

1 **NORTH SLOPE SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**
2 **PUBLIC MEETING**
3 October 6, 1994
4 Barrow, Alaska

5
6 **VOLUME II**
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11 **COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**
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15 **NORTH SLOPE SUBSISTENCE ADVISORY COUNCIL**
16

17 ~~F~~enton O. Rexford - Chairman
18 ~~E~~dward Itta - Co-Chairman
19 ~~H~~arry K. Brower, Jr. - Secretary (Absent)
20 ~~G~~ordon C. Upicksoun
21 ~~F~~runk Long, Jr.
22 ~~Z~~akie Koonuk
23
24
25
26

27 **NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH FISH & WILDLIFE COUNCIL**
28

29 ~~E~~dward E. Hopson, Sr.
30 ~~B~~eonard A. Tukle
31 ~~J~~ohn D. Miller, Jr.
32 ~~E~~lijah Attungana
33 ~~J~~ames Kignak
34 ~~C~~harles Brower
35 ~~W~~illiam P. Aguvluk
36 ~~B~~en Hopson, Jr.
37 ~~A~~mos Aguasagga
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P R O C E E D I N G S

(On record)

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Good morning, everybody. We'll go ahead and continue or call back to order the joint meeting of the North Slope Borough Fish & Game Committee and the North Slope Subsistent Advisory Council back to order. And before we get started, I want to ask those in the audience or those that we have on the agenda -- I know there needs to be some people traveling, and one of those was the Gates of the Arctic boundary distribution question, we need to maybe talk about that first. And if there are some members in the audience or the Staff, U.S. agency -- various agencies need to leave at 14:00 or so, could you let me know now so we can maybe try to make arrangements to shift the agenda to accommodate those that need to travel besides Steve Ulvi?

MR. C. BROWER: He can stay till tonight. It's only for a banquet.

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. We were at 10(d) and we were just starting to approach the Council proposals on the caribou, the sheep, muskox/co-management, if any. Maybe -- what is the wishes of the body here? Charlie.

MR. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, just for your information here, one of your councilmen, Harry, won't be in this morning, visiting the Alaska testing of those bombs this morning so he asked to be excused.

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

MR. BROWER: So

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So if there are no objections, maybe we can move onto the Region 6 and 10 boundary distribution and pick up at 10D.2., after Mr. Ulvi makes his presentation. Any objection to that or

MR. BROWER: No.

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No objection. Steve. (In Inupiat).

MR. BROWER: Steve, do you have a handout you might want to pass out on the boundary lines where it's effecting 6 and 10?

MR. ULVI: No, I don't, Charlie, I was going to just draw a quick sketch here and read from the letter that the

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Chairman of the Subsistence Resource Commission, Raymond
Piyok(ph) sent to

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4 MR. BROWER: I have one question, Mr. Chairman. You
don't -- you're not going to talk about 23 and 24, all right, I
mean 8 and 10 is all right, too?

7

8 MR. ULVI: Yes. The only question has been about the
boundary between this region and Region 6, the Western Interior
Region, right around Anaktuvuk Pass there. So I can get into
that if you'd like to. I appreciate the opportunity to be
here. As Fenton said, I'm Steve Ulvi with the National Park
Service at Gates of the Arctic National Park and I'm in charge
of the subsistence program. And I appreciated the opportunity
to sit and listen to you folks yesterday and to be here and
answer any questions you might have about the Park Service
Subsistence Program up there.

18

19 This issue is one that's kind of been around for about
200 years. And real short and sweet, the history of it is
that as it started, you know, and the Environmental Impact
Statement went around and went through that process and it was
decided that there would be 10 regions and there would be so
many seats on each regional council, and it would be composed
of people with certain qualifications and that the directors of
the agencies would be on the board. All those kind of
decisions were made.

28

29 Well, it was decided that at Anaktuvuk Pass, which is
of course just south of the Continental Divide there through
the mountains, that the Region 10 boundary would follow the
Game Management Unit boundary between 26(a) and 24. And so, of
course, Anaktuvuk Pass then ended up being in Region 8, not in
your region, Region 10. The Mayor -- or excuse me, Region 6,
the Western Interior Region. The Mayor of Anaktuvuk came and
gave a presentation at one of the Subsistence Resource
Commission meetings, and that's the group that we have of local
residents, one of which is Charlie Brower and Delbert Rexford
from Barrow here, appointed to advise us on developing a
hunting plan for subsistence hunting and other activities in
the park.

42

43 That group heard testimony from people in Anaktuvuk
Pass like Ben Hopson and Paul Hugo and others who are concerned
that they were in this region and, therefore, they could only
have representation on this regional council because as you
know, the Government decided that you have to live within the
region in order to be on one of these councils. So they
petitioned to the Federal Subsistence Board to change this

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boundary so that Anaktuvuk Pass could sit on the region that had the most effect on its use of the country. Course, as it turns out, they're using this country about 50/50. So the Federal Subsistence Board went ahead and changed this boundary, this Region 10/Region 6 boundary to just go around the city limits of Anaktuvuk and take it in.

7

8 So as it stands right now, Anaktuvuk Pass is in this region, and of course that makes a lot of sense culturally and part of the North Slope Borough and all of that. But there's still people there that are concerned that now they can have -- an individual from Anaktuvuk Pass can be nominated to sit on this council, on your council, but they cannot be nominated to sit on this Western Interior Council.

15

16 So the latest letter generated by people in Anaktuvuk Pass through our Subsistence Resource Commission has asked the Federal Board to consider changing this boundary of Region 10, your boundary here, and bringing it south so that it more or less follows the traditional use area of the people of Anaktuvuk Pass down into the John River, North Fork, Akyakuk and on over into Nygook country and that way.

23

24 I -- that letter has gone in. And one of the Commission members was to speak to Elders there in Anaktuvuk, get them put on a map where they thought their traditional use area extended to the south. And then that map was to come to me and I would send it into the Board and to you folks and the Western Interior Council for consideration. The Board, of course, will make a final decision on that based on input from the Park Service and from your council and council from Western Interior.

33

34 I haven't received that map yet. And I talked to the individual and should be getting it here in the next week or so. And when we do get it, we'll send a copy immediately to Benton and to Harold Huntington down in Region 6, and hope that the next round of meetings then, perhaps, the Board can consider that.

40

41 Now, I have to add, too, from my perspective, I understand fully why the people in Anaktuvuk are concerned. There are other communities in the state that are also on boundary lines between regional regions. It's not a perfect system. I'm not sure this is a good fix. I personally believe that there is plenty of opportunity for ideas, for proposal, for regulations, for concerns to cross these boundaries. And I know that you folks and the folks on the Western Interior Council will do everything they can to take into consideration

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the concerns of the people of Anaktuvuk Pass, as you will with every other community.

3

4 So I personally think it's a worthy question to ask about this change, but I really wonder if the Federal Board will consider setting a precedent and changing a boundary to follow the traditional use line like that when there are other communities around. But it's a good question. Personally, and I would think most of you would agree, I'm sick and tired of more and more lines that all follow different natural features of cultural boundaries or whatever. We're all having a lot of trouble trying to figure out whether it's an EMU line or a park line or a refuge line or a borough line or a what. And I think that the way it is is probably very workable, it just really demands that these two councils work closely together.

16

17 MR. BROWER: I have a question.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie.

20

21 MR. BROWER: Steve, I think in order to alleviate this problem of imaginary lines, has there been consideration to draw half and half where one can be on both or one person would be on the 6 and one would be on 10? And I know -- we know that people from Anaktuvuk go down south to -- like you stated 50/50 hunting on that side, 50 on the north side. And traditionally, they have used that area as hunting long before the Federal Commission came in, before the Gates of the Arctic came in, and to initiate a line to divide those units up. Have they considered just by putting one, one, one, one -- six -- one for 6 and one for 10? And I know we talked about that, but I mean has anything come further than that?

33

34 MR. ULVI: I don't know if it's gone any further. It has been considered, Charlie. I've sat on the nominating committee for the agencies to -- when the nominations for your Council and Region 8 and Region 6 came in, the Gates of the Arctic's involved in all three federal regions. And that question has been asked and we suggested -- the agency people that I was sitting with suggested a fix like that, and that was rejected at the higher levels in the Subsistence Management Program.

43

44 I think it keeps going back to that you must reside within the region in order to be able to represent that region. And we haven't seen a crack in that or a weakness in that argument. And I -- this again asked the question in a different way, so it'll be interesting to see what the response is.

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1
2 MR. ITTA: Steve, how about on the -- you mentioned
3 that you had discussions with residents of Anaktuvuk Pass. How
4 about is there any opposition or any concerns from anybody in
5 Region 6 regarding this proposal?

6
7 MR. ULVI: They have not received -- they have received
8 this letter but haven't met yet, so I don't know. It's going
9 to be on their agenda here later in the month at McGrath. So I
10 don't know whether any of those folks do. The people I'm most
11 familiar with are Jack Rekooff from Wiseman, Paulic (ph) Simon,
12 \$2. from Allakaket, and they generally support this idea of
13 drawing the line to the south and are very aware of Anaktuvuk's
14 additional use areas and their concerns as a community that is
15 surrounded by a national park and on this -- on a line.

16
17 MR. BROWER: With the recent land swap that has been
18 initiated, does that second line that you just drew cover that
19 area, that big circle?

20
21 MR. ULVI: Traditional use to the south

22
23 MR. BROWER: Yeah. Uh-huh.

24
25 MR. ULVI: take in the land exchange agreement
26 that's in front

27
28 MR. BROWER: Uh-huh.

29
30 MR. ULVI: of Congress? Yeah. Much larger than
31 the agreement.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Steve, I've got -- Ben. Go ahead,
34 Ben.

35
36 MR. HOPSON: Yeah. When we had that Gates of the
37 Arctic meeting there in Anaktuvuk this summer,

38
39 MR. ULVI: Um-hum.

40
41 MR. HOPSON: I think the Elders spoke out pretty
42 loudly 'cause this effectively cut their hunting area split
43 50/50 right there. And they're very uncomfortable with having
44 set up like that. 'Cause these are areas where they were
45 born out, Region 6, they have their Native allotments, cabins
46 further down John River. And we pretty much make use of this
47 issue, you know, like 12 months out of the year when we can get
48 that area there. So it's -- subsistence activities are
49 pretty lively down to Region 6 as well as Region 10 up there to
50

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the north. And we felt pretty strongly of that issue there.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, I've got a question. I think
4 in one of Raymond's correspondence, I'm trying to recollect,
5 that they wanted some represen- -- let's see, a seat in
6 Region 6 and vice versa, either in the Gates of the Arctic or
7 in the regional council. Can you enlighten us on that letter
8 or concern?

9

10 MR. ULVI: Yes. That was in this two year process
11 really of concerns from residents of Anaktuvuk about this
12 boundary line, that was one of the efforts to change was a
13 letter asking that there be representation on both councils,
14 that the line be drawn such that Anaktuvuk was actually in both
15 regions, you know, a line right through the middle of town kind
16 of thing. Those things -- and to my knowledge, all of those
17 have been rejected by the Federal Board with the exception of
18 deciding to draw the Region 10 line to the south right around
19 the town of Anaktuvuk Pass. And so that's where it lies right
20 now, as we speak, Anaktuvuk Pass is in this region as far as
21 Federal Subsis- -- the Federal Subsistence Program goes. And
22 until there's a change will continue to be so.

23

24 The one thing I want to point out, and I know I really
25 don't need to point it out to you folks on the Council but
26 perhaps for other people, is that all of these councils are
27 limited to 9 or 7, I guess in some cases maybe 11 seats, and
28 there has been some talk of increasing the number of seats.
29 But in some cases like with the Western Interior Region, I
30 believe there are 41 villages in that region. So no village is
31 going to be represented, only a quarter of them can be
32 represented directly at any given time anyway just due to the
33 way the structure of the system is.

34

35 So I personally think that to make these regional
36 councils work and to communicate with one another and have
37 annual meetings where you all get a chance to get together as
38 chairs and co-chairs and all that is the way to be sure that
39 you're looking out after one another's concerns on the edges of
40 these regions. And that structural changes like this may end
41 up really being kind of a dead end street. But I think it's a
42 worthy question, and it's just one of many complicated
43 questions about this whole system.

44

45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Maybe before the end of the day or
46 before you leave, Steve, I'll try to find the correspondence
47 between Harold Huntington or -- requesting that very issue and
48 also from Raymond Koonuk.

49

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1 MS. ARMSTRONG: There are some in the Anchorage office.
2 I saw them when I was in Anchorage, I should have picked them
3 up. But Mike isn't there any more and then nobody there at the
4 office would be able to find it.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

7
8 MS. ARMSTRONG: But I can look for it on my way back.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

11
12 MS. ARMSTRONG: It wasn't even on the file, it was on a
13 desk that I went in to use the phone, so I know where they are
14 in Anchorage.

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Uh-huh. The reason I want to try to
17 get something -- get a copy of that letter is maybe before we
18 rec- -- or we adjourn, or maybe we can put it on the agenda for
19 our next meeting, to make official action on the Anaktuvuk Pass
20 concern or request to change the boundaries or we'll get
21 representatives in each or both regions.

22
23 MR. ULVI: Um-hum.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So we need to resolve that and take
26 care of AKP's concern on that boundary issue.

27
28 MR. ULVI: I agree with you, Mr. Chairman. I was fully
29 prepared to come and throw the whole thing out here and to do
30 the same for the Western Region, but as I say, it wasn't up to
31 me to produce those maps based on the Elders' testimonies of
32 additional use areas. And the person that was wasn't able to
33 get it together in time for this meeting and, unfortunately,
34 that's just the way it is.

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

37
38 MR. ULVI: So I will do everything I can to make sure
39 we have all of that and any updated information for you at your
40 next meeting.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

43
44 MR. ULVI: And hope that the Board makes a decision
45 when by spring or something.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That's what we'd like to do.

48
49 MR. ULVI: Okay, good.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ben.

3
4 MR. B. HOPSON: Yeah. I think it was a majority of the
5 villages in favor of like a boundary adjustment to allow
6 subsistence activities where we can have a voice in that area
7 there. 'Cause we have good working relations with the villages
8 to the south, I know they're going to represent us well if we
9 voice an issue to them. But I think they would feel more
10 comfortable if they were directly involved or their region or
11 their subsistence areas are included within Region 10 or
12 however it's going to be adjusted there.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Exactly. Gordon.

15
16 MR. UPICKSON: Steve, there's no opposition from
17 Region 6 or the provisional use area where we're willing to
18 accommodate them. Why didn't you state that the Board probably
19 will -- would act on tho- -- won't change the boundaries again
20 when Region 6 is not really against it. Why didn't you state
21 that the Board probably won't approve it? You know, the two
22 regional councils are in agreement with that change, why didn't
23 you say the Board probably won't okay it?

24
25 MR. ULVI: Good question. That's pretty much my
26 personal, professional opinion. And I -- as I said, I think
27 it's a worthy question to ask and I'm glad it's being asked.
28 I'm just saying that it's my impression that because it would
29 change away from lines that pretty much all fall together on
30 the game management unit boundaries there. And of course,
31 right now when you make regulatory proposals, you're making
32 those communities and for game management units. And so it
33 would create another subunit, another exception to the mess of
34 lines we've already have on the map.

35
36 And the other part of that is is because I firmly
37 believe from where I sit, which is certainly a very different
38 place from where folks sit in this whole process, I firmly
39 believe that the system as it's set up now will more than
40 adequately take into consideration the concerns of Anaktuvuk
41 Pass in all three regions that they actually use; they also get
42 over into Region 8. So it's just my personal opinion and the
43 way I look at it. And the Federal Board could well make this
44 change and do so for other communities that are also on
45 boundaries like this. That's just my guess.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Gordon. Any other
48 questions? Charlie.

49
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1 MR. BROWER: I have a question. This goes to the
 2 western side (ph). The boundary line is different than the
 3 unit line on subsistence -- on the regulations versus the
 4 Federal Advisory Council. Unit 10 covers Point Hope on
 5 Unit 10?

6
 7 MR. ULVI: I don't know, that's way out of my country
 8 over there.

9
 10 MR. KURTH: Charlie, I can tell you why that is.

11
 12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 23.

13
 14 MR. KURTH: During the scoping when they wrote the
 15 Environmental Impact Statement, at public meetings people said
 16 that Point Hope should be included in this region, and the
 17 Board basically thought that if that's what the people wanted,
 18 it'd be a good idea and they changed it based on public input.
 19 And it is different.

20
 21 I might just add on what Steve said. The Board gets a
 22 lot of boundary issues, and it might -- if there's an agreement
 23 between the two regions, it may change. They're concerned if
 24 they changed once and, you know, is there really an agreement
 25 where the line really should be. And if there's a very firm
 26 consensus between the regions, I'm sure they consider it.

27
 28 Another thing they've done though, you know, down on
 29 the Yukon and Kuskokwim, there's lots of boundary issues; that
 30 people from Yup'ik country come way up river and they're
 31 certainly in another region. And what they are starting to do
 32 here now is have regional councils meet together, much like
 33 your, you know, local committee with the Borough's meeting.
 34 And sometimes that's another way to address boundary issues is
 35 have the North Slope Council meet with the Interior Council.

36
 37 But I think any time you have a good consensus between
 38 two regions, the Board'll consider it.

39
 40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Eddie.

41
 42 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chairman, who did the Environment Impact
 43 Statement? Who all was involved in developing the
 44 Environmental Impact Statement, was

45
 46 MR. KURTH: It was written by Agency people over about
 47 two years. And it started with around about 60 or 65 meetings
 48 around the state that we called scoping where we just asked
 49 people what should be in it. Then a draft statement was put
 50

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but, and there was I think about 50 more meetings in communities around the state. But it was written by Agency personnel. The Record of Decision, that's what happens at the end of an Environmental Impact Statement, that decision was made by the Secretary of Interior on what would be in it.

So

7

8 MR. ITTA: I'm not asking how many meetings, those people that developed that impact statement. I'm asking about who all was involved in the impact statement?

11

12 MR. KURTH: In writing it?

13

14 MR. ITTA: Yeah.

15

16 MR. KURTH: There was a team of people. I was part of it, Helen was part of it. There was a number of Agency people that wrote the statement, but they were Agency -- different -- Fish & Wildlife, BLM, the Park Service, that sort

20

21 MR. ITTA: There were no Native organizations involved?

22

23 MR. KURTH: Not in writing the statement, no. In commenting on it, yes. And many of the comments like the boundary change were incorporated but not all of it. I wouldn't tell you that Environmental Impact Statements always represent everything that people commented on. We all know that doesn't happen sometimes.

29

30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you. Any more questions for Steve?

32

33 MR. ITTA: I got a question.

34

35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Eddie.

36

37 MR. ITTA: You made a statement a while ago about some regions having more than nine members on the Regional Advisory Councils. And in our charter, we have nine. And like you said, there's other regions with lots and lots of villages. What other regions have more than nine?

42

43 MR. ULVI: I'm not sure if any do. Do any have 11?

44

45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Southeast.

46

47 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thirteen.

48

49 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Southeast.

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1
2 MR. KURTH: Yeah. The most is in Southeast Alaska,
3 there's 13 on that council. And to some extent, it paralleled
4 the number that was in the State systems that preceded it, not
5 exactly. The Southeast Council under the State system had over
6 20 representatives on it, so they felt like they really got
7 smaller numbers. But Barbara here has a list of the councils
8 and how many members on it.

9
10 MR. ITTA: I guess, Mr. Chairman, my point was that I
11 think once a year we get to take a look at changing the charter
12 provisions here. And that certainly is a number, nine, that's
13 on here that can be debated and changed here by the Board. So
14 just wanted to make that comment. That I know like Point
15 Hope, we wanted to accommodate 'cause they're right in the
16 middle of two ranges, and just like Anaktuvuk they go quite a
17 ways back and forth to each side. So I just wanted to make
18 that statement that the number nine that's in here is
19 certainly, I think, debatable at the very least and changeable
20 probably.

21
22 MR. KURTH: Can I make one comment? And you'll
23 probably remember at the Board meeting last year, two regions
24 asked for more members. And what the Federal Board said was
25 wait a minute, we can't add just based on it. And what their
26 direction was was to ask each of the councils this year, when
27 you prepare your annual report to the Secretary, to speak to
28 the issue of how many representatives do you have and is it
29 providing adequate geographic coverage and adequate
30 representation. And the Board wants that this year in each of
31 the Council's reports so they won't just respond -- you know,
32 they would've given another seat -- Southeast wanted two
33 more seats and they already have the most. And they said wait
34 minute, if we're going to seats and that costs money, we need
35 look at the whole system.

36
37 So hopefully we'll -- you know, when we get the annual
38 report put together this year, each region will give us their
39 feelings on how many representatives there are and whether it's
40 working well.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any other questions for
43 Steve?

44
45 MR. ULVI: Mr. Chairman, if there are no questions on
46 that, I had two other quick topics I wanted to just inform the
47 Council -- both Councils of.

48
49 One is that for the Federal Council, when the charters
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come up in January I believe, this coming January, your
 charters and our Subsistence Resource Commission charter,
 there's already been paperwork back and forth between the
 Council Chairs about changing the number of nominees to our
 Subsistence Resource Commission. Each regional council, we
 have three, 8, 6 10, that are involved with Gates of the Arctic
 Park that take in some of that land mass, the charters will be
 changed so that each of your councils will be able to appoint
 one person. There are three seats on our Subsistence Resource
 Commission that regional councils can appoint. And that works
 out quite nicely then that each of the three regions would be
 able to appoint one person. As it stands now, from the last
 few years, this region doesn't have that appointing authority
 to our Subsistence Resource Commission. So I think that will
 work very nicely, and it's going to be in everybody's benefit.
 So that will occur this January.

17

18 The other thing I wanted to apprise you of is that I
 haven't gotten any phone calls here but I'm hoping to get a
 good one, that the Anaktuvuk Pass land exchange agreement did
 pass the House the other day. I think it was Tuesday or
 Monday, we're hoping that it passes the Senate any day now;
 perhaps today will be the lucky day. And when that occurs, of
 course, this long, you know, process begun in 1983 will finally
 be resolved and perhaps we can get back to wilderness
 management well away from Anaktuvuk Pass and that those folks
 can get back to using ATVs for what they need to on their own
 lands and on these lands that are being exchanged.

29

30 So we're hoping that it's a final solution to what's
 been a real difficult issue for the people of Anaktuvuk and
 Park Service.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Steve. Okay.
 Let's see, we need to move on here, and we'll go on ahead to
 item number 2 -- 10D.2, the Council proposal on sheep, caribou
 or muskox. Maybe -- that is, in essence, the discussion if
 there is any proposals that are coming from our region. And I
 looked through the booklets and there is no proposals. Unless
 there are some from -- for the Alaska Department of Fish &
 Game, but from our region there has been no proposals
 submitted. However, there is a deadline of November 11th for
 your information. I think it was November 11th for any person
 or entities to come up with any proposals on the big game or
 furbearing animals. We're all talking about just land animals
 at this time, and maybe in the future we'll be starting to deal
 with fish. But right now, it's all land wildlife at this time.

48

49 So where did Charlie go? The reason I want to see --

50

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maybe if any of the Council members have any proposals in mind or want to come up with some proposals on any of these animals, maybe we can briefly talk about those at this time. Any communities from our region want to try to draft up some or need help with proposals on caribou or sheep or -- for those that are in the booklet here? Maybe we'll start -- I don't know, who wants to? Anyone that may have an idea for proposals, maybe we can discuss these at this time.

9

10 For instance, I know Kaktovik will be talking about muskox and possibly sheep, but I'll have to get back to Kaktovik to find out. 'Cause those two species are very close to the people's way of hunting at Kaktovik. And we've learned the system to deal in making changes to regulations, so sheep and muskox are our species that we try to watch over real closely 'cause that affects our way of life. So if anyone -- I'll just open this up for anyone that may have an idea or need help in any regulation problem that they see here or would like to see changed.

20

21 MR. AGUASAGGA: Mr. Chairman. Are they making studies of how muskoxes population?

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Geoff, I think was doing some research in that area there. And I -- if you refer that to -- okay. We're going to have a muskox update, Amos, on Item I. We have two agenda items, we have -- in that deal. But I think maybe requires further talk with you right now. What is your concern or what -- I know we talked about muskox a little but yesterday, too, and we're trying to come up with some sort of co-management for this area and possibly come up with a proposal or management proposal to take muskox not only for the Kaktovik residents but for those in the North Slope Region. But they are -- they have been doing some field studies or hunting.

36

37 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I'll report on that.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So we'll be talking about that in Item I.

41

42 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman.

43

44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

45

46 MR. UPICKSON: Amos doesn't have the addition that would be under 10. After H, they added two items, that'll be Item I, Muskox with Pat Reynolds and J, Geoff Carroll will be later on, so that's coming.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie.
3
4 MR. BROWER: You're on D what? D.2?
5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes. Number 2.
7
8 MR. BROWER: All right. This is different. All right.
9 I'll leave it the way it is. I believe we wanted to talk
10 about muskox on -- this is only on proposals on sheep, muskox
11 and caribou.
12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Or it could be any other land
14 mammals were the ones that we're
15
16 MR. BROWER: But what I'm thinking, when we put I down
17 there for Pat Reynolds to give us a status report on the muskox
18 within her work area, I didn't think about this muskox for
19 instances of a co-management.
20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We could combine those right now, if
22 you want, either way.
23
24 MR. MILLER: You can listen to the reports and then go
25 back to it, too.
26
27 MR. BROWER: And not close the proposals?
28
29 MR. MILLER: Yeah, not close the proposals and revisit
30 them.
31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. This one will be very small.
33
34 MR. MILLER: Run down all the way to J and then go back
35 to 10.2.
36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. All right. Yeah. Go on to
38 E, you mean?
39
40 MR. MILLER: Yeah.
41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Well, I have a suggestion from the
43 Chairman of the Borough Committee. We can go back to the
44 Council proposals after hearing some reports. We just have, I
45 think, three reports, and we can go back to the proposals after
46 we hear -- I know muskox is a issue for us here. So what do
47 you think about that idea, to go on to E, F and G and so on and
48 forth and hear from these folks and go on back and keep the
49 proposals open -- keep the floor open for public -- on any
50

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1 proposals? It sounds like a plan?

