of meetings to become -- to
16 be part of the management team, with co-management, or take
17 over the management. If they were able, that's fine, but I
18 think presently until we see that some of these options that
19 are available in Barrow, I think we have to stick with the
20 North Slope Borough management Fish & Game committee.

21

22 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman?

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

25

26 MR. UPICKSON: Co-Chair. Why are the local and tribal
27 management options not within the regulatory framework of the
28 way the Board is designed? Why -- why is it not within the
29 regulatory framework now? These first two options, the local
30 and the tribal government management options?

31

32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, that's a -- I couldn't answer
33 that. Charlie?

34

35 MR. C. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, I can say something. You
36 know, you're Federally recognized. You have the same option
37 and same power and same regulations as the Federal Government
38 have, where you're recognized to initiate the same amount of
39 directions for management on your resources, but due to some
40 difficulties, the Federal Government is trying -- has overridden
41 the tribal laws and IRA councils where within their -- within
42 their right, their -- that's their option?

43

44 MR. E. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman?

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward?

47

48 MR. E. HOPSON: You have one question behind you back
49 there.

50

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1

2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Jim?

3

4 MR. KURTH: She's asking me to get by a mike. For
5 those of you

6

7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

8

9 MR. KURTH: who didn't know me before, I used to
10 be the Deputy Assistant Regional Director for Subsistence, Dick
11 Pospahala's deputy. I don't do that any more, but I still
12 remember some answers. I'm not an Indian lawyer -- do you need
13 me up there?

14

15 COURT REPORTER: I'd prefer it, so we have a better
16 transcript that way.

17

18 MR. KURTH: I thought I would just real briefly though
19 tell you why the Board has some problems with these two
20 options, and it's not that they don't think that the concepts
21 have merit, but there are legal questions there that the
22 Board's wrestling with. And let me try and explain them very
23 quickly.

24

25 The United States recognizes the tribes in Alaska as
26 sovereign tribes. That's just flat out regulation. We do
27 recognize them as having sovereign powers. But generally the
28 ability of a tribe to regulate fish and wildlife is limited to
29 what they call in law Indian country lands, which in the Lower
30 is pretty easy to understand. It's -- it's reservation
31 lands, or sometimes other lands where there's a treaty. Well,
32 all of you know better than I that Alaska is different, and the
33 way that the Native Claims Settlement Act laid things out
34 created corporations, and to date there is a legal argument
35 going on in the courts on whether or not lands owned by Alaska
36 natives are Indian country. And generally it's been the
37 position of the United States that corporation land, for
38 example, is not Indian country, though -- therefore, even
39 though tribes are sovereign, they don't have the power to
40 regulate fish and wildlife on those lands.

41

42 Now, please understand, I'm not here to defend that.
43 I'm just going to tell you that that's been a legal
44 interpretation that's been given to the Board, and so for
45 tribes to regulate that, there would have to be, one, a court
46 decision that says tribes can, or some new legal opinion from
47 the high powers in Washington.

48

49 Likewise, the same thing would hold true for another

50

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form of government besides a tribe, and generally the laws in the United States say that the states are given the responsibilities for management of fish and wildlife within the state. Now, the Federal Government on Federal lands retain some powers, but generally the Constitution of the United States allows for states to manage fish and wildlife, and it would be something that the State would have to decide to do to yield that authority to someone else, and to my knowledge, nowhere in the United States has a state given the power to regulate resident fish and game to anyone other than the state itself.

12

13 And so those are the two things that the Board sees as roadblocks. They're legal arguments, and I'm not here to be a lawyer for you. I just felt that maybe you would like to hear a little bit of that explanation. There -- you can challenge it or not agree with it, but there is a reason, and that's what it is, so

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Jim. Eddie?

21

22 MR. E. HOPSON: I can see -- I understand a little bit of all of the different agencies. I -- I wish I can -- I'm going to say something here, and I don't want to offend anybody, because I'm going to be mentioning people that are representing different agencies.

27

28 If the Federal Government, the State of Alaska, Wildlife Refuge, BLM, and all those agencies would turn all the management over to the native communities so we can run it ourselves, there's no hassle. We can do it. But as long as all these agencies involved, BLM, Federal Government, State of Alaska, Fish & Game Board, the different Federal and State all involved say you cannot do things over here, you can only do this over here, you cannot do that over here, we -- this is what we're fighting all the time, you know, to free up some of our -- some of our subsistence or native way of life. We will see we're going to have -- I wish there were a lot of meetings like that, so we can straighten things out. But the Federal Government, and the State of Alaska and four or five different agencies of Federal involving land and -- and fish and game, the same with the State of Alaska, they're all spending money to take care of management, that I think we can successfully run ourselves if it was given to us. You same Federal Government money, four or five different agencies that are involved, you forget about us. You don't spend money on trying to tell us what to do with our resources. State and Federal, all the agencies. Look at all the millions and billions of dollars you're going to save I'm sure, but I think we are now

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capable of managing. If you give it to us, we'll find in -- on the North Slope, we find the right agency, so we have one controlling management agency for the -- for all the North Slope.

5

6 It's -- it's painful sometimes, but like I've said, I believe in management of resources, whether it's animal or anything that grows on the ground. The mammal, the fish, and all the resources. I believe in management of all of those properly. We have to save them for

11

12 I don't -- I don't never, ever fight back whenever -- when somebody imposes, that is that have the authority to impose closed season on some of the games that are -- that our people eating or whatever. I'm like that. Because they are doing it for us.

17

18 So what I'm saying is, as long as everybody's involved, just talk about the North Slope, BLM, industry, Federal Government, Fish & Game, Bureau of Land Management, and everybody concerned, are very much involved in trying to regulate our subsistence lifestyle. Let's think about it. I know -- I know after this meeting we're not going to see any more of you people. We welcome you for -- for all your -- all the work that's been done, and I think the North Slope people through Eskimo Whaling Commission has proved that whatever they did as far as whaling when it was banned, was very proper and and something that was saved through the efforts of Eskimo Whaling Commission and the North Slope Borough and all those people involved.

31

32 So the thing is, it's hard, it's very painful for me sometimes, how the regulations are made, closed seasons and open seasons for many, many of our people, so I hope that we can come to some -- some agreement to say that this is the proper way to manage our resources, wherever we are, wherever the -- not only the fish and game, but all the other resources, the oil that is available, and it hurts sometimes.

39

40 Open up -- open up lease sale, where it's very dangerous out in the deep waters and a lot of ice, and all of that. They have a -- you have an accident out there with a well, a blow-out in the ocean, I don't have to tell you how much resource we're going to lose. In the whale migration pattern, off shore is very dangerous. I wish I could -- we would be able to tell the -- those people that are selling lease sale to stay on mainland, unless you need to go off shore, where it's safe. I think it's safer to do oil exploration and development on mainland, where you can prevent

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it better. There is a lot of technology according to all of that, prevention from blow-out from all of that already in existence, but the oil companies still admits we -- we develop technology as we go. That means there is no technology to clean up ocean, the Chukchi Sea, the Beaufort Sea in case of a wintertime blow-out. There's no way that they can clean up under ice in case of that. That means what are we losing? All the sea mammal, the fish, whatever swims in Chukchi Sea and Beaufort Sea. Thank you.

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Eddie. It's 5:00 o'clock. I think we need to finish this very important topic, and I want to find out -- or see what the consensus is on an evening meeting. I don't see any smiling faces on an evening meeting. They look kind of grim for evening meeting I guess. Maybe that might be out of the -- out of the question, so

17

18 MR. H. BROWER: Defer it until next meeting.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So it looks like the -- it definitely looks like no evening meeting tonight, so maybe -- well, what is the wish of the Board, to continue tomorrow on this topic, or should I hear you say to table this until the next --? No?

25

26 MR. H. BROWER: No.

27

28 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman?

29

30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

31

32 MR. UPICKSON: The -- this report from the task force came up with options. We can't vote for the ones we prefer, but if we give them guidelines on how to develop proposals for our region, for Region Ten, for the -- the report,

36

37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

38

39 MR. UPICKSON:

40 the bottom line is that we can't vote for the ones we prefer, but we can develop proposals as applicable for our -- develop proposals for our region.

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

44

45 MR. UPICKSON: That we can do. Not any of these -- we can't say we prefer this or we prefer that, but we can develop proposals for our region, until we -- until they get those task force can solve it, so

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Right. Yeah, it would be

2

3 MR. UPICKSON: but we can develop proposals for
4 our region.

5

6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, it will be like for instance
7 hunting for somebody else, you know.

8

9 MR. UPICKSON: Uh-huh.

10

11 UNIDENTIFIED: Mr. Chair?

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Barbara? All right, Helen.

14 Ms. Armstrong.

15

16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I just -- I had one thing I was just
17 going to add, that I didn't know whether everybody knew this or
18 not, maybe they do, but Taqulik was telling me about this, that
19 the -- that the North Slope Borough has established three, or
20 is four harvest monitors that they're doing?

