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1 NORTH SLOPE FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL
2 ADVISORY COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING

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4

5

VOLUME I

6

7

September 9, 2003

8

Barrow, Alaska

9

10

11 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

12

13 Harry Brower, Jr., Chairman

14 Amos Agnasagga

15 Rosemary Ahtuanguaruak

16 Paul Bodfish

17 Gordon Brower, Sr.

18 Ray Koonuk, Sr.

19 Raymond Paneak

20 Mike Patkotak

21 Terry Tagarook

22

23 Regional Coordinator, Helen Armstrong

1 P R O C E E D I N G S
2
3 (Barrow, Alaska - 9/9/2003)
4
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It's 9:10, we'll call
6 the meeting to order at this time. It's 9:10 in the
7 morning. Helen Armstrong, would you please give us a
8 roll call.
9
10 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yes, Mr. Chair.
11
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.
13
14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
15 Harry.
16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Here.
18
19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Raymond.
20
21 MR. PANEAK: Here.
22
23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Terry.
24
25 MR. TAGAROOK: Here.
26
27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Amos.
28
29 MR. AGNASAGGA: Here.
30
31 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Earl. He's absent.
32 He's been excused. Paul. Do you know if Paul Bodfish is
33 coming -- don't know, okay. Ray Koonuk.
34
35 MR. KOONUK: Here.
36
37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Rosemary. She's not
38 here. And Mike.
39
40 MR. PATKOTAK: Here.
41
42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And Gordon is not
43 here. Thank you, Mr. Chair, we have a quorum.
44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Helen. We
46 have an agenda before us in your green booklets so we're
47 down to Item 3, welcome and introductions. Good morning
48 everybody, my name is Harry Brower, Chairman of the North
49 Slope Regional Advisory Council. Maybe we'll start from
50 our left side of the table and just go around and

0003

1 introduce yourselves.

2

3 MR. TAGAROOK: I'm Terry Tagarook from
4 Wainwright. Good morning.

5

6 MR. AGNASAGGA: Amos Agnasagga, Point
7 Lay. Good morning.

8

9 MR. KOONUK: Ray Koonuk from Point Hope.
10 Good morning.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Harry Brower from
13 Barrow.

14

15 MR. PATKOTAK: Mike Patkotak, Barrow by
16 way of Anchorage.

17

18 MR. WISWAR: David Wiswar, Fish and
19 Wildlife Service, Fairbanks.

20

21 MS. WHEELER: Polly Wheeler, Office of
22 Subsistence Management, Fairbanks, soon to be Anchorage.

23

24 MR. FISHER: Dave Fisher, Fish and
25 Wildlife Service, Subsistence Management, Anchorage.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Dave.

28

29 MR. RABINOWITCH: Sandy Rabinowitch, Park
30 Service, Staff Committee to the Federal Board.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Sandy.

33

34 MR. CHEN: Good morning. My name is
35 Glenn Chen. I work for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and
36 I'm a Staff Committee member.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good morning, Glenn.

39

40 MR. HOPSON: I'm Charlie Hopson, Native
41 Village of Barrow.

42

43 MR. PATKOTAK: James Patkotak, Native
44 Village Community of Arctic Slope in Barrow.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James.

47

48 MS. FOX: Peggy Fox, Office of
49 Subsistence Management, Anchorage.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Peggy.

2

3 MS. BROWN: Wennona Brown, Arctic
4 National Wildlife Refuge.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good morning.

7

8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Helen Armstrong, Fish
9 and Wildlife Service, Subsistence Office in Anchorage.
10 And I'm sitting in as coordinator for Barb today, but I
11 am the anthropologist for this team. I also just wanted
12 to make a note, Harry, let everybody know that the agenda
13 in the book has been revised and you should be following
14 the blue agenda that's either on the table or in front of
15 you on the desk.

16

17 Thank you.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Helen. And
20 thank you everybody.

21

22 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond.

25

26 MR. KOONUK: What's the reason for our
27 coordinator not being here?

28

29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: She had some other
30 commitments that she needed to get taken care of. Maybe
31 a little housekeeping, there's these mikes in front of
32 you, there's an off and on switch that record you, this
33 meeting is being recorded. Just turn off and on the
34 mikes as you're making your comments or speaking when you
35 have the floor. And the other issues are that the fire
36 exits are the one you come in, there's the elevator, but
37 there's a stairwell as well right next to the elevator on
38 that same entrance and there's one behind us here just to
39 let you know where the fire exits are. So that's just a
40 little bit of housekeeping.

41

42 Our next item on the agenda is review and
43 adoption of the agenda. It's this blue agenda that we
44 have before us.

45

46 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.

49

50 MR. KOONUK: I make a motion to adopt the

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1 agenda for September 9, 2003.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's a motion on the
4 floor to adopt the agenda for September 9, 2003.

5

6 MR. TAGAROOK: Second.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry. Any
9 discussions.

10

11 MR. AGNASAGGA: Question.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All in favor of the
14 motion signify by saying aye.

15

16 IN UNISON: Aye.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any opposed.

19

20 (No opposing votes)

21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank you,
23 Raymond. Now, our next agenda item is review and
24 adoption of minutes and they'll be under Tab A under the
25 green booklet. We would be in line to get a motion on
26 the floor to get into the discussion of the minutes.

27

28 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair, I make a motion
29 to approve the minutes for February 19th, 2003.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor to
32 adopt the minutes of February 19, 2003.

33

34 MR. AGNASAGGA: Second.

35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Amos.
37 Thank you, Amos. Any discussion. Maybe we'll take a few
38 minutes to look over the minutes and bring out any
39 discussions or comments regarding the minutes of February
40 19.

41

42 (Pause)

43

44 MR. AGNASAGGA: Call for the question.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question has been
47 called. All in favor of adopting the minutes of February
48 19th, 2003 signify by saying aye.

49

50 IN UNISON: Aye.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any opposed.

2

3 (No opposing votes)

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. The
6 minutes have been adopted for February 19th, 2003.

7

8 Council member's report, Item No. 6. And
9 we'll start with Terry, you have any comments under
10 Council reports.

11

12 MR. TAGAROOK: People have been
13 harvesting caribou. In the summer we just -- we
14 harvested some beluga and everybody's still hunting out
15 there. And winter's coming on and we got to get ready
16 for the winter. Have a good morning.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry.
19 Amos, do you have any concerns or comments you would like
20 to bring forward.

21

22 MR. AGNASAGGA: No concerns. We had a
23 good year in caribou. No (In Native), even right now
24 it's spread full of caribou, we had a good hunt on
25 beluga. We did okay this summer. Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Amos.
28 Again, there's these off and on buttons on the
29 microphones here because the meeting's being recorded.
30 Ray.

31

32 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, Point Hope had a good
33 season, whaling season, belugas. No walrus this year,
34 though. They bypassed, I guess they went over on the
35 other side of the lake. Caribou are just coming down.
36 There's some people catching caribou. They're out
37 fishing up river now and the size of the fishes, though,
38 are bigger than what they used to be last couple years.
39 They used to be -- they came out small but now they're a
40 lot bigger this year. But otherwise everything,
41 everything else is good. Everybody's happy. Thanks.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Ray. Mike.

44

45 MR. PATKOTAK: Good morning.

46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good morning.

48

49 MR. PATKOTAK: I've been down in
50 Anchorage for medical reasons and gone well over a year

1 now. But it hasn't been that bad when it comes to
2 hunting and fishing, I stay in touch with my sisters at
3 Peard Bay, when I talk to my sisters the ice there has
4 been thinner because of warmer, hotter temperatures. The
5 snow was gone earlier than usual. There were bearded
6 seals in that area but they couldn't get to them because
7 of rotten ice and thin. And before you know it when the
8 time came to hunt them with boats, they were virtually
9 non-existent. They had to hunt bearded seals here in
10 Barrow, now, I don't know how that was. I know my
11 brother-in-law and them, they managed to get three
12 bearded seals and my wife got her share from helping out,
13 and what little I got in Anchorage sure was good. Man,
14 them sisters of mine they sure know how to make that (In
15 Native), which was a real blessing.

16
17 The Anchorage area subsistence hunters,
18 man, they sure have it tough, I tell you -- I tell you
19 that much. And man, it's just -- some friends that I've
20 gotten to know over the years invited me to go hunting
21 with them but I couldn't go out, but the current that
22 they have to worry about, you know, their open window of
23 hunting time is limited, it's not like that you can go
24 out boating for 12 hours at a time, they have to worry
25 about currents and tides and where you're at and
26 sometimes they even have to -- they keep close tabs of
27 tides down there because of bore tides, there's a nine
28 foot wall of water coming at you down there.

29
30 The Fish and Wildlife people sure are
31 diligent down there. I had several people come on to me
32 asking about my license and that type of thing. And it
33 wasn't easy for our village counter -- or in our -- or
34 urban (In Native) down there, and they don't have it that
35 easy down there. They have to rely on a lot of
36 subsistence caught trade. They sure get a lot of mussel
37 from down there and I managed to bring home some mussel
38 for my wife and some of the salmon they catch down there.
39 They're in definite need. Man, if you don't have a job
40 down there it's a pretty difficult thing to live in a
41 city. And they sure appreciate our gifts to them when it
42 comes to Native foods, and let me tell you most of them
43 down there in Anchorage that move to the city are not
44 there by choice.

45
46 So with that, you know, it's just good to
47 be back home. Land of plenty. God's country, man.

48
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes. Thank you, Mike.
50 Raymond.

1 MR. PANEAK: Good morning. Yeah, caribou
2 going through Anaktuvuk all right, but it's sort of west,
3 toward west, but they've been harvesting. And I think
4 there's a few hunters were saying that there's some sick
5 caribou being killed, they got one that was not good to
6 eat so had to leave that caribou. Some of the caribou
7 are being kind of, you know, maybe not good, not healthy.
8 And sheep looks pretty good, moose looks pretty good.
9 Otherwise, I think everything's okay at this fall, I
10 hope. That's it. That's all I have.

11
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond. To
13 add on to the Barrow concerns. Barrow has been fortunate
14 in having a lot of resources throughout the summer,
15 walrus hunting's been good, bearded seal hunting is very
16 good. A lot of animals are being harvested. Caribou has
17 been plentiful here in Barrow. A lot of fishing going on
18 throughout the summer. Now, we're getting into the fall
19 season, there are a lot more caribou are -- were
20 harvested earlier, there's still some people out during
21 the week days and there's a lot of weekend hunting going
22 on out of Barrow up and down the coast and into the river
23 systems. People are getting ready for fall whaling,
24 that's going to be happening here very shortly.

25
26 I know we've heard from Nuiqsut and
27 Kaktovik of them harvesting whales. I'm not sure if
28 they've met up with their quotas in both communities. I
29 think Kaktovik still has a strike to go yet. They're
30 probably waiting on weather. Barrow is going to be
31 holding a fall whaling captain's meeting here at the end
32 of this week, so they'll decide as to when they're going
33 to be launching to do their fall whaling.