2

3 MR. UPICKSON: So we'll come back to D.2

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

6

7 MR. UPICKSON: after we hear the reports?

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

10

11 MR. UPICKSON: That'll work out real well.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. And our Operations Manual
 14 requires that our region come up with a annual report which is
 15 the next item, 10E. Discussion and what issues and what
 16 distribution that we need to make on our annual report. And I
 17 know -- I feel that it is important to write something to
 18 Secretary Babbitt or those that need to know about our issues
 19 that pertain to our region. And this is for this annual
 20 report. We definitely to work in getting something out this
 21 year, and I'm going to request help from various agencies in
 22 our -- or not agencies but for the North Slope Borough and
 23 those involved in our region to help us with what issues that
 24 are facing us regarding hunting and trapping or taking
 25 sources from the land here.

26

27 So I'll go ahead and open it up to discussion on what
 28 we should write to Secretary Babbitt that are facing us. So
 29 Barbara?

30

31 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Could you help us out? Try to go
 34 through the annual report.

35

36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (In Inupiat). You don't have the
 37 Title VIII in that.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Would it be in the Operations Manual
 40

41

42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, it could be on the Operations
 43 Manual. It's pretty much self-explanatory. In your specific
 44 regions, (In Inupiat), what you want changed, (In Inupiat). So
 45 it's just a letter to Babbitt with all the things that you want
 46 changed, and then this is where you can all go into the
 47 quarter. (In Inupiat.) With anything that you request from
 48 the Government, you need to have a justification. (In
 49 Inupiat.)

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Okay. And you can also
3 find it in the -- Page 18 if you have the Operations Manual.
4 It contains -- or we need to prepare and submit to the Board an
5 annual report containing the following: An identification of
6 current and anticipated subsistent uses of fish and wildlife
7 population within our region; contain the following, an
8 evaluation of current and anticipated subsistent needs for fish
9 and wildlife populations for public lands within our region,
10 recommended strategy for the management of fish and wildlife
11 population within our region to accommodate such subsistent
12 uses and needs related to the public lands and make
13 recommendations concerning policies, standards, guidelines and
14 regulations to implement the strategy.

15
16 So I think some of the issues that we talked about were
17 management strategies that we talked about. Here, Eddie.

18
19 MR. E. HOPSON: Do you have another copy?

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes, you can have this one.

22
23 MR. E. HOPSON: Thank you.

24
25 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Fenton, what page?

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think it was 16.

28
29 MR. MILLER: Page 19.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Page 19. So some of the issues we
32 talked about where we'd maybe make an offer to take over
33 management, but I don't want to be hindered on -- that updated
34 report that I read yesterday, you know, even though they say we
35 can't vote on it, we surely can voice our opinion on an option
36 to manage locally our resources. So we shouldn't make that
37 stop us from saying something to Secretary Babbitt that this is
38 what we would like to see.

39
40 So I'll go ahead and open it up for discussion on what
41 one of them was the -- just what Steve was talking about,
42 whether Council change -- I mean the charter change.

43
44 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chairman

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie.

47
48 MR. BROWER: I have one question or one issue. On your
49 region 10, you have nine, and there's a vacancy coming up next
50

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year with -- like see, we have two Point Hope and deleted Anaktuvuk Pass and we can add Anaktuvuk Pass (indiscernible) in there. Is -- are those recommendations like with Ray Koonuk, I think he took a vacancy it looked like on Point Hope or what's the status on Point Hope with two people in there? I know Jake Koonuk took over Warren Matumeak's place and there was that vacant seat by George Amouwak (ph) on E which Ray Koonuk's name is being put in there. Was there a reason to have two people from Point Hope in the Region 10 Council?

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: When we went out for a statement of interest to serve on the Board, these were the names from the villages that were brought forth. There were several from Barrow, and I think none came AKP and Anukusuk (ph), if I'm not mistaken. So that, in essence, why it came of. So I think it's Ray that will serve the remaining term of George Amouwak's

18

19 MR. BROWER: Amouwak. Till '95.

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: in '90- -- which expires in 2025. And then what you're getting to I'm taking it is to suggest that we get Anaktuvuk Pass, Anukusuk representatives.

24

25 MR. BROWER: I think that way you can cover the whole North Slope from each area and you will be equally distributed there. And I see Ray can sit onto -- sit through '95. And by that term '95 is over request to have either Anukusuk or Anaktuvuk Pass in there. So I have no problem like that with your region right now, if we just can have somehow include all the villages to be representative in this Region 10 would be appropriate. Looking through your list here, I just

33

34 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair.

35

36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.

37

38 MR. ITTA: Charlie, on your fish and game committee, every village in the North Slope is represented, right?

40

41 MR. BROWER: Right.

42

43 MR. ITTA: Okay. And how many members?

44

45 MR. BROWER: Nine members -- seven.

46

47 MR. ITTA: Eight?

48

49 MR. BROWER: Eight.

50

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1
2 MR. ITTA: Eight.
3
4 MR. MILLER: Actually, there's 10, there's each village
5 and two at large.
6
7 MR. BROWER: Yeah. Two at large.
8
9 MR. ITTA: Okay. Uh-huh.
10
11 MR. MILLER: But the current makeup is nine.
12
13 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair.
14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.
16
17 MR. ITTA: Would it be appropriate at this time or at
18 what point would we formally propose any additions or changes
19 to our charter?
20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Under our Operations Manual
22 at this time, Edward, until we get one member for our council,
23 we cannot act, any --

24
25 MR. ITTA: Uh-huh.
26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: any formal action. We can go
28 ahead and discuss reports or issues but at this time, with one
29 member missing, we
30
31 MR. ITTA: Okay.
32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: cannot make an official
34 action. We can write these down and when we do get someone,
35 maybe this afternoon, we ratify it or formalize
36
37 MR. ITTA: All right.
38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: the request. But you surely
40 can talk about what -- what's on your mind and we can maybe
41 write them down and bring it up later when we do have a quorum
42 for action. That's -- we could get some action from this side
43 of the table but we're short one for a quorum on this side, so
44 we can't make any formal action.
45
46 MR. BROWER: Then, I have another issue. The report
47 from the Designated Hunter Task Force, it's appropriate for
48 them to write something up like that to give us options to see
49 which way we want to go. We -- the issue I'm bringing out is
50

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We can -- either you or some of us here can make a proposal to deny this and stay as status quo where we always have been. But trying to take what's being written and given to us to take an option on, that's a issue that I'm bringing out to status quo.

6

7

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Let me summarize that real quick. The reason that this designated hunter issue is before us is they originated from the Southeast and Kodiak Region for some sort of regulation for those that can't hunt for themselves. So if we stay at status quo for my village or my area where our customs and tradition is in violation of the present regulation so

14

MR. BROWER: Well, there's many in violation. They're making (indiscernible - interrupted)

17

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Or the regulations are wrong. They do

20

MR. BROWER: That's a statement I'm just bringing out, that's not

23

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So

25

MR. BROWER: I don't know what other folks might want to say about it. But I see that as a block already.

28

MR. ITTA: That can certainly be mentioned, Mr. Chair, on the annual report on the terms. I think -- expressed in regard to the Designated Hunter Task Force report.

32

Mr. Chair, just another question you might put -- you know, we're supposed to have our Staff help us do the identification and evaluations and recommended strategies, and we're dealing with policies and whatnot. And I'd ask right now who on our Staff, on the Fish & Wildlife Service, which is our Staff, would we be working with directly on documenting the concerns that we have here?

40

MS. ARMSTRONG: Right now, there's been a change again with -- we have a lot of turnovers here with the Subsistence Management. And there's been a change of command here since Mike Lockhart that works directly as my coordinator has left. So right now, we have an acting branch chief who is Sue Detwyler (ph). And then right under him is Vince Mathews that is directly working with the Council that I am informed of, and have been working with these two people. And those are directly your administrative people that we deal with right

50

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1 how.

2

3 The people they have now here with you are -- is --
4 like Helen is an anthropologist and Steve is biologist, we
5 don't have any -- anyone here from Administration.

6

7 MR. ITTA: That was my question.

8

9 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

10

11 MR. ITTA: That I didn't feel it was quite appropriate
12 this time. It's too bad that they're not here and are able
13 help us write down what I think it is that we've been
14 talking about here and that can fit into the annual report. So
15 thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

18

19 MR. UPICKSON: Yes. A question on -- in line with what
20 Edward mentioned. We discussed that one, we don't have
21 funding. Is there any other region other than coordinators to
22 provide Staff for their individual councils, any region at all
23 out of the 10 have their own Staff to help other than a
24 coordinator?

25

26 MS. ARMSTRONG: No, not at the moment. The only ones
27 that work directly with us are the ones like the coordinators.
28 And then what happens over at the Subsistence Management is
29 that they kind of pool of where the people want to go. And
30 like they say well, I haven't been to that village before. And
31 a lot of people do that over there, and then they decide on
32 which meetings they want to attend. And that's what goes on
33 over at the Subsistence Management. It's just not so where --
34 when this first started, I requested Helen to the
35 anthropologist for the Arctic Region 'cause I wanted her to get
36 know each and every one of you to work -- to be able to work
37 directly with you. So she's stuck on with the Arctic Region,
38 and if you have any questions, she would be able to also assist
39 you in writing anything that you guys need to write up because
40 she most understands the Arctic Region. She's working with
41 both Region 7, 8 and 10. And if you really want to directly --
42 because my superiors again might change within the next few
43 months again. So if you guys want somebody stable and to work
44 directly with all the time, you guys should actually work with
45 Helen because she can do some technical writing for you to and
46 assist you and then probably come and visit you, too.

47

48 MR. KURTH: Let me just ask one thing because

49

50

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1 COURT REPORTER: Wait a minute. Excuse me.

2
3 MR. KURTH: Yes.

4
5 COURT REPORTER: Can you please come up to the mike?

6
7 MR. KURTH: Even though I'm not part of the staff,
8 again, I used to be in charge of this Staff and so I sort of
9 remember some things. And each region has a team of people
10 assigned to it. There is a coordinator, and a biologist and an
11 anthropologist that's assigned to each region. And that's
12 Barbara is your coordinator, Steve is your biologist and Helen
13 the anthropologist. And if you need their expertise at any
14 time, they're available to you.

15
16 Also, if you ever have any other questions that they
17 can't answer, if you bring them to Barbara, she knows everybody
18 else in our office; she knows Dick Pospahala, she knows
19 everybody. And if you need help and you ask her, she'll do the
20 best she can to find the people on the staff that'll help you.

21
22 Also, even though they don't formally work for
23 subsistence, people like Steve and myself and Dave that work
24 directly in managing these land, are more than willing to share
25 whatever data we have, to share our expertise with you folks
26 when you ask it. And that's why we have a coordinator for each
27 region because a lot of times you may not know who all of us
28 are, but Barbara has been around long enough she knows all of
29 us. And if she doesn't have the answer to some question, which
30 we don't expect her to know everything, she knows us and she
31 can call us.

32
33 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: But I guess I'm -- Jim, I think
34 that's not the point that Edward is making. He's making a
35 point of actually having someone here from Administration,
36 someone that is above me, to answer directly to their
37 questions. And sometimes there are questions that I do bring
38 to the office and then -- that I never get answer for. And
39 then that's what who -- and the people -- the most people that
40 these people want to directly deal with. And I think we need
41 to answer to their questions and whatever

42
43 MR. KURTH: Yeah.

44
45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: they need to do.

46
47 MR. KURTH: Well, I know for a fact that Fenton as the
48 Chair or any of the other Council Chairs know Dick Pospahala
49 and if you ever have a question that you can't get an answer
50

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for this Council, you call Dick Pospahala, he'll give you an answer. No question about it.

3

4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible - away from microphone.)

6

7 MR. KURTH: No question about it. So it is hard to get to know all of us. I mean, there's a bunch of new faces and we have had some changes, and that's just the way, sometimes, government goes. But if Barbara can't get an answer for you, if the Chair ever gets stuck, don't you hesitate to call Dick. And, you know, I'll tell him I told you that and I know him well enough that he'll be glad to work with you directly.

14

15 MR. BROWER: Okay.

16

17 MR. ITTA: Okay. And one more --

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.

20

21 MR. ITTA: one more point then. What I'm going after is that on Item 6A, the identification and B the evaluation. I would assume that somebody on our Staff would prepare a draft paper for our consideration here that we can either add on to or delete. And I'm asking who would be the one responsible for providing that and making sure that those happen or do we as a Board need to formally take action and then just leave to Barbara or somebody? I know we have to have the annual report in by a certain time.

30

31 MR. UPICKSON: October 12 I believe in the charter.

32

33 MR. KURTH: I think all of you know much better than I what Alaska is very different, and each region has a different way they like to do business. Some regions wouldn't let us touch this report with a 10 foot pole. They have very specific things they want to write and they want to say it in their language and that's fine. Other regions, they've relied on the coordinator to help draft things and put it together, and then they've all made comments on it. And I think the Staff here will help you in whichever fashion you choose.

42

43 We're very careful and cautious that we don't want to say and say things for you. That's not -- I know Barbara would never try and say well, this is what I think you want to say. She doesn't want to speak for the Council, but she'll help you, you know, if you have something, you know, you're not sure how to say and she'll help you work with other people on the Staff. But the Council has to decide how it wants to prepare its

50

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report, whether they want to make their own first draft,

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

4

5 MR. KURTH: and then we'll work with you to help.

6

7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. It still didn't answer
Edward's question on who is responsible to help us with the
evaluation and

10

11 MR. ITTA: The identification.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: the identification of
those

15

16 MR. ITTA: Is that our biologist?

17

18 MR. KURTH: Your biologist is there, if you want him to
help you prepare it, he'll help you prepare it. The team
that's assigned to you, of Barbara, and Steve and Helen, will
help you in whichever way you ask. Now, some regions may say
we don't want a biologist drafting for us, we want to do it
ourselves. But if you feel comfortable in asking for that kind
of assistance on a draft, then I'm sure they'll help you
however they can.

26

27 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: What I have too is I have copies of
other annual reports that if you care to look at them.

29

30 MR. KURTH: Yeah.

31

32 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Then I provide them for you --

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

35

36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: to you.

37

38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. I really need to get
something out this year 'cause we postponed one last year.

40

41 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 'Cause we were fairly new to this
system here.

45

46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum.

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And I feel it's real important to
write down what we've discussed here and heard concerns on

50

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management, co-management.

2

3 MR. ITTA: Right.

4

5 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum.

6

7 MR. ITTA: That's the one I wanted

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Representation.

10

11 MR. ITTA: to mention is Item C, our discussion
12 yesterday regarding

13

14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Designated hunter. Those are the
15 issues that are -- you know, muskox is another one

16

17 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: as you can tell that we're
20 having problems with whether we want to restrict that from
21 expanding or open it up for take by other regions other -- I
22 mean other villages other than Kaktovik. I mean, it's pest
23 control almost like, you know, 'cause there's been
24 introductions of foxes on islands and they've decimated bird
25 eggs or other species, and they've taken over, or the original
26 species that were around get taken over by muskox. And that's
27 the very issue that we hear from other villages. So I know --
28 and we need to get someone identified in helping us

29

30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I think perhaps the most

31

32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: do this before the deadline.
33 What was it?

34

35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: For the time being then we can say
36 that Helen, Steve and I can start you in helping you with
37 writing an annual report. And I can get copies of the former
38 annual reports that I have in my office. And do you want me to
39 send them to all the Councils or just

40

41 MR. ITTA: Yeah.

42

43 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: to you and Edward?

44

45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No. Yeah, send it to everybody
46 here.

47

48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 'Cause what we've heard in this
 2 forum I think should be in the annual report.

3
 4 MR. KURTH: I think what would be important though and
 5 maybe you can do it in the way you normally do business and say
 6- you know, make a motion that we want the issue of co-
 7 management of muskox in the annual report to the Secretary and
 8 our strong wish that we have co-management or we want to have
 9 mentioned in this report community harvest of sheep in
 10 Kaktovik. Whatever things that the Council wants to be put in
 11 there and your opinion, then we draft it. But what we don't
 12 want to do is try and guess what you want to say and speak for
 13 you, that's never the intention of

14
 15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

16
 17 MR. KURTH: Agency Staff is to speak for you but
 18 help you put into a way the Secretary can act on, we'll be
 19 happy to do that.

20
 21 MR. ITTA: Thank you. I'm a lot clearer now -- or a
 22 little clearer now.

23
 24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So if Barbara,

25
 26 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm right here.

27
 28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Helen and Steve summarize of
 29 what went on here the last couple of days I think would be
 30 fitting to put it in the annual report. I think those issues
 31 are very close to us and that would be our annual report.

32
 33 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair, I think -- yeah, if we could --
 34 like you said, if we have one more member come in and we can
 35 get a quorum then we can formally by motion identify the
 36 subject

37
 38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Right.

39
 40 MR. ITTA: areas that we want included in the
 41 annual report and designate our Staff to start writing it up so
 42 we can -- we got only what a week?

43
 44 MR. UPICKSON: We have a week. October 12 according to
 45 the Chairman.

46
 47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

48
 49 MR. UPICKSON: Thing (ph) out about muskox, the co-
 50

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management -- and so all aspects of our muskox were kind of -- everybody feels heavily about it in one way or another, and it should be incorporated into our annual report. You're right. We need to find the Staff to help us start doing the annual report. And we've got a quorum now.

6

7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. All right.

8

9 MR. UPICKSON: Can we have we have a 10 minute break?

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

12

13 MR. BROWER: I have one more before we

14

15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie.

16

17 MR. BROWER: get started. Another issue I have, don't know if it's a burden on the coordinator but we have one coordinator for 7, 8 and 10?

20

21 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: 7 and -- yeah, 7, 8 and 10.

22

23 MR. ITTA: And that's Barbara here.

24

25 MR. BROWER: That's Barbara. And the question I have is that a work load for one coordinator to take all three regions? And I seen that they meet, some of the regions meet almost simultaneously or, you know, a couple days apart. Is that enough time to cover each region to -- for a coordinator to analyze and do all the travel or what's the

31

32 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I do a lot of travel between all the regions. But Region 7 and 8 have been doing annual reports for some time, and then they do their own annual report. The Chairs and Vice Chairs for that region have worked with and know the Federal Government for a long time. And then they write up their own annual reports. And they did one last year on their own. And since this is the first time that the North Slope is going to do it, then we -- well, this has been this year. And

41

42 MR. BROWER: No. What I'm saying is one coordinator enough to cover all 7, 8 and 10?

44

45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's when we had -- begin discussion at the first time, and they -- I have been able to work with them pretty much in covering the three regions. And there is a lot of office help now, and especially when there is meetings now they are set up another recorder with the Council

50

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Who takes care of the travel and the per diem and other stuff
 for here that alleviated a lot of stuff for me during the
 meetings. So I can pay more attention to what you guys are
 discussing and stuff. And at the time being, I have no
 complaints and have been working wonderfully with the Council
 members. And every time I call and ask for help, Fenton and
 Edward have been very helpful and also are the other Chairs for
 the other Council members.

9

10 MR. BROWER: I'm trying to ease your work here.

11

12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any other issues for annual
 report? I think we pretty well outlined, I think, our goal to
 get annual report in process. So

15

16 MR. BROWER: If we need help, we'll send some of our
 biologists.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And

20

21 MR. BROWER: That was the idea.

22

23 MR. ITTA: That's what I would want help on.

24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any other discussion or
 issues on the annual report for this region? If not, I'll call
 for a 10 minute break.

28

29 (Off record)

30

31 (On record)

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ladies and gentlemen, let's try and
 get back to business here. If we can round up our fellow
 members from the halls here, maybe we can get going here.

36

37 (Off record comments)

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Where did you see the deadline for
 the annual report?

41

42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Barbara it's on

43

44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It's on December

45

46 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's Decem- -- when is it?

47

48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

49

50

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1 MR. KURTH: December or January.

2
3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. The first week of December.

4
5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Oh, okay. So we have time.

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

8
9 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Okay.

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. I'll call the Joint Meeting
of the North Slope Borough Fish & Game Management Committee and
the North Slope Subsistent Regional Advisory Council back to
order.

15
16 Okay. We had a good discussion on the annual report,
and I think we have it lined out. We just need to double-check
the deadline for the annual report. And I think we're safe
in working on it for the next 30 days or so. But I want to
reiterate that the issues that we talked about should be in the
annual report, all those concerns that we have discussed the
past couple of days I think will be pertinent as an annual
report to Secretary Babbitt.

24
25 So with that, we'll -- we are now under 10F or

26
27 MR. MILLER: G.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 10G, Porcupine and Caribou
Commission, and I'll turn that over to Mr. Kurth, real briefly.

31
32 MR. KURTH: I didn't know I was going to do this.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. I know. We had that on there
because -- just give us a brief update on that, I guess, where
we're at.

37
38 MR. KURTH: Well, I did attend the meeting of the
International Porcupine & Caribou Commission in Dawson a few
weeks ago. And I think the issue that's of concern now is that
there is not a representative from the Inupiat community on the
Commission now after Nolan Solomon (ph) passed away. I believe
Nolan was the representative from Kaktovik on the Commission.
And there is a need to appoint someone to the Porcupine &
Caribou Board, and traditionally a seat is from Kaktovik. And
the Fish & Wildlife Service does want to know who the people
would like to represent Kaktovik and other -- I guess our other
Inupiat users of the porcupine and caribou herd on that Board.
And the Secretary of the Interior also makes that appointment

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But we really would like to know, you know, from Kaktovik and from others with knowledge who would be the best person to serve in that capacity.

4

5 And it's made up of people from both Canada and the United States as well as U.S. agency people and Canadian agency people. And it makes recommendations on how to cooperatively manage that very important caribou herd. I don't know if that's enough, Fenton.

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. That's -- and I think the community is taking care of that representative concern, so -- all right. Charlie. Okay. We're under the polar bear report.

14

15 MR. BROWER: For your information, Mr. Chairman, Scott never came up; I guess he had some other business to attend so he won't be here to make the report, but I can highlight some of what's been happening.

19

20 We had a meeting with all the communities, coastal villages from Kaktovik down to Diomed Island -- I mean Diomed and formed an Alaska Nanook Commission which covers all the coastal villages. And our first meeting was in Point Hope this past July. And so far, we've received from all the villages involved in that Commission for recognizing and forming the Alaska Nanook Commission, so from all the IRA Tribal Councils we received all the resolutions we needed for that purpose. So we formed the Alaska Nanook Commission.

29

30 And also in that regards, we've initiated a agreement with the Chukchi Sea side polar bears with Russia. We're working with the Wildlife Service as a government entity as Natives as Alaska Nanook Commission to have -- make a agreement like the one we have with the Canadians. And since Russia is in the process of opening subsistence hunting of polar bears there, which has been closed for the past 50 years, that there were concerns that if they do start that, that the -- our Russian counterparts would be initiating a large hunt within the Chukchi Sea area. And for some reason, they've -- they're initiated a sports hunt which is opposed by the Alaska Natives right now. And we're trying to work with their Native Association over there and the Federal Government from their entities to ensure that the sports hunt be deleted from their proposal.

45

46 And the report that we got there, even though they're subsistence hunting or harvesting of polar bears on the Russian side has been illegal for the past 50 years. The report that we got is that they harvest something like over 180 illegal

50

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bears in that process. And

2

3 MR. ITTA: Where at, Charlie?

4

5 MR. BROWER: In Chukotka Peninsula. And so we're
 working on that trying to make a agreement with the Russian
 Natives. There's a Native to Native committee that meets with
 the Alaska Natives and the Russian Natives with the Chukotka
 Area and also work with the Wildlife Service as a government to
 government with the Russian government from Moscow. So we're
 in that process right now, and it's taken some time to meet
 with the Russians 'cause there's some legalities or some
 obstacles we are running into where they can't come into Alaska
 for meeting, and it takes a while for us to go over there. But
 we're working where we can meet sometime in April again over
 there on the Nanook Commission to sign -- we have signed a
 memorandum of understanding that this is ongoing -- this is an
 issue that needs to be looked into real heavy. So that's an
 ongoing issue.

20

21 And another thing on polar bear is that they've started
 finally to do a major polar bear study on the Chukchi Sea side.
 The work that has been done on the Beaufort side for the past
 25 years or so. They're analyzing all the data to come up with
 a total population for the Beaufort Sea side. For the Chukchi
 Sea side it always has been a guessing number between 3,000 to
 27,000 bears within this short vast of land -- sea ice right
 there. So at the same time, we know this from their radio
 collar tag caribou -- I mean polar bears that the Chukchi Sea
 side bears go into Beaufort Sea, Beaufort Sea bears goes into
 some go into Chukchi Sea side. But there's a rotation where
 there's -- it's a individual population they're talking about.

33

34 So that is an ongoing study that will be starting here.
 It's been started with the help of the Russians and the U.S.
 side. And for the past five, six years with our polar bear
 game and with the Canadian village (ph), we have maintained the
 number that's been set for both countries of 76 bears per year
 from both sides. This includes from Kaktovik to Point Lay, our
 annual take is 76 bears per year. So that's a good sign that
 and from a recent report that we've talked with the
 biologists. The Beaufort Sea bears are on an increase of
 something like two percent, not very fast but they're
 increasing a little bit.

45

46 And Scott Slebe (ph) is supposed to have some slide
 shows and stuff like that which we are unable to see today.
 But on our next Fish & Game we will see him. So that's just a
 highlight of the polar bear situation.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Charlie. Does
3 anyone have any questions for Charlie?