21

22 MS. OPIE: We have funding to pay our people in part
23 time in the villages.

24

25 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And I -- it's my understanding it's
26 only -- it's not in all the villages yet, but you were going to
27 start with just a few villages, is that right?

28

29 MR. C. BROWER: No, we're going to start with the whole
30 North Slope.

31

32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The whole North Slope, but -- and
33 when what I was going to say is that that would fit very nicely
34 into some of these, would require somebody to record, like if
35 you did a community bag limit, harvest limit, that you -- would
36 require you to record how many -- how many people were getting.
37 And so that that would tie in real nicely with a system you
38 already have in place, which is an advantage you have over
39 other places in the State where they're going to have to figure
40 out some way of doing that. And so that -- you know, I'm -- in
41 a lot of ways you're going to -- it will be easier for you to
42 implement something when you do put -- when you put forth a
43 proposal, if you put one to the Board, you can say that we
44 already have this in place with the North Slope Borough of
45 having this harvest recorder, you know, recognized.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

48

49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I just wanted to make that point.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right.
3
4 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair?
5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward?
7
8 MR. ITTA: If I can comment continuation of our
9 meeting, we had originally scheduled two days, and I know some
10 people got to leave in the morning, and then some have to go on
11 to Wainwright here, too, but I'd suggest that we go ahead and
12 continue with our agenda tomorrow morning and try to finish up
13 as soon as we can here this evening, and I would so move.
14
15 UNIDENTIFIED: Second.
16
17 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman, what your co-chair said,
18 we followed our agenda, we're coming to proposals, and we're
19 coming to the proposal form, and I believe that would fall in
20 line with what we can do as a board. And I think your
21 co-chair's suggestion that we continue with our agenda tonight
22 has merit, because a lot of the people here cannot -- cannot
23 make it tomorrow.
24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Right. Okay. All right. That's
26 fine with me. I know I wanted to thank those folks that made
27 an effort to come over here, and we want to invite them an
28 opportunity to finish business here, and also make
29 presentations to our Council, I'm ready for a meeting tonight
30 -- I think these are important, and Edward has a good
31 suggestion there. And it's been moved and seconded. Any other
32 discussions on that?
33
34 MR. ITTA: Call for the question.
35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. The question's called. All
37 in favor of continuing -- or having a recess and continue this
38 evening, go with our agenda, signify by saying aye?
39
40 IN UNISON: Aye.
41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed?
43
44 (No opposing responses)
45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So we'll -- we'll be back, try and
47 get back here at 7:00.
48
49 (Off record)
50

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1
2 (On record)

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Joint meeting of the North Slope
5 Fish & Game Management Committee, and the North Slope
6 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council to order. Good evening,
7 everybody. I want to express my thanks and gratitude again for
8 your efforts to come to our meeting, a meeting to try and take
9 care of some of the issues that are before us, and we were
10 talking on the -- talking about the Designated Hunter Task
11 Force, and there were some questions regarding Charlie's
12 question and Eddie's question, why one has the jurisdiction
13 over the other, and that question is being sent -- was sent to
14 Washington, D.C., and we should hear something back in our
15 February meeting on that issue, so as far as the tribal
16 management option is concerned, and I'm sure that the local
17 management probably follows along with that, as reported in
18 this update of the Designated Hunter Task Force summary. So as
19 where we stopped was at the tribal management, and there were
20 no more options to look at.

21
22 Was there anything else under these two before we move
23 on to the community harvest option and the designated hunter
24 option? Any -- if not, I'll go ahead and go over the summary
25 of the community harvest option, which is page -- found on page
26
27

28 MR. UPICKSON: In?

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: In this -- in this Designated Hunter
31 Task Force report. Yeah, that one right there. Page 24 is the
32 summary of the community harvest option.

33
34 Provides for hunters to harvest subsistence resources
35 that are shared.

36
37 Provides for allocations based on subsistence studies,
38 permit data, and/or consultation with the Regional Advisory
39 Council.

40
41 Allows customary and traditional practices to influence
42 the manner in which resources are harvested and shared.

43
44 Allows harvest monitoring to be done by a community
45 official.

46
47 Would be most successful on -- in non-road connected
48 culturally and socially homogenous communities with less than
49 400 people.

50

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1
2 Would be difficult, but perhaps possible, in
3 communities with 400 to 1,000 residents.

4
5 Would be practical -- impractical for communities with
6 more than 1,000 residents.

7
8 And it is applicable to situations when the harvestable
9 surplus must be allocated between subsistence users.

10
11 So, again, these -- this option was -- had various
12 scenarios and they had community characteristics where this
13 community harvest option worked for communities with fewer than
14 400, more than 400 to 1,000, and 1,000 residents or more, can
15 this option work for those types of communities. So in between
16 that, on page 20 they're saying that the -- for smaller
17 communities that this option could work, and for those over
18 1,000 it would be -- would be impractical, so there's room for
19 arguments on that scenario, too, so

20
21 Again, they had resource characteristics, what would
22 happen if the community -- if the harvestable totals were
23 limited. It would -- it would allow for rationing resources if
24 the resources were low. The option would work with deer,
25 caribou, moose, and other species, so that could work good.

26
27 So, anyway Kaktovik was -- they presented a proposal
28 for community harvest, I'll use this as an example. Kaktovik,
29 customary, traditionally had a community harvest altogether (In
30 Kupiat).

31
32 I want to pause for a moment and welcome our friend
33 from Anaktuvuk Pass.

34
35 MR. C. BROWER: Wait, all together, one -- no.

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So, Ben Hopson is from Anaktuvuk
38 Pass, and I'm glad you made it here, Ben, so

39
40 MR. B. HOPSON: Yeah. Well, the weather kind of held
41 me up.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

44
45 MR. B. HOPSON: Been days up there.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Well, we're glad you could make it.
48 We're in the -- in our agenda, we're on 10(A).

49
50

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1 UNIDENTIFIED: 10(E). 10(C).

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 10(C), Designated hunter Report.
4 Quickly, this designated hunter was -- report was presented by
5 the task force of various Federal agencies, State agencies and
6 the Regional Chairs, and/or representatives. So we're at this
7 point of community harvest option.

8

9 I was just going to bring out that the Village of
10 Kaktovik wanted -- or the Community of Kaktovik wanted -- had
11 requested a community harvest for sheep, because traditionally
12 they go out hunting together in a group. And this has been
13 going on for years and years, and still going on today, that
14 under the present regulations, we as a community hunters are
15 breaking the rules right, you know, from day one, so when they
16 make the rules and regulations, because the way we hunted, our
17 group, however many they are, brought all the sheep they get
18 together and put it in a pile, and even if one guy didn't catch
19 a sheep or anything, he would have equally like everybody else,
20 you know, bring home for Thanksgiving and -- and Christmas.
21 And this is the option that our community wanted to use for
22 sheep, 'cause we hunted in a group as a community, for our
23 community for Thanksgiving and/or Christmas celebration.

24

25 So for some areas or some communities would prefer this
26 option, and I know Kaktovik will be requesting in the near
27 future this option for sheep hunting, rather than present day
28 it's a designated hunter, which is the next option right now
29 that we'll look at. Today's regulation we are under designated
30 hunter for sheep.

31

32 So in summary, I'm just using that as a real example,
33 that Kaktovik will go forth for sheep regulation using the
34 community harvest option. Because you'll see some restrictions
35 again in designated hunter for sheep.

36

37 So the next option is designated hunters option, or
38 hunters. This -- again, the State have regulations, tried a
39 proxy. They call it proxy hunting, and I think not more than
40 95% of those permits went to Fairbanks and Anchorage, because
41 we did not know about proxy hunting regulations in the
42 communities, which is a fairly new regulation, so this is
43 another, our final option. One of the four, to hunt -- to
44 have somebody hunt for those that cannot hunt, that are
45 elderly, disabled, or unable to go out and get -- to harvest
46 wildlife.

47

48 So this option enables one hunter to harvest wildlife
49 for one or more other qualified subsistence users who have the

50

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appropriate licenses, tags and permits, but who do not wish to harvest for themselves or wish assistance with harvesting their subsistence resources.

4

5 The designated hunter option addresses the subsistence need for efficient hunting practices, so -- and we give the background on that. The option enables a person designated by a qualified subsistence user to harvest wildlife consistent with provision of the tags, licenses and permits by non-harvesting subsistence user. Providing this opportunity for qualified rural residents users to obtain subsistence resources without harvesting the resources themselves will facilitate the customary and traditional use of wildlife for sustenance, bartering, and for the continuation of traditional ceremonies.

15

16 The hunters must

17

18 MR. H. HOPSON: Fenton, excuse me

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

21

22 MR. H. HOPSON: for interruption. I know you're reading from the -- from the pages here, but I can't keep up with you. Where are you at now?

25

26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'm at, I'm sorry, I'm at page 25, the first page of the designated hunter.

28

29 MR. E. HOPSON: Oh, okay. Thanks.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So, if I'm going too fast, just let me know if you can't understand or just speak up. (In Inupiat) We want everyone to understand these various options and to take home with them or come up with proposals to use a couple of these options to hunt for somebody that can't.