34
35 The migratory birds have been fairly good
36 this summer. There's been a lot of brandts, geese, ducks
37 flying out where we do all our duck hunting out at the
38 shooting station, so they've been plentiful throughout
39 the summer and then through the fall, early fall.

40
41 There's been a couple of polar bear
42 sighted here in Barrow. The ice has receded a little
43 over a couple hundred miles off Barrow now. It's
44 probably going to create a little bit of hardship for our
45 fall whaling because of the wave and ocean currents
46 moving out there. As you can see today that there's some
47 pretty good sized wave action going on so that's westerly
48 winds.

49
50 And that's pretty much it for Barrow.

1 It's been a very plentiful summer for resources in Barrow
2 and around Barrow. We haven't had too many complaints.
3 We had some law enforcement people up in Barrow coming
4 around doing their usual checks to see if they're in
5 compliance checks. I know there's some out at shooting
6 station doing -- making sure the people are complying
7 with their steel-shot as they're doing their migratory
8 bird hunting. So there was a couple of citations on
9 walrus, I'm not sure what the end results were for, or
10 the outcome of that, but the enforcement agents have been
11 here over the course of summer.

12

13 That's pretty much it for me from Barrow.
14 Maybe Gordon might have something he might want to add or
15 other issues that he'd like to bring out. Gordon, we're
16 currently in our Council member reports from community
17 members, so if you have anything you'd like to add I'll
18 give you the opportunity to do that now. Maybe introduce
19 yourself to the audience.

20

21 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, good morning.
22 Gordon Brower.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's an off and on
25 button on the microphone.

26

27 MR. G. BROWER: Oh, okay, yeah. Good
28 morning all, sorry I'm a little bit late here. But I'm
29 Gordon Brower. I'm an alternate member.

30

31 As for making a report, we've been doing
32 quite a bit of fishing up there so the fish are starting
33 to come out pretty good. We just hauled about 10 sacks
34 from up there. Tutu up there are running around at this
35 time, right now, so it's pretty good hunting up there at
36 this time. I don't have any other report on it.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.
39 Again, we have some new people coming into the meeting.
40 Maybe I'll just have you go ahead -- we're right in our
41 agenda Item 6, Rosemary, in Council member's reports, if
42 you would like to bring out any concerns or issues
43 regarding Nuiqsut. If you can do that, you need to turn
44 off and on the mikes and maybe introduce yourself.

45

46 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: All right. My name is
47 Rosemary Ahtuanguaruak, I'm from Nuiqsut, Alaska. I am new
48 to this panel and the last meeting. I've been in Nuiqsut
49 for about 17 years now. I went out there when my husband
50 first wanted to come back to the village.

1 Nuiqsut has seen a lot of change. We've
2 had a lot of activity around our community. We're
3 becoming circumfranced with oil and gas development
4 activities around our community. It's causing a lot of
5 changes. The biggest concerns we have are that the
6 changes that are going to occur are not identified yet
7 and yet new developments are being built right along side
8 us. We have a lot of community members concerned about
9 the proposed road to the Dalton Highway and the changes
10 that will cause to the subsistence lifestyle. There has
11 been some community meetings related to that. There's to
12 be some meetings with the elders to discuss the bridge
13 crossing and all those types of discussions yet to come.
14

15 We're trying to get our Kwiqpiq
16 Subsistence Oversight Panel as a board to sound and
17 receive a lot of these complaints because they're being
18 brought at various levels but not getting to the people
19 that can work on trying to address their concerns. So
20 we're trying to incorporate various levels of involvement
21 into some of our community meetings to try to find some
22 ways to address our concerns.
23

24 Thank you.

25
26 MR. PATKOTAK: What about the whaling
27 season?

28
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.

30
31 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: We had a tremendous
32 whaling season. We have successfully harvested four
33 strikes this year.
34

35 MR. PATKOTAK: Who were the crews that
36 managed the whales?
37

38 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Isaac Nukipukok (ph)
39 has his own crew this year, (In Native) crew, they had
40 the first two strikes. And Thomas Napigiak (ph) got the
41 second two -- the last two strikes.
42

43 MR. PATKOTAK: Did they land all of them?

44
45 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Yes.
46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, you need to turn
48 on your mikes so this can be recorded when you're asking
49 questions or making comments. Please turn on your mikes.
50

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1 Was that it Rosemary?

2

3 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Yes.

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. We have
6 additional people that just walked in, maybe, James,
7 introduce yourself to the rest of the group, please?

8

9 MR. MATUMEAK: Yes, Matumeak, I don't
10 represent anybody. I guess I can say I'm a private
11 citizen and a subsistence user. Thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James. And
14 then before we go on any further, I just want to make
15 sure that everybody hears that we have these slips that
16 you're supposed to fill out regarding making comments
17 regarding any of the Federal Subsistence Management
18 Program. These are available up there in the front.

19

20 Helen.

21

22 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, I wanted to
23 make sure that everyone, all the Council members have
24 received this operations manual and if you didn't, I have
25 extras and did everyone receive one?

26

27 (Council Shaking Heads Negatively)

28

29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: You didn't -- okay.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I don't have one
32 either.

33

34 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Let me give
35 them out and then other people are welcome to take the
36 extras. I just wanted to make sure the Council members
37 got them first.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Helen. Do
40 any of you have any questions, Council members, regarding
41 the reports that we just heard?

42

43 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray. Raymond.

46

47 MR. PANEAK: I've got one concern.

48

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.

50

1 MR. PANEAK: Hear a lot of report on that
2 Haul Road, bow and arrow hunting, when they shoot with
3 those bow and arrows, a long ways, they just wounded the
4 animals, they never kill them. That's not really good.
5 That's, you know, because animal travel from -- that Haul
6 Road is 50 miles from our area, so animals could reach
7 our area but when they shoot -- I mean when they use bow
8 and arrow to try and kill animal too far, they just
9 wounding the animals. They need some kind of enforcement
10 over in that area, that's a village of Anaktuvuk concern,
11 see sometimes when they wound the animals, they don't
12 kill them and they just -- then not all of them, you
13 know, died, they still survived, but wounded caribou or
14 moose.

15

16 That's the other concern I have. Thank
17 you.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond.
20 Rosemary.

21

22 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I also support his
23 comments. We see the same problem. We'll see carcasses
24 with arrows in them around our community also. We're
25 also concerned about the interactions -- we've seen
26 hunters on the Haul Road with going after the cow and
27 separating the cow from the calf. Just this summer, we
28 had community members driving on the Haul Road and there
29 was one family that witnessed three separate events when
30 this type of activity was occurring. So we're also very
31 concerned about that.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Any other
34 comments. Mike.

35

36 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman, one of the
37 comments by a member of Nuiqsut expressed concern and I'm
38 glad you folks brought this up. There have been some
39 Greenpeace people in vehicles on the Haul Road and, you
40 know, I've heard of different instances of this
41 happening. And it was my first experience of seeing
42 people in vehicles that I don't know whether they were
43 just tourists or radical extremists Greenpeacers, you
44 know, I couldn't help but recognize on the vehicle the
45 kind of labels that the vehicle had on them. You could
46 very well tell that these folks were anti-hunting and
47 what Johnny Atumerauk told me was that they have noticed
48 vehicles going back and forth keeping caribou from
49 crossing from the east side of the Haul Road to the west
50 side. And I don't know how much credence that has but I

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1 think when some comment like that comes from elder it
2 bears enough weight to investigate the allegation.

3

4 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike. Were
7 you looking for a response to your comment in terms of
8 the allegation?

9

10 MR. PATKOTAK: Well, I thought Rosemary
11 would bring that up because Mr. Atumerauk, Johnny
12 Atumerauk did say that he -- that specific concern is a
13 concern that should be addressed not only in writing but
14 by the people that control enforcement in that area
15 because of, not only is it noticeable that Greenpeacers
16 are becoming more radical in their tactics but you could
17 tell that the general populous of the attitudes towards
18 Greenpeace and that they've left the traditional form of
19 influencing people to becoming an extremist organization
20 that doesn't use the normal forms of influencing people,
21 and that's the normal -- like in this meeting of
22 expressing attitudes and where -- so it bears note that
23 anyone claiming to be a Greenpeacers is more than likely
24 to be an extremist environmentalist.

25

26 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike, we'll
29 make a note of that. Any other questions or comments
30 from the Council. James, come on up to the mike and
31 state your name, please.

32

33 MR. J. PATKOTAK: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
34 Chairman. My name is James Patkotak. I work for the
35 Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope which is the
36 regional tribal government, natural resources department.
37 I got a question for Raymond, Anaktuvuk Pass, does these
38 hunters, do they often report to the city of Anaktuvuk
39 Pass before they go out and venture looking for big rack
40 caribou and that sort of stuff, are they required to
41 report to the city of Anaktuvuk Pass?

42

43 MR. PANEAK: No, I don't think they
44 report. But I know a lot of Fairbanks area people travel
45 there through the Haul Road during the hunting time. And
46 being with Gates of the Arctic member before, those
47 hunters from military and Fairbanks area travel through
48 Haul Road but I don't think they -- I don't know how they
49 operate over there in Coldfoot, maybe they got someone to
50 check them out but I never hear no report of, you know,

1 how many people kill or, you know.

2

3 MR. J. PATKOTAK: Yeah. What I'm trying
4 to do, why I'm asking that question is ICAS, my job is to
5 advocate for you folks with your concerns and that's why
6 I'm here asking that question and I want to help out in
7 any way I can for all you subsistence hunters.

8

9 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James.

12

13 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Patkotak, James.

14

15 MR. J. PATKOTAK: Yes, sir.

16

17 MR. PATKOTAK: Maybe it would be on one
18 of your interests because your Inupiat community covers
19 Prudhoe Bay area and to follow up on the concerns that
20 Mr. Johnny Atumerauk has and during lunch time I'll get
21 his telephone number. He gave me his telephone number
22 and address so that anybody that has concerns could talk
23 to him about who and where that these incidents took
24 place.

25

26 MR. J. PATKOTAK: Okay, thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is that it Mike?

29

30 MR. PATKOTAK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Any other
33 questions or comments from the Council. Hearing none
34 we'll move on to our next agenda item. It's Chair's
35 report.

36

37 We have under Tab B in the booklet you'll
38 find the responses made by the Federal Subsistence Board
39 to our proposals that were submitted last fall or winter.
40 Again, I just need to remind you all that I did not make
41 it to the May meeting of the Federal Subsistence Board
42 due to my subsistence activities at that time. And I was
43 not at the meeting last spring. I know I called Ray and
44 you were also busy at that time of the year, too, since
45 it's early May and we were at our prime whaling season at
46 the time so I did not attend the meeting. But there are
47 responses from the Federal Subsistence Board under Tab B
48 on the proposals that were submitted during our winter
49 meeting.

50

1 And one was regarding the moose proposal.
2 I don't know how to pronounce, maybe Helen you could help
3 me out with this in pronouncing this, funerary or -- I
4 can't pronounce the second, moratory ceremonies.....

5
6 MR. PANEAK: Mortuary.

7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mortuary ceremonies.
9 Thank you, Raymond.