4
5 MR. GEORGE: I've got one. Charlie, do they have the
6 new estimate for the Beaufort Sea area?

7
8 MR. BROWER: No. The estimate is still at 2,200. But
9 it always has been between 18 to 2,500. But we're stuck with a
10 number in-between of 2,200. But hopefully, it has increased to
11 about 2,500 right now. So that's a shared population with the
12 Canadians.

13
14 MR. GEORGE: Yeah.

15
16 MR. BROWER: And the Canadians that we share the
17 population with are another nine communities, and they have a
18 quota system there where each village takes so many bears per
19 year as a guided system or for subsistence use only. And their
20 governmental staff is a little different, and the Canadian
21 natives have -- they, with their land selection, have more
22 right in the governmental say-so where they're managing their
23 own resources.

24
25 MR. ITTA: They have guided hunts over there?

26
27 MR. BROWER: They have guided

28
29 MR. ITTA: Sports hunting?

30
31 MR. BROWER: Yes.

32
33 MR. ITTA: Yeah.

34
35 MR. BROWER: Uh-huh.

36
37 MR. ITTA: What's their quota?

38
39 MR. BROWER: The same as ours, 76.

40
41 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: How many?

42
43 MR. BROWER: Seventy-six.

44
45 MR. ITTA: That number of 76 is across the board?

46
47 MR. BROWER: Across the board, yes. Like Barrier
48 usually takes the highest number of bears, something like 20 to
49 bears per year. Nuiqsut might take one or two. Kaktovik is
50

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zero to one on life and deaths or whatever situation, whatever.
 2 And Point Hope takes about 10. Then Wainwright takes about 15
 3 to 17 bears per year. And Point Lay, it's about zero to two,
 4 something like that. So that's

5
 6 MR. LONG: Mr. Chairman.

7
 8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Charlie. Frank.
 9

10 MR. LONG: I've got a question for Charlie.
 11 Distribution of bear, what happens if a community that had a
 12 quota of two goes over the limit, say they get four bear?

13
 14 MR. BROWER: That -- that's no problem. Under the
 15 Marine Mammal Protection Act, we're allowed to take as many
 16 bears as we can. It's under that status for subsistence use,
 17 and there's no regulation against the hunt of polar bears. But
 18 for management purposes, we set -- we have set a number for
 19 that purpose. And even if one village takes over the number
 20 that's been given to them -- like for Alaska, we only have
 21 allocated numbers, we don't have quota system. It's -- 'cause
 22 under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, we can go out and
 23 harvest bears as we see fit and we can hunt, that are
 24 qualified. So there's no set back to the numbers taken per
 25 village. It's just for management status that we put a number
 26 there.

27
 28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Gordon.

29
 30 MR. UPICKSON: On the Canadian side, with the Land
 31 Claims Act -- their Land Claims Act being different for each
 32 region, not all regions have sport hunting.

33
 34 MR. BROWER: Well, for your information

35
 36 MR. UPICKSON: Not all -- they manage their own
 37 resources and not all of them have sport hunting, like Argu
 38 Bay.

39
 40 MR. BROWER: There are some communities within the
 41 Canadian that are precisely subsistent hunters that go on
 42 their own and delete from the governmental regulations there.
 43 So it's a little different than Alaska.

44
 45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any other questions for Charlie? If
 46 not, thank you, Charlie, for the report on polar bears.

47
 48 This brings us down to Item I, muskox a big -- we'll
 49 need some help with Pat Reynolds and maybe Charlie can help us
 50

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moderate this item.

2

3 MR. BROWER: Do we have Omig (In Inupiat) here? Do we
4- there he is.

5

6 MS. REYNOLDS: Do you want to talk about the status
7 of the

8

9 MR. BROWER: Just

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

12

13 MS. REYNOLDS: Eastern

14

15 MR. BROWER: Yeah.

16

17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Status of the

18

19 MS. REYNOLDS: area first?

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Eastern and maybe whoever was
22 involved in research for the rest of it.

23

24 MR. BROWER: The rest of it is kind of on a downfall
25 right now, we don't have those people here to

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

28

29 MR. BROWER: We have Pat here to give us a highlight of
30 the Eastern side and possible -- what their dispersement is
31 going and where they're going.

32

33 MS. REYNOLDS: A handout showing the population.

34

35 MR. BROWER: And population. Thank you.

36

37 MS. REYNOLDS: This -- I'd like to just briefly
38 summarize what I found out about the population in Northeastern
39 Alaska. This population, as most of you know, is a
40 established population that begin in 1969 in Kaktovik,
41 animals released near Kaktovik and the following on the Kavik
42 river.

43

44 Since 1982, I've been studying this population, looking
45 both distribution of the animals and population numbers.
46 These two handouts, the first one shows the growth of the
47 population in Unit 26(c) as well as expansion of the population
48 starting in about 1986 in 26(b) and also westward into Can- --
49 eastward into Canada about the same time. So I'll talk

50

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about each one of those units separately.

2

3 The numbers of muskoxen within the Arctic National
Wildlife Refuge, which is in Unit 26(c), reached a maximum of
599 animals in 1986. And after that time, it dropped a little
bit and then has been fluctuating between about 320 and 381
since that time. You can see how the population grew, and then
it's been fairly stable since that time. And the rate of -- a
rate of growth right now in the past three years has been about
one percent within Unit 26(c).

11

12 Now, the reason for the stabilization and initial
decline was that although we still have birth of calves in the
population and new calves coming into the population, animals
are now moving westward and eastward into new areas, including
Unit 26(b). And the animals in the Arctic National Wildlife
Refuge, on the map you can see -- on the second handout is a
map showing distribution of animals. Now, the source of this
data was from surveys which I've made the last -- it was a 10
year period from 1982 to 1992, flying over the same river
drainages three to six times -- or about four to six times a
year, relocating marked animals and any groups that are with
those marked animals, as well as unmarked groups. So this
represents a sample of distribution of where animals have been
seen.

26

27 I have additional data which I don't have with me, if
anyone's interested, that shows locations that you people and
others have presented in terms of where animals have been seen
to the west, over by Nuiqsut on the Ikpiuk, on the Colville,
other animals seen east into Canada. So there is some more
distributional data, but this is based on a sample taken on a
routine basis so it gives us a clearer picture of where the
animals are now located.

35

36 So the distribution currently in Unit 26(c), the
animals principally, as many of you from the Kaktovik area
know, live principally along drainages, and they're
concentrated along certain drainages. In Unit 26(b) which is
west of the Refuge, this area right here. This is Unit 26(c).
The animals are living principally on the coastal plain north
of the mountains along these drainages.

43

44 In Unit 26(b), animals are now dispersing, moving
westward and living principally on the Sagavanirktok to the
Anchorage (ph) again, north of the mountains along the Kavik
River, along the Sagavanirktok/Ipiutak in winter. So these
drainages here are principally used now. There are animals
that are closer to Nuiqsut, as you know. In this area, maybe

50

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Geoff can tell you about the surveys he's done. And my work has been principally from here eastward, so those the areas that I'm real familiar with.

4

5 In this area, in Unit 26(b), when animals move -- first moved in here, we saw, of course, a major increase and you can see that on here, Figure 1, where the animal population increased rapidly due to the immigration of animals into that area. And again, this is now -- the population growth in that area is probably -- in the last three years, it's been about 15%. So there's animals coming in now that there's cows and calves in that area and there's reproduction going on. There's higher growth in that area than there is in Unit 26(c), which is what we would expect with animals coming into a new area and immigration of animals as well as the reproduction.

17

18 So there have been observations of bulls to the west, as far west as the Colville. These are often solitary bulls in the summer. During the summer, the bulls come out of bull groups and are often found alone during the rut. To my knowledge, and I'd be very interested if people have information to the contrary, I don't know of any mixed sex groups on the Colville or even to the west -- further to the west at this time.

26

27 What I found and also what people in the Seward Peninsula found was that bulls in the population sort of are in the forefront of distribution. They're living on the edges of the population distribution and they inhabit these new areas first for a number of years. We saw this on the Sagavanirktok where we had bulls for a number of years but no cows with calves. And now -- and starting in '86, cows with calves are now living in that area. I think the same thing in the area around Nuiqsut, at first bulls were seen then and now probably mixed sex groups are starting to move eastward. But I'd be real interested in information that people have in that area and comments about that.

39

40 In Canada, Northeastern Canada, animals have also now moved eastward and there are mixed sex groups here as well. Of course, that's outside of the country, it's outside of any kind of management decisions we can make about the Canadian portion of the population. And that as well is growing faster than this portion of the population.

46

47 MR. BROWER: Pat, I have a question.

48

49 MS. REYNOLDS: Yes.

50

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1
2 MR. BROWER: The Canadian muskox that are with the
Northeast of Canada are -- aren't they the original transplants
of '72 of a population that migrated eastward and where the
population of that should be counted with the ones at 26(c)?

6
7 MS. REYNOLDS: Well, from a population perspective,
that's correct, they are part of that population. However, in
terms of decisions about harvesting, they aren't included in
the U.S. population any more, they're now under the
jurisdiction of the National Park of Can- -- National Parks of
Canada, because they're -- they immigrated out of country. I
don't know if they had a permit to do so but apparently they
did. They probably didn't have a passport when they crossed
the border.

16
17 MR. BROWER: Well, the question I have is in '92, they
18 we had a total of 700, then all of a sudden a year later, it
dropped to 525.

20
21 MS. REYNOLDS: Well, you may notice on the graph, I put
22 the -- we didn't -- we don't have a lot of information about
the Canadian animals.

24
25 MR. BROWER: So your estimate that a hundred

26
27 MS. REYNOLDS: So I didn't put any information about
Canadian animals in '93 -- the '94, excuse me, because the
Canadians did a big survey in '93, which is that big increase
that you see. I don't have enough money to survey Canada --
that portion of Canada, but luckily the Canadians were able to
do that. So that gave us an indication of how many animals
there were. So that -- we don't have Canadian data for '94.

34
35 MR. BROWER: And what I was trying to say is all of a
sudden in '92 you had 700 and then the following year, '93, you
lost 175, did those 175 migrate to Canada or -- I know with
Barrow only harvesting 10, where is -- I mean, where did the
drop

40
41 MS. REYNOLDS: Where did they go?

42
43 MR. BROWER: all of a sudden go?

44
45 MS. REYNOLDS: Where did the drop come -- it came from
because there is no information from Canada. There's -- there,
as you can see, the lowest part of that graph shows that the
animals in Unit 26(c) have been pretty steady. The animals in
Unit 26(b) are increasing. But we don't have Canadian data for
50

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that last year so that's why it looks like there was a drop. That may be strictly due to the fact that there aren't -- there isn't any Canadian data. It also may indicate movement of animals between ANWR -- or the Arctic Refuge and

5

6 MR. BROWER: Maybe --

7

8 MS. REYNOLDS: Unit 26(b).

9

10 MR. BROWER: maybe they shouldn't be counted as
11 first -- as Canadian side, they should be considered as one
12 side, like the porcupine herd, they migrate east and west, and
13 they are counted as one whole animal. To separate the stock
14 that grew in ANWR into the Canadian side, I think that's kind
15 of alleviating to the point where it's almost like a separate
16 stock of its own that's growing.

17

18 MS. REYNOLDS: Well, the way muskoxen inhabit land is a
19 little different than caribou. Once they settle into an area,
20 they're very sedentary. Unlike caribou, they don't move once
21 they're -- they have moved to Canada, they're unlikely to come
22 back to Alaska. Once they've moved into 26(c), until that
23 portion of the population increases enough for immigration to
24 occur back, they -- once they've moved to an area they stay
25 there. And so from a management perspective, if we can't
26 regulate, in terms of a hunt, for example, take animals in
27 Canada, then we probably can't consider those as part of the
28 population for management purposes. Does that make sense?

29

30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

31

32 MR. UPICKSON: Your chart regarding the number of
33 muskox is deceptive. Some years you included the data from
34 Canada and then you dropped it all of a sudden. So

35

36 MS. REYNOLDS: Well, we didn't have data -- I didn't --
37 I could have extrapolated but I didn't do that. I put in what
38 data was available.

39

40 MR. UPICKSON: So then why did you extrapolate in the
41 other year? Why did you

42

43 MS. REYNOLDS: That's not based

44

45 MR. UPICKSON: conclude

46

47 MS. REYNOLDS: The other years are based on actual
48 observations of animals that I personally saw.

49

50

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1 MR. UPICKSON: And on the Canadian side?

2

3 MS. REYNOLDS: On the Canadian side until '93. '93 is
~~the~~ the only year that we had information from the Canadians.

5

6 MR. UPICKSON: And then -- and you got other years
~~where~~ where you include the Canadian count and you only had data on
 893, and then you added Canadian stock on some other years
 without any data?

10

11 MS. REYNOLDS: In the years that there's any Canadian
~~data~~ data was the years that I personally went to Canada.

13

14 MR. UPICKSON: And how far have they migrated
~~east~~ east

16

17 MS. REYNOLDS: Into Canada?

18

19 MR. UPICKSON: in Northern Canada?

20

21 MS. REYNOLDS: As far as the Babbage (ph).

22

23 MR. UPICKSON: Pardon?

24

25 MS. REYNOLDS: There are mixed sex groups as far as the
~~Babbage~~ Babbage River. It's east of Hershel Island.

27

28 MR. UPICKSON: Yes. But

29

30 MS. REYNOLDS: But not as far as McKenzie.

31

32 MR. ITTA: I don't -- can you -- just by way of
~~background~~ background, what's the management plan? What are your goals?
 34mean, how many are you hoping to reach or what's the general
 35plan on muskox since inception?

36

37 MS. REYNOLDS: The -- I think the management objectives
~~that~~ that were stated when animals were released at Kaktovik and
~~Kovik~~ Kovik River were to return a species to the North Slope that
~~had~~ had been exterminated, that had been part of the Arctic system
 at one time. It's a species that predators feed on. It's an
 animal that was present as part of the system and had been
~~exterminated~~ exterminated from the state in the mid- -- on the North Coast
~~probably~~ probably by the mid-1800s. The interest was to restore a
 component of the Arctic and to return it. The objectives for
 the population in Northeastern Alaska were to allow a
 population growth high enough to permit colonization of new
 areas where animals had occurred at one time.

49

50

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1 And that's -- the management strategy has been a
 2 conservative harvest to deal with that. And that's, I guess,
 3 the management objectives that people who want to make
 4 decisions need to think about and talk about.

5
 6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Before Gordon --

7
 8 MR. ITTA: No, go ahead.

9
 10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: before Gordon

11
 12 MR. UPICKSON: Okay. You said

13
 14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: continues -- Gordon. Is there
 15 something in black and white on that muskox

16
 17 MR. ITTA: Management plan.

18
 19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: management plan or

20
 21 MS. REYNOLDS: There is not a muskox management plan
 22 that has been prepared. There is a memorandum on the Refuge
 23 that states what the objectives were and they're -- when Alaska
 24 Department of Fish & Game and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
 25 were involved in moving the animals to the North Slope, there
 26 were stated objectives in that initial program.

27
 28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Could we get a copy?

29
 30 MS. REYNOLDS: Sure. I'll find whatever I have on
 31 the --

32
 33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

34
 35 MS. REYNOLDS: on the initial reestablishment
 36 seasons.

37
 38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And anything

39
 40 MR. UPICKSON: Okay. We heard comments yesterday from
 41 Elijah Attunga and from Edward Hopson regarding how caribou and
 42 the muskox interacted. How caribou don't hang around where
 43 muskox is. Now, before the stock was depleted way back, do you
 44 think maybe there may not have been caribou at that time, and
 45 we may be reaching that stage? 'Cause they don't interact, we
 46 heard comments made to that effect. So in fact, if you
 47 increase the population of the muskox like you're hoping to,
 48 you don't know then how they interact. 'Cause we know for a
 49 fact in our community when muskox are around, we don't have any
 50

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caribou. I heard Elijah make that same comment yesterday where they may go a year without caribou being around Point Hope. And we know there's a lot of muskox in that area. So you may be changing the migratory route of the caribou that we depend on now solely for a majority of our red meat.

6
7 MS. REYNOLDS: Well, maybe you could answer the
8 question. Were there caribou here a hundred years ago?

9
10 MR. UPICKSON: That's what I asked him. Do you know
11 for a fact

12
13 MS. REYNOLDS: I don't know that but do

14
15 MR. UPICKSON: Okay. So you're try- --

16
17 MS. REYNOLDS: Is there a traditional knowledge of
18 caribou on the North Slope?

19
20 MR. UPICKSON: So you're trying to increase the
21 population of muskox without knowing that yourself. You may
22 be changing the migratory route of the caribou. You, yourself,
23 don't know. And then you have a management plan that doesn't
24 back that far.

25
26 MS. REYNOLDS: Um-hum.

27
28 MR. UPICKSON: So your management plan, we'd like to
29 see it. Do they interact or is the testimony offered by Elijah
30 and Edward, do you disagree with it?

31
32 MS. REYNOLDS: Well, I think that from a biological
33 perspective, the two species were present at least at the end
34 of the Pliocene. I don't know -- I assume that people here
35 know whether they ate caribou a hundred years ago on the North
36 Slope. I don't -- I assumed people did eat caribou on the
37 North Slope a hundred years ago.

38
39 The numbers of muskoxen, the size of the population we
40 have no information on. We do know that both muskox bones and
41 caribou bones appear in archaeology sites on the North Slope in
42 the same site, for example, at Betty Lake. So that the species
43 have been present and are present in many Arctic areas.

44
45 MR. LONG: Have they come

46
47 MS. REYNOLDS: Northern Canada.

48
49 MR. LONG: Can't the -- or your agency or department,
50

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could -- would you be able to understand why animals go to
 certain area to pass away, to die? Like whale, for instance.
 In the news a few days ago, there was whales that died down
 south. I know this man can understand why, and I know this man
 can understand why. But can you or your department or the
 agency that you work for understand why these things happen?

MS. REYNOLDS: The point is there is a lot of knowledge
 that I don't have,

MR. LONG: I know there's

MS. REYNOLDS: that's correct.

MR. LONG: There will be bones in certain areas
 together.

MS. REYNOLDS: Um-hum.

MR. LONG: But that does not mean caribou and muskox go
 hand in hand and say we are born together here.

MS. REYNOLDS: No. The sites that I'm talking about
 the archaeological sites where people lived and brought the
 animals in, they were eating both muskox and caribou at the
 same time. I didn't mean to imply that the animals died there,
 they were brought there by humans.

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.

MR. ITTA: Yeah. When the -- who transplanted the
 muskox, was that by the State? I think I

MS. REYNOLDS: It was a joint effort between the State
 and the Federal Government.

MR. ITTA: A joint effort between the State and the
 Federal Government. And since the Federal Government took
 over, who's managing that program? Was that still under the
 Feds or was that -- is that a co-management plan of some sort?

MS. REYNOLDS: Well, the -- until recently, muskoxen
 were under the jurisdiction of the State as a game animal.
 Now, portions of those animals are under jurisdiction of the
 Federal Government. Those animals in Unit 26(c) are now being
 managed by the Federal Government as a subsistence species.

MR. ITTA: Okay.

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1 MS. REYNOLDS: So there's

2
3 MR. ITTA: I mean, I'm just amazed that there was no
4 management plan in place. I mean, you just have a memorandum
5 and maybe Geoff can talk to that a

6
7 MS. REYNOLDS: Yeah.

8
9 MR. ITTA: little bit if you get

10
11 MR. CARROLL: All right.

12
13 MR. ITTA: by the microphone, too.

14
15 MS. REYNOLDS: Yeah. Geoff may have -- he probably has
16 a lot of information I don't have.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Geoff and then let -- we'll
19 see what Geoff has to say and then Edward.

20
21 MR. CARROLL: There is a State management plan, and I
22 handed that out at a previous North Slope Borough Fish & Game
23 Management Committee meeting. I don't have one of those with
24 me today. I can get you one.

25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Is it this one?

27
28 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: That's the review, that's the
29 literature review.

30
31 MR. CARROLL: That's the literature review, that's a
32 review of everything that's been written as far as muskox
33 research. Not everything but a good portion of it. I'll get
34 you a copy of the State plan. But it -- I mean, kind of in a
35 nutshell, it's to expand, you know, a species that was here and
36 was eliminated. I mean, try to reintroduce it to its former
37 range, I mean that's the idea of muskox management by the State
38 far, you know. And we've talked a few times here, you know,
39 that maybe things have changed. Maybe we want to manage them
40 differently from that and we need to form, you know, a
41 cooperative management group. And I -- you know, that's
42 something, you know, I'd like to

43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

45
46 MR. ITTA: If I could, just one more thing. In that
47 plan, do you have a number on the population, what objec- --
48 what number are you trying to reach and what's the basis for
49 that?

50

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1
2 MR. CARROLL: I don't think there is a number. I think
3 it's kind of a vague goal of having muskoxen reinhabit the area
4 that they used to inhabit. And that's

5
6 MR. ITTA: Okay.
7

8 MR. CARROLL: I don't think there is a number of 10,000
9 or 2,000 or --

10
11 MR. ITTA: Okay.
12

13 MR. CARROLL: or anything like that that I'm
14 aware of.

15
16 MR. ITTA: Thank you, Geoff.
17

18 MS. REYNOLDS: Yeah.
19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Eddie.
21

22 MS. REYNOLDS: I just wanted to say -- excuse me. I
23 just wanted to say that yeah, I was aware the State had a
24 management plan, I thought you were referring to a plan that
25 had been developed before the animals were released. And I --
26 there was no management plan to my knowledge before the animals
27 were released. Was that -- is that your understanding?

28
29 MR. CARROLL: I'm not aware of one.
30

31 MR. ITTA: Well, I assumed you were following some goal
32 or an objective

33
34 MS. REYNOLDS: Right.
35

36 MR. ITTA: somewhere, and you just cleared that
37 up for me, Geoff.
38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Eddie.
40

41 MR. E. HOPSON: All right. Edward asked one of the
42 questions I was going to raise is where is the objective in the
43 population, where are you going to stop, at what level. Is --
44 and my concern is I had a privilege of going to Canada here
45 several years ago, not very long ago, after they had the lands
46 claims on Northern Canada. And they inherit the land and
47 spread them out. I mean, they're not talking about acres like
48 or land claims here in Alaska. They inherit Banks Island with
49 or resources on it. And the muskoxes there are over-populated
50

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on Banks Island. And these Eskimos have inherited.

2

3 At the time we made the trip there, you go in a
 4 restaurant there, you find on the menus muskox meat in the
 5 restaurants. And they were planning to slaughter 200 muskox on
 6 Banks Island because they were walking over caribou. There's
 7 also caribou and muskox on Banks Island. Because the caribou
 8 was getting weak muskox over eat all -- they eat the same thing
 9 the caribou eats, and the muskox take over. And they say they
 10 are the bosses, they keep the reindeer -- caribou away and they
 11 were looking for market to sell that meat anywhere within
 12 Canada.

13

14 My concern is you go that -- you haven't come up with a
 15 idea of where you're going to stop it, where you're going to
 16 stop taking. I think we pretty well know that the recruitment
 17 rate, how fast they are growing annually now, I think you can
 18 I think whoever's -- whoever is managing it can say that all
 19 right, every year we're going to take say 150 or 200 and keep
 20 at the 400 level. I think it's time to do something about
 21 that because I think I can safely to all of my Native community
 22 behalf of them and say that I want to keep the caribou
 23 rather than muskox because I can take them anyway. Kaktovik
 24 can only take them. And pretty soon, they're over-populated,
 25 I'm still restricted from taking caribou except people at
 26 Kaktovik. And the first thing that we're going to excited about
 27 for management is oh, oh, let's kill off the muskox, they are
 28 chasing the caribou away. That -- you're going to see that
 29 unless there is some plan for management, of what level.

30

31 I think instead of taking 10 now, it's -- in the last
 32 20 years, they've gained 4 or 500 in the last 20 years.

33

34 MS. REYNOLDS: That's correct.

35

36 MR. E. HOPSON: So I guess we can increase the take of
 37 muskox, keep it level -- I mean keep it low in population. I'm
 38 not saying again to eliminate muskox but it should be kept down
 39 where it's pretty low and save the caribou.

40

41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

42

43 MR. UPICKSON: The North Slope Wildlife Management
 44 Committee and the Regional Advisory Council should take note of
 45 what Pat Reynolds said a moment ago when she made the comment
 46 Geoff well, I didn't know you had a management plan. She's
 47 trying to manage the muskox, she don't know what the goals are.
 48 And then she turned around says to Geoff Carroll well, I
 49 didn't know you had a management plan, and they're in the

50

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management business, State and the Federal, and they don't --
 she doesn't even know the State has a management plan. So they
 go hit and miss on this.

4

5 MS. REYNOLDS: That's not correct.

6

7 MR. CARROLL: Gordon.

8

9 MR. UPICKSON: And I like your comment,

10

11 MR. CARROLL: Gordon.

12

13 MR. UPICKSON: Edward, maybe they -- maybe that
 area can only sustain so many muskox, maybe that's why it
 stabilized at that number. And maybe they should increase it
 to 20 like you said. Maybe that's all that area can sustain,
 maybe that's why it's at that level. Maybe Kaktovik should get
 more.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 MR. CARROLL: What I heard Pat say to me was that she
 knew the State had a management. She said that

24

25 MS. REYNOLDS: I was aware of the plan.

26

27 MR. CARROLL: she didn't think that there was a
 plan that was all written out before the animals were
 introduced. But

30

31 MR. UPICKSON: Okay. There's a lot of aspects of that
 plan that she's not aware of.

33

34 MS. REYNOLDS: I've

35

36 MR. UPICKSON: And she's managing the federal end of
 it.

38

39 MS. REYNOLDS: I've read it.

40

41 MR. UPICKSON: Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. I've got one question here on
 your graph here, is that total population of calves,

45

46 MS. REYNOLDS: This is

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: females and bulls?