36

37 So, again, they must have licenses, be a resident of a rural Alaska community as defined by a certain regulations here. Must have tags and permits on the person and so on and forth. So they kind of in essence write -- write out the various things that must happen if this option is to be used.

42

43 Again, the different scenarios on page 27 where this option, designated hunter options work for residents or communities with fewer than 400, with four to 1,000, and/or more than 1,000. So with.....

47

48 I think going over the summary will help us again, which is on page 32, will give us a summary of this option.

50

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1
2 This option, designated hunter option provides for
3 qualified rural resident hunters to harvest subsistence
4 resources for other subsistence users.

5
6 Both hunter and non-hunting subsistence users must
7 obtain licenses and required tags and permits.

8
9 To designate a hunter, the person to whom the tags and
10 permits were originally issued must print their name, sign,
11 date, give the name of their community or area of residence,
12 and enter the number of their current valid hunting license on
13 each tag and permit. So you can see there's things that we'd
14 need to be done to work on this option.

15
16 Tags and permits can be distributed among designated
17 hunters.

18
19 By using the existing -- by using existing license,
20 tags, and permits, no additional administration, or harvest
21 monitoring is required.

22
23 Option is not affected by community size or character.

24
25 Option will work with any species of animal.

26
27 Option will not accommodate party hunting.

28
29 So

30
31 MR. C. BROWER: Mr. Chairman?

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie?

34
35 MR. C. BROWER: I have a question. The outlines that
36 have been written here as a designated hunter, must be -- must
37 have a valid hunting license and qualified residence, and must
38 assure that they have the tags and permits for some of the
39 people they're going to hunt for. Now, with the State law,
40 once you're what, 55? Once you're 55 you're not -- 59? You
41 can't have a state license, or you're eligible hunter?

42
43 MR. CARROLL: 60 years.

44
45 MR. C. BROWER: 59, 60? Or 60?

46
47 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

48
49 MR. C. BROWER: When you're 60 years old, you don't
50

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need a license, right?

2

3 MR. CARROLL: Well, you have to have a license, but you
4 get a permanent license.

5

6 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah. Right. What I'm trying to get
7 is most of the folks that we go out and hunt for, the elderly,
8 doesn't really go for a license, and if I'm -- if I'm out there
9 and I'm caught, and I have 45 caribou, and one license and one
10 permit, but I'm hunting for so many elders, what are my chances
11 of -- that's a question that I would come up to the task force
12 I guess. What are the options I would be having if I -- if
13 they say I'm not complying with the regulations?

14

15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: If the elderly doesn't have a
16 license or number or tags? I think Geoff was saying that they
17 must have a license to get those permits and tags.

18

19 MR. C. BROWER: But once you're 60,

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think there's a lifetime license
22 number issued, isn't there? Ed? Eddie, do you have a real
23 sample of what they

24

25 MR. E. HOPSON: Yeah, it reads that -- it's got my name
26 on it, my address, "this person named above has certified that
27 he or she is 60 years of age or older, and has been a resident
28 of Alaska for one year or more. The bearer's personal
29 description," and then my birth date and all that. I've had
30 this since 1990. I mean, I could have had it before, but

31

32 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah. Now, what I would say

33

34 MR. E. HOPSON: I was 60 years old a long time ago.

35

36 MR. C. BROWER: What I was saying, some of them, most
37 of the elderly would not

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Yeah. Do not have those.

40

41 MR. C. BROWER: would not have applied for these
42 under some circumstances. You know that. And -- but at the
43 same time we go out and hunt for them. I know there's -- you
44 know, for compliance we have to have their permit.

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That would be an administrative, I
47 think administrative issue I think where

48

49 MR. C. BROWER: Well, that's just one other scenario

50

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that might come up, that we -- you know, we follow the designated hunter. I can go out and hunt for anyone that I see won't be going out hunting, and give them my share, or the share.

5

6 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman?

7

8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon. I'm sorry, Gordon.

9

10 MR. UPICKSON: Yes, I could see where he's coming from. 11 Supposing that you were going out and hunt for an elderly 12 lady, they're requiring the elderly lady to have a hunting 13 license. Even though it doesn't cost anything, they're 14 requiring something that normally doesn't happen in our 15 additional and customary -- C & T.

16

17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I think it

18

19 MR. UPICKSON: We're requiring something of our elders 20 that is uncalled for. A native elder, a widow, for instance, 21 80 years old, and we go out and hunt for her, and she's -- 22 require her to get a license? Holy cow, you know. A native 23 that can't hunt?

24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. A good scenario, Charlie.

26

27 MR. C. BROWER: Do you want some more?

28

29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think we could work it out though. 32 It could be worked out. Eddie?

33

34 MR. E. HOPSON: The very thing that focused on as 35 mentioning, is there a penalty for I to go out and provide some 36 food for this 80-year old lady, she didn't have a license, she 37 don't have a license, am I in violation of some law when I -- 38 when I'm providing some meat? And is there a penalty for that? 39 I mean, if there is a penalty for that, I'm going to ignore 40 that penalty and get penalized for helping the old lady out.

41

42 MR. CARROLL: Not under current regulations. Under the 43 current regulations, you can go out and take your five caribou 44 day or whatever and give it to whoever you want. Under this 45 designated, in the way it's written here.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, it's -- Jim?

48

49 MR. KRUTH: That's -- the intent was only when -- like

50

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When Geoff said, if you take your five caribou and you share it, that's fine. But the point of all this was sometimes five's not enough. Maybe there's a couple of elderly people that you're going to provide for, and the whole idea was to recognize that sometimes your own bag limit's not enough for the sharing in the village, and how can we come up with something that will work, allow you to catch more than just your limit when it needs to be shared. And so the notion is what -- what would be a way that would work in order to, you know, be able to catch more than just your limit.

11

12 MR. C. BROWER: Well, you know, I'm not going to travel, 60, 70 miles and get my five -- limit of five and come all the way back, transport them back, and go back another 60 miles. That's a waste of time. Where the resources are there within my reach, I can get 35, 40, and at the same time when I get home, I can distribute them to people I see that needs it, but at the same time, for that purpose, I might be cited for over-hunting on a single hunt.

20

21 MR. KRUTH: That's really why the State came up with this proxy permit that they have was to recognize that people do go hunt for people that are elderly, and that people that can't hunt for themselves. But what we found from some of our Regional Councils was that the State's proxy permit wasn't working, that it required both people, even the handicapped person to go to an office and get a permit, and what our office felt like was, well, rather than us trying to invent a new permit, why don't we ask the people that hunt what a better way may be to administer this program. Nobody's against the idea of hunting for elders or hunting for someone that can't hunt themselves, but how do you do that, you know, in a way that will -- you can track and manage the resource.

34

35 MR. C. BROWER: But also you have those hot shot wildlife enforcement people that goes by the book and don't care what regulations are going to. They -- they're -- they will insist right there that you're a violator, even though you explain the procedure, not knowing and not having a permit from the elder, unable hunters, and not having no license required for that, and I am stopped, I'll probably get cited and take to court, unless I explain and explain and explain, and do something. And that's where, you know, there's some problems with the designated hunter. We know for a fact that some of the enforcement persons or whoever is out there patrolling have that instinct to go by the book, "this is all I'm going to go by for," you know.

48

49 MR. KRUTH: I think the goal is to change the book that
50

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they go by so that

2

3 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah.

4

5 MR. KRUTH: so that (indiscernible)

6

7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

8

9 MR. C. BROWER: But you may change the book, but you
 10 don't going to change the person working for the Federal
 11 Government. Once they go by the book, they'll go by the book.
 12 So

13

14 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman?

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

17

18 MR. UPICKSON: You say that this may be simply an
 19 administrative problem, you know. If there's a way of wording
 20 so the disabled person or the elderly or the widow can get
 21 tags and permit so she can give it to a designated hunter
 22 without having a license, that would solve the problem. If a
 23 disabled person or the elderly person or the widow can get tags
 24 a designated hunter would be required to have a license, but
 25 she wouldn't. She can designate a licensed hunter to do it for
 26 her. It's administrative. I don't think the incentive is to
 27 incur a hardship for the recipient.

28

29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, that -- it is -- presently
 30 we're under a designated hunter in Kaktovik, and it is
 31 administrative, I don't want to call it nightmare, but a burden
 32 for the U.S.

33

34 UNIDENTIFIED: It's a nightmare.

35

36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Fish and Wildlife to issue the
 37 permits or tags, because their offices are in Fairbanks, and
 38 the users are in Barter Island, and it requires a lot of -- a
 39 lot of work to -- administrative hours and -- and they may stay
 40 there one or two days and, you know, we may need to have those
 41 permits year-round, so an option here and an option there might
 42 be able to fit it to a community where those license or tags
 43 that are required can be given to a hunter before -- I mean,
 44 you know, tribal -- we know who our elders are, and local
 45 folks. When we get to the local level, we know who our elders
 46 disabled people are, and I think that could alleviate the
 47 nightmares that are being tried by the various Federal
 48 agencies. And right now the designated hunter is a problem in
 49 Kaktovik, maybe in other areas, to issue permits and tags. And

50

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1f it was handled locally, that would be -- Eddie?