10
11 MR. PATKOTAK: Where is this now?

12
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Tab B in the booklet.

14
15 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Page 11.

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It's a response from
18 the Federal Subsistence Board Chair.

19
20 MR. PATKOTAK: Mortuary?

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

23
24 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

27
28 MR. PATKOTAK: That concerns -- funerary
29 and mortuary ceremonies are traditional funeral
30 activities that you know, about out of season catches of
31 moose.....

32
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

34
35 MR. PATKOTAK:and of waterfowl,
36 that type of thing. That's basically a fancy word for
37 all that, funerary and mortuary ceremonies.

38
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike.

40
41 MR. PATKOTAK: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The Board did adopt
44 this proposal with modifications consent with the
45 majority of recommendations of the Regional Council. And
46 the new regulation, it's presented on the following page.
47 I'm not sure if you all want to have me read through that
48 or maybe you could just read it for yourselves and if you
49 have any questions, specific to this proposal, we could
50 try to address them at this time.

1 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

4

5 MR. PATKOTAK: I think, maybe, you know,
6 when I read through this it's something that, we, as a --
7 that the executive board would think or even those with
8 North Slope Borough could formally support our Interior
9 brothers that are more affected by this. There are some
10 people in the Northwest Regional Advisory Council that
11 have some of this funerary and mortuary ceremonies. So
12 supporting our southern brothers in terms of this
13 proposal is something that you may want to further study
14 into, if that may be of any help.

15

16 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike. I
19 think we did try to use one resource to this, we were
20 trying to address the Kaktovik concern on the moose and
21 we did try, I'm not sure if we took this step or if
22 there's another proposal that we're going to be
23 addressing at a later time this afternoon regarding the
24 moose for Unit 26(C).

25

26 Helen.

27

28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
29 Maybe I can address that. Mike, with your concerns, that
30 did pass last year so it has been supported and this
31 Council did support passing a statewide regulation that
32 allows them to take moose for ceremonial use for
33 potlatches, that sort of thing.

34

35 What Harry's referring to is the people
36 in Kaktovik have asked for a special action for taking
37 moose for Thanksgiving and Christmas feast, just one
38 moose each. And because it's a special action it doesn't
39 have to go to the Council. It's already gone to Staff
40 Committee and they've already approved it with one moose
41 for 26(C) and one moose for 26(B) or (C). It will be a
42 60 day period, and then after this year if Kaktovik or
43 the Council or anyone wants to put that into a regulation
44 that would always be in effect, that can happen. But
45 it's not something that has to come before the Council
46 today. It will be going to the Board on September 26th
47 and with the Staff Committee recommendation it's quite
48 possible that it will be passed.

49

50 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Helen. Any
2 other comments. We have a couple new faces in the room
3 so maybe we'll give them the opportunity to introduce
4 themselves. Paul.

5
6 MR. BODFISH: Good morning, Harry, Paul
7 Bodfish from Atqasuk.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Paul. I
10 think Mr. Haynes walked in as well.

11
12 MR. HAYNES: Terry Haynes, Alaska
13 Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Conservation.

14
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry. I
16 think that's pretty much everybody here now. Okay, the
17 next, there's another proposal, it was in regards to
18 muskox. And in terms of this, I think we've pretty much,
19 it's again in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge that
20 muskox, that hunt in that area has been closed due to the
21 population declining due to several factors causing the
22 decline. So after the spring season, calving period,
23 there was a survey that was conducted and they only found
24 something like 20 muskox but right after the survey there
25 were some brown bears in the area that were killing some
26 of the muskox and even lowering the number of animals
27 within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and that hunt
28 has been closed to date. Now, they're trying to work
29 doing some proposals regarding moose -- to take moose, to
30 substitute what was lost because there's no more hunting
31 of muskox, now they need some other game to be made
32 available and the next one was the moose. So that's what
33 they're currently working on right now and we'll hear
34 more of that this afternoon.

35
36 Those were the two proposals that were
37 addressed during the Federal Subsistence Board meeting
38 this spring in May, and under Tab B are the responses
39 from the Federal Subsistence Board.

40
41 The 2002 annual report response. It's
42 followed by these two proposals, the muskox and the moose
43 proposal and it's the following item, annual report. It
44 states right on the top of the right-hand page of the
45 paper there that it's a response to our annual report.
46 There's three issues identified, the two we previously
47 discussed and the third issue is the customary trade.

48
49 Just read what the issues state. The
50 Regional Council has strong concerns setting regulations

1 pertaining to customary trade will encourage business and
2 destroy traditional way of life and subsistence. The
3 subsistence way of life must be preserved and traditional
4 practices must not be corrupted by the treatment of
5 customary trade as a business exchange. And that's
6 written into the response, and the Board's response is
7 following. Regarding the new regulations, Only after
8 careful consideration of all Regional Councils, public
9 and agency input in adopting these regulations, the Board
10 sought to accommodate customary and traditional practices
11 to the extent reasonably practiced, while preventing
12 abuse. The Board's final rule is to set enforceable
13 regulations that protect the traditional practice of
14 customary trade of subsistence harvest fish and reduces
15 potential of commercializing those fish by prohibiting
16 customary trade with any business for resale by non-rural
17 individuals. The regulations allows customary trade
18 transactions between rural subsistence users to continue,
19 however, the new regulations limit the transactions
20 between rural residents and others in that the fish sold
21 must be used for personal and family consumption. The
22 Board also recognized that it would probably be necessary
23 to make further modifications to these regulations to
24 accommodate regional differences. The Board views these
25 new regulations as a starting point and asks the Regional
26 Councils to develop recommendations if necessary for
27 future consideration.

28
29 So that was the response to the issue on
30 customary trade.

31
32 There's another issue, number 4,
33 industrial development versus subsistence activities. I
34 guess we presented those concerns to the Board and this
35 is what their responses are.

36
37 The Regional Council expressed strong
38 concerns about the impact of industrial development would
39 have on the subsistence activity and state that land
40 managers must work closely with subsistence users. The
41 following is the response. The Board appreciates hearing
42 the concerns of the Regional Council with regards to
43 industrial development on Federal lands, however,
44 managing industrial development is beyond the purview of
45 the Board. Much of the potential industrial development
46 on Federal public lands in the North Slope may occur in
47 the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska managed by Bureau
48 of Land Management. The primary means by which the BLM
49 keeps aware of and addresses potential issues and/or
50 impacts to subsistence activities and uses is through its

1 NPR-A Subsistence Advisory Panel. The Panel provides a
2 structured forum for the communities of Barrow, Nuiqsut,
3 Atkasuk, Wainwright and Anaktuvuk Pass and the North
4 Slope Borough to raise issues and concerns about possible
5 impacts of oil and gas development on subsistence
6 resources and activities in NPR-A. Concerns about the
7 impacts of industrial development on subsistence
8 activities should be raised with the NPR-A Subsistence
9 Advisory Panel through BLM.

10
11 And it's got the closing comments on the
12 bottom there and we'll just stop there and see if there's
13 any questions or comments to these issues from the
14 Council.

15
16 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.

17
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

19
20 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah, are we getting a
21 representative from Kaktovik since they're with the ANWR
22 -- we should know their concerns and we need a
23 representative from Kaktovik.

24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry, I haven't heard
26 any comments or concerns from the Board in regard to what
27 actions are being taken by the Secretary of Interior in
28 replacement of the previous members.

29
30 MR. TAGAROOK: Thank you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry.

33
34 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

35
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

37
38 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, I had some strong
39 concerns in the past about industrial impacts on
40 subsistence in knowing these things will come to pass
41 some time.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

44
45 MR. G. BROWER: I think it would be a
46 good idea for a member, if not already, there's members
47 of the NPR-A Subsistence Panel present, that they should
48 take the time to be at the advisory council meeting, the
49 Regional Advisory Council meeting and to be able to hear
50 some of the concerns that may be brought out, maybe a

00020

1 member or chair or something like that.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Chairman, Gordon.
4 Rosemary did you have some comments or questions.

5

6 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I also think that we
7 need to allow some overlap. There is definitely going to
8 be some concerns brought out through that panel that we
9 may have to understand and hear in order for us to follow
10 through with some of our actions.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary and
13 Gordon.

14

15 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

16

17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

18

19 MR. PATKOTAK: Some of the industrial
20 activity on the NPR-A Subsistence Advisory Panel, I know
21 the overlapping responsibilities sometimes the
22 information doesn't get to each of the Regional Advisory
23 Council members and there are -- there should be more
24 than just a token about someone attending the NPR-A
25 Subsistence Advisory Panel from this Council here. And
26 when someone cannot attend, there should be serious
27 consideration on having someone available from the
28 villages instead of just Barrow to attend and gather
29 information in terms of industrial impacts and its
30 affects on subsistence.

31

32 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike. Just
35 to bring out a couple of comments in terms of
36 representatives being present here at our meetings. We
37 do have people from BLM that do attend. I'm not sure if
38 Paul, are you still on the Subsistence Advisory Panel for
39 the NPR-A?

40

41 MR. BODFISH: Yes, I am.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, there's been some
44 new members that's been appointed to the Subsistence
45 Advisory Panel and we do have representatives from those
46 communities just mentioned, Barrow, Nuiqsut, Atkasuk,
47 Wainwright and Anaktuvuk Pass at these meetings, and one
48 from the North Slope Borough and I'm one of the alternate
49 members to representing the North Slope Borough on that
50 Subsistence Advisory Panel just for your information.

1 Arnold Brower is the primary member to the Subsistence
2 Advisory Panel representing the North Slope Borough. But
3 we've brought that concern forward to BLM to have them
4 probably make more comments in regards to the Subsistence
5 Advisory Panel.

6
7 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

10
11 MR. TAGAROOK: Just for your information
12 I was supposed to be on that meeting the last time they
13 had it in Nuiqsut but I was out hunting and the plane
14 came in while I -- anyway, after reading these minutes,
15 Arnold Brower, Jr., is the president now for that board.

16
17 MR. J. PATKOTAK: Harry.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry.
20 James.

21
22 MR. J. PATKOTAK: Yeah, this is James, I
23 believe I am an alternate in that for Barrow, too, I
24 think, for the Subsistence Advisory Panel.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James. Any
27 other comments regarding the Chairman's report in regards
28 to these annual report responses.

29
30 MR. MATUMEAK: Mr. Chair.

31
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: James Matumeak.

33
34 MR. MATUMEAK: If I may, I do have a
35 concern on the report I was just given on the customary
36 trade. I think it's something that.....

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Could you come up to a
39 mike, please?

40
41 MR. MATUMEAK: Can't everybody hear me?

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Well, it's being
44 recorded. The meeting's being recorded.

45
46 MR. MATUMEAK: I strongly believe that
47 section should be on there, although, that it states here
48 per the letter from Mitch, the customary trade has always
49 been there and will always be there in terms of being a
50 subsistence user. Either it be a skin, a fish, seal oil.

1 But I have a question for someone from
2 BLM, if that someone is within the ranks on the policy
3 making body. Is there anybody here from BLM?