49

50

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1 MS. REYNOLDS: based on spring pre-calving
2 census. Total count.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Total count of every male, female
5 and calf?

6
7 MS. REYNOLDS: Of all animals seen on a repeated survey
8 every year in April, prior to the time the calves are born.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. In the last year's proposal
11 booklet for review, it shows so many percent of mature females
12 at end of every years. We want -- we are trying to come up --
13 the community of Kaktovik wants to increase the take.

14
15 MS. REYNOLDS: Um-hum.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: But before we put a number, we
18 wanted to know what the statistics on that graph showing the
19 mature females, so many percent every year. What -- does the
20 graph or statistics show that there is an increase, decrease or
21 stable population?

22
23 MS. REYNOLDS: In Unit 26(c), the population has been
24 relatively stable. It's growing -- in the last three years it
25 grew at one percent within Unit 26(c). I can get you
26 composition data, show you what we have in terms of number of
27 cows, number of bulls, number of young aged animals. I'll be
28 glad to provide that information to you to help

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So there is

31
32 MS. REYNOLDS: make decisions on how many animals
33 need to be taken.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So there is statistics
36 available

37
38 MS. REYNOLDS: Yes. Yes.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: to help come up with a number?

41
42 MS. REYNOLDS: Yes.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Charlie.

45
46 MR. BROWER: Yeah. To come back a little bit on what
47 Gordon stated on the draft management plan that the State,
48 North Slope Borough and part of BLM -- not BLM but Wildlife
49 has. This was initiated from the direction from the Mayor to
50

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prepare a draft management and that draft management has been approved by the Fish & Game. The only thing that I was looking for was to see the dispersement in population of the stock from both east and west. And on the west side, I think the State has that.

6

7 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. And we can -- you know, when Benton and everybody gets done talking about the eastern side, we can talk about the western side a while if you'd like. So just let me know whenever you're ready for that.

11

12 MR. BROWER: And another thing what I wanted was from the east and to the western side just about where every sighting -- if you combine this with the west side, how far are they dispersing to the whole North Slope? So with that management plan that we have, some of the options that were put in there were that to start hunting muskox within the North Slope like if we are in 50 mile radius. That's pretty good mileage, and sometimes you might be able to see one or -- you know, we're not going to go out and go 2 or 300 miles and go and hunt for muskox.

22

23 But, you know, some of the options were like take for 20 miles, you can take one. And that's why I wanted to see both east and west figurations of dispersement throughout the North Slope before we really push for that management plan. Cause I am for hunting the muskox.

28

29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'm sorry. Ben.

30

31 MR. B. HOPSON: I'd like to note, too, we've had numerous -- or not numerous but we've had lone bulls come in to Akutuvuk Pass. And I think I seen one like in late June. And sometimes we'll see a bull maybe in the late fall over there. If I am not mistaken, one of the local hunters, I heard him comment about a year ago that he seen a group of five, some bull maybe with mature females, somewhere in the area out in the foothills. Like we've had some bulls coming in there, it's not very common but they'll show up when we're out hunting caribou out to the foothills.

41

42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Um-hum. Eddie.

43

44 MR. E. HOPSON: Do you know if those muskox that gone to Canada from this stock, they leave them alone or are they taking them? You know, muskox is available in Canada off of the islands like Banks Island. Are they -- the people able to take those? Are they taking them, killing them off or are they going to leave them alone because of their management plans

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over there with Fish & Game, Federal agency or whatever.
 Prohib- -- I just wondered if they prohib- -- they're
 prohibited from taking muskox.

4

5 MS. REYNOLDS: You mean just across the Canadian border
 where these animals are coming from, in that area, in the park,
 the national park -- Canadian National Park, or in all of
 Western Canada?

9

10 MR. BROWER: No, no.

11

12 MR. UPICKSON: Canada as a whole?

13

14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie.

15

16 MS. REYNOLDS: No. There's a lot of muskox harvesting
 in Canada.

18

19 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

20

21 MR. UPICKSON: They're what?

22

23 MS. REYNOLDS: There's a lot of muskox take in Canada.
 Banks Island harvest last year, they took 800 animals but the
 population is thousands -- 40 thousand animals.

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie.

28

29 MR. BROWER: That's what I was going to state.

30

31 MR. E. HOPSON: Now, one more, Mr. Chairman. If that's
 going to be increase in taking, I mean depending how the
 managers decided on the muskox population, I would hope that
 they would increase take for Kaktovik. Because -- I think
 because they have muskox around, they don't enjoy caribou.
 They got caribou that's going to come through there, I know
 that, in multitudes in certain times, not annually. I would
 recommend that take for Kaktovik would be increased to satisfy
 the people's need.

40

41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie, did you have something?

42

43 MR. BROWER: Yeah. On the Canadian side, all of that
 stock of Banks Island there, the last time I was there, was
 45,000, and turn around and they give permits to about 4,500 is
 allowed to take off from that herd, just from Banks Island.
 And I don't know the situation between Inuvit and Aklavik, (ph)
 if they go to the northeast of the Hershel Island to hunt
 muskox there, but majority of them are hunted on Banks Island,

50

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Within that region. So to clearly answer whether they go from Aklavik or Inuvik into the east corner of the Canadian side here, whether they go up to Banks Island or not, I don't know. They might have that stock they're talking about of dispersing into Canada from Alaska. Then, I have no idea. But I know in some rare occasions, Aklavik and Inuvik might harvest a muskox within that area but majority of them are hunted in Banks Island.

9

10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think Jim, Pat and Geoff are faced with an ever increasing awareness that muskox is expanding west of the North Slope and that there is prob- -- there are problems or observations by long time residents that may not be both -- both sides may not agree that they are taking over habitat areas. And that we prefer caribou over muskox. And since caribou is readily available and can be taken without restriction.

18

19 And the management plan of muskox I think is in clash with what is in collision course with what's preferred in the North Slope. I think that needs to be revisited by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife and the State of Alaska to make some sort of a control either prevent from expanding or have the opportunity for the western half of the North Slope to take game without isolation. I really seriously believe that the U.S. plan for muskoxen should be looked at 'cause it's like I was saying, it's starting to become a pest control problem, one preferred species over the other. And it really seriously need to be revisited.

30

31 And we've heard comments from Charlie that we wish for a management strategy for muskoxen, and I'm in favor of that. And I think we could work something out, not only for the western half of the North Slope but to include it from Canada Point Hope as one management plan.

36

37 John.

38

39 MR. MILLER: Mr. Chairman. I guess I'd like to say that I believe that what Edward had mentioned yesterday or last night and mentioned a little bit this morning that in order for our opinions to be voiced accurately and reflect the solidarity and the strength that we really do need maybe our own experts and legal minds to assist in helping us meet that goal. We are it sounds like we are not in the same view when it comes to using the Federal agencies and your Federal recommendations here, you know, the regional making recommendations. So the fact of developing your own -- our own maybe becomes a little not more apparent here. Local management is not -- it doesn't

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seem like it's insurmountable, it just seems like there's some obstacles to work through.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, John.

7

8 MS. REYNOLDS: I concur that I think it's very important that this is an issue that we all need to talk about. And the objectives of local people here need to be looked at and addressed. I have been operating under the assumption that people wanted to hunt muskoxen on the North Slope, and that they would like to see the expansion of muskoxen so they were available to other villages. But if that's not the objective, then we certainly need to discuss that so that different management strategies can be set up. That's absolutely correct.

18

19 MR. BROWER: I don't think we don't need no different management. It's just -- it's a request of the residents of the North Slope that it be allowable to take muskox. We don't need to go into other regulations or any other management. I think what we have started is the headline right now to proceed. The only problem that we have is the dispersements of bow -- what is being spread throughout the North Slope. And to initiate something different out of what's been happening right now all these years, we don't need to start another management strategy. We want to start from where we at right now and utilize what we have.

30

31 I think that's the whole object right there is we don't need to initiate another management status. We've already started that with the North Slope and State of Alaska. And I think we're going the right direction. It's just that what some of the folks say that we need to get our own biologists to do the work and have the data available to us. But in the long run, here in the North Slope, we try and work and work with the Federal agencies, their biologists, their technical help to assist so we can have a better working relationship.

40

41 If they're going to start holding off, we might be turning around like what happened to the State, ignorant, get our own. We'll use it and give it to us. And if it comes to that point, if I'm hearing what's happening, that might be the subject to do is get our own biologists and work on it. 'Cause we're going to survive here under the Federal strategy, we both, different entities, have to work together and share the same data. And in order for some biologists to go out and say let's make another management regime for this, never mind that

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status, let's just proceed with what is available to us now.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Charlie. Any
6 other concerns regarding muskoxen?

7

8 MR. KOONUK: I have one.

9

10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Jakie.

11

12 MR. KOONUK: Yeah. I need clarification on management.
13 The muskox is being managed by the State right now?

14

15 MR. CARROLL: Well, it's just the State

16

17 MR. KOONUK: But the Federal doesn't have any
18 management plan?

19

20 MR. CARROLL: No, it's the same complicated situation
21 on the Federal land that's -- they're management by the Federal
22 Government and the State land, like places that's managed by
23 the State. So that's kind of the way it is.

24

25 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Could I

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So in Point Hope area

28

29 MR. BROWER: It's under the State.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: we would have to deal with the
32 State

33

34 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, that's

35

36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: management? What about those
37 little, red marks where there's Federal --

38

39 MR. CARROLL: Well, those are little bits of
40 Feder- --

41

42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Federal lands?

43

44 MR. CARROLL: there are little spots of Federal
45 land there.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Say again.

48

49 MR. CARROLL: There are small spots of Federal land.

50

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There are some

2

3 MR. KOONUK: Yeah. But the hundred thousand acres that
 4 we have IRA is not included in that map,

5

6 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

7

8 MR. KOONUK: Federal land, it's not on there.
 9 And the reason I'm asking for clarification is if the State has
 10 a management plan but the Federal doesn't, but the State is
 11 working with the Federal people, then what's -- how do we
 12 define that the hunting is legal under the State but it's not
 13 under the Federal Government who has no management plan as, per
 14 the, written that we could go by on Federal land?

15

16 MR. CARROLL: I'm sorry, I'm not sure what the question
 17 is.

18

19 MR. KOONUK: We're not permitted to hunt them right now
 20 because of a management plan that is run by the State.

21

22 MR. CARROLL: Right.

23

24 MR. KOONUK: And still, we have Federal land who -- the
 25 Federal doesn't have any management plan on muskox but the
 26 State does, and the State will put you in jail for hunting
 27 muskox illegally but there is no management plan on Federal
 28 level and we have Federal land. And these animals are in our
 29 Federal land.

30

31 MR. CARROLL: But at this point, it's illegal to take
 32 them on the Federal land as well. Can I pass out the
 33 information on the Western side so that

34

35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

36

37 MR. CARROLL: we can work that into the formula
 38 here, too?

39

40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

41

42 MR. CARROLL: And then we can move onto work

43

44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: While they're doing that, Gordon.
 45 We have 15 minutes before lunch here but

46

47 MR. UPICKSON: Geoff, on the State end and on the
 48 Western end, last year just when the caribou were getting fat,
 49 we started noticing some muskox. We never did get any caribou

50

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in the fall time after the muskox showed up, they disappeared. The caribou disappeared just when the caribou started getting fat, they disappeared. They were gone all winter, that was last year. This summer, we had very slim pickings on caribou again. And then when we went way (indiscernable), you know, we notice some muskox here. Now, you've attempted to do a muskox survey at Point Lay area this summer, because of the weather it never materialized.

9

10 But then only used -- do you have any comments on how they interact especially in lieu of the comments made by Elijah where they go a year sometime without caribou around Point Hope. And we make that observation at Point Lay, could be impact that maybe because of the presence of muskox at migratory route and caribou in our area maybe impact have been affected, that's why we don't see any caribou in our area. Maybe they go directly over to Noatak area instead of going closest to Point Hope like they usually do. Maybe there is a change in the migratory route because of the presence of muskox. Two years in a row now, Amos and I do some hunting and we know those observations have been detrimental to the caribou population in our area just when they're getting fat, when we normally hunt them the most.

24

25 MR. CARROLL: Well, I -- you know, I can't -- I'm not pretend to be the guy that really knows the answer to that question. You know, there's a lot of literature of people that have done research on caribou and muskoxen, and they've seen them inhabiting the same areas and seem to co-exist. You know, on the other hand, you can go to any village on the North Slope and talk to people that will tell you about the year that there were muskox near the village and there weren't any caribou, you know. And so, you know, we've got experts on both sides that have exactly opposite opinions.

35

36 We're kind of jumping ahead here but, you know, I've talked to this group in the past about, you know, developing a muskox management plan, a cooperative plan. But, you know, with -- that would involve the Borough and the Alaska Department of Fish & Game and -- you know, and whatever Federal agencies should be involved, you know, and representatives from the village, there's -- you know, whoever had an interest in it, and coming up with a reasonable muskox management plan for the North Slope.

45

46 And, you know, I think part of that plan would be to conduct -- well, partly, get someone to go around and talk to the villagers, people that have actually seen interactions between muskox and caribou, and get that documented; you know,

50

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get it down in black and white where, you know, we can pass that on to other people.

3

4 And I think in addition to that, I'd like to see, you know, a study done that would involve somebody from up here plus, you know, maybe a grad student or something that would look at exactly that. You know, spend a lot of time in the field looking at interactions between caribou and muskox and, you know, just kind of try to get this settled once and for all.

11

12 You know, it's -- I know that -- well, I think Charlie mentioned the other day what usually is they spend millions of dollars to do these studies only to find out that what people have been saying was right all along. But unfortunately that's kind of the way the world works, you know. You have

13 --

18

19 MR. UPICKSON: For the past --

20

21 MR. CARROLL: you have to be able to

22

23 MR. UPICKSON: for the past two days, you've heard a lot of discussion about muskox.

25

26 MR. CARROLL: Uh-huh.

27

28 MR. UPICKSON: And then, admittedly, your management plan does not address -- hasn't taken the concerns of the individual villages that are very concerned about it

31

32 MR. CARROLL: Well, I

33

34 MR. UPICKSON: into your management plan so far.

35

36 MR. CARROLL: Okay. I don't think you've read the management plan. I don't -- you know, I haven't worked with, you know, the Federal Subsistence Advisory Council that is, I've worked with the North Slope Borough on it. And I've worked with the North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management. And we've worked together to write a management plan that kind of addresses some of these problems. And we kind of got off track with it for a while because there were people that were advocating nothing but total eradication of muskoxen. And so -- you know, and then we -- but anyway, we've kind of gotten marching orders from the Mayor at this point to develop a muskox management plan for the North Slope. And so, you know, we're going to proceed with it again now. So that's kind of where we are.

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1
2 And we'll sure get you a copy of what we've worked up
3 with so far. And what we have so far is purely a draft copy,
4 it's just something to start with. And, you know, we expect it
5 to change a lot before the final production, but we are working
6 on that.

7
8 Just I can kind of tell you real briefly about
9 what

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Yeah.

12
13 MR. CARROLL: we've come with up with on -- you
14 want to break for

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No. Yeah. We'll go ahead and
17 finish this topic,

18
19 MR. CARROLL: Okay. I can

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: and then we can break for
22 lunch.

23
24 MR. CARROLL: Okay. Muskoxen were reintroduced to the
25 Cape Thompson area in 1970 and 1977 when 36 and then 34 animals
26 were reintroduced into that area. Although, muskoxen have --
27 about the same time, they were also introduced -- reintroduced
28 to ANWR and the Seward Peninsula. Both the Seward Peninsula
29 population and the ANWR population grew very rapidly, as you've
30 seen from Pat's report. But this Cape Thompson population
31 really hasn't grown nearly as fast. And in fact, they kind of
32 popped out at about 130 animals and stayed there for several
33 years.

34
35 This year, this spring and summer, I worked with other
36 the area biologists from Kotzebue and -- a guy named Jim Dow
37 (ph) and the assistant area biologist down there, Leanne Erics
38 (ph). And we flew surveys through this area very thoroughly.
39 We had weather problems and things and it took a while to get
40 down. But anyway, we came up -- where in past years, like I
41 said we've only -- you know, about the most we've found in
42 there is 130 animals. We found 196 adult and yearling muskoxen
43 and 48 calves in that area which is kind of the first time that
44 that population has seemed to be increasing.

45
46 And so, the number of calves -- we've been doing
47 calving surveys in there, and both the calving survey in 1993
48 and 1994 was a lot greater than it had been before 1993. For
49 some reason, the calf survival has just been very poor in that
50

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area. You go in there and you can hardly find any calves surviving. However, in 1993, we found 28 calves per hundred adults; and then in 1994, we found 26 calves per hundred adults, which like I say is a lot better than it has been. So maybe we had a couple of fairly mild winters that allowed the calves to survive. And, you know, maybe there's other reasons, I'm not sure what the deal is. But even that calve production isn't as great as like the Seward Peninsula where they regularly have like 48 calves per hundred cows compared to, like I say, 20 -- about 27 for the last two years in that area. But it does look better there than it has.

12

13 We also -- you know, we've had some muskox sightings in this area up here, so we also flew a survey -- well, on the first one I was talking about, we surveyed basically this area between Kotzebue and Cape Lisburne. Most of the muskoxen in that area are either right up in the Cape Thompson area or they're down here in what's called the Hinichok Mountains; (ph) I might be mispronouncing that. But they're down in -- there's kind of two bunches of them in those two areas.

21

22 So -- and in addition to that, you know, occasional muskoxen are seen all through here, but it's -- you know, it's like the single bulls or one or two or three animals. It's -- we're not really aware of any groups that are -- that have calves or cows with them out in that area.

27

28 Okay. So then on August 5th, we -- the North Slope Borough paid for a survey that we flew between Cape Lisburne -- from Wainwright to Cape Lisburne, and then we flew along the foothills and down the Kuparuk River. And well, we just covered a whole lot of area there. And kind of the intention was to go out there and, you know, be able to show that there are some muskoxen in the area.

35

36 Unfortunately, we flew all over the place. We had observers from the North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management; we had Amos from Point Lay and myself from the Alaska Department of Fish & Game; and we basically flew all day and didn't find any muskoxen. You know, that's not to say that there aren't in the area, but I think you can safely say there aren't a lot of muskoxen in the area.

43

44 So we're kind of at the point now we need to do another survey there when there's total snow cover, that they show up better when there is total snow cover. But also, you know, this is something that we need help from local people on. It's really important for when people are in that area, if they see muskoxen, you know, and especially if there are areas where

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they regularly see muskoxen, we need to know about that so that we can start, you know, documenting that there are muskoxen in the area. It's a little hard to advocate a muskoxen hunt in an area where you can't really show that there is any sizeable muskox population.

6

7 So that's something we're going to need to do more
8 surveys in that area in the future, and we're going to need
9 help from local people reporting their observations. So that's
10 kind of it in a nutshell as far as the population -- that Cape
11 Thompson population.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Frank.

14

15 MR. LONG: Population of muskox. Why is it that you're
16 not doing a collar system on muskox like you do on caribou?
17 Caribou is 600,000 strong. And you've got collars and locators
18 like holding an animal as walking around prison. Why isn't it
19 taking place to a muskox? That is not even eligible for us to
20 harvest.

21

22 MR. CARROLL: You're asking why we don't have radio
23 collars on

24

25 MR. LONG: Right.

26

27 MR. CARROLL: muskox? Well, we do have radio
28 collars on the muskoxen.

29

30 MR. LONG: I have not seen a muskox with radio collar.

31

32 MR. CARROLL: I doubt that any of the ones

33

34 MR. LONG: There's a lot of caribou I can run across
35 that has radio collar.

36

37 MR. CARROLL: That's that?

38

39 MR. LONG: I'll run across a lot of caribou that has
40 the radio collar.

41

42 MR. CARROLL: I doubt that many of them near Nuiqsut do
43 have radio collars. We have some radio collared in this Cape
44 Thompson population; in fact, I think Jakie has helped. But we
45 have problems with the ones on muskoxen. They -- just because
46 of the way their head is shaped and everything, occasionally
47 those collars will get up and over their horns. And I think
48 Jakie's helped Jim Dow remove one of those. You know, so
49 anyway, there isn't -- well, anyway, the point is we do have
50

50

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1 some radio collars on them. Okay.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

4

5 MR. CARROLL: And it hasn't been real useful on this
6 population 'cause we can use -- 'cause they usually just stand
7 in one place anyway for year after year after year and you know
8 where to find the animal anyway. So there isn't much point in
9 hanging a radio collar on it. And we're probably going to end
10 up removing the ones that we have on those animals there.

11

12 MR. LONG: I got one more question. What would be a
13 general idea of retransplanting that animal to another area
14 instead of the North Slope and fence it?

15

16 MR. BROWER: I have one question.

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. One last question and then
19 we'll break for lunch.

20

21 MR. BROWER: All right.

22

23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Then we can pick this up after
24 lunch.

25

26 MR. BROWER: In your report here, Geoff, you stated
27 that it seems to be stable on the Cape Thompson herd of 130.
28 That's stable, what would be the percentage of a take, one
29 percent of 130 is 13. So if that's stabilized right now after
30 years, wouldn't that be able?

31

32 MR. CARROLL: Well, one percent of 130 is 1.3.

33

34 MR. BROWER: Ten. 1.3.

35

36 MR. CARROLL: But -- yeah.

37

38 MR. BROWER: I was going to make hundred thousand.

39

40 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. But

41

42 MR. BROWER: Anyway, out of 130 animals, we can take 10
43 and then that would leave 120 alone for them to grow another
44 more calves. There's 26 calves per a hundred adults, which is
45 quite favorable on good years. And for this management plan,
46 we can initiate, you know, some percentage out of the stock
47 cause it's stabilized and it ain't going to grow any longer.
48 And to what Edward has stated that if we -- they're stabilized
49 that point after so many years, why can't we initiate some

50

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Hunt on these just to a small number?

2

3 MR. CARROLL: Well, you know, that is one thing we can
write into this management plan is that we want to manage for a
stable population rather than a growing population.

6

7 MR. BROWER: I don't

8

9 MR. CARROLL: And that you would like to harvest -- you
know, harvest the surplus. And that -- but that -- you know,
that's something to work on later. I can't tell you exactly
what their overall reproductive rate is and how many it would
be safe to take from that population. But

14

15 MR. BROWER: Well -- no. If they're stable to that
number and it's been 30 years, I don't think we're going to
wait another 30 years to get 196 more animals so we can start
hunting. That number now, I think it's best in our observation
to start harvesting some of these animals as red meat.

20

21 MR. CARROLL: Okay. Well, I personally don't have any
objection to that. It's going to be a problem convincing the
Board of Game, and that's going to be a chore.

24

25 MR. BROWER: That's

26

27 MR. CARROLL: But Charlie, you know, you're talking
about stability there but this recent count -- I mean, there
was a substantial increase in the population which kind of
changes that -- you know, that view of stability there. I
don't -- right now, I don't think we can talk about a stable
population because it recently grew. So, you know, we'll have
to survey it again. I mean, you know, it's something we got to
keep doing. We've got to continue the surveys and see if it
does continue to grow or, you know, if it does stabilize there.
But either way, you know, you can manage a population to be
stable or you can the population to grow and -- you know, and
move into new areas.

39

40 Like I say, the policy of the State so far has been to
manage the population with a conservative harvest so that it
can move into more areas so that more villages will have access
to them and be able to hunt them. And it's something we need
to work out and see if that's really what we want to do or not.

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Yeah. I think that's a good
place to break here, and we can continue after lunch. What is
the wish of the body, to reconvene at 1:30?

49

50

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1 MR. BROWER: 2:00 o'clock.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I hear 1:30, any objection?

4

5 MR. ITTA: Anybody have any muskox for lunch?

6

7 (Off record)

8

9 (On record)

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Call the meeting back to order.

12 Let's see, we were just in the closing remarks or closing
 13 section of the muskox issue. And if anyone has any questions
 14 or any further comments while Pat is up there, we can maybe
 15 close this issue. And maybe figure out what we can do after
 16 talking about it. Any further questions for Pat or Geoff?

17

18 This issue of muskox is very important to our residents
 19 on the North Slope, so I wanted to make sure that everything is
 20 noted down. And we'll be discussing this a little bit further
 21 down the agenda here. Hopefully towards co-management or open
 22 or a limited hunting, maybe a proposal for those in the western
 23 half of the North Slope. So we'll deliberate that here further
 24 down the agenda.

25

26 So if there are any questions for Pat or Geoff on the
 27 muskox?

28

29 MR. CARROLL: I have one comment.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Geoff.

32

33 MR. CARROLL: People on the Seward Peninsula have been
 34 going through kind of the same thing. They -- but they have a
 35 lot more muskoxen down there than we do on the North Slope.
 36 But they've worked over the last year and have come up with a
 37 co-management plan down there that involved several villages,
 38 and the Alaska Department of Fish & Game and Kuarik (ph) and a
 39 lot of different groups. But they've come up with a plan that
 40 they'll be presenting their plan to the Board of Game at the
 41 spring meeting. And so I'm planning on observing to see how
 42 that turns out.

43

44 And there'll be a lot of -- you know, the big question
 45 how will the Board allocate the muskoxen. I'm sure if they
 46 have enough muskoxen they will begin a hunt there, but the
 47 question is who will be hunting those muskoxen. So that's
 48 something we all need to watch carefully and see how they --
 49 what determinations they make with them.