2

3 MR. E. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman, I think there's a lot of
4 stuff. I grew up, my parents -- people were sharing in Barrow.
5 I still do that. That's in the 19- -- late 20's and 30's.
6 I'm doing it. I'm giving away. I don't sell any fish or
7 whatever I take. I'm giving it away for neighbors, relatives.

8

9 In making up the regulations, and all these
10 requirements are making -- I think it's just creating that we
11 are going to violate the -- all these requirements. Tags and
12 permits and whatever from disabled people. That's a lot of --
13 what we're talking about is a lot of administration there
14 already that I won't even be able to take care of maybe. I'd
15 probably need a secretary to keep up with all the -- with all
16 the requirements, and whatever for subsistence uses, just to
17 bring a piece of meat to a neighbor, an elderly neighbor. So I
18 think if we leave all these requirements, let's -- let those of
19 us that are going to share whatever we catch and take, we'll
20 take care of it without any hassle or requirements. "Oh, oh, I
21 need a -- she needs a permit. She needs to sign this paper,
22 and I've got to report this to the Fish & Game," and that type
23 of thing. All I'm doing is to take a piece of meat to next
24 door neighbor, an elderly lady.

25

26 So I think in the -- in the regulations and whatever
27 that we have to follow, I think especially for those that are
28 giving away, that have excess game, you know, it's -- there is
29 just like the gentleman back there said earlier, if you have
30 you might not have enough to share. I have enough to share
31 all the time, even though it's the last piece of caribou that
32 I've got, if I need to -- if my next door neighbors need it,
33 I'm going to distribute all of it equally, just like myself.
34 That regulation, they don't tell me, "That's not big enough to
35 distribute. Keep it for yourself." That's not the idea. So I
36 think for some of those things that people responsible for
37 drawing up regulations and guidelines that we need to follow as
38 far as sharing, I think you better start thinking about
39 subtracting some of them, put some that are necessary.

40

41 MR. BANE: Just kind of a short -- well, I was up --
42 well, I can say it from here, but, you know, I lived up here
43 quite a few years ago, but I went out and hunted with local
44 folks, and as I recall, we were all designated hunters. When
45 you hunted with a crew, it didn't belong to you if you shot it,
46 belonged to the crew. And you separated -- you divided it.
47 I'm sure it's still worked that way. You just divided it up.
48 It doesn't matter whether you shot it or the guy next to you
49 shot it, everybody owned a piece of it. Everybody shared with

50

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it equally, and everybody gave it away. And if you shot four or five caribou, -- of course, in those days there wasn't any limit, and you brought it home, you were always expected to give at least some of that away. That's just the way things were done.

6

7 Maybe one of the things that needs to be done here is just document that very fact about that particular custom, which is so prevalent here, and then see what you can come up with that will fit that -- that way of doing business.

11

12 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair?

13

14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Eddie?

15

16 MR. ITTA: Under the current rules we live by, it's very true. I share Eddie's concerns. Legally we're stuck or we're bound by five caribou a day. That's the legal limit, bag limit a day. And what we've been talking about here on the community harvest option and the designated hunter options, are some ways that we can reach where we're -- what -- the point we're trying to get to, so that these rules and regulations don't apply. Like, for instance, the way I understand community harvest, if there is, like the Western Arctic caribou herd is what, 450,000 strong now? If there was an allocation of just so many thousand which will maintain the herd, and you're allowed to get so many, then those are distributed by community, and then that way no individual would have a limit, and that's more in line with our customary and traditional use.

30

31 And this is part of what we're trying to get to, I think, through -- through the -- through our function as an advisory council. We need help to develop those, and I want you to understand this, that our staff is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. And we all know and have had opinions about the Federal agencies that haven't helped us. They've hindered us over a lot of years, although some have had real good effort. There's still a big distance between the agency people and what we're trying to do, although it's coming closer together. And I agree, very strongly, when I was thinking back to what Eddie said, that all these agencies, all these millions of dollars, and they want to have their little thing. These guys want to have their little thing, their management, their responsibilities, and that's what this big meeting on -- that developed this was all about. I mean, there was just documents all about the concerns from the other Regional Councils similar to what we're going through here right now.

48

49 And what I would suggest is that I think we need our

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own staff, that -- like we've done like on our own management on the whales. We've got the best lawyers, we got the best people, and somehow bring it all together so that we live under a set of rules that are manageable for up here. That's what I think. At least that's what I understand as part of our effort that we're trying to do right here, working jointly together, and I welcome all these ideas and whatnot. It's real good. I like that. Koyana.

9

10 MR. C. BROWER: Mr. Chairman?

11

12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie?

13

14 MR. C. BROWER: In light of what Edward just stated here, you know, we stated earlier either have a co-management or cooperative effort. What I see here is a cooperative effort by the Federal agencies writing down on black and white paper what is available as an option of regulations that would be imposed to us in the future. These are what is being -- is being done. It's a cooperative effort by the Wildlife agency, Federal agencies. This is what we're writing down. And you will cooperate, we'll give it to you, do it.

23

24 The option has been given to us to make some additions, voice our own -- voice our own options, and if I'm going to voice my options, I'll -- I'd rather be there with the people that are making these subsistence to us as a co-management, as people wanting to be there and have something set and being done, not after it's done, and, "Here, you take it." That's the wrong approach. And this is what's happening right now, like I said earlier.

32

33 The folks that worked on this did a good job on making a presentation. But I will not fall for it, and I will not take it as a cooperative effort, and I will not take it like that. I'll rather have some directions along with the same people that are making these options for us, because everything that's been handed out to us has been done cooperatively by different agencies. They do it, they give it to us, you do it, and this is how it's going to be done.

41

42 MR. ITTA: Just a clarification again, Charlie, and I again, I don't want to give the impression that I wholeheartedly agree with this, too. This was developed by all ten regions

46

47 MR. C. BROWER: Right.

48

49 MR. ITTA: of the Advisory Councils with our

50

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staff. And our staff for all regions has been the U.S. Wildlife Service. So you can see our problem. But that's where we're at right now. This wasn't developed just by the Fish and Wildlife Service. This was developed by all -- all kinds of natives from all ten regions that had the very same ideas and thoughts that you're commenting about.

7
8 And they say, you know, the first two options aren't -- we can't even discuss them, they're not even a choice right now they say.

11
12 MR. C. BROWER: That

13
14 MR. ITTA: That's what they're telling us.

15
16 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah.

17
18 MR. ITTA: These are legal barriers that somehow we've got to -- we've got to bulldoze our way through, and get what we want. I just want you to understand that.

21
22 MR. C. BROWER: Right. I understand that, Mr. Itta. It's just -- from the start when all this thing started, the Regional Councils and the vice chairs would recognize this not be handing to them to take these to terminations for these people. We don't need it. And after going through some of it, that's why I was real curious, you know, some more regulations are being considered, and they're given to us as options. And more options. And more regulations, and we don't need that.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. I'll use a very true fact. A true fact I will use as a sample. Sheep. Kaktovik had requested again, a community harvest -- a community harvest option, and we got designated hunter option, and these are rules and regulations that we have to abide by. And the present regulation to catch sheep was one, and we were catching 10, 20, 60 as the official record for our community, and maybe two or three people got those 60. But right now we're under designated hunter, we could get three. One guy could get three, and as a designated hunter get three more for another person. That's still not enough. So in the future we'll go after a community harvest option, which our community would prefer to try and abide by the rules and regulations. A community quota, a community option, our community harvest for sheep as an example. It might be -- it might be different for Barrow region. So I'll use -- just using that as a sample. Designated hunter is -- does not work right for Kaktovik. We want community harvest option.

49
50

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1 MR. C. BROWER: (In Inupiat)

2

3 MR. ITTA: I agree with that, Charlie, and you know
 what we've been taught about following the laws, and working
 within what we have right now, even though I -- I totally
 disagree with this. I totally disagree with how the Federal
 Subsistence Board was even put together by the Department of
 Interior without any input from us. And we -- we're looking
 for help, too, and I -- you know, I wish we would just bulldoze
 our way through all this stuff and do what we want to, but I
 know we can't. We've got to work within what we have, and I
 always go back to statements that have been said and that we
 followed. We've got to get the best people, and the best
 brains altogether and -- and figure it out.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. That's -- Gordon?