4
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No, not at the moment.

6
7 MR. MATUMEAK: Well, I think this is
8 something that should be addressed and not be tabled
9 until later on, although, there is a letter from the
10 Federal Subsistence Board referencing that it is, you
11 know, something that will, you know, hurt a subsistence
12 user in the long run. I doubt if it will ever hurt it in
13 any way, given the fact that a subsistence user do it in
14 such a way that they wouldn't go over and beyond in terms
15 of, you know, selling it or change it to get monetary
16 gains from it.

17
18 And the other thing is like our
19 representative, Gordon, stated was on the industrial
20 development within NPR-A. I think it's about time that
21 this Advisory Board really comes out strong objecting to
22 the exploration that is going on within our region. My
23 main concern is they want the exploration outfits that
24 will be training, as you all know that requires that they
25 do extract water from the rivers or from the lakes to
26 make ice roads without considering that body of water or
27 that river is fish-bearing. And then I wish that
28 somebody from BLM would relay back to their superiors
29 that there should be some safeguards in black and white
30 even prior to giving permits to the people that will do,
31 entities that will do the explorations. It must stop
32 now. We're the last people that know anything about,
33 like, say we've been given -- they've been given permits
34 to do exploratory activities within your region, what
35 happens now is that the state go ahead and give them the
36 permit, the Feds give them the permit and we, as people
37 within the community, never is given a chance prior to
38 those permits being handed over to see what impacts that
39 we'll be feeling as subsistence users. It should be the
40 other way around. Enough is enough.

41
42 My main concern is fishing. I do a lot
43 of subsistence fishing. And within the areas that have
44 been identified for the exploration entities, I mean the
45 oil companies, you know, they don't even consider whether
46 that lake or that creek or that river is fish-bearing.
47 Anyone in this body may say, well, the impact will be
48 only minimal. I say BS to that. Excuse my language, but
49 I think it's about time that this Board comes out with
50 something and then one suggestion seems like nobody

1 within the Feds and the State are willing to listen to
2 this body therefore I advise that you drop the word
3 Advisory Council. You can only do your homework -- you
4 can only, as a body, do so much to try and protect the
5 things that are precious to us. As long as you're an
6 Advisory Council nothing much will be done, either by way
7 of the regulations set forth by the State and in this
8 case, within NPR-A, the Feds, under BLM, and it's gotten
9 so and I want it in black and white -- I want it in black
10 and white. Like I say, I listen to such meetings, most
11 of them by radio and then I can only take so much of
12 this, and if anybody's willing to play the game I'll play
13 the game also. I won't be afraid to stop every doggone
14 thing as to what is going on within NPR-A.

15

16 I think evidence -- I don't think that
17 there's anything under BLM, under the Feds, especially,
18 for some reason, you know, Federal entities, I don't mean
19 to belittle you working folks, I'm afraid of them. Why
20 is that? At one time back in the '70s I thought that I'd
21 do a good deed and help the National Marine Fisheries on
22 the whale count, and what did that lead to, the quota
23 system. And ever since then I've felt it within, deep
24 inside, and it is something that you're messing around
25 with. How long will it take? When will the Feds be able
26 to recognize, you know, that there are some things in
27 life that we know that we cannot help but certainly we
28 can help it in such a way that by working together rather
29 than just saying, no, you cannot do it, as per the rules
30 and regulations set forth.

31

32 As far as how things are done now, yes,
33 the rules and regulations are done already. And where
34 does the subsistence user, like me, where does that put
35 me? It puts me right in that corner, where I cannot even
36 express myself. We cannot even argue about it. We
37 cannot do anything about that, James Matumeak, because it
38 is in black and white already. It's been done already.

39

40 I think it's about time that it should be
41 the other way around. Normally the system works saying
42 that, while we did approach ASRC, North Slope Borough,
43 North Slope Borough Wildlife Department. Again, not
44 putting anybody down but then it's just that it has to
45 stop. They tend to forget to go down to the lowest part
46 of the totem pole. You know, politicians views aren't
47 always the same as a subsistence user. And if it be any
48 of you that work under the Fed -- on the Federal level,
49 it is you folks that should be working for us, the
50 subsistence users. There are too many rules and

1 regulations, therefore, they start throwing the ball
2 around, oh, that's the States, oh, that's theirs,
3 National Marine Fisheries, BLM.

4
5 And another thing before I -- I don't
6 want to make this too long but another thing for those of
7 you that are from the villages, I would like for you
8 folks to know that you can do such things as a Council
9 member. A lot of you belong to the village corporation,
10 they have lands surrounding your villages, your
11 communities, you can do whatever you want within -- as
12 long as it's within your lands, no different than leasing
13 a piece of land from a farmer down Lower 48, leasing a
14 part of land so that they can harvest a trophy,
15 supposedly. And if the Feds and the State say that you
16 cannot do this, you cannot do that, doggone right, yes,
17 you can, you're a stakeholder within your land. Those
18 are some of the things that aren't ever mentioned from
19 the State and from the Feds.

20
21 North Slope Borough has boundaries. ASRC
22 has boundaries. The village corporations have
23 boundaries. And they're all within the boundaries of
24 North Slope Borough, ASRC, they're basically the same.
25 And I think it's about time that you folks, rather than
26 just doing whatever the Feds want, if you want things to
27 work so that subsistence users will be here to stay, then
28 don't be afraid to come up with some questions. I don't
29 buy it like if I see an agenda saying that there is no
30 fish proposals for North Slope, doggone it, there should
31 be some proposals.

32
33 Remember whomever comes in to do
34 exploratory work, whomever comes in to get a caribou,
35 whomever comes in to get a moose, remember it's within
36 your boundaries, and I think you folks sitting in this
37 body should work closely with the North Slope Borough
38 Planning Department and put something in black and white,
39 even up to the point where nothing will be honored when
40 it comes to a permit from the State or from the Feds in
41 terms of exploration. How they have it set up is that
42 the State gives them the permit, the Feds give them the
43 permit and then at the end, the planning commission is
44 thrown with this thing, oh, by the way we already have
45 gotten a hold of that permit. Not giving that entity a
46 chance in the world to express their thoughts on a
47 matter. That would certainly hurt the subsistence way of
48 life.

49
50 And if anybody in this room wants to

1 know, is wondering who I am, I'm James Matumeak. Last
2 name, M-A-T-U-M-E-A-K. You know, I'd be more than
3 willing to talk with anybody, any one of you. But the
4 thing is it's within my heart and I say enough is enough.
5 And some of you folks might say, well, he's just shooting
6 from his hips, no, I'm done shooting from my hip.

7
8 And then I'm not saying that, you know, I
9 will do this, do that, it's a promise, I will do it even
10 up to the point where the court systems will have to
11 decide as to if there is any impacts, especially the
12 fish. I don't care where it's at and I wouldn't care
13 less what ICAS, this body, the North Slope Borough and
14 BLM will say, it's not a threat, it's a promise. Enough
15 is enough.

16
17 Thank you.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James, for
20 expressing your concerns and putting your comments in.
21 Is there any questions from the Council.

22
23 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

26
27 MR. PATKOTAK: Thank you, James. I
28 happened to be at a meeting in Nuiqsut when the issue of
29 using water from lakes came up and the timing of
30 investigation from helicopters was at a time when the
31 lakes could be recognized as land-locked and not having
32 any estuaries or any creeks flowing within to where fish
33 couldn't possibly live in them. But I think that's some
34 very skewed thinking on behalf of biological studies
35 because during the springtime everyone knows that these
36 wetlands up here get flooded to the point where even a
37 foot of water is everywhere, and I mean everywhere. So
38 even some of these lakes that are supposedly land-locked
39 have fish in them that produce and they have fish in them
40 that travel during flooding and in the spring, during the
41 spring thaw.

42
43 So I'm glad that Mr. Matumeak brought
44 that out because it is something that needs to be
45 addressed and these ice roads are, thank goodness, you
46 know, they're a mixed blessing for about ice roads. They
47 do provide a source of income for a lot of people. And
48 also when it came into that, the other area was also
49 Native hire. And the area of interest, like I said, that
50 was never really seriously considered was that these fish

1 in these land-lock lakes are not necessarily land-locked.

2

3

4 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5

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

8

9 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Yes.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Rosemary.

12

13 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I would like to just
14 support what they also said, that's a very strong concern
15 that we have in Nuiqsut. We are seeing some real severe
16 changes with our fishing subsistence harvesting. We are
17 very concerned about the lack of understanding of the
18 seasonal variations to the water and the fish migration
19 through these areas during those times. It needs to be
20 evaluated as well as what is perceived for the water
21 usage in the lakes as the recharging. My understanding
22 is what they believe -- in understanding of those
23 recharging of the lakes is when the water refills after
24 it's been drawn out, but you also need to look at the
25 quality of the water in that lake. Is the water that's
26 coming back in just as healthy for these fish that are in
27 there as before it was taken out? I mean the nutrient
28 value, all the various levels that may be affected with
29 this type of stuff.

30

31 I did bring those concerns out in some of
32 our meetings. But I appreciate the other people
33 supporting these concerns also.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
36 Any other comments. Someone mentioned, James, that we'll
37 forward your comments and your issues to the appropriate
38 agencies and request that they respond to your comments
39 in written form.

40

41 MR. MATUMEAK: Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James. I
44 think at this time we'll take a 10 minute break and we'll
45 start back up at 10:35.

46

47 (Off record)

48

49 (On record)

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: 10:45, we'll call the
2 Regional Advisory Council back to order. We're under
3 agenda Item 7 on the Chair's report and we're discussing
4 the 2002 annual report responses and we heard some public
5 testimony on the issues. I think we'll give the public
6 more opportunity to do so and give public testimony, and
7 James Patkotak was requesting for the floor and I'll give
8 it to him at this time.

9
10 James.

11
12 MR. J. PATKOTAK: Thank you, Mr.
13 Chairman. For the record I'm James Patkotak, Inupiat
14 Community Arctic Slope. After listening to James
15 Matumeak's testimony on the water resource use for the
16 ice road construction. I was going to ask James Matumeak
17 to write a letter to the Inupiat Community Arctic Slope
18 so I can advocate for him in writing to BLM to get some
19 data from BLM or help him out in that manner. I believe
20 you answered my question, Harry, when you said you'd get
21 your people to help him out in that manner.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

24
25 MR. J. PATKOTAK: Okay. That's the one I
26 had. Now, the other one is I'm concerned about the
27 caribou starving again this winter because of all the
28 heavy rain that we've been having. I believe there's
29 going to be some ice built up over the tundra whereas the
30 caribou will not be able to get through the ice to get to
31 the lichen to feed on this winter. I was going to
32 mention for the local subsistence caribou hunters, if
33 ever they find caribou dead on the tundra because of
34 starvation, I was going to suggest the hunters bring them
35 here to Barrow where the Alaska Department of Fish and
36 Game, namely, Geoff Carroll would probably do some, what
37 do they call it, synopsis or what's that word Bill?

38
39 MR. MORRIS: Necropsies.

40
41 MR. J. PATKOTAK: Yeah, necropsies.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Necropsy.