50

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1
2 And to be honest, I've been -- you know, I didn't want
3 to have something ready to go to the spring Board meeting for
4 here, you know, I think it's better to see what happens with
5 them. And in addition, under our current Governor, you know,
6 he's the appoints the Board members and the Board members at
7 this time are fairly, you know, oriented towards urban sports
8 hunters, basically. And I think it's better to wait a while.
9 Hopefully, we'll get a new governor -- well, we'll definitely
10 get a new governor, hopefully we'll get a new board. And I
11 think the changes will be better in the future of getting, you
12 know, a reasonable management plan through.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Gordon.
15

16 MR. UPICKSON: Yes, a question for you Geoff. You're
17 saying they have similar problems on Seward Peninsula, is it
18 any way related to the complaints that you hear up here,
19 interaction between caribou and muskox? You said they had
20 problems similar to the ones we discussed here.

21
22 MR. CARROLL: Yes. There it's more the reindeer
23 herders, you know, they -- some of the reindeer herders feel
24 that they have problems with the muskox and some reindeer
25 herders don't feel that they have problems. But you do hear --
26 you hear the same thing about the problem that people are
27 afraid the muskoxen displace reindeer as well as caribou.

28
29 MR. UPICKSON: Okay.
30

31 MS. REYNOLDS: I might add a comment that there will be
32 a meeting next August, the Arctic Ungulate Conference will take
33 place in Fairbanks, Alaska. And there will be sessions in that
34 conference talking about muskox and caribou interactions and
35 competition. And that might be an opportunity for people here
36 to put together their information that they have about this
37 situation and, perhaps, present it or participate in the
38 conference. So I'll be sending Fenton an announcement about
39 that conference if you're interested in attending. It may be
40 an opportunity to present your ideas and your knowledge about
41 the situation.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Pat. Okay. Thank you.
44

45 MR. CARROLL: I have another couple of subjects I'd
46 like to discuss while I'm up here, if that's okay?

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Yeah. We're just getting to
49 your section there under I.

50

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1
2 MR. MILLER: J.
3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: J.
5
6 MR. CARROLL: Okay.
7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So
9
10 MR. CARROLL: Okay. The first --
11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: you got the floor, Geoff.
13
14 MR. CARROLL: the first thing I'd like to talk
15 about is on this first handout I gave you, one of the sections
16 titled "Same Day Airborne Hunting." And what we'll be
17 talking about is Proposal #32 in the proposal packet. These
18 are proposals that are going -- that the Board of Game will be
19 acting upon. There were a couple of you that didn't get this,
20 just didn't have enough to go around, maybe you can look on
21 with somebody else or something.
22
23 But what this is all about -- 'cause this is -- it's
24 called a Board generated proposal. Some of the -- well,
25 actually, the head of the Board of Game took a particular
26 interest in this, and so they wrote up a proposal and put it
27 out for public comment. What this proposal would allow is same
28 day airborne hunting of caribou -- well, it's both -- it'd be
29 both the Mulchatna herd and the Western Arctic herd. And so
30 the way the regulations are now, anybody that's coming up and
31 going caribou hunting, they have to land their airplane, spend
32 the night, and then they can hunt the next day. This would
33 allow people to go out, land their airplane, shoot a bunch of
34 caribou, load them in their airplane and fly away.
35
36 The logic behind it is, you know, they look up here at
37 us with all of our -- you know, lots of caribou up here, and
38 actually more caribou, you know, than we can harvest, and it,
39 you know, occurs to them that maybe they could get in on these
40 large populations. People could take advantage of the large
41 Arctic populations by flying up and being able to hunt more
42 caribou.
43
44 It's -- you know, at first -- it sounds pretty bad at
45 first, but then they start to change it a little bit. One of
46 the parts of the proposal are that this would only be from --
47 let's see, I'm sorry. It'd just be during from January through
48 the end of March -- or April 15 -- okay, here we go. It'd be
49 January 1st through April 15th. So that would reduce the
50

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amount of people that are coming up and say trophy hunting, coming in and shooting a big bull caribou and flying away with it. And in fact, that would eliminate it because the caribou have already lost their antlers by then. So basically, it would be a way for people in other parts of the state to fly in and get meat.

7

8 As large as the population is, there probably isn't any significant biological problem there. There's probably enough caribou to allow people to do that. However, I can certainly envision, you know, conflicts between North Slope residents and people flying up here to hunt. And, you know, this proposal is a very definite break from the current trend. What -- I mean, since 1976, basically, we've more and more ended any type of same day airborne hunting. You know, the trend is to make it -- make it a little more difficult for people so they can't just fly a plane in and take what they want and leave.

18

19 So earlier, I sent -- I had a letter sent to each one of the members of the North Slope Borough Fish & Game Management Committee and also to the North Slope Borough Wildlife Department. And, you know, we're asking for comments on this. So I guess that's where it sits. I -- you know, I personally don't like the sound of it very well but, you know, haven't really gotten any response from everybody. I thought people would be a little more excited about it than they have been. But nobody seems to be -- show much interest in it one way or another. So I guess I'd like for you as a body to kind of decide that you would favor it or oppose it or you don't care.

31

32 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie.

35

36 MR. BROWER: On this proposal, I mean, we heard about it and got a phone call. The Wildlife Department did not object to the same day airborne hunting for those dates, January through April 15th. But in regards to summer hunt when the bulls are in their prime, that might be a problem. I know it's only for those dates, from January to April. But eventually, if we say go ahead, the first thing we're going to notice is proposals coming in from all over (indiscernible), sportsmen and whatever to make it on their regular hunting capability dates of harvesting sports hunters. But we have no objection to January through April.

47

48 That was our consent, you know, we don't have any problem with same day airborne hunting because we've noticed

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either the herd is too big and it's not taking much -- they're fighting for food, one way or another. And the caribous are getting not as fat as they used to, there's so much of them. And some of them are getting to the point where they're getting disease. So that's we don't have any objection with January 1 through April 15th.

7

8 But in regard to sports hunting, we will have something to say immediately because I know for some -- no reason at all, probably the Game Board will get some proposals to continue that to harvesting of sports hunters. So

12

13 MR. CARROLL: Okay. Well, I kind of agree with you. You know, that January 1st/April 15th, I really doubt that many people will

16

17 MR. BROWER: They'll be out there hunting.

18

19 MR. CARROLL: fly their airplane, you know, clear out to where the Western Arctic herd is to, you know, shoot a bunch of skinny winter caribou.

22

23 MR. BROWER: But at that time, they'll either be down south of us or somewhere where there's a little bit more daylight, you know,

26

27 MR. CARROLL: Uh-huh.

28

29 MR. BROWER: down towards Seward Peninsula, that area. So we didn't see any problem with that.

31

32 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chairman.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.

35

36 MR. ITTA: Geoff, can you show me -- I don't know what happened to that map -- but in general the range of the Western Arctic caribou herd?

39

40 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Well, the Western Arctic herd depends -- most of the herd comes in the spring in Upper Utukok and Kolik and Cape Lisburne (ph) area. They calf in there. And during the summer, most of the herd spreads out across the North Slope, you know, and some of them that we see up here are Western Arctic here. More often we see Teshekpuk Lake herd caribou up here around Barrow. Spread across the Slope in the summer, then in the fall, they cross the Brooks Mountain Range and of in a broad band. They use all these different mountain passes, Anaktuvuk Pass and Chan- -- they go over to Chandler

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and all these different passes. And so by -- generally by October or November, most of the herd has moved down south of the Brooks Range and you can find them anywhere across through this area. They spread out over a large distance, and they get down as far as the Yukon River.

6

7 So like Charlie was saying, during -- you know, during the time that people could fly in and shoot Western Arctic caribou -- herd caribou, most of them would be down south of the Brooks Range, there wouldn't be many up on the Slope at that point.

12

13 MS. OPIE: The proposal is only for the Western Arctic herd or a particular GMU?

15

16 MR. BROWER: There's two herds.

17

18 MR. CARROLL: The way it's written is the Western Arctic herd and the Mulchatna herd. The Mulchatna herd, you know, it's farther south in the southern range of the Western Arctic herd. So that wouldn't affect this but

22

23 MR. ITTA: Has the migration pattern been pretty consistent since you've been on the program, Geoff?

25

26 MR. CARROLL: Well, yes and no. They do something different every year, you know. Like last year, they went a lot farther south than they usually do. But, you know, the main idea of it is about the same but there are variations. I mean, caribou always do different things.

31

32 Let's see, one year about -- let's see, four years ago, probably 60 or 70,000 of them stayed up on the North Slope, you know, up in this area. So, you know, they do something a little different every year. But the main bulk of them basically do, you know, calf in this area, spread across the Slope and then move down.

38

39 MR. ITTA: This is the same herd that maybe so long ago, was it about 15 years ago, that had that major crash, right, down to 20 some thousand?

42

43 MR. CARROLL: Well, they say -- the estimate was 74,000.

45

46 MR. ITTA: Okay.

47

48 MR. CARROLL: It went down to that and is up to probably 450,000 now.

50

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1
2 MR. ITTA: The following year.
3
4 MR. CARROLL: What's that?
5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon, did you have your hand up?
7
8 MR. UPICKSON: Yes. How would that affect like say in
9 April, how will that affect the pregnant caribou that are being
10 harassed by aircraft? That -- it bugs me to think of somebody
11 hunting other traditional and customary method. It bugs me to
12 think that somebody will go and go harassing pregnant caribou.
13 And does that -- does it make any difference where that
14 Western herd that they're going to be -- that they're proposing
15 have same day airborne?
16
17 MR. CARROLL: Well, the season for -- it's against the
18 law to hunt female caribou after mid-April. So I mean that
19 wouldn't -- but, you know, up to then, I mean people could go
20 ahead and shoot cows. It's still against the law to harass the
21 caribou; in fact, there's some real strict, you know, Federal
22 airborne laws that

23
24 MR. UPICKSON: So --

25
26 MR. CARROLL: people can have their airplanes
27 confiscated for

28
29 MR. UPICKSON: so they won't be harassing but
30 they're allowed to catch a caribou the same time. There's
31 going to be some harassing, you know that for a fact.

32
33 MR. CARROLL: Well, it'll be against the law for them
34 to harass them, that's all I can say, you know. It will be
35 legal for them to land their airplanes and shoot caribou.

36
37 MR. UPICKSON: And isn't it true that anything that you
38 hunt with the aircraft, you are harassing because you're going
39 to land as close as you can to that animal anyway? And so
40 you're, in effect, doing the harassing anyway just by trying to
41 hunt them.

42
43 MR. CARROLL: Well, yeah, you know, anything you hunt
44 with. I mean, you could probably say that about anything. If
45 you know, if you try to get close to them with a snow
46 machine, they -- a lot of times they run away to. But -- and,
47 you know, most of the people that hunt by snow machines go out
48 and stop some distance away and shoot the animals. Most people
49 don't go driving right into a bunch of caribou, and I would
50

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think it'd probably be the same thing with airplanes, most people wouldn't try to land right in the middle of the herd. They would -- I mean, you have to be pretty selective where you land and your airplane anyway.

And I also want to say I'm not advocating this either. This is something that

MR. UPICKSON: And we got until August to consider this proposal?

MR. CARROLL: No. They're going to act on this one.

MR. BROWER: January.

MR. CARROLL: You've got until -- just a little while longer to -- until October 24th, written comments can be sent in.

MR. BROWER: Do you understand, Gordon?

MR. CARROLL: Or you could go testify at the Board of Game meeting, which will be November 4th.

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Geoff?

MR. CARROLL: Uh-huh.

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ben. Go ahead, Ben.

MR. B. HOPSON.: Yeah. This could probably maybe be a little conflict in Anaktuvuk for our guys that are trapping up you know, up in the foothills up there. Because, you know, there's still some like outlaw area wolf hunters that still operate. There's not a few but they're -- you know, this could kind of exploit the area with other game in there, too, besides harassing.

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Did you catch that Geoff?

MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Well, I kind of agree with Ben. I think -- I don't think it's going to be much of a biological problem with the caribou, but I think there's the potential of being a problem with it interfering with local hunters. If the guy's out hunting caribou or something, he sure isn't going to want to have an airplane land in the vicinity and be doing the same thing.

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1 MR. B. HOPSON: 'Cause they'll be out trapping up there
 2 and it's going to cause animal movement to move around
 3 like

4
 5 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

6
 7 MR. B. HOPSON.: our guys will be trapping along
 8 the rivers and up through the foothill tops down there.

9
 10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Good point, Ben.

11
 12 MR. B. HOPSON: Um-hum. There's not that much but I've
 13 seen evidence where there's still, you know, aerial wolf
 14 hunting going on with it.

15
 16 MR. CARROLL: Is that right? That's interesting.

17
 18 MR. B. HOPSON.: Uh-huh.

19
 20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I've got one question. You --
 21 off, you mentioned you want to have this body either yea or
 22 nay or abstain on this -- regarding the same day airborne.
 23 This side of the body here acted on same day airborne to turn
 24 that down. Same day airborne which was a statewide issue
 25 and

26
 27 MR. CARROLL: Was that caribou or for wolves?

28
 29 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: For wolf.

30
 31 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Wolf.

32
 33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I think it was for wolf.

34
 35 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

36
 37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So what I'm trying to get at is
 38 since this body is dealing with Federal lands and this body
 39 here deals with the Federal and local lands.

40
 41 MR. BROWER: State.

42
 43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: State.

44
 45 MR. BROWER: Private, others.

46
 47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And others. So I think the Fish &
 48 Game Committee here is the appropriate body to address that
 49 issue.

50

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1
2 MR. CARROLL: Uh-huh.
3
4 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Fenton, I think that the Federal
Regional Council's going to have an opinion on it, too, because
5 anybody in the state can. I mean, in fact, we're asked to
6 comment from our office on State proposals. I think it's
7 actually appropriate, if you want to,
8
9
10 MR. BROWER: Yeah.
11
12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: you know, it's perfectly okay
13 to have two votes.
14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.
16
17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah?
18
19 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Sure any group can.
20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Eddie and then Frank.
22
23 MR. E. HOPSON: All right. Let me -- somebody clear --
24 make me understand this same day taking of that meat. I fly an
25 airplane and I can't take caribous when I landed. When the
26 caribou is 50 feet away,
27
28 MR. CARROLL: Um-hum.
29
30 MR. E. HOPSON: I let it go away, huh, and then I
31 go look for some other caribou on foot.
32 MR. BROWER: No, you can fly out.
33
34 MR. E. HOPSON: Well, let me just say one thing. If
35 the aircraft is permitted, if I am permitted to go and take
36 caribou with airplane, that's it, without all this other stuff.
37 Eddie, when you take an airplane to go hunt the caribou, you
38 landed at 6:00 o'clock over there, you have to wait till 6:00
39 o'clock tomorrow to take caribou. I don't think that is right,
40 it's wrong.
41
42 What is -- why, if I am permitted to go and hunt it
43 with an airplane is the only way I can go. I am not permitted
44 to take caribou on the same day that I land where the caribou
45 where I wanted to go.
46
47 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: That was
48
49 MR. E. HOPSON: I think -- is that just a draft or is
50

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that in effect?

2

3 MR. CARROLL: It's going to go into effect.

4

5 MR. E. HOPSON: Is it?

6

7 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. It's in effect.

8

9 MR. E. HOPSON: It is in effect?

10

11 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. It is in effect. I mean, that is
12 well, I mean, it is

13

14 MR. E. HOPSON: I don't know. I don't know.

15

16 MR. CARROLL: I think it's more designed to

17

18 MR. E. HOPSON: Like I said, if going hunting caribou
19 with an aircraft is permitted, let it be, without having to say
20 you wait until next day to take your caribou. And you flew.
21 That mean next day, you have to set out, pack your stuff, your
22 skis or snowshoes and go look for caribou. Why can't you take
23 them as you landed. They have been harassed anyway. They run
24 away anyway when you land or whatever.

25

26 But all this other stuff, let that -- let's have -- if
27 let's allow aircraft -- the hunters to go take caribou but
28 like I said without all this other stuff. I don't think this
29 other -- take caribou a day after you land is -- it's just --
30 you know, I don't see any reason for it. It's just the way
31 that they're going to make me a violator. I take airplane to
32 hunting, I take caribou immediately I landed because that's
33 where I wanted to go take caribou where it's easy. I take
34 caribou immediately, then I'm in violation of the law, then
35 you'll be convicted.

36

37 Let's take -- leave all this other stuff out. If
38 aircraft hunting is going to be permitted, let it be permitted.
39 I like it. But the thing I don't like is nobody likes -- I'm
40 sure nobody likes, just like myself, is to land and wait until
41 the next day to take caribou. You may not take any caribou at
42 all, if that is the only way you are hunting, airplane. You
43 and the airplane and the caribou is going to run away unless
44 you know these caribou, they come and greet you. A herd of
45 caribou, that's the only way you can take them, but otherwise
46 they're going to run away from you. I think leave all this
47 other stuff out.

48

49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ray had some.

50

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1
2 MR. BANE: I'll
3
4 COURT REPORTER: Wait, can you please step up?
5
6 MR. BANE: I guess my question is sort of similar to
Eddie's, is I was trying to picture how same day airborne
caribou hunting would work. Flying along, find a herd, land in
front of them
10
11 MR. BROWER: Shoot, skin, take off.
12
13 MR. BANE: I mean, land on skis probably.
14
15 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.
16
17 MR. BANE: So it could be fairly effective.
18
19 MR. BANE: Oh, yeah.
20
21 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, it could be.
22
23 MR. BANE: Okay.
24
25 MR. CARROLL: Okay. I'd like to say to Eddie, you
know, the same day airborne, you know, when the law was being
written, I don't think anyone was thinking about a guy like
you, they were thinking about guided hunters basically. They
don't want for a guided hunter -- for a guide to be able to go
out in his airplane, fly over the caribou until they spot the
biggest bull in the herd and land with his client and jump out
and plug the caribou. And -- you know, and that's the way
things used to be done. They -- it's -- you know, they're
promoting something called fair chase hunting; it's giving the
animals a reasonable chance and minimizing like Gordon was
talking about, the harassment of the herd. Some of these
guides are, you know, over-zealous sports hunters that, you
know, are in there looking for that ultimate big bull and
banding and shooting them.
40
41 And so it's one of those things, you write a law, it
kind of applies to everybody. And so it's -- I guess it's kind
of a matter, I guess we'd ask you, do you want the guides to be
able to go in and same day airborne hunt? Not that this --
this regulation doesn't apply to that, but I'm telling you that
that's the reason we have same day airborne regulations, the
same for bears or caribou or sheep or anything. We don't want
to be in a situation where guides are bringing their high-
paying clients, you know, right up to the biggest animal on the
50

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mountain or whatever and letting them out to shoot it. So that's what same day airborne regulations are for.

3

4

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Edward and then Charlie.

5

6

MR. ITTA: Geoff, not so much about the airborne but just on the herd itself is 450,000 is the best estimate now. And Charlie mentioned a bit about over-grazing maybe or the health of the herd. Can you elaborate on that a little bit, what the concerns might be or is there over-population or

11

12

MR. CARROLL: Well, that's -- that herd has been quite cyclic, as you know. They -- it crashed in the '60s, went down -- you know, the estimate at the time was 76,000 animals and has been building up, getting larger and larger and larger, you know. And it had gotten pretty large before it crashed the last time. And, you know, we're just kind of watching and waiting, you know. It can -- there's got to be a limit there somewhere, it can only get so big. And it crashed pretty dramatically last time and, you know, it could certainly happen again.

22

23

You know, there are little cues here and there that, you know, you get more reports of skinny caribou all the time. And like I say, we go down and watch lots of caribou cross the Kobuk River every fall and, you know, there's -- the bulls are skinnier than they used to be. You know, there are indications that, you know, the herd isn't as well fed as it was five or six years ago. But there's nothing really, you know, that jumps out at you and says, you know, it's -- you know, you can't go out in the tundra and see everything grazed down to nothing or anything. You know, it's not -- and you know, this -- we just haven't been around long enough to have a good perspective; you know, it's something you got to watch for 200 years or something to really know what's going on because, you know, maybe it can sustain a high population like this for another long time. We just don't know.

38

39

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Charlie.

40

41

MR. BROWER: All right. With this request for same day airborne hunting with the population of 450,000, what are the State Department looking into to stop the same day airborne when it goes to 200,000, 250,000, 300,000 or what?

45

46

MR. CARROLL: Nobody has thought that far along with this bill. You know, another question I have with this bill is what -- or this proposal is what are Teshekpuk Lake herd caribou considered as? I mean, somebody comes up on the Slope

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to hunt caribou, how are they going to know if they're shooting Western Arctic herd caribou or Teshekpuk Lake herd caribou? You know, it seems like that would pretty much stop people from coming up 'cause they really know what they were hunting.

5
6 MR. BROWER: Well, if we got you out there where the airplanes are spraying the Pacific herd with orange color, Central herd with green and Western

9
10 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

11
12 MR. BROWER: the way they are, you know.

13
14 MR. CARROLL: But, you know, Eddie has a good point here, too. I mean this does legalize something that people probably commonly do is fly out to their camp and, you know, if there's a bunch of caribou there, he's kind of foolish to wait the next day to shoot one, you know. It's -- I mean, it works for people up here, too; it legalizes something that people might want to do is fly out and same day airborne hunt caribou. So

22
23 MR. BROWER: (In Inupiat).

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Gordon.

26
27 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman. I like a question that Edward -- your co-chair brought out. He asked are we -- with the herd the size, are we over-grazing, well they don't know. And then we notice that some -- maybe some of them are sick. Any time you have a herd that big, 450,000, you will notice more of them that are sick because of the sheer size of the herd. But like Edward's question was are we over-grazing?

34
35 Now, they're worried about what's going to happen to the guy that's hunting the traditional and customary way? He's trying to get close to the caribou and here comes a plane. So we don't know whether they are over-grazed, maybe they're not. Animals have their own pressure value usually. The size of the herd will go down. I just don't like the idea of hunting by plane.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Amos.

44
45 MR. AGUASAGGA: Yeah. It seems like, you know, hunting by airplane would change their migration pattern. And a lot of these villages are used to caribous going on that same route, you know, and then we let the first bunch go by and other ones, they just follow right behind. But if that start doing that to

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airplanes, they would change their migration pattern, it seems like.

3

4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: When do they start heading back north there, Geoff? Is there some indication when they start heading north again after

7

8 MR. CARROLL: Usually in May or -- early May they start heading back north.

10

11 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

14

15 MR. UPICKSON: So, Geoff, you don't know whether the herd is over-grazing? You have no way of knowing. You have the incidence of an occasional sick caribou that we see, you'll notice it more when there's a herd that size. But that herd that size may not, in fact, be over-grazing, true?

20

21 MR. CARROLL: That's true, yeah.

22

23 MR. UPICKSON: Okay.

24

25 MR. CARROLL: I think eventually, it will, we just -- I mean, we don't know the maximum number of caribou that we can have up here.

28

29 MR. UPICKSON: I have one more thing. Another thing, you know with 450,000 and come this winter and we have a severe winter up here in the North or down South by the Yukon area and stuff like that, that could eliminate something like hundred thousand just like that, with the sick and the disabled that fall in the herd. And one year we're up to 450,000, the next year all of a sudden we're down to 300,000; it was a bad winter. That might have an effect on them, too,

37

38 MR. CARROLL: Um-hum.

39

40 MR. UPICKSON: we don't know. But the severe winter, it rained like this, the snow gets hard and they start slipping off all over, can break the ice. And that's some of the other solutions over things that we haven't looked at but (Inupiat).

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any other questions for Geoff on this?

48

49 MR. ITTA: Is this reviewed annually once it becomes --

50

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1 you know, once it's accepted and becomes part of the
 2 regulations, does it get reviewed again annually or is it based
 3 on the population of the caribou herd or

4
 5 MR. CARROLL: It would just be a regulation until
 6 somebody made a proposal to change that one

7
 8 MR. ITTA: Makes a determination like that.

9
 10 MR. CARROLL: and it passed the Board. Yeah.

11
 12 MR. ITTA: Okay.

13
 14 MR. BROWER: That's what I was asking earlier. Where
 15 the number we're going to stop at, 300,000, 350,000?

16
 17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

18
 19 MR. UPICKSON: A question for Charlie. When you say
 20 you guys okayed, did your Board okay the same day

21
 22 MR. BROWER: The Wildlife Department. We're bringing
 23 that up at the December meeting, yeah.

24
 25 MR. UPICKSON: Before your

26
 27 MR. BROWER: It's the Wildlife Department.

28
 29 MR. UPICKSON: Just you department and not --

30
 31 MR. BROWER: Right.

32
 33 MR. UPICKSON: not this Commission here?

34
 35 MR. BROWER: Right.

36
 37 MR. UPICKSON: Okay.

38
 39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any further quest- -- Jakie.

40
 41 MR. KOONUK: I just got a comment. On something like
 42 this, I couldn't say nothing yea or nay, you know, without
 43 consulting my village, how they feel about it. You know, I
 44 think maybe the local input should be involved in this for in
 45 order to make sure that it is safe.

46
 47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Um-hum. Good point. Good point. I
 48 share the same feeling that Jakie has.

49
 50

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1 MR. BROWER: One more, Mr. Chairman, on this caribou,
 2 you know. We're starting to get a lot of calls about sick
 3 caribous and stuff like that. There's -- they're all over the
 4 state, all over the North Slope. And then, just recently, we
 5 have people that goes out and shoot for the heads and leave the
 6 bodies out there. And they're (In Inupiat). There's too many
 7 caribou. The big ones they shoot are -- shoot at knowing
 8 whether they're fat or not, turn around and they harvest them.
 9 There's nothing at all. Just the mingley, yellow, grainy
 10 stuff. And our feeling is there is too much and some needs --
 11 we need to cut them down, enlarge our bag limit, they were five
 12 a day, you can move it up to 15 a day. That would eliminate
 13 some of these same day airborne if we harvest enough, 15, 20 a
 14 day. Right now, we're allowed five a day, there's some options
 15 right there.

16
 17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. We'll probably take this up
 18 proposals, consideration of proposals, 10D.2. Helen.