17

18 MR. UPICKSON: Yes, as the Regional Advisory Council,
 we're funded X-amount of dollars, and Edward brought up a good
 point. It would help if we had our own staffs so we could put
 everything down in black and white and come to meetings with
 the other ten, but we don't have the funding to have a staff of
 our own. We just -- we're trying to function as an advisory
 council, and we're not funded. We don't have any funding for
 25 to hire our own staff. Your own Regional Advisory Council
 sitting right here, we don't have fundings to hire our own
 staff. That's a stumbling block that Edward mention a while
 ago. It would help if we had our own funding so that we could
 hire staff. We'd have -- our motion would have more clout, but
 we're -- we're not funded. And Edward brought up that point,
 we don't -- it would help if we had our own staff, but we can't
 32 we're not funded for it.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'll kind of follow through starting
 with Eddie Hopson's opinions and concerns, and I'm really for
 36 for turning the local management over to us, and we'll save
 the Federal U.S. Government millions of dollars, and they
 wouldn't be this headache, if we could get over the stumbling
 block like Edward is saying, that they're saying in black and
 white, however, we cannot use these options, and we could get
 over those. I wouldn't want to give up to see us lose our
 local management, and we've got the tools. We have the
 manpower, we have the resources, and it's stated in here that
 some of these resources will work. As you see for those that
 have the infrastructure, that have the governmental staffing in
 place, and it would work best if local management, no
 cooperative management, we manage, you cooperate. We want to
 48-manage. We want to be managers of our resources, and that
 would be a goal I think of all regional -- regional users.

50

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Councils. So

2

3 Again, we will use this as a guideline. Okay? I don't
 think there has to be a decision made to come up with
 proposals, and Kaktovik will use this as a guideline to go over
 a community harvest option rather than the designated hunter
 option, 'cause -- at Kaktovik for sheep at least, we'll go for
 a community harvest. And try to get -- come up with the best
 option to get our limit, to get more than what we -- more than
 what is required under the present regulations anyway.

11

12 All Regional Council chairs know that these rules and
 regulations do not comply -- or we do not hunt the way the
 regulations say, or the regulations just weren't -- weren't
 meant for us. So that's where this community or this Council
 and the committee here can use it as a tool to come up with
 proposals that will fit.

18

19 Helen?

20

21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I wanted to make a suggestion that
 when you come up -- when you come up with your proposal for
 sheep is that I think it would be helpful to us if you came up
 with a number that you want instead of letting us, or having us
 do it, because then it will be a number you want and not
 something that we've created, and I know a couple of years ago
 there was sort of a frustration about trying to get -- you
 know, get to what that number was. Well, I think it was
 actually Arctic Village was the one we were have the
 frustration with.

31

32 And then the other thing I thought you might think
 about is because the biologists in our office have had a
 concern about overharvesting a certain area, that there would
 be with a community bag limit, so that's why they wouldn't give
 36 they didn't give it last year, and I don't know if Steve
 would want to -- Steve Kovach would want to add anything to
 this, but because there was that concern of overharvesting a
 certain area that they had, there was this fear, you know, if
 you went in and took 60 from one drainage that it would be too
 much of an overharvest, that you might give some thought to
 doing like with the muskox of saying, "Well, we'll only take,
 you know, 20 from here and 20 from there," or something like
 that.

45

46 And those are just ideas. I don't know if it's
 something you'd want to do, but you might want to think about
 48, because I know right now from having worked on this before,
 that that's the road block that we'll get from our biologists.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Is there

3
4 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Like Steve right over there.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry, did you have your hand up?

7
8 MR. H. BROWER: No.

9
10 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't know if you'd want to have
11 talk to Steve about that, too, because -- but he's the one
12 that has that concern.

13
14 MR. C. BROWER: You know, what -- the other option I
15 can -- I could throw down is you can disregard the report and
16 use your tribal sovereignty which are being excluded and that
17 to be looked into. When you read back in here, tribes have
18 inherent power to make and enforce laws, to adjust their --
19 administer justice under the principal of Federal land Indian
20 Law, and its power may extend to the civil and criminal justice
21 over individual corporations.

22
23 With this, under tribal sovereignty, we have the same,
24 and it has been recognized already by our recent Secretary
25 of the Interior that this option of tribal powers that can -- we have the
26 same, and that's why the Federal Government is asking us not to
27 look at option one and two, because we have the same voice to
28 manage our own resources.

29
30 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair?

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward?

33
34 MR. ITTA: In regard to that, when Fenton mentioned
35 that we're going to get some answers sometime this winter, the
36 same Department, the same guy, Bruce Babbitt, who's head of the
37 Interior, also heads the tribal and sovereignty issues, and
38 there are legal questions that are hanging over everything
39 right now, and I think sometimes they're just using it as an
40 excuse to kind of hold us back. But like I say, we don't have
41 our own attorneys, or we haven't got together yet enough to use
42 our own resources to really research this out and maybe even
43 use our Congressional delegation if we need to to use that
44 option.

45
46 My main thing is I want local -- local control. I want
47 that understood from the beginning, but I'm also trying to
48 convey what I -- the way I've understood our present position
49 to be at.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. I'm glad we're talking about
3 this, and those scenarios and issues are the meat of the
4 problem, and I'm glad that it's being recorded so those that
5 head maybe from the staff and maybe even the Federal
6 Subsistence Board members who read a lot can see our concerns
7 and problems with even trying to come up with options or trying
8 to -- trying to survive under the present regulations.

9
10 Anyway, I'll stop it at that. If there are any
11 questions or issues, I again want to ask Community of Kaktovik,
12 we -- as recommended, we'll use this as a guideline to come up
13 with something that will fit our Kaktovik areas. Use it anyway
14 for sheep.

15
16 And I thank you guys for the input on this. Especially
17 I want to reiterate what Eddie was saying about turning it back
18 over to us and I hope the Federal agencies take that serious.
19 In other words, we -- we could do it. We can do it.

20
21 Any questions or comments on this -- on this report?

22
23 MR. C. BROWER: What's the deadline for -- to make some
24 proposals whether to go through these or give -- get some
25 options or disregard the thing? Before the next Federal
26 Advisory Council meeting or the next

27
28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Is there a schedule

29
30 MR. C. BROWER: Federal Subsistence Board
31 meeting?

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: in here? I have one here
34 somewhere.

35
36 MR. UPICKSON: Sometime in February.

37
38 MR. C. BROWER: Or do we have an option to say
39 something? Or make

40
41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, there is -- there is a
42 schedule. Yes, there is a schedule. I think it's in your
43 thick packet?

44
45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: For the next meeting, Charlie?
46

47
48 MR. C. BROWER: No.

49
50

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1 MR. UPICKSON: And there is

2

3 MR. C. BROWER: Got that? Yeah, calendar of events,
4 yeah. Right here.

5

6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Oh, okay, with that open window that
7 I've got on the calendar?

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, it's in -- it's in your thick
10 packet, too. I don't know what page it is, but it's sort of --
11 sort of there. It's from Willie Hensley wrote us a letter, or
12 interested parties were to read, and his memo is dated
13 September 21, and in there, Charlie, you'll see a schedule of
14 events, or a schedule that provides public a chance to submit
15 proposals and to any person who is a resident of Alaska can
16 submit a proposal to be acted on or -- and they'll look at
17 every proposal. Anybody that submits a proposal could

18

19 MR. ITTA: That would be the next subject.

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Okay. Anyway, it was just
22 pointed out it will be on the next topic under the agenda.
23 (d). It will be under 10(d), the proposals or the schedules.

24

25 But before we leave this designated hunter option or
26 task force report, any final comments or concerns or any ideas
27 on it or anything? Eddie?

28

29 MR. E. HOPSON: These options, sometimes I can --
30 always explain better in my own language. Most of you
31 understand Inupiat.

32

33 (In Inupiat) that suits us -- suits us better, option
34 (In Inupiat). They say they had everybody involved in the
35 State of Alaska. The option that we chose is not going to work
36 with the people in Venetie and Arctic Village and down in the
37 Kuskokwim. We might be pretty close with the people in the
38 Kobuk and the -- and the Kotzebue area. (In Inupiat) Options,
39 many (In Inupiat) don't let that confuse us. You had that many
40 pages of options. We select -- we will be selecting an option
41 that works for us on all issues, our options. (In Inupiat)

42

43 But I'd like to emphasize one thing is we'd like to be
44 part of the management, co-manage mean (In Inupiat). Whoever
45 managing in our area, we'll have to be part of that manage,
46 manage (In Inupiat) resources (In Inupiat). Essentially
47 options on the whole point to who's going to rule or (In
48 Inupiat). We have mentioned tribal government's mentioned,
49 State of Alaska, the Federal in the Federal lands and the State

50

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land. You and me. (In Inupiat) It's going to be a lengthy process for tribal governments to get themselves organized so they can take over something like this as a manager or a co-management. I think it will be a long time before they get set up with staff and any funding that they're going to -- that they're going to need for all of that, so options (In Inupiat) that are fitting for our location. (In Inupiat) options. (In Inupiat) There are many options that fit -- that are fitting up here in our location on the North Slope. There are many options that are good for Southeast Alaska, the Interior, the West Coast, and (In Inupiat). I think some (In Inupiat).

12

13 That's the thing I'd like to mention is to don't let all these many pages of options confuse you. We don't have to 15 we don't have to follow all of these, it's just the ones that fitting in our location that we're going to select. (In Inupiat)

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: (In Inupiat), Eddie.

20

21 MR. C. BROWER: What -- Mr. Chair?

22

23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. It's -- Michael?