44
45 MR. J. PATKOTAK: Yeah, the caribou.
46 That's all I had, Mr. Chairman.

47
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, James.

49
50 MR. J. PATKOTAK: Thanks.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We'll try to share that
2 information with our local hunters and request them
3 bringing carcasses back for necropsy.

4
5 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

6
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.

8
9 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, could we get something
10 in black and white from you as far as the comments that
11 were made into sending the caribou down here? That way
12 we can post that and also turn it over to the Native
13 Village Councils so they can make a note. Because we
14 have a Fish and Wildlife representative that works full
15 time and he needs to know this.

16
17 MR. J. PATKOTAK: Yes, Sir, Ray, thank
18 you.

19
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Rosemary.

21
22 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: The only concern I
23 have with that is that, especially in our area, I think
24 that puts a big burden on our subsistence users. When
25 we're asking them to add weight to their sleds and their
26 transports, that's their gas that they're using. I think
27 that we need to look at ways to support our subsistence
28 users and either get some kind of monetary support or
29 something for their participation in these types of
30 activities. Because that's one of the concerns of
31 hesitancy we have for people in our area. They may find
32 something out there but if it's whether or not getting
33 back to town safely or running out of gas along the way
34 they may not bring samples back. So if we can look at
35 ways, either getting weigh points or something for that
36 or some way to help them with the extended gas that
37 they're going to need to bring these things in. I think
38 it needs to be looked into.

39
40 Thank you.

41
42 MR. J. PATKOTAK: Okay, Rosemary, good
43 point.

44
45 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

48
49 MR. PATKOTAK: I think maybe that
50 something that would work in terms of getting monetary

1 return would be in providing sort of like a bounty on
 2 dead animals that looked like they've died from other
 3 than natural causes. I think maybe that would be a good
 4 idea. It's something that ICAS can look into in terms of
 5 getting grants for them. I know that is an opportunity
 6 that's wide open in terms of applying for a grant.

7

8 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike. Do
 11 you have a comment you want to make Rosemary.

12

13 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Also I think we need
 14 to also have some type of education sheet that we can
 15 give to people on what exactly they need for samples with
 16 the various types of animals. If they're going to go to
 17 the effort we want to make sure we've got as much
 18 information as we need.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
 23 Any other comments.

24

25 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Mike.

28

29 MR. PATKOTAK: Another thing that is, I
 30 know this body as an organization and even our
 31 representatives here, you know, it's -- although, we, as
 32 representatives make every effort to pass on the
 33 information that we receive in these meetings, as good
 34 effort, and I've seen some good results from your
 35 gentlemen's work, but still there is that communication
 36 problem in terms of getting information to the end users,
 37 especially those that live almost entirely on subsistence
 38 and live out on subsistence camps. Providing information
 39 to these individuals in terms of regulations and how they
 40 can help is lacking in the sense that it is not something
 41 that is intentionally done but still an oversight that
 42 needs to be addressed because of some of the emotional
 43 levels of interest when it comes to passing on
 44 information.

45

46 I know that's one of the main reasons why
 47 I do everything when I see any information on customary
 48 trade, I go out of my way to get involved and to read
 49 more about it. But still, there is a group of people
 50 that we need to pay more attention to and communicate

00030

1 with them in terms of providing information for the end
2 user.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike. Any
7 other comments from the Council. Raymond.

8

9 MR. PANEAK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I, after
10 I heard James Matumeak speaking I don't know how -- maybe
11 I would have questions to Rosemary here. I heard about
12 this ice road and I don't know much about it but there's
13 a lot of fish studies in the area all over. And before
14 they start pumping the water, fish studies to study all
15 the areas, all the lake and rivers where the fish are and
16 I don't know how far they haul the water, I mean to make
17 a big ice road like that, like how far they have to haul
18 it, but if there were fish studies in the area, they
19 should know this lake got no fish, maybe other lake got
20 fish. I don't know if they would do that before they
21 start pumping water in the area.

22

23 That's my question.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Rosemary.

26

27 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: There are permits that
28 are issued specifically for the withdrawal of water when
29 they're making ice roads. That's regulated through the
30 State and through the Borough and various levels of the
31 government that do those types of things. But, we, as
32 residents of this area, our understanding of this area is
33 going to be different than if we have a fish studier
34 coming from a different area where their water doesn't
35 have the snow accumulation and the variations of the
36 seasonal water levels. So we always have to take those
37 kind of considerations into interpreting a study that's
38 being done, that we're going to know some things about
39 this area that someone coming into this area doing a
40 study may not know. So that's important when we're
41 looking at those kind of things, but that's why it's
42 important to have these types of meetings where we have a
43 sounding board to receive information and concerns from
44 various people that present information.

45

46 There are a lot of studies out there.
47 But any study can be done depending on what they want to
48 get out of that study. So some studies are going to be
49 for some things, some studies are going to be against.
50 You just have to look at all the various things that are

1 out there and interpret what's there. So I'm sure other
2 people could add a lot to that discussion than what I've
3 given you but that's the way I understand it.

4
5 And a lot of this stuff, these activities
6 are occurring around our community but it's not anything
7 we have any control over. These are things that are
8 being brought to our area and for the State and the
9 Borough and everybody else's uses.

10
11 Thank you.

12
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.

14
15 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

18
19 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, as a
20 member here I try to bring concerns to the North Slope
21 Borough working in the Land Management Division for the
22 Planning Department. And I would like to just try to
23 make a little bit of reassurance that when we're looking
24 at proposals, especially when it deals with subsistence
25 impacts on fish, that the proposals that they do are site
26 specific.

27
28 (In Native)

29
30 They are site specific to what they want
31 to do.

32
33 (In Native)

34
35 Using North Slope Borough's ordinances.
36 So we're very concerned and we try to be on top to make
37 sure that the subsistence concerns that the overwintering
38 population is able to survive and make sure the salinity,
39 the amount of water withdrawal, the recharge rate studies
40 take place prior to withdrawing water.

41
42 So those are some of the concerns that I
43 know and to try to help ease and make some of these
44 concerns up to light.

45
46 Thank you.

47
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Any
49 other comments from the Council.

50

1 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

4

5 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah, in Wainwright we're
6 identifying the hunting areas, the fishing areas, the
7 spawning areas and identifying them and we are going to
8 be in the process of putting them on paper. And we know
9 that development will be going our way sometime in the
10 future and we want these oil industry people to know
11 where our hunting areas are, the calving areas, the
12 spawning areas, and what lakes are, you know, used by the
13 subsistence hunters and that way we could have this
14 information for the oil companies to present to them
15 before they do any development. And that's what we are
16 in the process of doing in Wainwright.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry, for
19 that information. Any other comments from the Council.

20

21 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

24

25 MR. PATKOTAK: I think basically we can
26 all appreciate some of the concerns brought out by Mr.
27 Matumeak and I think basically what this points to is
28 communication problems in terms of the end user. And a
29 lot of the -- some of the education programs that are
30 brought out are not properly interpreted and when they're
31 interpreted they're not properly interpreted, and this is
32 a common problem. And I think maybe that, you know, some
33 serious consideration should be given to communicating
34 during times of subsistence activity, especially during
35 the nights when a lot of the end users are listening to
36 radio because KBRW and KJNP are major sources of
37 communications during gathering season. And using these
38 mediums during that time, I think, would be highly
39 effective. And when it comes to interpretation, I think
40 maybe that serious consideration should be given to
41 proper interpretations of the material that's being
42 interpreted instead of handing it just to anyone that
43 says that they can interpret because a lot of -- some of
44 the misscommunication occurs in the interpretation
45 process and that causes for a lot of uncomfortable
46 situations. And I think maybe you just earlier saw a
47 prime example of that and in order to avoid situations
48 like that some serious considerations should be given to
49 the fact that an education program needs to be
50 implemented and when it comes to the interpretation

1 process, proper interpretation be given.

2

3 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike for
6 commenting. You know, I think that goes for each of the
7 different agencies that we deal with. I don't think it's
8 just under one specific agency, I think it needs to be
9 addressed to all the agencies that we have to deal with
10 in terms of the Federal Management Program because of all
11 the different formats and the criteria each of the
12 agencies have to go through. I think that needs to be
13 brought forth at some point in time to get that proper
14 interpretation brought forth to the listening public and
15 to the agencies. Because we do get different
16 communications and different terms and usage by each, you
17 know, per individual so understandings are different --
18 different understandings as to how, what words you hear,
19 different meanings. So you're right in terms of proper
20 interpretation in the language use is very important.

21

22 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: One of the other
23 things.....

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Rosemary.

26

27 MS. AHTUANGARUAK:I think that is
28 important to bring out is that the generations have
29 changed, that has occurred. The interactions on
30 identifying data needs to come from various levels of age
31 groups of the users. Where my elders have hunted, where
32 my mom and everyone hunted is different than where I'm
33 hunting now. And our modes of transportation are
34 different, so we have to incorporate the communication at
35 the various levels. We need to do some interactions with
36 the elders, we need to do some interaction with people in
37 my age group and also the young people. Especially in
38 the Nuiqsut area, areas to the east of Nuiqsut is not
39 areas that we're using for hunting anymore, it's not
40 areas where our kids are going to be hunting anymore
41 because of the infrastructure that's there. So those
42 type of changes need to be looked at when you're putting
43 your mapping down and getting the data because
44 generations of change have already occurred, and
45 generations of change will continue to occur. And if you
46 only interview one population of people you're not going
47 to get all the levels of information that's out there.

48

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.

50 Any other comments from the Council. None noted. Moving

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, all right, thank
2 you.

3
4 MR. TAGAROOK: Yes.

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry,
7 Rosemary. We have an item that probably could have been
8 brought up later on on the agenda but we could move it up
9 and it's dealing with a letter that was written to the
10 Secretary of Interior, and I'll have Peggy Fox introduce
11 that to us for the next topic to fill in until the lunch
12 hour.

13
14 Thank you. Peggy Fox.

15
16 MS. FOX: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I hope
17 we don't discuss it all the way to lunch but if we do
18 it's all right.

19
20 (Laughter)

21
22 MS. FOX: I wanted to make sure that the
23 Council got a heads up on some business that's evolving.
24 And that is to say the Governor of the state, Governor
25 Murkowski, sent a letter to the Secretary of the Interior
26 in July. And this letter requested that the Secretary
27 appoint a State official as a non-voting member of the
28 Federal Subsistence Board and he further requested that
29 that person, that individual be the Commissioner of the
30 Department of Fish and Game or his designee. And I do
31 believe a copy of that letter was sent to all the Council
32 Chairs, that's my understanding. I don't know that it
33 went to all the Council members but it was sent to all
34 the Chairs.

35
36 And I guess I was thinking about how much
37 to cover about this subject, but it's quite possible that
38 something may happen in regard to this request at the
39 December Board meeting so I thought in all fairness we
40 probably ought to bring it to your attention and
41 entertain some discussion on it while we have the
42 opportunity.