19
 20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I just want to make a comment that
 21 if this does become -- or if you support this proposal that the
 22 state has, you might want to think about having it -- think
 23 about the Federal Government having it too, so that you have
 24 consistent regulations or the regulations are the same for both
 25 the State and the Federal. I mean, it's what we've sort of
 26 tried to do is make them always be the same. So -- and I
 27 wouldn't be surprised if you might -- would the State be
 28 submitting that to us to make them consistent, do you think, or
 29 I mean, it's possible, I don't know.

30
 31 MR. CARROLL: It's po- -- yeah.

32
 33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's possible.

34
 35 MR. CARROLL: It very well might.

36
 37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I mean, they do do that. So

38
 39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

40
 41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So just to keep that in mind.

42
 43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any further questions on this
 44 --

45
 46 MR. BROWER: Yeah. I mean, this is under the Federal
 47 and it might be under the State. The State regulations, under
 48 (a), we're allowed five; then on 26(b), we're allowed five,
 49 that's Nuiqsut area in B and part of Anaktuvuk; and 26(a) is
 50

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from Barrow to Point Hope, we're allowed five a day. Then on 26(c), they're allowed 10 caribou but not to be transported five per year.

4

5 And this is one option of we could increase the take since there's a high herd number. That would solve some of the problem, to 25.

8

9 MR. CARROLL: Well, it's just -- you know, it's -- you're free to submit a proposal and, you know, there's really no biological reason not to increase the number harvested. And it kind of occurred to me when they were talking about designated hunters and that sort of thing, as far as caribou, you know, it would make it simpler just to increase the number that each person can harvest. I mean, I know it's kind of a matter of principal as well, but that'd be the simplest solution.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Frank.

20

21 MR. LONG: Yeah. While we're on this caribou issue. Have you have any studies or data of today's depletion of caribou, whether it be natural cause or death by other wildlife or something like that? Well, if you had 450,000 caribou,

26

27 MR. CARROLL: Uh-huh.

28

29 MR. LONG: maybe in a month you only have 25,000. What -- how will we know that these 25,000 caribou die or disappear?

32

33 MR. CARROLL: Well, we -- in a month, we wouldn't know that. We count them once every two to three years, you know. I mean, you know, you can't count them every month and

36

37 MR. LONG: Yeah. The reason that I'm saying this, Geoff, is you remember a few years back that we had caribou dying while they're standing.

40

41 MR. CARROLL: Right. Yeah. And we did look at a lot of those and

43

44 MR. LONG: Um-hum.

45

46 MR. CARROLL: examine them for disease. Yeah.

47

48 MR. BROWER: Starvation.

49

50

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1 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. It just appeared that it pure
2 starvation with those.

3
4 MR. UPICKSON: It's scary, we'll be setting a precedent
5 by allowing same day airborne hunting, in my opinion.

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any

8
9 MR. B. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ben.

12
13 MR. B. HOPSON: Yeah. I got a question for Geoff. You
14 know the Unguva herd (ph) in Canada, do you have any data on
15 that? I think they have -- they had a similar herd of half a
16 million a number of years ago, are they still growing or

17
18 MR. CARROLL: You'd have to -- I guess I've heard that
19 called the St. George herd? I

20
21 MR. B. HOPSON: St. George, it's a woodland (ph)
22 caribou.

23
24 MR. CARROLL: Same -- yeah. Well, I should get the
25 most recent data. I guess I haven't paid too much attention to
26 lately but, you know, they maintained a pretty high
27 population for some time. They haven't gone through a really
28 dramatic decline like the Western Arctic herd did. But -- so
29 you're going to -- do you want to -- you're going to talk about
30 this later as far as proposals and kind of

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. We'll be bringing it up on
33 the 10D.2.

34
35 MR. CARROLL: Okay. I have -- are we done with that,
36 Ben?

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Are you done with that subject?

39
40 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Do you have another one?

43
44 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. I've got another quick subject.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

47
48 MR. CARROLL: I'm sorry, but I've got

49
50

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ten minutes.

2
3 MR. CARROLL: Okay.

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No.

6
7 MR. CARROLL: The next one is another handout I gave
8 you, it's titled "A Bill for Enactment" entitled -- anyway,
9 it's this one, it's got a little fax thing at the top and
10 everything.

11
12 MR. BROWER: What's that?

13
14 MR. CARROLL: It's -- okay. It's -- well, anyway, it's
15 Senate Bill; Senate Bill Number 77 it says on it. Okay.
16 What this is it's Senate Bill Number 77 which passed the
17 Legislature last session, and it's called the Intensive
18 Management Bill. And it's something that the Legislature
19 passed that it's an act relating to the powers of the Board of
20 Game to intensive management of big game to achieve higher
21 sustained yield for human harvest. It's basically saying that
22 the Legislature finds that providing for high levels of harvest
23 for human consumption use in accordance with the sustained
24 yield principle is the highest and best use of identified big
25 game prey populations in most areas of the state, and that the
26 big game prey populations in these areas should be managed
27 accordingly.

28
29 And so, basically, what it says is it basically gives
30 the Alaska Department of Fish & Game the directive to manage
31 all big game prey populations basically for the benefit of the
32 hunters, to try to have as many harvestable animals as possible
33 within the state. And it goes onto say that it's basically
34 against the law to reduce the number of animals that can be
35 harvested unless you've used all other means possible, which
36 would include predator control and, you know, controlled
37 burning and -- of forests and everything else to increase that
38 population, which -- you know, and which basically kind of ties
39 the hands of the Department of Fish & Game. I mean, it tells
40 you exactly how you have to manage in every situation.

41
42 But then it kind of goes on to make some qualifiers
43 that, you know, this subsection does not apply if the Board
44 determines that intensive management would be ineffective based
45 scientific information or inappropriate due to land
46 ownership patterns or against the best interests of subsistence
47 areas. So it's not quite as all-encompassing as it originally
48 sounds.

49
50

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1 But I've been asked to ask advisory committees if there
 2 are any situations where we feel that this intensive management
 3 idea would be appropriate on the North Slope. You know, I
 4 don't -- it's different here than say around Fairbanks where
 5 you've got a whole lot of people and you've got a moose
 6 population and you got to make the decision whether to, you
 7 know, kill all the wolves in the area so the people will have
 8 more moose to hunt or, you know, let some wolves stay there and
 9 have fewer moose. You know, they're basically having a
 10 directive there to, you know, produce more moose.

11

12 And, you know, I don't -- we're usually not in the
 13 situation here where we're really limited by the number of
 14 harvestable animals. So to me, I don't see where we need to go
 15 into the intensive management mode here anyway. But anyway,
 16 I've been directed to ask you guys about it and see if you
 17 think that applies up here.

18

19 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No go.

20

21 MR. CARROLL: And that's -- you know, it's kind of a
 22 real handful. I mean, maybe you want to kind of read through
 23 this Bill and everything and get back to me on it later. But
 24 I'm just kind of trying to introduce it to you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

27

28 MR. CARROLL: Okay. One -- a couple more real quick
 29 things. One is the letter that was written to you, Fenton,
 30 outlining the changes in the caribou regulations, that it's
 31 legal to use -- to hunt caribou from boats in the water using
 32 322s and also from snow machines. Those regulations were also
 33 changed in the State regulations. The Toklik went down and
 34 made proposals to have those changed, went down to the Board of
 35 Game and did a real good job of presenting that to them, and
 36 they passed basically the same regulation. So it's legal on
 37 State land as well as on Federal land, so you don't have to
 38 worry about if you're on State land or Federal land in that
 39 respect.

40

41 And I -- one -- you know, I kind of told you the story
 42 about the Tier II muskox subsistence hunt, how several of these
 43 applications, people had obviously, you know, lied on them.
 44 And these people will all be prosecuted for having lied on
 45 their application. So these guys from Copper Center that said
 46 that they'd been hunting on the North Slope for the last 30
 47 years are -- you know, they are going to be penalized for
 48 having, you know, not told the truth on the application.

49
 50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Like Tier II system applies only to
3 26(b)?
4
5 MR. CARROLL: Well, there are lots of Tier II hunts
6 around the state. That's the only we ha- --
7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I mean, for muskox and yak.
9
10 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. For muskox, that's the only one we
11 have up here.
12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Only for 26(b)?
14
15 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.
16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Could it be extended to
18
19 MR. BROWER: C?
20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: A?
22
23 MR. BROWER: C.
24
25 MR. CARROLL: Well, that's a poss- -- yeah, that's a
26 possibility. Yeah, we could
27
28 MR. BROWER: Come on, Fenton, share some meat here.
29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: You can't do Tier II at C 'cause
31 it's Federal lands. Tier II is State lands, is that -- Tier II
32 State lands?
33
34 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Yeah. Tier is a State program.
35 it's
36
37 MR. BROWER: What we can do in that, but then we can't
38 go into C. You guys can go hunt from down below and let them
39 go around till they get to State land, and we'll wait for them
40 with a Tier II permit and harvest those before they get back.
41
42 MR. LONG: I have a question.
43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Frank.
45
46 MR. LONG: On this Tier II permitting for muskoxen, why
47 do we have to file a permit when we're already subsistent
48 users of certain wildlife like muskox, caribou, moose, bear;
49 you name it, they're all there?
50

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1
2 MR. CARROLL: Well
3
4 MR. LONG: Why is it we have to, and live with them,
5 apply for a permit and knowing in the back of your head you're
6 not going to get an okay to go Tier II?
7
8 MR. CARROLL: Tier II applies when there's a wildlife
9 population that it's felt is not -- there aren't enough of that
10 population for everyone to be able to hunt it, so you have to
11 start restricting it. And Tier II was an attempt to try to
12 come up with a fair way for people who have the greatest need,
13 who are closest to the area where those animals exist and who
14 have the fewest options for other subsistence hunting, to be
15 able to hunt those animals. That's -- I mean, that's why
16 there's a permit hunt for the muskoxen is because it's felt
17 that there aren't enough to just let everybody come in and hunt
18 all the muskoxen they want. I mean, if that was -- if we did
19 that, I mean, they would soon be gone. And
20
21 MR. BROWER: Frank
22
23 MR. CARROLL: so that's
24
25 MR. BROWER: from now on, starting this year, the
26 whole village of Nuiqsut better start filing for Tier II and
27 you might get two tickets.
28
29 MR. LONG: We might.
30
31 MR. BROWER: But I will fill one from Barrow. I won
32 be to.
33
34 MR. CARROLL: Yeah?
35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.
37
38 MR. CARROLL: Okay. One more
39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Geoff, let's -- or
41
42 MR. CARROLL: Okay.
43
44 MS. OPIE: Geoff, what's -- you know, the area that
45 they have to go hunting in, they have to travel quite far away,
46 like beyond the Haul Road.
47
48 MR. CARROLL: On the other side of the Haul Road is the
49 way it is now. And
50

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1
2 MS. OPIE: Is there any way that we could move it on
the right, you know, the side closest to them?
4
5 MR. CARROLL: You know the process, you write up a
proposal and you take it down to the Board of Game and give
them a good pitch and see if we can get the regulation changed.
8 MR. BROWER: Well, if you're a good shot, you won't
blow up Prudhoe Bay, but if you do, you shoot the pipe
10 (Indiscernible - voice lowers)
11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Were you done with that or continue?
13
14 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, done with that one, I got one more
real quick thing and this is kind of addressed to Helen. Every
time I read the moose regulation in the Federal regulation book
they talk about we can hunt moose over to the Chandalar River.
18
19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Do they say that (ph)?
20
21 MR. CARROLL: Instead of -- they always say Chandalar
instead of the Chandler and I was wondering
23
24 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I did finally fix it. I did. I
swear.
26
27 MR. CARROLL: That extends the range quite a bit. And
I was wondering if the North Slope could just kind of take over
the Chandalar, it's a pretty nice river and you keep putting it
in our regulation book so
31
32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I did tell them last time, honestly,
but they just didn't fix it.
34
35 MR. CARROLL: Okay. I was just harassing her a little
bit.
37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any -- okay. Thank you, Geoff, very
much for your information. We'll take up a couple of the
issues here that you would like to hear from us. Okay. We'll
go ahead and do the maps and then get Tom.
42
43 MR. BROWER: Okay.
44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Barbara -- I mean, Helen.
Oh, boy.
47
48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: These maps that you got are drafts,
they're not final maps. We're in the process of finalizing
50

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them. And I was going to ask if anybody had any changes they wanted to make on it to let me know. But -- and then I asked Charlie and Charlie took me downstairs and we got the ASOC map.

4
5 MR. BROWER: I change it all already.

6
7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum. So we're going to make sure it's consistent with that map that the ASOC has. And we're assuming that map is correct.

10
11 MR. BROWER: It's correct. Yeah.

12
13 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So

14
15 MR. BROWER: I saved a day's work.

16
17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We -- I was told that Nuiqsut was on the wrong place on our map. You can hardly tell on this little map, but on the big map you can see that it's in the wrong place.

21
22 That's all.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Helen.

25
26 MR. BROWER: The maps only (In Inupiat) -- same size that they had.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. We have -- Charlie, you have a gentleman

31
32 MR. BROWER: Mr. Evans.

33
34 MR. EVANS: Okay.

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Do you want to introduce him, Charlie?

38
39 MR. BROWER: This is Tom Evans, he's a marine biology for U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, he works with Scott Slebe and John Nic- -- John Nichol (ph) moved, right?

42
43 MR. EVANS: Yeah.

44
45 MR. BROWER: John. You have the floor, Mr. Evans.

46
47 MR. EVANS: Thanks Charlie. Scott -- I know Charlie talked a little bit about polar bears earlier. I've talked with him, so I'll try not to overlap with some of the stuff
50

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that he said. Scott wishes that he could have been here but he's having to give another presentation at the Indigenous People's Council and Rural CAPA (ph) down in Anchorage concerning the stock assessment. So Scott, basically, sent me in his place.

6

7 So what I'm going to do is present just basically a brief summary of some of the polar bear issues and concerns that we're dealing with in our office. And it won't be very -- it'll just be basically a brief summary of those and shouldn't take too long. I appreciate the opportunity to be able to be here and be able to present this to such a wide audience. I think it's a good opportunity to get some of this stuff out, and there'll definitely be issues that'll be coming up.

15

16 As you know, we've been working on the habitat conservation strategy. This was a strategy that was part of the incidental take regulations and the Fish & Wildlife Service was told that they basically had to develop a habitat conservation strategy for polar bears. And the status of the draft is right now we've sent a very, very rough draft to the direction of Fish & Wildlife. It's a very rough draft. It basically was just to meet a regional direction due date, basically. The regional -- each regional direction has certain dates that they have to accomplish certain tasks by. And so we met that date but it was a very rough draft and it's still in very rough format right now. There's a lot of stuff, we're still editing it. And we're still working on the draft, soliciting comments and making it more streamlined and polished.

31

32 A copy will be submitted to the regional director -- from our regional direction of Region 7 to the regional director to the Director of Fish & Wildlife Service on the 10th of November, 1994. And that'll be a much more -- that all the little editorial things and the other things will be -- it'll be a better draft at that time.

38

39 The habitat conservation strategy focuses on different types of habitats recognized in the 1973 IUCN agreement, which has "provisions to protect ecosystems of which polar bears are a part, with special attention to habitat components such as denning and feeding sites and migration patterns." So that was basically -- when we started this, there was no real precursor to go upon, so we basically just went out there and tried to do it. And we tried to collect information from both research as well as local Native knowledge on anything we could find out about polar bear habitats. And we've come up with some definite areas which polar bears seem to use and frequent

50

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and seem to be important to polar bears.

2

3 We recognized that polar bears have extremely large
4 home ranges, and they're obviously dependent on the movements
5 of the ice, so they move around a lot. But there are
6 definitely important feeding and denning areas that seem to be
7 -- come up again and again as -- on maps and stuff. Some of
8 these areas, like for feeding areas, or the recurrent lead
9 systems, around Saint Lawrence is one, Point Hope to Shishmaref
10 another one, and Icy Cape to Barrow is another one.

11

12 Okay. Now, this'll make me nervous. The other areas
13 that seem to be important as feeding areas were the Barrier
14 Islands and coastlines where the greatest use of carcasses
15 occur. Polar bears, during the fall particularly, seem to rely
16 a lot or feed a lot on areas where walrus carcasses and seal
17 carcasses wash up along the coast. And the currents in the --
18 and the nearness or the proximity to where walruses are killed,
19 there's certain areas along the Alaska coastline where you're
20 more likely to find walrus -- concentrations of walrus
21 carcasses or seal carcasses, and these seem to be important to
22 polar bears.

23

24 Some of these areas that have been identified are Port
25 Franklin to Atanik, Kasilik Lagoon, Barrier Islands, the Point
26 Barrow Peninsula and Cape Deceit to whales. Some of the denning
27 areas that we have been (sic) identified are the 10-02 area in
28 the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Barrier Islands such as
29 Waxman Cross, Pegeeluk, Thetis or Coddle (ph) Islands and
30 other areas such as Icy Cape, Cape Sabine and the Colville
31 River Delta. Some of the migration areas are less well-
32 defined, but the Bering Straits may be an important fall
33 migration corridor for the Chukchi Sea bears moving south into
34 the Bering Sea from the southern Chukchi Sea. So that may be a
35 concentration area that's utilized that may be important.

36

37 Breeding habitat. We know very little about breeding
38 habitat. Basically, there has been no information on that so
39 we can't really make much -- any decisions about any -- there's
40 information out so no -- nothing is really known about it.
41 But there may be important areas that are determined at a later
42 point about -- that might be important to breeding areas where
43 males and females get together in the spring time.

44

45 The Fish & Wildlife Service will probably -- will
46 develop a preferred option or options for the habitat
47 conservation strategy after the review by Washington, D.C. and
48 the public comment period, which right now is set forth from
49 the 15th of December to the 15 of January, 1995. So that would

50

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Be when Fish & Wildlife Service would develop some preferred options.

3
4 Yes, Charlie.

5
6 MR. BROWER: So on your draft, you have in big, black and white Opposed by the North Slope Area, the Arctic Ocean?

8
9 MR. EVANS: The

10
11 MR. BROWER: We've stated so many times that we're opposed to the habitat situation on the North Slope 'cause we consider that all one habitat area, even though different years, there is a different crack there and different carcasses land somewhere else down besides the Barrier Islands and so far and elsewhere. But I think we have voiced our concern from the North Slope that we did not want to designate any feeding, denning or whatever habitat for polar areas in one area like the Barrier Islands that's been pointed out and so on. And we've opposed to that and still the Wildlife Service is pursuing that given we've written a letter from the Mayor and resolutions from the Fish & Game and it's still ongoing.

23
24 And we know -- I know and some of the other folks know that once you designate a habitat area, what might be a prime hunting resource for the Native use, if that's recognized, you're outlawed; you will be denied to go into those areas and hunt in the future. And that's why we oppose this habitat conservation strategy that's been applied to us.

30
31 Did you write that in big, black and white?

32
33 MR. EVANS: There is a public comment period and, definitely, you need to express those comments. We do have a copy of the letter from the Mayor. In order for any of this to affect any Native subsistence rights or areas that you could hunt, it would have to take an amendment to the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and that's not very likely. But as right now, the purpose of the habitat conservation strategy is to identify some of these areas. And we realize that bears have very large home ranges; they range over a large area. They use -- utilize different areas at different times of the year but there are some recurrent patterns. There are some areas where bears -- like there's a big concentration of denning areas in the 10-02 area. There are some lead systems that recurrently -- that occur in the same patterns.

47
48 But as far as options in terms of protection, there's several ways at which -- if it was decided that an area needed
50

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to be protected -- and right now, polar bear populations are healthy so I don't anticipate any kind of protection things necessary except for, perhaps, the 10-02 area, that is a possibility. The -- there are other ways of -- other than just creating like a sanctuary, we could create like a area let's say around something Flaxman Island or something; we could create a zonal management where we'd say a area, let's say, one to two miles around Flaxman Island would be prohibited for any seismic activities that would -- that interference bears or any seismic activities between October to April when polar bears may be denning on Flaxman Island.

12

13 So there are other options, and the Fish & Wildlife Service hasn't come up with a preferred option yet. And right now, we're just in the preliminary stages of just developing what we know and putting it down on paper. And there will be definitely a long comment period. And the comments that we receive will be looked at, and that will definitely affect what options are decided.

20

21 I think one of the things that's important here is that polar bear populations are not doing poorly right now. And which is kind of nice, 'cause a lot of times you tend to be reactive when populations go -- all of a sudden become endangered or threatened, then it's kind of a knee jerk reaction to go and try to -- what can we do now. The polar bear population is doing fine. This is just kind of a proactive -- we're in the practice stage of trying to just identify areas that might be potentially important to polar bears if, for any reason, they do decline, then these might be areas that we might want to protect.

32

33 And I think that's the way we're looking at it right now. But

35

36 MR. BROWER: You know, I went to these polar bear meetings, on the scoping meetings -- or, you know, the scoping response that's been given to Wildlife Service by people interviewed. And it's my feeling once that's written on a map and written in black and white, it will be considered a designated habitat even though it's a yearly, seasonal changing. But by people pointing there and there, it's already evaluated by the Marine Mammal Commission that whenever -- whatever you see polar bears feeding in the area like a carcass that drifted to maybe the Point Lay Lagoon here, Sik- --

46

47 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: What's that?

48

49 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Kasilik (ph) Lagoon.

50

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1
2 MR. BROWER: Kasilik Lagoon. That, you turn around,
3 automatically becomes a habitat area for polar bears 'cause
4 there's carcasses there. You turn around, you out to Barrier
5 Island, the same thing. Go to Elsmere Is- -- these Cross
6 Island, Thetis Island, Flaxman Island, Cross Island, all these
7 other islands and the Barrier Islands that we have here, we
8 know each year carcasses wash ashore. In some regions, you
9 might find 25, 30 bears in a carcass. Automatically by stating
10 that, it's considered habitat feeding.

11
12 And what I've heard from the Marine Mammal Commission,
13 once that is written down, that is taken into consideration as
14 a protective site. And that's I'm opposed to this habitat
15 situation in considering the whole North Slope one. And I
16 didn't want to pinpoint one little area 'cause it might be a
17 prime hunting area for one village. And pretty soon, you will
18 if it's under the black and white and adopted, you won't be
19 able to hunt there.

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Charlie.

22
23 MR. BROWER: Thank you.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I have a question or a comment,
26 maybe a comment more or less than a question. The reason why
27 the habitat conservation strategy was put in place 'cause there
28 were -- the Secretary Babbitt received 4,000 postcards from
29 Wildlife Alliance Group to

30
31 MR. EVANS: That

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: prevent or to conserve polar
34 bear habitat 'cause they were saying the oil industry wasn't
35 paying attention to the habitat of the polar bear. And I'm in
36 line with what Charlie is saying.

37
38 MR. EVANS: Right.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That once these habitat conservation
41 areas are noted down in map, they'll be like the manatee in
42 Florida where public and others can't go to or hunt. And I see
43 that very problem coming up on the polar bear habitat. 'Cause
44 once they identify an area where like in Barter Island, I mean,
45 that'll be a permanent haven for polar bears where they'll
46 either be eating or denning there. So I'm kind of leery about
47 setting precedent about

48
49 MR. EVANS: Okay. Well, it's

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: strategy 'cause of 3 to 4,000
postcards were received from a wildlife conservation group.

4
5 MR. EVANS: Okay. We -- that's -- we've heard that
many times, this isn't the first time we've heard that, and
that is noted.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

10
11 MR. EVANS: And it will be noted in the plan itself
that -- it's already in the plan, that this concern has come up
and that this is the way that it's about often felt about it,
so

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. So -- okay. When is the
deadline for comments again?

18
19 MR. EVANS: Well, it's not even open for comments yet.
The comment period, the way it's set up right now will be from
the 15th of December of this year to February 15th of '95. So
there'll be about a two month comment period.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

25
26 MR. EVANS: And

27
28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right.

29
30 MR. EVANS: Going on from the -- any more questions
about habitat conservation strategy?

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No, go ahead.

34
35 MR. EVANS: I'll go onto the

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Go ahead.

38
39 MR. EVANS: stock assessment. The polar bear
stock assessment which Scott is talking about now down in
Anchorage, Section 10 of the amendments to the Marine Mammal
Protection Act required that by August 1st, 1994 stock
assessments would be provided for each marine mammal stock
which occurs in the waters under the jurisdiction of the United
States.

46
47 Stock assessments basically describe a way to estimate
the potential biological removal, which is often referred to as
PBR, using information on the population size, birth rate and
50

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the recovery factor, which is basically based on how close you think the population is near the carrying capacity or not near the carrying capacity.

4

5 The current potential for biologic- -- PBR for the
Beaufort Sea is 89 bears. That has been well -- the harvest
has been well within that, and we haven't had any over-harvest
of that, generally, in the five or six years that it's been in
place. There's no information really for the Chukchi Sea
population. For those of you that don't know, there are
basically two polar bear population stocks, one up in the
Beaufort Sea that goes over to about Barrow, Point Lay area,
and then the Chukchi population stock which goes all the way
from Saint Lawrence over to the Chukotka Peninsula, all the way
up passed Wrangel Island and then comes back and overlaps in
the Barrow to the Point Lay area. So to give you a rough idea
of where those ranges are.

18

19 The stock assessments were published in the Federal
Register on August 23rd, 1994. And I've passed around copies
of that, by the way, to most of the people here. If someone
didn't get any copies, we can make some more. And are open to
comments until November 21st, 1994. So that's -- you got about
another month or so to get comments in on the stock
assessments. The comments should be sent to our Marine Mammals
Management office in Anchorage, if you have any comments on the
stock assessments.

28

29 One of the exceptions to the time frame may be made for
any stocks subject to taking by Alaska Natives, which polar
bears obviously are. A formal hearing in front of a
administrative law judge may be requested by any Alaskan
Native. If no hearings are requested, then all written
comments will be considered, and a final stock assessment will
be available 90 days from the close of the comment period,
which would be November 21st, if nothing else gets going.