24

25 MR. PEDERSON: Just to let you guys know, I work with 26x of the Federally recognized tribes on the North Slope. 27ve just been made aware, and I'm working on developing a 28proposal under Title Eight of ANILCA to submit to the Secretary 29 Interior management regime for our fish and wildlife on 30ederal lands up here, which our tribes have in their areas. 31proposals have been submitted by AVCP and TCP in the past, but 32those proposals have been cut down, and the Secretary of 33terior gave them some powers, limited -- limited powers. But 34st to let you know, I received information and I'm starting 35 work with the tribes on doing that.

36

37 I've attended some tribal council meetings on the North 38lope, and some of their concerns with management is that 39here's too many people managing the game, so maybe what might 40happen out of this, but I'm not expecting a whole lot of 41operation between them, because of what they've done to other 42areas in the State, but it might be a start.

43

44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Mike.

45

46 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair?

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Eddie?

49

50

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1 MR. ITTA: For your information, on the same packet
 2 that we have there in the back, there's two appendixes.
 3 Appendix One, which is a draft from Sheldon Katchatag regarding
 4 ANILCA, and the on page 50 is the policy, the Native American
 5 Policy of the U.S. -- United States Fish and Wildlife Service.
 6 And in there it's got a lot of language and a lot of words
 7 about sovereignty, conservation, government-to-government
 8 relationships, reservation lands, all those things. I think
 9 that's some good information. If you have time sometime to go
 10 over those, and how they're going to work with us. They're
 11 supposed to provide us technical assistance, enforcement,
 12 professional development, those kinds of things. I just point
 13 that out, that that information is there on the policies of the
 14 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15

16 MR. E. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman?

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Eddie. Eddie?

19

20 MR. E. HOPSON: Yeah, one more -- one more thing is I
 21 can see that the tribal governments are working, but the thing
 22 that I'm concerned about is they should be working maybe
 23 closely with it. I would hope that some of the members of that
 24 tribal government, Mike, you're working with are represented
 25 here. They can't be working in the back of all our members
 26 concerned. They've got to work with different agencies. We've
 27 got to get together.

28

29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Um-hum. (affirmative)

30

31 MR. E. HOPSON: I mentioned earlier that the better --
 32 the better -- I was asking about the North Slope Borough Fish &
 33 Game, using their home rule charter. With that I was asking if
 34 there was a difficulty in participating in the co-management
 35 for the North Slope Borough, Fish & Game Department. I like --
 36 don't want to put down tribal governments, but they'd better
 37 they better -- we better know how far they're doing that. I
 38 mentioned earlier, maybe that's what, because Mike is coming
 39 out with it now, because it's -- I said earlier it's going to
 40 take some time before they get all set up with getting grants
 41 together, get, you know, one or two staff members in there, to
 42 get organized. It's going to take -- I may be wrong, but I'm
 43 afraid it's going to take some time for those people to get set
 44 up. I think -- I think now is what we're looking for is to
 45 find -- we've been violated (ph) on fish and game for a long,
 46 long time. Let's get some regulations straightened out that
 47 are fitting for us, without participating, make -- make these
 48 make these regulations so that we can better -- so that I
 49 can -- so I can obey them better, because I help make them.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, that's good. In summary,
3 trying to get this -- these various options put together, as
4 you can see in the last pages, there's 62 and 63, will show you
5 various types of people in Federal agencies that worked
6 together, and even some that couldn't (ph) work together,
7 because presently, you know, BLM and like Edward was saying,
8 Fish and Wildlife and Parks, each got their own mission, and
9 don't pay very much attention to their co-departments, or their
10 master agencies. And they're battling to work on their own
11 mission. And when we came -- when we got done with these
12 meetings in July and the one in August, you should have heard
13 the room. We went all the way around the room. "Boy, this is
14 the best meeting I ever attended trying to come up with complex
15 issue, or to solve or work on a complex issue like this." You
16 know, they were saying, "Thank you. We want to see something
17 like this happen again." And that was between Alaska
18 Department of Fish & Game, we started hearing confessions and
19 from former managers of some Federal agencies.

20

21 I mean, we can -- we can do that locally here, and I'm
22 glad Eddie has brought that up. If North Slope Borough, we --
23 we have the resources, we've got the staff. We have ASNA, we
24 have -- I mean, the resources are here. We could tap onto it
25 like Edward is saying. And Gordon is really right, that we
26 don't have the dollars for our own staff, and I think it's
27 possible to work.

28

29 So anyway in summary I would just say again, everybody
30 around the room says, "Boy, I wish we could work on -- together
31 like this again" from different agencies being together. They
32 kept saying, "thank you, thank you," you know, "do it some
33 more." And

34

35 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chairman?

36

37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward?

38

39 MR. ITTA: (In Inupiat) Koyana.

40

41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Koyana, Edward.

42

43 MR. C. BROWER: (In Inupiat)

44

45 MR. ITTA: (In Inupiat)

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, very much for your
48 input for the Council members and committee members. I also
49 want to thank the input from various staffs that -- from the

50

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various agencies on this subject.

2

3 So without going further ado, I'll call for maybe a
4 five-minute break here, or ten-minute break.

5

6 (Off record)

7

8 (On record)

9

10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ladies and gentlemen, we'll call the
11 recess back -- or meeting back to order after a brief recess.
12 We'll probably just cover proposals D(1). Or what is the wish
13 of the Board? I think we could get over even 10(d) real fast,
14 or real quickly. Helen?

15

16 MS. ITTA: Helen?

17

18 MR. C. BROWER: She's done. Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Anyway, I wonder if the proposals
21 are in -- are in this big one?

22

23 MR. C. BROWER: They are. Here.

24

25 UNIDENTIFIED: Yes, they are.

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And also in the thick binders that
28 you have, we have some samples of proposals.

29

30 MR. ITTA: I think they've got copies up there, Frank.
31 I think that there's copies up there.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Oh, okay. Helen, and Steve, could
34 you pass out some proposal forms?

35

36 MR. KOVACH: Okay. And for those of you that have the
37 three-ring binder, under tab seven there you have the letter
38 from the Chair of the Federal Subsistence Board, which is
39 followed by a summary of changes in the proposed rules, and
40 then instructions for proposal form, then the Federal Register
41 document that is the actual proposed regulations for the 95/96
42 year of hunting.

43

44 If you have the copy of the green regulations book, the
45 only difference for regulations in Unit 26 that are in that
46 book versus what is proposed is that there has been out in --
47 in this area out in here, there's been a closure that the
48 Federal Board just did, and it's -- and it is also reflected in
49 our proposals, to close all sheep hunting in what is known as

50

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the DeLong Mountains, and this is due to a continuing decline in the sheep herd that has occurred out there. Otherwise, all the regulations that you see in the green book, the regulation book, is what is proposed for the next cycle.

5

6 MR. C. BROWER: I have a question already on the DeLong Mountains of shortage -- declining of sheep. How did they come up to the point of closure when they don't have any -- do they have data from the various -- are -- how many years back do they have data on two (ph)?

11

12 MR. KOVACH: They've got -- there's a complex of mountains that are primarily in Unit 23, but slop over into 26. That's called the -- the primary mountain area is called the Baird Mountains, and then north of that, north of the -- of the Kivalina in the -- or north of the Noatak, excuse me, is -- that's called the DeLong Mountains. These are the western most part of the Brooks Range.

19

20 They have census data starting back in 1983 back there. It was spotty during the 80's, and then became very -- and then starting in 1988, they started doing a census each and every year. For the DeLong Mountains, which is the part that slops over into 26, local users were saying, "Well, you're missing some of the sheep. You're not surveying here, here and here," so in 1991, they actually increased the survey area, picked up more sheep, but in fact in that year when they increased the survey area, picked up more sheep, they still recorded a decline in the sheep population. Both of these mountain areas, the sheep population in those areas have been that they reached a population high in 1988, and have been steadily declining since that point in time.

33

34 The best information is from the Baird Mountains. That population's undergone approximately a 60% decline from 1988 to 1994. The decline in the Dog Mountains is -- the documentation isn't quite as good, but that decline is somewhere on the order of 45 to 50%. The populations are starting to get down to the point where everybody felt the best thing to do was close off all the hunting until those populations have a chance to stabilize and begin their -- begin their recovery.

42

43 Primarily what -- the sheep herds built up through the early part of the 80's, because the winters were mild, the feed was very good. The winters turned very severe beginning in 1989. Over-winter mortality was increased as survival of lambs fell off, and that's what's been precipitating the declines.

48

49 What has really got us kind of puzzled is that the

50

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decline started out where we were losing ewes much more quickly than we were losing rams, and we were very curious about this. We still do not understand why that is occurring, but that is in fact what -- what has happened out there. The mortality rate of rams has not picked up, and is on a pace about the same as that of ewes, Charlie.

7

8 MR. C. BROWER: Just for my -- just for information.

9

10 MR. KOVACH: Sure.

11

12 MR. C. BROWER: Can you give a population estimate of how much ram -- sheep is within those 23 north and 26?

14

15 MR. KOVACH: Well, I don't have those numbers with me unfortunately. It's -- and I'd hate to try and pull them out of the back parts of my memory. We're only talking about 200 sheep in the DeLongs and a little bit more than that in the Bairds, or something like that, but I don't want to be quoted on those numbers, because I don't remember them exactly. But I do have those numbers. If you want, when I get back to my office on Tuesday, I can give you a call with the -- with exact counts, if you'd like.