43
44 Anyway, in reviewing the request we
45 looked to the record of decision that was signed
46 following the environmental impact statement process that
47 established this program back in the early '90s. That
48 decision was issued in 1992, signed by the Secretary of
49 the Interior with the concurrence of the Secretary of
50 Agriculture. The record of decision specifically

1 addressed as one point the Board's membership. And the
2 record of decision provides, does provide for a State
3 liaison to serve as a Board member and much like the
4 appointment of the 10 Council Chairs that work with the
5 Board. So there is provision in our program for such a
6 request.

7
8 The record of decision specified the
9 process that would be used to appoint this person, and it
10 said in there that the Governor needed to nominate
11 someone to the Secretaries and that the Secretary of
12 Interior with the concurrence of the Secretary of
13 Agriculture would make an appointment. So the Governor's
14 letter does comply with the process that is in the record
15 of decision. However, this is the first time that
16 they've ever requested this liaison position to be
17 appointed. And over all the years they've had the
18 opportunity to do this they've elected not to, however,
19 they are requesting this appointment at this time.

20
21 And I wanted to let you know that what
22 the Secretary has done in the meantime is to recognize
23 the sensitivity of such a request and the fact that
24 people are not fully aware of what was in the record of
25 decision and the need for the Board to reconsider this in
26 terms of what's in the record of decision and so the
27 Secretary has asked the Board to look at the request and
28 offer any comments or recommendations to her sometime
29 this month. And that's what the Board is going to do in
30 executive session during its September 26th meeting. And
31 based on what the Board says to the Secretary, the
32 Secretary then will respond to the Governor. And so
33 that's the status in terms of our response to the State.
34 And we said that this was our process in a letter that
35 went to them this week.

36
37 So that's all the information I have on
38 it at this time. I can try to take some questions if
39 there are any.

40
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions, comments
42 to Peggy.

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I have one in terms of
47 how the procedure will work in terms of how -- when the
48 Board is in the discussion of proposals, how much weight
49 will this person have in how the decision is being swayed
50 in terms of information sharing or will they be a voting

1 member on proposals or other issues?

2

3 MS. FOX: Well, the record of decision
4 does specify that the liaison would be a non-voting
5 member.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Non-voting member.

8

9 MS. FOX: And also would not be allowed
10 in any executive sessions. So those two points have been
11 already resolved by the record of decision. I believe
12 the way that the official, the liaison would be allowed
13 to interact with the Board would be at the same level as
14 the Council Chairs. Would not have any greater
15 opportunity or probably any less of an opportunity to
16 offer comments. And so if you've been at the Board
17 meetings, you've seen that the Council Chairs have
18 several opportunities beyond what the public has to
19 discuss proposals with the Board.

20

21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

22

23 MS. FOX: And Fish and Game, if that's
24 who it is, or whatever official is decided on, would
25 probably have the same access in the discussions as the
26 10 Council Chairs.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Any other
29 questions or comments.

30

31 MR. G. BROWER: I just have one comment.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

34

35 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. I'm
36 just trying to figure out maybe some of the reasoning
37 behind it. I know it's, you know, in the record of
38 decision that this could be done but do you think that
39 this is something that would -- that the State may be
40 thinking to have better communications between the two
41 entities for regulations. You know sometimes we work
42 with -- try to align regulations with State and if that
43 may be some of the things that may be promoting some of
44 this. Just a general question.

45

46 MS. FOX: Well, I'm not aware of exactly
47 what the motivation was for sending the letter at this
48 time. And so I think you can conclude, like I can
49 conclude that it will promote better communication
50 between what is of concern to the State and what is of

1 concern to the Councils and what is of concern to the
2 agencies. And so it can be a very helpful opportunity
3 for everyone so that we have that information in front of
4 the Board.

5

6 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

9

10 MR. PATKOTAK: My concern would be that
11 it be considered through the regular normal process and
12 that nothing be changed in terms of how this Commissioner
13 is appointed and any further changes would have to be
14 approved by Regional Council representatives and any vote
15 for any changes be brought to each Council in each region
16 before this Commissioner from the State, and that strict
17 adherence to the regular process of appointment be
18 adhered to. Because the concerns are genuine when it
19 comes to the State because the State has had honorable
20 intentions and has said that their intentions were
21 honorable in the past and they've gone and used that
22 position for detrimental legislation. And that any other
23 involvement by this non-voting member be kept at that, at
24 arm's length. And that's my very concern when it comes
25 to the State because you very well know that this
26 Legislature is really, they use the law to enact
27 legislation that borders on apartheid legislation.

28

29 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike. Are
32 you going to respond Peggy or.....

33

34 MS. FOX: Yes, certainly I'll respond and
35 I think Mike is right on that if there was some change in
36 the way it is laid out in the record of decision, that,
37 you know, some change in the way the State's role would,
38 you know, play out if that's what their request is or
39 maybe the Board comes up with some other idea about how
40 to operate. Those were elements of a public process and
41 it's been our pattern, you know, our tradition, the way
42 we've done things is to take things out for comment,
43 specifically to the Councils as well as the general
44 public. And I feel like I can assure you that if there
45 was a change in the process different from what's in the
46 record of decision that it would be back out for public
47 comment.

48

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other comments.

50

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Peggy, I'll just say,
4 maybe if we could share this information with the Council
5 members, the letter that was sent out to the Chair.
6 Would it be possible to get copies of that mailed out to
7 the Council members for their information?

8

9 MS. FOX: Absolutely, I'll do that.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. I think
12 it's something that they should be aware of and be made
13 aware of to share more information on the issue anyway.
14 You know, I think it could be another discussion topic at
15 another time because there are other appointments that
16 haven't been addressed yet for our Council in terms of
17 the other issue of membership -- in regards to the
18 membership of the commercial, sport and there was another
19 user group that was being addressed there. I'm not sure
20 how far along they are on it, the Federal Subsistence
21 Management Program, in terms of how that is turning out
22 in the different parts of the state.

23

24 MS. FOX: Right. Well, that is a process
25 that's currently, you know, of a confidential nature, in
26 that, the applications we receive and the nominations
27 that the Board made to the Secretary, you know, are
28 currently being considered by the Secretary. I can tell
29 you that we were quite successful in many areas of the
30 state, not in all areas of the state, in finding good
31 candidates, individuals that support ANILCA as well as
32 are knowledgeable of subsistence but represent -- but
33 have elected to represent sports or commercial users on
34 the Council. And so in some areas of the state we'll
35 have to do a little bit more work to try to find those
36 individuals and we may not be entirely successful. But
37 this was the first of three years of trying and we feel
38 pretty good about the results that we did get. But that
39 package, we're hoping to get back from the Secretary
40 within the next month or two, certainly by December to
41 get people notified so that they can get ready for the
42 meetings, any new members can get ready for the meetings
43 in February and March.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right, thank you.
46 Any other comments from the Council.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any more discussion,

00040

1 it's only 11:30. Come on guys.

2

3 (No discussion)

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Peggy. What
6 do you folks think about going into an early lunch break,
7 it's only about a half an hour.

8

9 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

12

13 MR. G. BROWER: I didn't think we heard
14 from Atqasuk this morning on their report.

15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.
17 Maybe we should do that before we go into a lunch break
18 since we got half an hour, Paul.

19

20 MR. BODFISH: Good morning, Council
21 members. Well, fishing's been pretty slow up on the
22 Meade, even on the Upiksol River (ph) fishing's been
23 pretty slow where in the years before fishing was pretty
24 good and a lot of fish, pretty abundant. But this year I
25 kind of found that fishing is pretty slow on the Meade.
26 A lot of caribou is being harvested. Hunting's good.
27 It's just the fish. A lot of grayling, but the white
28 fish, the humpback, and the broadhead whitefish is pretty
29 slow this year.

30

31 Other than that furbearing animals, there
32 was some -- a few, wolverines caught during the winter.
33 And as you well know that there were some die-offs of
34 caribou to the east this winter during -- because they
35 were being misplaced from their actual feeding area
36 during that time of the year. But up to date, right now,
37 everybody's getting their limit on caribou and they're
38 looking forward to fall fishing.

39

40 Other than that I have nothing else in my
41 report. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Paul. Any
44 questions or comments to Paul. Rosemary.

45

46 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Paul, are any of your
47 hunters having much trouble yet from overflight activity?

48

49 MR. BODFISH: Not to my knowledge. The
50 caribou are right within our village so they don't really

1 have to go far to harvest caribou or even in springtime,
2 the waterfowl season, hunting was real good. So we
3 haven't had any affect from airlines, helicopters or
4 planes flying over the village of Atqasuk.

5
6 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: And then the other
7 question I had, was there any of your elders or anyone
8 that have any comments about why the fishing's low this
9 year?

10
11 MR. BODFISH: No. But one of the
12 comments that was made by one of the elders when the
13 water comes -- when the water rises early, yeah, the fish
14 do tend to stay out in the ocean a bit longer until the
15 water levels drop and then they will start coming into
16 the rivers again.

17
18 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Thank you.

19
20 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, I had a
21 question.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Gordon.

24
25 MR. G. BROWER: Or maybe just an
26 observation.

27
28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.

29
30 MR. G. BROWER: The tutus, the ones that
31 were either starvation or died off to the east, from my
32 own elder, from talking with him and his own conclusions
33 from seismic noise activities, vehicles making constant
34 humming and the need for animals to be able to hear their
35 surroundings to survive because they mostly have a silent
36 environment to hear predators, to be able to hear (In
37 Native) and stuff. And that he thought they were
38 constantly on the move because of seismic to the south
39 and seismic to the east, that these animals were being
40 displaced to a harsher area.

41
42 (In Native)

43
44 And that was just my observation just
45 from elders talking, that it is possibly impact from
46 noise where the animal needs to get away to a quieter
47 location to regain its normal sense of quietness and
48 listening to its normal predators around it.

49
50 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Any
2 other comments or questions. Dave, come up.....

3
4 MR. WISWAR: I just wanted to get
5 clarification for Mr. Bodfish.....

6
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Could you please come
8 on up to the mike. Thank you.

9
10 MR. WISWAR: Yes, thank you. I'm trying
11 to get some clarification on your comments when the water
12 rises early in the -- is it the Meade River you're
13 talking about?

14
15 MR. BODFISH: Yeah.

16
17 MR. WISWAR: When you say, early, is it
18 early in the fall or early in the springtime?

19
20 MR. BODFISH: This is early in the fall.

21
22 MR. WISWAR: Okay.

23
24 MR. BODFISH: Springtime is never usually
25 a problem, it's just in the falltime that that happens.

26
27 MR. WISWAR: Okay. And the fish species
28 most affected, are they the whitefish you're talking
29 about, the humpbacks and the broad whitefish?

30
31 MR. BODFISH: Yes. There are numerous
32 species of whitefish -- or fish that do enter our river
33 system so there's different species of salmon, burbots
34 that live in the rivers and the graylings.

35
36 MR. WISWAR: You're saying that grayling
37 is, it's been pretty good.

38
39 MR. BODFISH: It's abundant, yeah.

40
41 MR. WISWAR: The salmon species you're
42 getting, chum salmon?