37

38 Like I said, Scott is currently attending a meeting
down in Anchorage concerning this very subject. And I think
that's exactly what they're trying to decide is what they're
going to do in terms of from -- get an opinion from the Native
side on the stock assessments.

43

44 One of the other things that we're doing -- we're
involved in is the U.S./Russian Bilateral Agreement for the
conservation of polar bears. There was a meeting held in Nome
from the 6th to the 9th of September. The attendees were
basically representatives from the Russian Government,
representatives from the Alaskan Natives and representatives

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from the U.S. Government. There were not, unfortunately, representatives from the Native contingent in the Chukotka Peninsula, were unable due to logistical reasons.

4

5 But there were some highlights from the meeting. The 1973 IUCN agreement will serve as the basic framework for the joint conservation agreement. Again, I sent around a protocol for both the polar bears and the attentions for the walrus agreement there. So those are something you can look over. The agreement shall be based on sound biological information, include habitat protection and conservation as essential elements. And the principals of sustained yield would serve as the basis for future harvest guidelines in allocation. Currently, for the Chukchi population, there's not probably enough population information right now to know what that sustained yield is. So if any allocations are made, they'll probably be made conservatively to make sure that it doesn't over-harvest the polar bears.

19

20 The polar bear population in the Western Region is shared by U.S. and Russia, and probably most of the denning of that population occurs actually in Russia, on Wrangel Island or on the Chukotka Peninsula. So if the Russians open up their side to harvesting polar bears, which polar bears have been protected since 1956, it could have an impact on the number of bears that might present then along the Alaskan -- available for Alaskan hunters to take. So that's the reason for going ahead with this agreement.

29

30 The Native to Native and government and government meetings -- there are actually two parts to the agreement, there's a Native to Native agreement as well as a government to government agreement. These meetings will be held consecutively so that allows for people from both groups to attend both meetings. And these meetings will be held within a year in Russia.

37

38 We're anxious to work with the Nanook Commission -- the newly formed Nanook Commission. We're glad to see that North Slope Borough has taken an active role here. And Charlie, he's not going to get his kudos here, but with his interest and expertise in polar bears, we think we'll serve as the executive director.

44

45 We hope to develop some memorandum of agreement with -- between us -- or Fish & Wildlife Service, Alaska Department of Fish & Game and the Nanook Commission concerning outlining the roles and responsibilities concerning polar bear management. I think this is important in that we need to -- we are all

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interested groups, and if we all work together and develop -- figure out who is responsible for what and what -- how best to protect polar bears, that'll be a useful enterprise.

4

5 We want to encourage the Nanook Commission to continue
6 to play an important role and be involved. They're already
7 involved in the U.S./Russian Bilateral Agreement, continue
8 collection of Native knowledge on polar bears and assistance in
9 any contaminant or biological sampling programs and, once
10 again, developing any kind of partnerships with State, Federal
11 or other groups concerning land use planning.

12

13 So that's about all I had. That was quick and there
14 was a lot said very quickly, but if --

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right.

17

18 MR. EVANS: if anyone has any questions, I'd be
19 glad to answer them.

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right.

22

23 MR. BANE: What did you say the PBR for the Beaufort
24 Region is?

25

26 MR. EVANS: It's 89 bears.

27

28 MR. BANE: Eighty-nine.

29

30 MR. EVANS: Eighty-nine.

31

32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

33

34 MR. EVANS: Thanks.

35

36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Mr. Evans. That
37 concludes our items under 10. We're going to move on back up
38 to 10D, Number 2, proposals and also open the floor for
39 public on any proposals that they may have. So before we get
40 to that, I like to request there be a five

41

42 MR. UPICKSON: I sustain a motion, Mr. Chair, that we
43 have a 10 minute break.

44

45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

46

47 MR. UPICKSON: Before we go back to

48

49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Right.

50

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1
2 MR. UPICKSON: Item 10D.
3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.
5
6 MR. ITTA: So moved.
7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.
9
10 MR. ITTA: Second.
11
12 (Off record)
13
14 (On record)
15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Call the meeting back to order.
17 Okay. We are waiting for a couple of our Federal Council
18 members. We're getting to the point where we need to make some
19 action on several items or several issues that were brought
20 before us the last day and a half. We are now back to 10D.2,
21 Council Proposals on Caribou, Sheep, Muskox, if any, and also
22 open the floor for public on proposals.
23
24 So at this time, I want to summarize some of the items
25 that we need motions or actions we've heard from some people.
26 This morning, we talked about the annual report and the need
27 for annual report for our regional council. And we want to
28 formalize that and direct Barbara Armstrong, Helen and Steve to
29 help us with a draft. And I think November 15 is the deadline.
30 So as far as our deliberations go, I think the summary of our
31 concerns are well adequate to send down over to Secretary
32 Babbitt. And I'd like some help on talking over this motion or
33 this issue on the annual report.
34
35 We have that, and we -- I would also like to reinforce
36 a resolution of the North Slope Borough Fish & Game Committee,
37 94-02 which was passed on 14th day of July by the Committee.
38 And this resolution supports the development of a North Slope
39 Muskox co-management plan between North Slope Borough, State of
40 Alaska and the Federal Government which protects and furthers
41 the interest of the North Slope residents. So I want to have
42 this regional council reinforce that resolution.
43
44 I was also -- Geoff had a couple of other issues we may
45 want to talk about as far as a formal motion or some action by
46 maybe by both bodies. So to expedite that, I -- maybe we'll
47 discuss the -- entertain a motion for the annual report. Or
48 maybe we can open it up for discussion at this time.
49
50

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1 MR. E. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman, I'm not quite sure what
2s going on right now.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. We're at 10D.2, Council
5 Proposals on Caribou, Sheep or Muskox, and also we'll be
6 opening the floor for public -- for proposals. So annually,
7 this Council here is to send an annual report to Secretary of
8 Interior Bruce Babbitt about our regional concerns, our issues
9 pertaining to subsistence and wildlife -- fish and wildlife for
10 our region. And the issues that we talked about here or
11 concerns is very appropriate, to summarize that and send it on
12 over to Secretary Babbitt. It's

13
14 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie.

17
18 MR. BROWER: I think what you stated is

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Wait. Eddie.

21
22 MR. E. HOPSON: You mentioned this resolution being
23 passed. And the question that I have is who is the North Slope
24 Borough Fish & Game Management Committee? Who is it? Are we
25 the management

26
27 MR. BROWER: Yeah.

28
29 MR. E. HOPSON: Are we the management committee?

30
31 MR. BROWER: Yeah.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Fish & Game Committee.

34
35 MR. ITTA: (In Inupiat).

36
37 MR. E. HOPSON: No. I mean, I'm always

38
39 MR. BROWER: You're always on a committee.

40
41 MR. E. HOPSON: I'm on the Fish & Game Committee.

42
43 MR. BROWER: Right. That is the North Slope Borough.

44
45 MR. E. HOPSON: But when did this -- the North Slope
46 Fish & Game Management --

47
48 MR. BROWER: Committee?

49
50

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1 MR. E. HOPSON: Management Committee was
2
3 MR. BROWER: That's what we've always been.
4
5 MR. E. HOPSON: Huh?
6
7 MR. BROWER: That's what we've always been.
8
9 MR. E. HOPSON: We are the management
10
11 MR. BROWER: Uh-huh.
12
13 MR. E. HOPSON: committee?
14
15 MR. BROWER: Uh-huh.
16
17 MR. E. HOPSON: Well, all right. I had to find that
18 ~~out~~ because I've always come to a meeting as a Fish & Game
19 ~~C~~ommittee.
20
21 MR. BROWER: Yeah. It's
22
23 MR. E. HOPSON: Not a management committee.
24
25 MR. BROWER: To make it short, it's
26
27 MR. E. HOPSON: All right. Thank you.
28
29 MR. BROWER: North Slope Fish & Game. I always
30 say for that short. The other end is Management Committee.
31 We're -- that's the name that we've been going since the very
32 start of the organization. So (In Inupiat) -- I don't finish
33 to the very end, Management Committee, so that might get you
34 mixed up a little bit, Mr. Eddie.
35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward, did you have some
37
38 MR. ITTA: No, just before we get started, just on
39 clarification here, we got two subjects; one is on the -- we
40 said we were going to go back to Item 10D.2 which was the
41 Council proposals and that's where we are right now, right?
42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Yeah.
44
45 MR. ITTA: Okay. With that in mind then, Mr. Chair,
46 I'd like to make a motion that the Federal Subsistence Regional
47 Advisory Council Board support Resolution 94-02, the resolution
48 of the North Slope Borough Fish & Game Management Committee
49 supporting this resolution, which would be -- at this time, I
50

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1 would just so move for discussion.

2

3 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: We need a second.

4

5 MR. ITTA: Do we have a quorum? One, two, three, four,
6 five.

7

8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, there is. We need a second.

9

10 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman, we have discussing this a
11 good part of two days.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. We need a second.

14

15 MR. UPICKSON: I second.

16

17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you.

18

19 MR. UPICKSON: In lieu of the fact that we have
20 discussed this for two days, I second Edward's motion in
21 support of Resolution 94-02.

22

23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

24

25 MR. ITTA: All right.

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Gordon. So it's open for
28 discussion. All right. The reason I wanted to bring this up
29 is support -- or have support of this Committee, I am glad that
30 they are one step ahead of us to work on this management plan.
31 And it's only right that our local resources take on this plan
32 and not only for muskox, but I would also like to see it for
33 the other species as well. So this is a start and I'm in favor
34 of support -- supporting this resolution. And maybe we could
35 start as a co-management plan and maybe after February we can
36 look at the local management option, not only for muskox but
37 for the other species as well.

38

39 So I wholeheartedly would like to support this
40 resolution. And I'd like to read in whole for the record.
41 This resolution 94-02, a resolution supporting the development
42 of a North Slope Borough -- North Slope muskox co-management
43 plan between North Slope Borough, the State of Alaska and the
44 Federal Government which protects and furthers interest of the
45 North Slope residents.

46

47 Whereas, muskox were once widely distributed in Alaska
48 but were exterminated by the late 1800s. And whereas, from the
49 1930s through the early 1980s, muskox were intro- --

50

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reintroduced and since have expanded their range in Alaska,
including the North Slope.

3

4 And whereas, the muskox are currently established on
Both State and Federal land within the North Slope. And
Whereas, the North Slope residents have expressed concern over
Some aspects of the current management of muskox by the State
And Federal governments. And whereas, the North Slope
Residents have demonstrated their ability to regulate their
Harvest of subsistence species and desire maximum control over
the management and use of muskox. And whereas, there is a need
for scientific research on muskox behavior, the species impact
on its environment and interaction with other species.

14

15 And now, therefore, be it resolved by the North Slope
Borough Fish & Game Management Committee that the Committee
Supports the development of the North Slope muskox co-
management plan between the North Slope Borough, the State of
Alaska and the Federal Government which will protect and
Further the interest of the North Slope residents in muskox
management.

22

23 And be it further resolved that the North Slope muskox
co-management plan should maximize local involvement in and
control over management decisions related to muskox on the
North Slope.

27

28 This was passed on the 14th day of July, 1994. And
We'll provide you a copy of the resolution.

30

31 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.

34

35 MR. ITTA: Call for the question on the motion.

36

37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The question's called on the motion
88

39

40 MR. MILLER: The question's called for.

41

42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All those in favor of -- what were
the words you were saying?

44

45 MR. BROWER: Support.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Supporting Resolution 94-02, the
Resolution of the North Slope Borough Fish & Game Committee
regarding the muskox co-management plan, signify by saying aye.

50

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1
2 IN UNISON: Aye.
3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed, same sign. Thank
5 you, Edward and other Council members.
6
7 MR. BROWER: Thank you. Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I
8 have one.
9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Charlie.
11
12 MR. BROWER: I have a Council proposal on caribou,
13 sheep, muskox, if any. Are you proposing to introduce any
14 proposals right now for the upcoming Federal Advis- -- Federal
15 Subsistence Board meet- --
16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. The reason I -- we had that
18 put on there was that maybe Kaktovik was going to submit
19 something on sheep and muskox, however, to do the activities
20 coming up until now, we weren't able to get together to come up
21 with a proposal at this time but it's open. We still have,
22 that, till November 11th,
23
24 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum.
25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: for any organization or
27 individuals to present or send in a proposal so the Fish & --
28 Fish -- Federal Subsistence Board.
29
30 MR. BROWER: So it's appropriate right now to get a
31 proposal to introduce since there is a growth on the caribou
32 population that on 26(a), we can change that to 10 caribou per
33 day; however, cows caribou may not be taken until May through
34 14th -- May 16th through June 30th. On 26(b), we can increase
35 that five more to ten caribou, the same. And leave 26(c) a
36 minus five since they have muskox now.
37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Go on, Charlie.
39
40 MR. BROWER: No. Leave that all at 10. Is that pretty
41 good? Would that be -- run into a formal proposal for the
42 Subsistence Board for their consideration for the next meeting?
43
44 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I suppose.
45
46 MR. BROWER: I don't think -- I don't know if any of
47 you oppose that. (In Inupiat).
48
49 MR. E. HOPSON: (In Inupiat).
50

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1
2 MR. BROWER: Open season.
3
4 MR. E. HOPSON: (In Inupiat).
5
6 MR. BROWER: Well, we can write that in the proposal.
7
8 MR. E. HOPSON: (In Inupiat).
9
10 MR. BROWER: Yeah.
11
12 MR. E. HOPSON: I would rather see that five take or
13 whatever be taken out and leave it open. You're going to
14 probably have -- many times, I have hunted caribou. Many
15 times, you see a herd of caribou, they will just try to take as
16 many as you take -- as many as you need for the trip that you
17 can take back with you. You take all you can out of that herd
18 instead of going and say five is the limit, I can only take
19 five out of -- there are five more that I could have taken that
20 they ran away because I have reached my limit. Just take that
21 out and leave it open with no limit. I don't believe anybody
22 doing caribou hunting is going to take more than what it's
23 going to take home. I don't think anybody's going to shoot
24 caribou down just to shoot them down.
25
26 MR. BROWER: I think also with
27
28 MR. E. HOPSON: I think I would like that better
29
30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. There's a lot of room for no
32 limit, Edward. We -- I have serious reservations on the no
33 limit proposal to be submitted or backed by this Council here.
34 Cause of sustained yield we're trying to keep our population
35 in mind. But I understand your concern about having all these
36 regulations and rules for our way of life. We know we can't
37 over-harvest and deplete our stock, that's what we do. But
38 under the present system, we're going to face a obstacle clock
39 on that one if we were to submit a no limit for caribou.
40
41 And it looks like -- Barbara.
42
43 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Fenton, (In Inupiat).
44
45 MR. E. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.
46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.
48
49 MR. E. HOPSON: (In Inupiat). We just strike out the
50

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five

2

3 MR. BROWER: An open season.

4

5 MR. E. HOPSON: bag limit per day, just take that
6 but and then say no limit. I think that would make some
7 difference if you leave that wording out, no limit. So you see
8 where we want to cut the population down, I think the intent
9 here is to cut the population down on the caribou which is
10 over-populated now, we feel. Maybe it isn't but

11

12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon and then Steve.

13

14 MR. UPICKSON: The no limit aspect, I don't think any
15 Native hunter will go out and get any more than he can handle.

16

17 MR. E. HOPSON: No.

18

19 MR. UPICKSON: It depends on whether he's in a boat or
20 snow machine, it depends on the circumstances. He has a
21 limit as to how -- he knows how much he can handle on that
22 limit. So the no limit doesn't mean we can shoot 30 at every
23 trip. Just go hunt as many as you can handle in his boat or
24 either conditions or whether he's in a snow machine. We all
25 have ability limit as to how much we can handle. And you say
26 nothing will be wasted. We will hunt for what we need and what
27 we can handle.

28

29 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yeah.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Steve.

32

33 MR. KOVAK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just as a point of a
34 little bit of background. In the first couple of years of the
35 program, we did receive a number of proposals that requested no
36 limit, no closed season, things like that. And one of the
37 constraints that's upon the Federal Board and the program
38 itself is that every regulation that they pass must adhere to
39 the principles of wildlife management as recognized in the
40 scientific community. And although, after I've been working in
41 this program for three years, and I've met and worked with a
42 lot of Natives throughout the state, I realize that if you go
43 out and you know you can only physically deal with 10 caribou
44 whatever that trip, that day and so on, know how to -- you
45 know, you can shoot 10 and take care of the meat, get it cooled
46 and get it transported, that's all you're going to do, and I
47 realize that.

48

49 But when you get a proposal like this up before the

50

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Staff Committee and the Federal Subsistence Board itself, they're going to look at that no bag limit and say that does not adhere to the principles of wildlife management; and therefore, we are not allowed to pass a regulation like that.

5
6 So if you -- although, it makes the most practical sense for you people here, my best advice to you is to find a bag limit that pretty much matches that maximum daily take that most of the hunters can deal with in an average condition. And so I'm realizing there's going to be certain situations where, you know, you can probably deal with more animals at one point in time because of the circumstances, whether it's your transportation mode or the weather or whatever. But my best advice to you, in order to get something through the Board, is to give it some sort of a cap, you know.

16
17 The suggestion that Charlie had of 10 per day, as long as the proposal is backed, has got some explanation as that that's perfectly within the means of a hunter to take -- properly take care of the meat of 10 caribou in one day and not lose it to spoilage, then that shouldn't be a real problem.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Steve.

24
25 MR. ITTA: (In Inupiat).

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: (In Inupiat).

28
29 MR. E. HOPSON: One short question.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.

32
33 MR. E. HOPSON: Regulation sustain the subsistent regulation (In Inupiat) between the North Slope and the Kobuk area, we have the similar (In Inupiat).

36
37 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (In Inupiat) -- five a day too.

38
39 MR. E. HOPSON: And we're dealing with the same herd of caribou.

41
42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. (In Inupiat).

43
44 MR. BROWER: (In Inupiat).

45
46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (In Inupiat).

47
48 MR. BROWER: (In Inupiat). This herd has grown and totally with what herds we have (In Inupiat) Western herd here

50

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on the North Slope. That's somewhat like almost 700,000 caribou probably combine them together -- all three of them together. And increasing that to maybe 10 or 15 would be more appropriate. Here, the State is trying to initiate a same day hunt, and most of the folks through Alaska ain't opposed to the dates and months that have been applied. I think for that purpose, there's enough scientific review to increase it either to 15 or 10 and that's how I see.

9

10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ben.

11

12 MR. B. HOPSON: Yeah. Yeah. I would feel in favor of increasing the bag limit from five to -- like in Anaktuvuk right now, we're experiencing a very limited caribou migration right now. We're getting a few that are going through daily. And a week and a half ago, I got my limit of five caribou. There was one more bull, I could have used that sixth one, but I had gotten my bag limit that day (indiscernible) -- limited one on caribou. So for that reason, that would (indiscernible voice lowers)

21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Good point. Charlie.

23

24 MR. BROWER: Yeah. I have another

25

26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Was that a motion or maybe a proposal?

28

29 MR. BROWER: That's -- I'm trying to

30

31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Concept of a proposal to be submitted later.

33

34 MR. BROWER: Yeah. What I can't figure is, right here, when I read the proposal on caribou on 26, Western herd only, rural residents of 21(d) west of Koyukuk and Yukon River and rural residents of 22(a), 22(b), 23, 24, and 26(a). Then turn around, you have 26(b) where they're only allowed to hunt Central herd only, residents of Anaktuvuk Pass, Kaktovik, Nuiqsut and Wiseman, and 26(b) is right in the center of both B and C where C has their caribou hunt from either Central herd or the Porcupine herd. Tell me why are we telling 26(b) to hunt only from Central herd, someone.

44

45 MR. ITTA: I think our biologist can probably answer that. Steven.

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, Steve.

49

50

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1 MR. ITTA: Thank you, Steve.

2

3 MR. KOVAK: Mr. Chair. Charlie, what that is is a
 4 carryover of the regulations, when the Federal program began in
 5 July of 1990, what they did is they copied the existing Fish &
 6 Game regs exactly. And what you're reading is the customary
 7 and traditional use determination column. And all that is
 8 saying is that for the Central Arctic herd in 26(b), only those
 9 communities listed have a positive customary and traditional
 10 use determination. They're not limited to hunting caribou from
 11 the Central herd.

12

13 MR. BROWER: Well, also at the same time, I guess
 14 people from 26(a) can hunt from the Central herd and Pacific
 15 herd. That's what I'm -- if I'm reading this right, it's
 16 limiting to that herd by these regulations. It's excluding us
 17 from our -- to other herds that we have on the North Slope that
 18 are stationary.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Good point, Charlie. In fact, I
 21 think that was one of the issues brought by some residents in
 22 Naktovik that if you were to name a herd, I mean they shouldn't
 23 I'm going to go out and get my five Central Arctic herd.
 24 Where do I do start from, you know? It's in the rules and
 25 regulations right now, I'm allowed five -- I can go out and get
 26 five Central Arctic herd of caribou. How do I know that it's
 27 not Western or Central?

28

29 MR. BROWER: Or Porcupine.

30

31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Or Porcupine caribou herd? So we
 32 wanted to -- we made a suggestion to not name a species of herd
 33 but, you know, when you start talking about other species that
 34 they say they're stationary so we have to call them Hula-Hula
 35 Btainage sheep or something else, or muskox in Zone A or
 36 Zone B, you know. That is one of the issues that we need to
 37 discuss, whether we should restrict it to a certain herd. Ten
 38 Central Arctic herd per day. Ten Western Arctic herd per day.
 39 What -- I mean, you guys are in 26(a), I'll just throw that
 40 out for some thought there.

41

42 MR. KOVAK: Mr. Chair. If you'll remember from
 43 yesterday in Helen's presentation of the customary and
 44 additional use determinations that we're starting for 26(b)
 45 and (c), we're going to eliminate individual caribou herds and
 46 just say like caribou in Unit 26(b) or something like that. So
 47 what should solve this problem.

48

49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. And I think there's enough

50

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population to not specify a herd like Mulchatna or the Nelchina
or the Kilbuck herd.

3

4

Edward.

5

6

MR. ITTA: Steve, maybe you can answer this for me. I
notice in your regulations there's specific mentions of
villages like in 26(b) for residents of Anaktuvuk, Kaktovik,
Quiqsut and Wiseman. And I'm thinking now in the way of
sportsmen.

11

12

MR. KOVAK: Um-hum.

13

14

MR. ITTA: And if we give them a limit of 10 or 15,
that doesn't exclude them from being able to do it. Can we put
in language in the proposal that's specific to the villages,
residents of villages?

18

19

MR. KOVAK: Helen, I need some help on that one.

20

21

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, it's already -- and see on the
side where it's -- or where it says the customary and
additional use determination, I mean it is already restricted
to those villages that it's naming; like it

25

26

MR. BROWER: Anaktuvuk Pass.

27

28

MR. ITTA: Just within Unit 26 would include Point
Hope, Point Lay, Wainwright, Atkasuk, Anaktuvuk and --

30

31

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right.

32

33

MR. ITTA: and Barrow?

34

35

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Exactly.

36

37

MR. ITTA: Okay.

38

39

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I mean, in 26 --

40

41

MR. ITTA: So would that apply

42

43

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And it depends on where you

44

45

MR. ITTA: I guess my question is would that apply to
big game hunters, sports hunters?

47

48

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, no.

49

50

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1 MR. ITTA: Okay.

2
3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It applies -- this is only for
4

5 MR. KOVAK: Okay.

6
7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: people who live in like
8 Unit 26(b), the only people who can hunt the Central Arctic
9 Herd will be the residents of Anaktuvuk, Kaktovik, Nuiqsut and
10 Wasean. And then in 26, it's Western Arctic herd is the rural
11 residents of 21(d) west of the Koyukuk and Yukon Rivers and
12 then rural residents
13

14 MR. ITTA: Yeah.

15
16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: of 22(a), blah, blah, blah,
17 blah, blah.
18

19 MR. ITTA: Okay.

20
21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So
22

23 MR. ITTA: (In Inupiat).

24
25 MR. UPICKSON: (In Inupiat). They have their own
26 rules?
27

28 MR. ITTA: Yeah.
29

30 MR. UPICKSON: The sports
31

32 MR. BROWER: Yeah. (In Inupiat). I just threw that
33 in. I mean, it's up to both committees to think about 'cause
34 the longer we wait, we might not have any proposals for the
35 upcoming year, but this is the chance to increase the hunt to
36 from 5, you know.
37

38 MR. E. HOPSON: Mr. Chairman.
39

40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, Charlie. Eddie.
41

42 MR. E. HOPSON: I think the better way to come up with
43 increase in the take is to get a report of whether we are
44 actually -- we know that the caribou is over-populated now. We
45 don't have that record. We know the number but I haven't hear
46 any official report saying that the caribou now is over-
47 populated. It's time to shoot them down. I haven't got that
48 report yet. We know that there's lot in number.
49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.

2

3 MR. ITTA: (In Inupiat). (In Inupiat) customary and
~~4~~traditional use patterns (In Inupiat) and use that as a
 5 justification instead of saying that it's because they are
 6 over-populated. Steve, maybe you can respond to that again on
 7 the justification portion of why we want to increase our take.
 8 Can we base it on our traditional and customary patterns where
 9 we got out as a justification.

10

11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum. Yeah. Um-hum.