24

25 There was meetings held in Kotzebue, because this was a 26 the way our regulations are set up, any closure action we do that is in excess of 30 days duration must be proceeded by a public meeting in the area affected. There was -- the -- there was a meeting held in Kotzebue. It was hosted by the Park Service, because that's the predominant land owner in that area, land manager. And everybody -- there was a unanimous consensus at the meeting of the sheep hunters and so on, that, yes, this is the best thing for the resource, that this is what we have to do.

35

36 The Baird Mountains actually have been closed through temporary actions for four consecutive years, because their population was in such bad shape. The -- we didn't recognize just how bad the DeLongs were until we kind of looked at the data for the umpteenth time and twisted it around and looked at it some more, and we discovered, oops, we've got a problem here as well.

43

44 MR. C. BROWER: All right. Who do you call sheep hunters? Local people or people from

46

47 MR. KOVACH: There was local people from the community of Noatak that were involved. There was -- I'm trying to remember where else.

50

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1
2 MR. C. BROWER: But where is the majority of the hunt?
3 Who are the majority hunters taking sheep out of there?

4
5 MR. KOVACH: Who are?

6
7 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah.

8
9 MR. KOVACH: Hunters from Noatak, Kiana, Norvik,
10 Ambler, and some from Kotzebue. Those are the dominant
11 communities that take sheep out of there.

12
13 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: But there's hardly been anyone from
14 like Kiana and Shungnak and Ambler that go and hunt sheep for a
15 long time, since all their sheep has declined, so we're not
16 that dominant any more

17
18 MR. KOVACH: No.

19
20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: from upriver. It's mostly --
21 the reason why a lot of people from the other surrounding
22 villages didn't hunt any more when the sheep started declining,
23 because they wanted the Noatak people to be the hunters to
24 hunt, to save it -- save the sheep for them. So that's why it
25 was mostly -- and some Kotzebue, the ones that ate sheep and
26 hunted sheep, and then the people knew who they were.

27
28 MR. UPICKSON: Is there a lot of sport hunting in that
29 area for sheep?

30
31 MR. KOVACH: I'm sorry, is there what?

32
33 MR. UPICKSON: Is there a lot of sport hunting in that
34 area for sheep?

35
36 MR. KOVACH: No. Actually the -- Fish & Game revised
37 their regulations to where the sport hunting basically was
38 dropped off to near zero.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: What is -- what is the number then
41 that you see in the sheep population that -- that required an
42 emergency order to close hunting? What is that number? Or
43 what

44
45 MR. KOVACH: I'd have to go back and look at my
46 records, Fenton. I just -- I just don't remember
47 unfortunately. What precipitated the first closure in the
48 Baird Mountains was that we had a good strong population. The
49 ratio of rams to ewes was very good. In the first couple of
50

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years of the decline, we were seeing a lack of lambs surviving, and that wasn't of major consequence. That, you know, that concerned us, but we weren't all that excited yet, because it's like, well, it's not unusual to lose a lamb crop here or there. Then we had three in a row. And then we -- and that's -- and after that is when we picked up the fact that the ewes were dying off very quickly on us, much more so than you would expect. And with the female component falling out from beneath us, and, of course, without -- without the females you can't have the youngsters, that's when we moved to start shutting things down, because we wanted to protect those females and do everything we could to make sure that population didn't go bust on us.

14

15 But this -- you know, a lot of -- like I said, we did these temporary closures for four straight years, and the temporary closure requires this public meeting, and the sheep hunters were involved, and they all agreed that, yeah, you know, what the flying by the biologists was coming up with, and what the sheep hunters were seeing were basically the same thing. Everybody agreed like this -- this is not a healthy situation. We need to do something.

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Steve.

25

26 MR. KOVACH: Uh-huh.

27

28 MR. B. HOPSON: How much do you attribute the decline to, from predators?

30

31 MR. KOVACH: There -- we couldn't quantify how much the weather was doing, and how much the predators were doing. We do know that predation became more efficient, particularly in '89 and '90, because of the way the winters were, the snow got very crusty, wolves could travel on the snow very efficiently where sheep were punching holes through it, and having a very tough time in travelling. It wasn't the real soft snow that you normally have where everybody flounders through it, so the in the first two years of the decline, we know wolves really did some damage.

41

42 After that we got just generally very deep powdery snows out there, so everybody was having a tough time. There was a shift in some of the caribou that typically kind of stayed in the region, they left the region for whatever reason, you know, predators -- he's hungry, too, type of a thing. It was like he's going to eat that sheep as quickly as he'll -- he'll chase down that caribou, so we do know that's happen -- that happened initially. The numbers of wolves have been

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dropping, just because there's a lack of prey base for them, and so they've been falling out, too, so it's just a natural cycle of things has been occurring out there. When sheep numbers bounce back, I'm sure we'll see more wolves come back, too.

6

7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Steve.

8

9 Let's see, Helen, will you quickly go over the instructions for completing proposals, or are we going -- we do have a system -- do you have some -- in our agenda, we wanted to go over or introduce our proposal form review. So if we go through what Willie Hensley has given us.

14

15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: You have a form that looks like this in your package?

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

19

20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It says "proposal form" at the top. Good name. It's pretty self-explanatory I think, but you might want to specify where it -- on number one where it says "What regulation do you want changed?" and it says, "Give the page number." You might want to specify whether it's the Federal Register notice, or the reg book.

26

27 You want to be as specific as you can, give the number of the Unit, whether it's 23 or 26, the species, the season, the bag limit, and if it's for methods and means, you want to be very specific about that.

31

32 On number three, you should explain why you need the bag that you want -- the regulation should be changed. Has the population shifted? Use areas. Has the trend of the population changed? Why? Has the sex ratio changed? Has access to the population changed or need to be changed? Is the existing regulation not consistent with traditional practices? And then I would -- I would explain if that's the case, what those traditional practices are, and what -- and document that in any way that you can.

41

42 And then with number four, "How will this change affect wildlife populations?" you want to be answering the questions, for example, will harvest increase or decrease? Will hunting pressure be shifted to another area? Will opportunities to take another species -- take of another -- opportunistic take of another species be increased or decreased.

49

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1 And then on number five, it says, "How will this change
2 affect subsistence user," and you'd want to be answering
3 questions like will it increase their efficiency? Will it make
4 -- make a resource available for a special occasion? Maybe
5 things like it will -- it will enable you to continue hunting
6 in a customary and traditional way.

7
8 And then for additional information to support your
9 proposal, you might think of things like what is the trend,
10 composition, density of the population? Any information you'd
11 have on something like that, you know, if -- even if it's
12 anecdotal type of information. If you know that the harvest
13 has been under

14
15 MR. KOVACH: Under-reported.

16
17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Under-reported. If you can provide
18 more harvest information from your community, that would be
19 really helpful. Any information. The more information you
20 give us, the better off we are.

21
22 MR. KOVACH: Right. The most important things on parts
23 one and two there is we -- sometimes we'll spend a couple of
24 hours, five of us around a table trying to interpret what the
25 person is asking for, you know, and sometimes we can nail down
26 what part of the regulation they're -- they want changed, but
27 we've had incredibly protracted discussions trying to figure
28 out what they want. And so that it's real important to be as
29 specific as you can in parts one and two there, because it
30 helps us get the right thing in the proposal book, and we're --
31 and we're analyzing the right questions. And that's the most
32 important thing.

33
34 Also, you know, Helen and I are both available at any
35 time if -- you know, when you leave from the Council meeting
36 here, and you're -- and you're trying to develop proposals, if
37 you need some help getting some language right, or getting
38 some more information or something like that, you know, don't
39 be afraid to pick up the phone and call the toll free phone
40 number and asked for us, and we'll get on the phone and help
41 you out as much as we can. That's part of our job.

42
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And the other thing, the critical
44 thing to remember is the deadline is November 11th, and we're
45 fairly -- I say "fairly," fairly strict about that.

46
47 MR. KOVACH: Right.

48
49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I mean, things have been accepted at
50

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6:00 o'clock on November 11th, but

2

3 MR. KOVACH: Well, the

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I guess the next page after
6 the sample form is the calendar of events?

7

8 MR. KOVACH: Right.

9

10 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh.

11

12 MR. KOVACH: Right. The primary thing is if you're
13 mailing it, the post- -- it has to be postmarked the 11th of
14 November, no later than that. That's the -- that postmark date
15 is kind of the magic key there, although things postmarked a
16 day or two afterwards have been known to slip in, too, so --
17 but try not to be late, because it just makes our lives a lot
18 more miserable.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

21

22 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think I'd like to maybe, for the
23 especially for the new people, to explain this a little bit
24 more to them, how -- what we do with this. This -- your
25 proposal form comes into us, and we have a management team that
26 will be looking at them to -- to assign -- assign a team to
27 work on that proposal, and most likely that team -- well, I
28 mean, in this case, it would always be Steve and myself, and
29 Barb, because we're the Region Ten team. Steve's a biologist,
30 an anthropologist. Every region has an anthropologist, a
31 biologist and a regional coordinator on the team. And then
32 we'll write up our analysis of the proposal, what we will be --
33 we'll be essentially looking up data to support what you've
34 provided us with, and we'll write up a summary of that
35 analysis. And then it will -- it will come back to you in the
36 winter meeting, which we have to set a date for. We haven't
37 set that date yet, have we, Barb? No?