43
44 MR. BODFISH: Yeah. We got humpbacks,
45 dogs, silvers, kings that do come up the river.

46
47 MR. WISWAR: Uh-huh, thank you. What I
48 was getting at is that you kind of proposed a hypothesis
49 by your elders, you know, that when the river rises early
50 and I just, you know, this is one of the questions of

1 what's going on and by using the, you know, traditional
2 ecological knowledge you can kind of maybe draw some
3 inferences from that and come up with, you know, the
4 explanation that you propose there.

5
6 MR. BODFISH: Uh-huh.

7
8 MR. WISWAR: You know, I was just looking
9 for clarification. Thank you very much.

10
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other comments or
12 questions. Rosemary.

13
14 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: In our area they also
15 brought out that concern, that we're having some unusual
16 raising of the water which are elders are attributing to
17 the warmer temperatures and more melt down from the ice
18 packs in the -- like near the mountains and what not.
19 But they did bring those comments out that the water
20 level may be affecting the migration of the fish, in
21 support of his statements.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.

24
25 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

28
29 MR. PATKOTAK: Have you seen an increase
30 in salmon and the quality of them, are they bigger?

31
32 MR. BODFISH: They stay pretty much
33 stable every year. We get only a small portion of
34 salmon. There's not a big number of salmon that do come
35 up the Meade but there are numerous fish that do come up
36 the Ischukta River (ph), which is two miles north of the
37 village of Atqasuk, so most of the salmon species do go
38 up that river and there are some that do come up the
39 Meade.

40
41 MR. PATKOTAK: Yeah, thank you. Because
42 when I talked to my sisters and brother-in-law over at
43 Tutsemesaw (ph), there seems to be an increase in salmon,
44 especially with the kings and silvers and the dogs that
45 are coming up. Yeah, there is a concern about the water
46 table rising in our area also over there at Tutsemesaw
47 because there's definitely a lot of -- a lot more erosion
48 activity than usual.

49
50 Thank you, Mr. Bodfish.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike. Any
2 other comments or questions.

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Hearing none, I think
7 we'll go on to our lunch break, be back here by 1:00 --
8 1:15, okay.

9
10 (Off record)

11
12 (On record)

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'll call the meeting
15 back to order, it's 1:15. We've got several more items
16 that we need to go through. We've covered the Council
17 reports, Chair's reports, public testimony and now we're
18 down to the no fish proposals for North Slope, that
19 doesn't mean we don't have any regulations but maybe
20 we'll turn it over to Polly, are you ready for your
21 presentation?

22
23 MS. WHEELER: (Nods affirmatively)

24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, it's agenda Item
26 No. 10, Fisheries Information Service Program, and I'll
27 turn it over to you Polly Wheeler.

28
29 MS. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Is
30 that working -- okay. Yeah, I'm here to talk about the
31 Fisheries Information Services Program and more
32 specifically about the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
33 Program. And the information, during my presentation
34 I'll give you the page numbers because there's a lot in
35 there and it's kind of dense but if you have any
36 questions as I'm going through it, by all means ask. The
37 stuff that I'll speaking to is behind Tab C in your Board
38 book -- or your Council book rather. And right off the
39 bat I'll apologize because on the first page there's a
40 picture of three guys standing in front of a fishwheel
41 and I recognize that you guys don't have fishwheels in
42 this region so I'm not sure how that picture ended up
43 making its way into the Council book, but just in case
44 you think it's the wrong information, it's the right
45 information, just the wrong picture.

46
47 The first Pages 19 to 29 behind Tab C are
48 kind of an overview of the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
49 Program. When I was here last spring I talked about our
50 program and we had a couple of people provide some

1 overviews of their projects that had been funded under
2 this program. Sverre Pedersen and Sheryl Hugo from
3 Anaktuvuk were here talking about their subsistence
4 harvest project in Anaktuvuk. And who else was here, I
5 think Tim Viavont was supposed to have been here talking
6 about his project but his dad was sick so he wasn't able
7 to be here.

8
9 But just to give you a little bit of
10 background because I know some of you members are new.
11 The Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program is a division
12 within Office of Subsistence Management and we fund
13 projects that address subsistence issues with regard to
14 fish. So we fund projects that provide information to
15 address issues with subsistence fisheries. We fund two
16 types of different of projects. We fund what we call the
17 stock, status and trends projects which are like weirs
18 and sonar projects and that sort of thing. And we also
19 fund harvest monitoring and traditional ecological
20 knowledge projects.

21
22 Again, the projects that we fund address
23 issues that have been identified by the Council. So you
24 guys all have an opportunity to identify specific issues
25 that you have concerns over. For example, there were
26 some concerns over harvest by Kaktovik residents, fish
27 harvest by Kaktovik residents so we funded a project
28 looking at harvest assessment of subsistence fish in
29 Kaktovik. Similarly there were some concerns over
30 fisheries harvest by Anaktuvuk residents and we also
31 funded a project there. We're recommending a project for
32 funding for 2004 that's going to look at using sonar for
33 dolly varden, to look at dolly varden population. So
34 those are just a few examples of the types of projects
35 that we fund. But the important thing to remember is
36 that you all are in the position of identifying issues
37 that will then be included in your issues and information
38 needs for the North Slope, and when we ask for proposals
39 for our program, people need to look at those issues that
40 you have identified to then come up with projects.

41
42 And once the projects are developed,
43 there's what we call the Technical Review Committee which
44 has a number of different agency folks on it as well as
45 some of the Partners in Fisheries Monitoring Program,
46 those guys go over the projects and they look at have
47 those projects identified or are they addressing an
48 information need that you all have identified, are they
49 technically sound, we look at past performance and we
50 also look at partnership and capacity building. How well

1 are these projects incorporating local people. And in
2 the two projects that Sverre Pedersen has worked on, the
3 Anaktuvuk project as well as the Kaktovik project, we've
4 had the North Slope Borough as a partner on one of them,
5 and then Kaktovik and Anaktuvuk are each respective
6 partners on their two projects.

7
8 So anyway, the first 10 pages or so
9 behind Tab C kind of give you an overview of the program
10 to date, how many projects we've funded, sort of what are
11 the guidelines for funding some of the different
12 projects. The Federal Subsistence Board has divided up,
13 they have what we call a funding formula where they
14 divide up the amount of monies that are available by
15 region and the whole, what is it, it's Arctic/Kotzebue
16 and North Slope region, it's kind of lumped into one,
17 gets about 17 percent of the available funding, which in
18 2004 which was about \$811,000 to be divided up amongst
19 these different projects, and that's a target or a
20 guideline, it's not always reached. Sometimes we don't
21 have enough projects that are submitted, sometimes the
22 projects that are submitted have some problems, they're
23 not technically sound or they don't involve enough local
24 folks or something like that. So that's sort of a target
25 that we shoot for but we don't always reach it.

26
27 And there's the geographic distribution
28 of monies and there's also a funding formula for data
29 type, so we sort of shoot for two-thirds of the funding
30 goes to the stock, status and trends projects, sort of
31 the straight biological projects and about a third of the
32 funding goes to the harvest monitoring and traditional
33 ecological knowledge projects.

34
35 For 2004, and if you all have any
36 questions as I'm going along, I'm trying to sort of cover
37 this completely but quickly, so that we don't get bogged
38 down for the rest of the afternoon, even though I'd be
39 happy to stay here all afternoon if that's what you want.

40
41 For 2004, we had 64 projects that were
42 submitted statewide. There were actually 10 projects for
43 this region but the region, again, is Arctic/Kotzebue and
44 North Slope and so it's a fairly big region. Those 10
45 projects, the Technical Review Committee invited those
46 principal investigators to develop investigation plans.
47 One of them, which was actually in this region was
48 looking at traditional ecological knowledge of whitefish
49 in the Colville River, that was originally proposed by
50 Sverre Pedersen, and he ended up withdrawing at the last

1 available today and you can always contact me outside of
2 this meeting, certainly, to think of stuff that needs to
3 be addressed. So it's real important that you look at
4 this. And some of the issues are really, really general
5 and I think it's helpful for people that are trying to
6 look at projects to have them be real specific. So if
7 you have something that's real specific, that's great,
8 because then the projects that people come up with can
9 address that.

10
11 On the next page, if you flip the page
12 over, on Page 50, there is a map of the projects that are
13 being recommended for funding by the Technical Review
14 Committee for this region, again, it's the
15 Arctic/Kotzebue and Norton Sound region. You'll see that
16 there's only one project that's actually in the North
17 Slope region. And that is basically because there were
18 only two projects that were submitted for this specific
19 region and then the one was withdrawn prior to the
20 investigation plan development stage.

21
22 That project, 04-103, it's the North
23 Slope Dolly Varden Sonar Feasibility Project, and I think
24 Dave Wiswar, who's over there, when he gives his report,
25 is going to speak to that particular project. As I said
26 earlier, we've got a couple of projects that are ongoing,
27 the one in Kaktovik, there's one in Anaktuvuk, there's a
28 couple of other ones that I think Dave is going to speak
29 to as well, so there are ongoing projects in this region.
30 But as far as new projects beginning in 2004, that
31 project is the only one for this region.

32
33 Table 3 on Page 53, which is a couple
34 pages down gives you the overview of the stock, status
35 and trends projects that are being proposed for this
36 region. And all of those, all five of those projects
37 have been recommended for funding by the Technical Review
38 Committee. And on Page 54, there's the four projects
39 that have been submitted under the harvest monitoring and
40 traditional ecological knowledge, data type and three of
41 the four projects in that group have been recommended for
42 funding by the Technical Review Committee.

43
44 And just to give you some -- just to
45 remind you sort of how this works, we put out a call for
46 proposals in November, then the Technical Review
47 Committee reviews those proposals and they decide which
48 of those proposals should be further developed into what
49 we call the investigation plan, it's just kind of an
50 elaborate detailed plan of how they're actually going to

1 come up with this project. Then in March -- well, the
2 Technical Review Committee meets in March, goes over all
3 these different proposals and decides which ones they're
4 going to advance for the investigation plan stage. Then
5 in July the Technical Review Committee meets again and
6 goes over those investigation plans and decides which of
7 those projects should be funded. Those recommendations
8 then go to you, the Regional Advisory Councils in the
9 affected area, you say yes or no, we agree with the
10 Technical Review Committee recommendation or we don't,
11 and then that goes to the Federal Subsistence Board at
12 their December meeting and they give it the final
13 blessing or not depending on, you know, the information,
14 mostly that they're getting from the Regional Advisory
15 Council as well as the State and other interested
16 parties.

17
18 So what all this is, is a long way of
19 sort of giving you the background on these projects but
20 what we would request is that you as a Council look at
21 these different projects, look at the Technical Review
22 Committee recommendation which, as I said, there's
23 actually nine projects for this region, five stock,
24 status and trends projects, four harvest monitoring TEK
25 projects and the Technical Review Committee has
26 recommended funding all but one of the harvest monitoring
27 and TEK projects -- or they've recommended funding all of
28 the projects except for one of the projects under the
29 harvesting monitoring traditional ecological data types,
30 and that was mostly because the proposal had some
31 technical issues. There was some issues over lack of
32 Federal waters, because remember we have to fund projects
33 that are looking at issues in waters over which there's
34 Federal jurisdiction, so the Technical Review Committee
35 just didn't feel like they could recommend funding that
36 project because of the technical issues but also the lack
37 of Federal waters.