12

13 MR. KOVAK: Absolutely.

14

15 MR. ITTA: Okay.

16

17 MR. KOVAK: Absolutely.

18

19 MR. ITTA: All right. (In Inupiat).

20

21 MR. KOVAK: The other thing that I would recommend also
 22 when you put together the proposal is that one of the first
 23 questions that members of the Staff Committee are going to have
 24 and the Board's going to have is like if you're requesting 10 a
 25 day or 15 a day, I would be sure to put in some background
 26 information there that's perfectly within the means of a single
 27 hunter to be ab- -- if he takes that many in a day, he can
 28 adequately process those animals and salvage the meat and so on
 29 with no problem. I mean, just, you know, put it -- just add
 30 that information 'cause that'll -- because they start -- when
 31 you start seeing numbers like that, these people who are only
 32 used to getting one or two a year don't comprehend being able
 33 get five or ten in a day and being able to adequately take
 34 care of those animals. So if you put something in there that
 35 alleviates those fears a little bit.

36

37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Helen.

38

39 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I wanted to add something to help
 40 Eddie understand some of this, too, was when we do -- when we
 41 analyze the proposals, the kind of information you're looking
 42 for will get put in there. What Steve will be -- he'll talk to
 43 the caribou biologists and he'll have a thorough report. It'll
 44 be more of a summary of the research that we know so we'll find
 45 the status of the caribou. And what can also happen is that,
 46 this is just an example, say you asked for 25 caribou a day, it
 47 would be that based on what the biologists know, they could say
 48 well maybe that's too much, but we'd like to recommend that
 49 that proposal be adjusted to 20 a day or 15 a day or something

50

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like that.

2

3 That it's not always a yes and no answer. Sometimes
~~they~~ they'll come up with some kind of change to a proposal or maybe
~~the~~ the Regional Coun- -- sometimes an individual will propose
~~something~~ something and then the Regional Council can come up with an
~~adjustment~~ adjustment to that proposal and change it at the --

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay

10

11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: at the winter meeting.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you. I think we know
~~what~~ what we -- we're trying to come up with now. John.

15

16 MR. MILLER: I was going to say that maybe by raising
~~the~~ the number to 10 or 15 or whatever number the -- if the
~~Committee~~ Committee decides they want to do that, that should help
~~alleviate~~ alleviate some of the problems of this designated hunter

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Exactly.

22

23 MR. MILLER: issue until a real good workable
~~resolution~~ resolution is found. That would be able to increase the
~~take~~ take

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Exactly.

28

29 MR. MILLER: of each individual hunter. So I
~~think~~ think it would be good if we would come up with a proposal and
~~adopt~~ adopt a positive resolution with a number so that the Federal
~~subsistence~~ subsistence -- the Regional Council here can then endorse it
~~and~~ and pass it on.

34

35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Exactly. We wouldn't have to deal
~~with~~ with this. This would

37

38 MR. MILLER: So maybe we should do a resolution or an
~~endorsement~~ endorsement of raising the take.

40

41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Let's see. I take my hat off, since
~~he's~~ he's chairing the Fish & Game Committee, I'll move for the
~~North~~ North Slope Borough Fish & Game Committee to submit a proposal
~~to~~ to increase the present regulation under 26(a) from five to
~~ten~~ ten, and the justification being that our customary and
~~additional~~ additional use -- how did you put it? It would be in line --
~~to~~ to get us in line with our traditional catches of animals, more
~~in~~ in line of what regulations give us. So that is my motion.

49

50

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1 MR. MILLER: There's a motion, is there a second?
2
3 MR. AGUASAGGA: Second.
4
5 MR. MILLER: Second. Any discussion?
6
7 MR. UPICKSON: Question.
8
9 MR. MILLER: The question called for. All those in
10 favor of the motion increasing the take in 20- -- just 26(a)?
11 26(a) from five to ten signify by saying aye.
12
13 IN UNISON: Aye.
14
15 MR. MILLER: Opposed, same sign. So motion passed.
16
17 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair.
18
19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.
20
21 MR. ITTA: I would, at this time, make a motion to
22 submit a proposal to the Federal Subsistence Board from our
23 Regional Council of Region 10 to support changing the
24 regulations for Unit 26(a) from the stated five caribou per day
25 ten caribou per day, and I so move.
26
27 MR. E. HOPSON: I Second that motion.
28
29 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman.
30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Um-hum.
32
33 MR. UPICKSON: Edward, Unit 26(b) also
34
35 MR. MILLER: We need a second.
36
37 MR. UPICKSON: have five caribou.
38
39 MR. ITTA: Okay. I should say 26. I should say -- I
40 correct myself.
41
42 MR. UPICKSON: Unit 26 across.
43
44 MR. ITTA: Unit 26, okay.
45
46 MR. UPICKSON: Regardless of (a),
47
48 MR. ITTA: Yes.
49
50

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1 MR. UPICKSON: (b) or (c).
2
3 MR. ITTA: Yes. That's my motion to cover Unit 26.
4
5 MR. UPICKSON: I second Edward's motion as amended.
6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Let's see, these are the rules and
8 regulations.
9
10 MR. UPICKSON: It's Page 145.
11
12 MR. E. HOPSON: All right. Second -- I second that
13 motion.
14
15 MR. MILLER: Eddie.
16
17 MR. E. HOPSON: When you make that correction, Edward,
18 does that means you're including A, B and C?
19
20 MR. ITTA: Yeah.
21
22 MR. E. HOPSON: All right. Thanks.
23
24 MR. ITTA: Right.
25
26 MR. MILLER: Eddie, they're making a motion as to the
27 Federal Regional Subsistence, their side, so we can't second
28 the motion.
29
30 MR. E. HOPSON: I'm sorry.
31
32 MR. ITTA: The second was by -- you seconded my motion.
33 So we do -- well, I better wait on our chair here. We do have
34 a motion and a second so
35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Okay. We're onto discussion
37 then. It was just pointed out that in Unit 26(b) it's only
38 seasonal take of 26- -- and I didn't realize that I could only
39 catch 10 a year at Kaktovik. And I'm glad that this motion has
40 come about 'cause I never -- it never dawned on me
41
42 MR. BROWER: You illegal guy.
43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: that I could only
45
46 MR. E. HOPSON: Fenton, why the 10 --
47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: catch 10 a year.
49
50

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1 MR. E. HOPSON: 10 bag limit on muskox?
2
3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So I see no problem unless there is
4 something in (b). I don't know if there will be any problem
5 with that. I see no problem with it all in Unit 26. Edward.
6
7 MR. ITTA: Just as a point here. I would understand
8 this motion then to also be a directive to our Staff, Steve,
9 Barbara and Helen, to develop the proposal with us. That's
10 correct, huh?
11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.
13
14 MR. ITTA: Okay. Jake has got
15
16 MR. MILLER: Okay. Jake
17
18 MR. KOONUK: You're talking about 26?
19
20 MR. ITTA: Yeah.
21
22 MR. KOONUK: Okay. Whatever happened to the over-
23 populated stock of our Western Arctic (indiscernible -
24 interrupted)
25
26 MR. ITTA: That includes that.
27
28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. That includes
29
30 MR. KOONUK: That's included here?
31
32 MR. ITTA: Yeah. Un-huh.
33
34 MR. KOONUK: Okay.
35
36 MR. ITTA: (In Inupiat). I'd call for the question on
37 the motion, Mr. Chair.
38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. The question called for.
40 Okay. Those in favor of changing the regulations under 26 to
41 raise it up from five caribou per day to ten caribou per day,
42 signify by saying aye.
43
44 IN UNISON: Aye.
45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed? Thank you.
47
48 MR. ITTA: Motion carried.
49
50

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Motion carries.
2
3 MR. CARROLL: Can I ask a question? Maybe I didn't --
4 I'm not sure I heard things right. But was the motion over
5 here just to do it in 26(a)?
6
7 MR. CARROLL: 26(a)
8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 26(a)
10
11 MR. CARROLL: And that was for all of 26?
12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: This is 26 -- all of 26(a). 26 with
14 right modification.
15
16 MR. CARROLL: Okay. Could I get -- I admit that I get
17 a little bit confused with the way things are divided up under
18 the Federal system. There's Unit 10 which includes Point Hope
19 but 26 does not include Point Hope, is that right? The way --
20 mean, the way it is on your map here.
21
22 MR. ITTA: I thought
23
24 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, it doesn't.
25
26 MR. ITTA: You're right. You're right. 26(a)'s
27 boundary is right here.
28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Unit 23.
30
31 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. That's something that's always
32 confused me a little bit. But anyway, I -- you might want
33
34
35 MR. ITTA: (In Inupiat).
36
37 MR. CARROLL: If you include Point Hope in there
38 somehow too, you know
39
40 MR. MILLER: Do you want me to address that?
41
42 MR. CARROLL: I think they're kind of getting
43 left out in the cold.
44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Good -- thank you, Geoff.
46
47 MR. ITTA: Point Hope is covered under 25?
48
49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: 23.
50

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1
2 MR. ITTA: 23?
3
4 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: 23.
5
6 MR. UPICKSON: 23, yes.
7
8 MR. ITTA: And who -- which region covers 23?
9
10 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's Northwest Arctic.
11
12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: 8.
13
14 MR. ITTA: 8?
15
16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Um-hum.
17
18 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Northwest Arctic.
19
20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Northwest Arctic.
21
22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You can talk to Walter or Pete.
23
24 MR. ITTA: Okay. (In Inupiat).
25
26 MR. KOONUK: We're all counting for 26(a).
27
28 MR. ITTA: Yeah. (In Inupiat). What is it? 23, huh?
29
30 MR. KOONUK: 23.
31
32 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: 23. Unit 23.
33
34 MR. ITTA: Okay.
35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you. Let's see, we had
37 couple other issues we wanted to deal with. I wonder if this
38 everything on the proposals that need to be submitted to the
39 Federal Subsistence Board. Was there any other proposals?
40
41 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman, regarding the problems
42 we've had with the
43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Say again, Gordon.
45
46 MR. UPICKSON: About -- yesterday about how you guys
47 are in violation at Kaktovik, no matter how you look at it.
48 Are you going to submit a proposal trying to solve you guys'
49 problems that you guys have over at Kaktovik with regards to
50

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sheep?

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. We're going to try for one
 4 more year, 'cause they're -- the administrative procedures are
 5 not quite in tune yet, and we want to try and work with those
 6 folks.

7

8 MR. UPICKSON: Okay.

9

10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. If there are not other
 11 proposals for review or submission to the Federal Subsistence
 12 Board, we have a couple other issues before us. One was the
 13 annual report and the intensive management -- I think it was
 14 the Bill. So if we wanted -- what is the wish of the body here
 15 to take care of those? I think we're done with the proposals.
 16 Are there any more on proposals? If not -- what do you want to
 17 do? Do you want us to cut out or

18

19 MR. MILLER: I think our side of it's probably done,
 20 huh?

21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Unless -- we just have a
 23 couple of housekeeping items for this Council to take care of,
 24 if you want to -- folks want to stick around for

25

26 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Fenton, before you leave, if -- in
 27 case the Fish & Game Committee wants to meet with you again
 28 whenever you're having your next meeting in the wintertime to
 29 talk over proposals, that's up to you and them to discuss. And
 30 when the window is here, the dates, and then you can probably
 31 Fenton will let you know anyway 'cause he's the Chair of
 32 your committee, too, so

33

34 MR. MILLER: We'll let the two chairmen work it out.

35

36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Okay. I just wanted to say
 37 that.

38

39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. I want to thank the North
 40 Slope Borough Fish & Game Committee for your time and effort to
 41 make it to this first joint meeting of our North Slope Regional
 42 Advisory Council. And I want to really thank you for your
 43 input. Without your input, we wouldn't pass on our concerns to
 44 the other staff, agencies, and Federal agencies and the State.
 45 We are not part of the -- yeah, I want to thank Eddie and
 46 Elijah and Jakie, Ben, Amos and William and also John and
 47 Leonard for taking the time to meet with us. I know you've
 48 taken some effort to alter your business schedule to make this,
 49 and I really want to thank you guys for helping us. John.

50

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1
2 MR. MILLER: This has been a good meeting. Maybe we
3 should try and do this on a regular basis.
4
5 MR. BROWER: We'll see you next February.
6
7 MR. MILLER: I think we shared a lot of ideas and
8 together we can have a lot of push in the same direction.
9
10 MR. BROWER: Before you go -- before they go, (In
11 Inupiat). Elijah, you're ready to go tonight's flight. Excuse
12 me, Fenton.
13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That's okay. Maybe can you handle
15 this in a five minute break real quick or can you do it
16 right
17
18 MR. BROWER: I can do it right now real quick.
19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Go ahead.
21
22 MR. BROWER: I can take them outside. Jake, 9- --
23 11:00 o'clock, departure?
24
25 MR. KOONUK: Afternoon.
26
27 MR. BROWER: Yeah. 11:00 o'clock in the morning.
28
29 MR. KOONUK: I'll take afternoon flight.
30
31 MR. BROWER: All right.
32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. (In Inupiat), Eddie. I want
34 to thank you again, Eddie. Do you want to have a quick five
35 minute break and then we can finish up our housekeeping and set
36 our next meeting date. And I think we just have a couple of
37 more issues we could talking. (sic)
38
39 (Off record)
40
41 (On record)
42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Call the North Slope Subsistent
44 Regional Advisory Council back to order. Okay. A couple of
45 items I would -- we talked about the annual report. I think we
46 all pretty much know what needs to be done, and I don't think
47 we need that into a motion.
48
49 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.
50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: But they pretty well understand what
we're looking for Secretary Babbitt. So the other motion was
the intensive

5
6 MR. ITTA: Management.

7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: management. And I know I need
more background on this, like Jake was saying, to take it back.

10
11 MR. UPICKSON: Which one are you --

12
13 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. You guys can do that.

14
15 MR. UPICKSON: what is that, intensive
management?

17
18 MR. ITTA: This -- that's that legislative one that
Geoff

20
21 MR. UPICKSON: Okay.

22
23 MR. ITTA: Carroll gave a little earlier.

24
25 (Off record comments)

26
27 COURT REPORTER: Wait a minute. Wait a minute. I need
everybody around the outside, if they're not part of the
meeting, if you could either lower your voice or go outside
because I'm missing part of the record here. Thank you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Salena. So what is the
wish of the Council here to talk about this?

34
35 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair.

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.

38
39 MR. ITTA: I just lost my copy of the legislative
session. But maybe before we even make a motion or anything,
I'd like to ask Geoff if he can come back up again and go over
the issue again here. I've got to admit I didn't understand
so much of --

44
45 MR. CARROLL: Okay.

46
47 MR. ITTA: of the Bill there.

48
49 MR. CARROLL: I will bring it back out here.

50

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1
2 MR. ITTA: We need to have you on -- by the mike. I
3 think we should wait on this. I -- let me ask him a couple of
4 questions (indiscernible - voice lowers)

5
6 MR. UPICKSON: Do you need this, Geoff?

7
8 MR. CARROLL: Okay. Yeah.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Here's a cop- --

11
12 MR. CARROLL: Okay.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: There's a copy, Geoff.

15
16 MR. CARROLL: Okay.

17
18 MR. ITTA: Just have a couple questions for you, Geoff.
19 The first one, was this Bill introduced by -- on behalf of
20 Alaska Department of Fish & Game?

21
22 MR. CARROLL: No, not at all.

23
24 MR. ITTA: Okay. And if not, then my second question,
25 does the Department support this Bill?

26
27 MR. CARROLL: I don't think most of the Department does
28 because, you know, as wildlife managers, it kind of ties our
29 hands; it tells you this is the way you got to do things and it
30 reduces --

31
32 MR. ITTA: Okay.

33
34 MR. CARROLL: reduces our options. I think that
35 -- you know, within the Department, there are certain
36 actions; I mean, there are people that are -- that, you know,
37 want to go out and manage real actively and, you know, do both
38 control and things like that. And this sort of, you know,
39 pushes us in that direction. And so probably there are
40 actions in the Department that do support. But it's -- you
41 know, it's one of those things, it's passed by the State
42 legislature and it's kind of a mandate to the Department of
43 Fish & Game as a State agency to proceed this way.

44
45 And so, you know, really, all that I'm asking you guys
46 is there -- do you feel that there's any need for intensive
47 management as it's defined here on the North Slope, you know.

48
49 MR. ITTA: Okay. In layman's terms define intensive
50

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management for me and how that differs from our current approach. In layman's terms I'm asking.

3

4 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, okay. Well, intensive management
5s, you know, kind of manipulating all other factors so that we
6ncrease the number of animals that are available for people to
7harvest to the highest level possible. And, for instance, on
8he North Slope, right now, we have a moose population on the
9olville River that's being depleted probably mostly because of
10redation from wolves and bears. And that would be an example.
11f we followed this mandate to the letter, rather than meaning
12 I mean, decreasing the number of moose that can be
13harvested,

14

15 MR. ITTA: Okay.

16

17 MR. CARROLL: I'd be required to go and do wolf
18ontrol and reduce the number of bears so that we'd have the
19maximum number of moose. That would be an example of maybe
20somewhere that, you know, intensive management could be
21applied.

22

23 MR. ITTA: Okay.

24

25 MR. CARROLL: Okay.

26

27 MR. ITTA: This Bill is just pending right now,
28orrect?

29

30 MR. CARROLL: No, it's been passed.

31

32 MR. ITTA: It's been passed?

33

34 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. And

35

36 MR. ITTA: So you're -- okay.

37

38 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. So -- but, you know, as -- you
39ow, it sounds pretty cut and dry to begin with, but then it
40es let us hedge us a little bit. It says later that, you
41ow, this does not apply if the Board of Game determines that
42ntensive management would be ineffective based on scientific
43nformation or inappropriate due to land ownership patterns or
44ainst the best interests of subsistence uses.

45

46 You know, so it's

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. What -- one quick question.
49 relates to the Alaska Board of Game. Did they also ratify

50

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1 this as well or the Board of Game?

2

3 MR. CARROLL: Well, this is kind of marching orders to
4 the Board of Game, too, from the State Legislature saying that
5 the Board of Game has to take this into account when they make
6 their decisions. So

7

8 MR. ITTA: Last question, Mr. Chair. Let me see if I
9 understand it. They're saying that this Bill authorizes
10 manipulation of circumstances so that the harvest number can
11 still stay the same?

12

13 MR. CARROLL: Or the human harvest can be

14

15 MR. ITTA: Even higher?

16

17 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

18

19 MR. ITTA: And it's not based on sound management
20 principles is kind of the impression I'm getting, huh? Or it's
21 a variation of some

22

23 MR. CARROLL: Well, it does have to occur within sound
24 management principles.

25

26 MR. ITTA: Okay.

27

28 MR. CARROLL: It's stated in here somewhere.

29

30 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair, I'd -- without some real
31 information, I guess, on the impacts of this thing, I'm kind of
32 a loss on what we can do at this time.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

35

36 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. I -- the only -- I mean,
37 personally, I don't think there's any situation on the North
38 Slope that calls for this sort of intensive management. I
39 don't -- you know, I think that our game populations are
40 adequate, and I think that basically I would say no, there's no
41 need for intensive management right now anyplace on the North
42 Slope. And, you know, I

43

44 MR. ITTA: Okay.

45

46 MR. CARROLL: That's -- I guess that's what I would
47 want from you guys is for you to

48

49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

50

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1
2 MR. CARROLL: say no, I don't think there is or
3 yeah, maybe we do have a situation where

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. There's also in the Staff --
6 or in dealing with trying to get a sustained yield or human
7 harvest in Federal. I would like to see the Federal position
8 on this type of thing 'cause I haven't seen it in black and
9 white either, mandating that the Board of Game or the Federal
10 Subsistence Board must do -- must act this way. So I'm kind of
11 holding off or having reservations as well to --

12
13 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. You know, this was written

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: to back this up.

16
17 MR. CARROLL: by, you know, legislators from
18 urban areas that have frustrated hunters that, you know, there
19 aren't enough -- isn't enough wildlife to go around, you know,
20 harvestable wildlife to go around. And they think that, you
21 know, that should be the priority of the Alaska Department of
22 Fish & Game is providing animals for these people to harvest
23 and use. And, you know, it's kind of a different situation
24 down there where you got lots of people and not as much game
25 and, you know, up here we have lots of game and few people. So
26 it's really one of those bits of legislation that's intended --
27 you know, it isn't entirely

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

30
31 MR. CARROLL: appropriate for up here. It's
32 intended for people that are in a different situation.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, okay. Gordon.

35
36 MR. UPICKSON: What does it say -- in effect, they're
37 telling the Board of Game what they may or may not do. I don't
38 think the Legislature should be doing that to the Board of
39 Game. Is that -- was that part of your question, Co-Chair?

40
41 MR. ITTA: Yeah, kind of. That's kind of where I was
42 headed with this thing.

43
44 MR. UPICKSON: I just saw Senator Adams walk by, maybe
45 he'll give us some input.

46
47 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, he's probably in on the debating.

48
49 MR. UPICKSON: He'll probably give us the airborne.

50

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1
2 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair. I'd like to hear what our
Biologist might have to say on how this impacts us, if any, at
this point.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Dave.

7
8 MR. UPICKSON: Where's that lawyer that was here?

9
10 MR. YOKEL: As Geoff said -- first, I'm Dave Yokel from
the Bureau of Land Management. As Geoff said first off, I
doubt this will have a lot of impact on this region of the
State. The Federal Government or its agencies I'm sure is not
going to take a stand on a state political issue like this,
it's not within our jurisdiction to do so. And as far as how
it would affect Federal subsistence hunting regulations, I
don't believe it would, unless they were for an area -- well, I
would hate to speculate by just making up a scenario. But I'd
say that for the most part it would not affect our Federal
regulations.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

23
24 MR. YOKEL: Would you disagree or add anything, Steve

25
26 MR. ITTA: Yeah.

27
28 MR. KOVAK: The first time I saw this is when Geoff
just passed it out, so I'm just kind of, you know, reacting to
this thing. But the Federal subsistence program is mandated,
and under the definitions of the program and limitations of the
program, we're required to manage for natural and healthy
populations of wildlife. And included in -- or healthy
populations of wildlife, and included in that definition is
maintenance of natural diversity of both -- not only the
animals that naturally occur in an area but all the various
plant communities that occur within an area.

38
39 Something like this, on first blush -- and I haven't
got down and analyzed and digested this thing at all but on
first blush review, it sounds like it's something that kind of
goes counter-towards those mandates a little bit. So it
wouldn't really have an affect on the Federal subsistence
program. But things that Fish & Game may be forced to do could
have some spin-off effects on subsistence hunters and game
populations.

47
48 The one thing that I could see that it might cause --
not so much up on the North Slope but in other areas within the
50

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State is that it may cause an increase in competition between
 Sport hunters and subsistence

3

4 MR. ITTA: Okay.

5

6 MR. KOVAK: users. But as far as the North
 Slope, I don't really foresee any real impact. There may be
 some spin-off things that have some ripple effects on down the
 road, but those are unforeseeable at this time.

10

11 MR. CARROLL: It might actually have a good effect on
 us up here, they might actually increase the moose populations
 in some of the areas down south and more people will stay home
 and go hunting instead of flying up here to go hunting.

15

16 MR. ITTA: Yeah.

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

19

20 MR. ITTA: It doesn't like we can do anything today,
 off, on this issue.

22

23 MR. CARROLL: Okay.

24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Was there another -- I think
 that's about all the actions that we need to -- action items we
 need to pay attention to.

28

29 MR. ITTA: We need to set time and place of our next
 meeting.

31

32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Yeah. Before we do that,
 Barb, do you want go over the semi-administrative items or are
 we pretty

35

36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I don't have any.

37

38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

39

40 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: They all got ironed out in the
 process.

42

43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. All right. Now, it brings us
 down to time and place of next meeting. We have a window
 calendar here somewhere.

46

47 MR. ITTA: Within that six week window or five week,
 whatever it is.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thanks. I don't think I could find
2 anything now under all this. I need a box. I came in with a
3 Briefcase, I go out with a box. So we got a window we need to
4 try and meet within this January 30 to March 3.

5
6 MR. UPICKSON: What day of the month is the Borough
7 Holiday?

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'm sure it would be

10
11 MR. UPICKSON: President's Day.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Monday the 13th and maybe the
14 14th. They may have a combined -- they usually have a combined
15 holiday somewhere in there.

16
17 MR. ITTA: They have it now on President's Day.

18
19 MR. UPICKSON: Okay. That's Monday.

20
21 MR. ITTA: Yeah.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

24
25 MR. ITTA: Monday the 20th, they combined those two.
26 The Borough Assembly meeting is on February 7th.

27
28 MS. OPIE: Aren't they having a AAWC Conference this
29 year?

30
31 MR. ITTA: Yes, they are.

32
33 MR. UPICKSON: A what?

34
35 MS. OPIE: February?

36
37 MR. ITTA: I don't know what

38
39 MS. OPIE: I think it's usually in February.

40
41 (Off record)

42
43 (On record)

44
45 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Jake.

48
49 MR. KOONUK: March 1 (In Inupiat) for whaling (In
50

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Inupiat).

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

4

5 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (In Inupiat).

6

7 MR. ITTA: Early February would probably be good for
 8 you, too, maybe, right around in there, as long as it's before
 9- we can cross out the last week.

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

12

13 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Cross out the last week.

14

15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I got it.

16

17 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right.

20

21 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

22

23 MR. ITTA: Okay.

24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any Council, Staff or Agency
 26 comments?

27

28 MR. ITTA: Mr. Chair.

29

30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Edward.

31

32 MR. ITTA: Move to adjourn.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right.

35

36 MR. KOONUK: Second.

37

38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Move to adjourn.

39

40 MR. KOONUK: Second.

41

42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Second.

43

44 MR. ITTA: Can't debate it so so ordered.

45

46 (Off record)

47

48

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

49

*** * * * ***

50

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STATE OF ALASKA)

I, Rebecca Nelms, Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska and Reporter for R&R Court Reporters, Inc., do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 2 through 122 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council meeting taken electronically by Salena Hile on the 6th day of October, 1994, 1994, beginning at the hour of 9:00 o'clock a.m. at Barrow, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by Karen Squires to the best of her knowledge and ability;

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 17th day of October, 1994.

Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 10/10/98

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