38

39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No.

40

41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We set the date later on in this
42 meeting, and we'll come back to you. We'll have -- we'll have
43 sent all this out to the Regional Council, and we'll come back
44 to you for your comments, and if you think we're totally wrong
45 about something, then you'll let us know. And then you vote on
46 what your recommendation is at that point. Then it goes to the
47 staff committee that serves as assistants to the Board. They
48 hash it out, come up with their recommendation, and then the
49 Regional Council recommendation and the staff committee

50

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1 recommendation goes to the Federal Subsistence Board.

2

3 And last year was the first year we had that. We
4 didn't have the Federal -- the Regional Council input to the
5 Board. And I can say from being in this program a couple of
6 years, it made a big difference.

7

8 MR. KOVACH: It did.

9

10 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think the Board really listened to
11 the Regional Council last year. There were very, very few
12 exceptions where they differed on Regional Council
13 recommendations.

14

15 MR. KOVACH: Yeah. I

16

17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So it was a real -- it was actually
18 a really good process I thought.

19

20 MR. KOVACH: Yeah. There was -- there was 88 proposals
21 that went before the Board last year, and of the 88, I can only
22 think of three or four that they either -- that the Board did
23 not go and follow the Councils on.

24

25 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: One of those was Kaktovik sheep.

26

27 MR. KOVACH: One of those was Kaktovik sheep. But, I
28 mean, the proportion of proposals that the Board took the
29 recommendations of the Councils, which didn't always follow the
30 staff committee, was exceptionally high. I was amazed that it
31 went as high as it did.

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And we will be having a new board
34 this year. I don't know how aware people are, but most of the
35 directors have retired. They're all these old guys, you know,
36 left the State. And with the exception of BIA, all of
37 the

38

39 MR. KOVACH: Right.

40

41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: regional directors are new.
42 And then, of course, we have Willie Hensley as our new Chair.
43 So the Board I think will be very different this year. And I
44 don't know what impact that's going to have since really we
45 followed pretty much what the Regional Councils recommended to
46 last year, but I do think it will be different, and at least
47 for us it will -- new faces and new thoughts, and having Willie
48 Hensley as the Chair I think will have a different flavor to
49 the Board, too.

50

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1
2 Is there anything else we need to tell them?
3
4 MR. KOVACH: I don't think so.
5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any questions on the proposal form
or how the schedules go or how to submit one?
8
9 MR. UPICKSON: A question for Helen.
10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?
12
13 MR. UPICKSON: Any chance of changing the composition
of that Board, since we're talking about the new Board that's
coming up, other than, you know, you see all the Board members
are from Anchorage or Juneau? And they're

17
18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Not only that, they're really
from out of state. They -- I mean, because they haven't

20
21 MR. UPICKSON: That's true. Is there

22
23 MS. ARMSTRONG: they've just come up here.
24
25 MR. UPICKSON: composition of changing that,
since it's our subsistence lifestyle that they're making
decisions are regarding subsistence in Alaska, you know?

28
29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That would require a change in our
Subpart A regulations, and, I mean, it's not impossible to do,
but it would have to be something that would be brought --
brought up with a letter to the -- to the Federal Subsistence
Board, to Willie Hensley, and then some -- some concerted
effort on the part of the Regional Councils, and it probably
would have to be something the Regional Councils got together
and wanted to push for, to change that.

37
38 MR. UPICKSON: Okay. And how often will those Regional
Councils get a chance to get together and discuss this?
Because I don't think none of the Regional Councils like the
composition of the Subsistence Board right from the start.

42
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, I think the Council chairs,
maybe not all the Councils, but the Council chairs have the
opportunity, they're all together -- they all come to the April
meeting, and I think there would be an opportunity to -- in
fact, Fenton and I were talking about this earlier, how he
found it so rewarding to get together on the designated -- this
alternative permitting, designated hunter thing this summer,

50

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and how it would be good to get people together. And I -- you know, I said, well, people get together in April. It would be an opportune time to have a few days earlier or later than the Board meeting and discuss issues that you want to bring forward. I mean, that might be one way to do it.

6

7 I -- you know, just so you can understand where that came from, we did an environmental impact statement when we were trying to determine how to do the regulations, I mean, how to set up our program. And there were a number of -- I think four alternatives, and it was -- it was one -- there was an alternative where the Board would have been made up of subsistence -- at least some subsistence users or -- and it wasn't the chosen alternative. But I -- you know, and they had meetings out in the communities and we went to -- we came to Barrow for -- and, you know, had it broadcast on the radio, and that sort of thing, and we got the opinions of people, but it wasn't the decision that was made. And, I don't know whether it could possibly be changed or not, but I certainly don't want to tell you not to try.

21

22 MR. KOVACH: The other thing that not only this Council can do, but all the Councils, is each year you have a required report that you submit to the Secretary, and within that one of your conclusions can be that the composition of the Board needs to be amended, altered, changed, you know, things like that. That's one thing that -- that's another route that the Council does have as well.

29

30 MR. UPICKSON: Is the staff supporting the individual Regional Advisory Councils gathering up complaints about the composition of the Board where it might be in your report to Babbitt, who's in charge of this whole operation, mention the fact that we're not happy with the composition of the Board that oversees subsistence?

36

37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't -- you know, we haven't been around long enough yet to have heard complaints. You mean the 39 the Regional Councils, this is only their third meeting. So 40 think that some of it is just that Regional Council people have to get up to speed as to what this is all about, but I don't think I would be incorrect in saying that it would -- well, let me say it this way: It would surprise me very much if people did not agree with your opinion. It would greatly surprise me, because we have heard that comment from people along the way, that there should be subsistence users on that Board.

48

49 MR. UPICKSON: Maybe we could provide input in your --
50

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Send a standard form to all the regional corporations where we can say we don't like the composition of the Board. Then you'll get input, and you can put it in your report. Your Annual report.

5

6 MR. KURTH: Well, let me just add one thing

7

8 COURT REPORTER: Could you come up to the

9

10 MR. KURTH: When we went through this the first time, when we had 60-some meetings across the State on this, and it was very clear what the communities wanted. They wanted a Board made up of subsistence users. But I was also in Washington when we briefed all the assistant secretaries' offices on the alternatives, and I can tell you that they knew exactly what the public's comment was, but they also felt that these regional directors were responsible for managing their -- these lands, and the Secretary's decision was that those people with the land management responsibilities needed to be on the Board. A different Secretary of Interior. I'm not saying it's worth doing it again, but I just want you all to understand that they knew exactly what the people, you know, wanted, but they felt that the land managers still had responsibility.

24

25 But don't forget that that same decision also designated these Council Chairs as liaisons to the Board. We gave them a very important role. And that was the balancing act.

29

30 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think Jim's point is a good one though, we have a different Secretary of Interior now,

32

33 MR. KOVACH: Yeah.

34

35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: who is definitely more sensitive to Native issues.

36

37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Charlie?

39

40 MR. C. BROWER: Yeah. One of your -- on your proposal forms here, you stated that if someone writes what needs to be changed, and you folks have a hard time understanding it and spend five hours or so trying to understand the writing, why don't you make a point of when they write their phone numbers, give them a call and talk to them? They'll talk to you better than they can write sometimes.

47

48 MR. KOVACH: We do that.

49

50

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1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We do that.

2

3 MR. KOVACH: But it's amazing how many phone numbers we
4 get that are wrong.

5

6 MR. C. BROWER: I mean, here you spend five hours
7 trying to figure it out.

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

10

11 MR. C. BROWER: You can make a phone call, and you can
12 make the changes.

13

14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right?

15

16 MR. C. BROWER: That's all.

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Helen, Steve, I want to thank you on
19 making us understand the process of submitting proposals, and
20 things that are coming up for this fall's review by the Federal
21 Subsistence Board.

22

23 Well, it's getting kind of late. We maybe want to
24 pause on this section of our agenda. It brings us to new
25 business, two. Let's see, we open the floor for public
26 proposals, annual report, and then we also have Pat Reynolds,
27 and what was the other person?

28

29 MR. C. BROWER: Geoff Carroll.

30

31 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Geoff Carroll.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Geoff Carroll under (i) and (j), so
34 think it might be appropriate to go ahead and cut off here
35 for tonight, and continue in the morning.

36

37 MR. ITTA: I so move.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Nine o'clock? Or

40

41 MR. ITTA: Nine o'clock. Or 8:59.

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 8:59, okay. Okay. We will recess
44 until 9:00 o'clock tomorrow morning.

45

46 **(MEETING RECESSED)**

47

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