38
39 Beginning on Page 63 and going
40 practically to the end of that section, there's what we
41 call the executive summaries for each of the projects
42 that are under consideration for this area. In the
43 executive summaries you'll see there's, obviously the
44 title of the project and the investigator, the principal
45 investigators, the co-investigators, and there's all the
46 contact information on that, so regardless of what you
47 all decide to do, if you recommend all these projects for
48 funding or, you know, recommend supporting the Technical
49 Review Committee, you can still contact these
50 investigators if you have questions on some of the

1 projects, you know, on how they're doing certain things
2 and I would encourage you, if you do have issues or you
3 do have questions over some of these projects that you do
4 contact the investigators because that's the best way to
5 keep communication lines open.

6
7 The other point that I'd like to make is
8 that ultimately these investigators are providing
9 information for the Federal Subsistence Fisheries
10 Management Program. They have an obligation to be
11 responsive to the Regional Advisory Council. At the
12 winter meeting we'll have a couple of these investigators
13 come in and talk about their particular projects. If you
14 all have specific projects that you'd like to hear more
15 about, like we heard at the spring meeting when Sverre
16 came in with Sheryl Hugo, if you have any of those -- if
17 you have any particular projects that you'd like to hear
18 more about, let me know and I can contact the principal
19 investigators and make sure that they're available at the
20 spring meeting.

21
22 So Mr. Chair, at this point, I'm
23 certainly available for questions if you have any on
24 specific projects or on the program as a whole. And like
25 I said, our request would be that you would consider
26 supporting the recommendations of the Technical Review
27 Committee for both -- for the nine projects -- for the
28 eight of the nine projects that they've recommended
29 funding.

30
31 Mr. Chair.

32
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Any
34 questions or comments from the Council.

35
36 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

39
40 MR. G. BROWER: On your procedure, for
41 recommending studies, I had a question and I think there
42 was a study some time ago and it was about broad
43 whitefish, and this was particularly in the Ikpikpuk/Chip
44 River area and to look at the age of the fish being
45 caught, a study. One reason being is because the fish
46 itself is, I guess biologists determined that that fish
47 age, it starts producing spawning age at, I think, age
48 12, and the life span of the fish itself is like 42 years
49 of the broad whitefish. And I always had some concern
50 because when I was very young fishing, you know, in my

1 teens our fish used to be really big, you know, the age
2 class of the fish that we caught were much larger than
3 what we catch today. And I keep thinking that most of
4 the majority of the fish are just the maturing spawners
5 that just reach that age.

6
7 And I was wondering if that was, you
8 know, something that could be looked at.

9
10 MS. WHEELER: I've written it down. I
11 may need to speak to you more to get the real specifics,
12 but you're basically looking at sort of maybe harvest
13 monitoring on the Ikpikpuk River whitefish population?

14
15 MR. G. BROWER: I don't know to what
16 extent you would want to call that type of study but it
17 would be trying to determine the age class and if we're
18 at the stage that we're -- that we're at, just the age
19 determinations. Because those fish don't die when they
20 spawn, they go back and overwinter and age up and spawn
21 nearly every season.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Polly, go ahead.

24
25 MS. WHEELER Mr. Chair, I guess I would
26 ask that if that is a topic that you would want to have
27 added to the issues and information needs for the North
28 Slope region, and if so, you know, if the Council could
29 make that recommendation we can add it to your issues.

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. I think we could
32 address that either now or figure out if there's going to
33 be another time we're going to be discussing these
34 proposals. We'll probably discuss it at a later time
35 once we get more information gathered on this and see
36 which direction we would like to go on this.

37
38 Is there any other comments or questions.
39 Raymond.

40
41 MR. PANEAK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. Early
42 years when Fish and Game studied fish at Chandler Lake,
43 they were studying lake trout and Arctic char and they
44 put a tag on the fins back here and a few people caught
45 some of those fish and the one that were tagged, they
46 were already skinny within not even a year. And I
47 remember that quite a while back when Fish and Game
48 studied those, people were not happy when they take some
49 of those fish with the tag and got skinny. And after
50 that study there were not that many Arctic char in that

1 lake. And they do catch a lot of them, a lot of the fish
2 in the net and they -- I don't know how many at a time, a
3 day, they were studying fish over there for two weeks and
4 that study was by Fish and Game and people were not
5 really happy and there's less fish over there now.

6
7 That's all.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond.

10
11 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

12
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

14
15 MR. PATKOTAK: With oil, I mean going
16 further westward, and we know that ice roads are further,
17 inevitable, and with studies being done at the wrong time
18 of the season, wouldn't you think that it would be a good
19 time to study allocations of money during the times of
20 flooding in the springtime to see which land-locked lakes
21 are getting more overflow and identify land-lock lakes
22 with fish in them, and passing that information to the
23 public in a more comprehensive manner, if you will.

24
25 Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike. Just
28 to respond to part of the comment you made in terms of
29 hydrology research. There's already ongoing projects by
30 BLM in specific areas doing hydrology work monitoring.
31 Part of the discussions we had on those issues were the
32 recharge of the lakes, tide cages in different areas and
33 along the, within the North Slope and different areas of
34 the state, so there are projects. And you probably could
35 find out more which ones or if there's a specific area
36 that we would like to get looked at, might be an issue we
37 would bring out.

38
39 Any other comments or questions.

40
41 MR. BODFISH: Mr. Chairman.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Paul.

44
45 MR. BODFISH: Just to add on to what Mike
46 was saying about checking the fish-bearing lakes or the
47 land-locked lakes that he was talking about, the best
48 time to be checking those is in the year where there's a
49 lot of snowfall. Because there are times like in the
50 seven to 10 year span that these lakes will not be

1 touched by the spring thaw because of lack of snow. But
2 in the years where there is a lot of snow they will get
3 covered over by, I know, some lakes up our river that are
4 like that. There's no streams connected to them but yet
5 there is fish in them. And the only time they get out is
6 when a year that there is a lot of snowfall.

7

8 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
9 Bodfish.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

12

13 MR. PATKOTAK: Thank you. That would be
14 something that would be a good ongoing study year after
15 year, you know, being that lately there's been decrease
16 in whitefish and fish location of grayling and cisco and
17 a lot less catches of these fisheries especially in the
18 eastern region. I think our representative from Nuiqsut
19 would agree with that after going through some of the
20 herrings in Nuiqsut and some ares in Anaktuvuk Pass. I
21 know that some of these fisheries in Ikpikpuk and stuff
22 are going to be affected by ice roads and seismic
23 activity.

24

25 And also there's been talk of burbot,
26 freshwater burbot that have been found with contaminants
27 in their liver. And even in terms of toxic levels of PCB
28 and that type of thing.

29

30 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike. I'm
33 not sure here what we have to follow through in terms of
34 doing this fisheries research in terms of contaminants.
35 Is there some type of limitation that we have to be aware
36 of?

37

38 MS. WHEELER Mr. Chair, the Federal
39 Subsistence Board actually made the decision that they
40 weren't going to fund projects looking at contaminants
41 under this program. The program is really specifically
42 addressing Federal Subsistence Fisheries Management
43 issues. So all the projects that are funded provide
44 information for the managers to then use to manage the
45 populations. They're not saying that contaminants aren't
46 important, but they're saying that because there's so
47 many subsistence fisheries issues out there that that's
48 the scope of the program.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. I wasn't --

1 I just wanted to make aware to the rest of the Council
2 that there is criteria that we have to follow through
3 with and be aware of in terms of this Fisheries
4 Monitoring Program. I know hearing them from other
5 discussions but just to make it aware to the rest of the
6 Council, these issues.

7

8 Any other comments.

9

10 MR. BODFISH: Yes, Mr. Chair.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Paul.

13

14 MR. BODFISH: Just to add on to what
15 Gordon mentioned about the broadhead whitefish. The same
16 broadhead whitefish that they get too come up our rivers
17 and they do come out Meade and head up into the Chip and
18 the Ikpikpuk River. So if they're going to be doing
19 studies that'd be another area to start the studies at
20 because our broadhead whitefish to migrate over to the
21 Chip and the Ikpikpuk.

22

23 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Mr. Chair.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Rosemary.

26

27 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I haven't gone through
28 all this information and I haven't been involved with
29 this to find out what's been done and what's out there.
30 But our discussions, some of the things that come to my
31 mind is there needs some evaluation looking at what's
32 going on that cause increase use or decrease use of
33 certain uses with activities around us. I know with the
34 problems we're having with our caribou hunting, last year
35 we had 90 nets out in the river, that's more than most
36 years but because of the lack of caribou, the need to get
37 out there and trying to harvest the fish was much more
38 demanding so we had many families putting their nets out.
39 But those kind of variations also need to be looked at in
40 how we're utilizing our resources and what may need to be
41 evaluated for future things.

42

43 Other things that causes concern that we
44 have in our area is travel for subsistence uses. Years
45 ago they talked about -- I remember Sam Talik put in one
46 of the meetings that it would be about a hundred miles a
47 subsistence user used to hunt. In the last few years in
48 our area hunters have said they could use a thousand
49 miles to hunt to try to subsist. So looking at the land
50 use demands in relation to how much activity and things

1 are causing us to expanding areas for hunting.

2

3 One of the things that some of the high
4 school kids that I worked with during visits from the
5 National Research Council was that they wanted to look at
6 changes to some of the whaling activities and how crews
7 have varied out in -- we do our whaling at Cross Island
8 and how the crews have varied over the years in their
9 subsistence hunting travels for harvesting, length of
10 time and all those types of things. When we're having a
11 very good year, with a lot of people working we have more
12 crews on the island, when we have very few jobs we have
13 less crews on the island. Those types of things to look
14 at, what type of range we're using in response to all
15 sorts of things that are going on around us. But I think
16 there is some very creative ways that we could work this
17 type of stuff into working with our school kids who would
18 be necessary and also might have some of the information.
19 We could also work this out utilizing some of the college
20 kids. We're trying to find ways to get these kids jobs
21 when they come back in their Christmas break and the
22 summertime, we could work this out into getting some
23 short term projects where they can get some of this data
24 collection that goes on. We'd have to get a local person
25 working this out but I think that there's some really
26 creative ways we can do this and also may help to get
27 people in our community furthering their education and
28 give them the skills to help them when they get out there
29 and do this type of stuff.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
32 Any other comments.

33

34 MR. PATKOTAK: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

37

38 MR. PATKOTAK: Along with that, I want to
39 mention again, the need for proper communication and
40 interpretation of data and materials that are being
41 received. And also I want to repeat is the fact that
42 when there's interpretations from English to Eskimo and
43 Eskimo to English, there has been different fuedings in
44 the villages, especially amongst the younger that have a
45 mutated version of what you might call -- I don't know
46 what you would call it, butchered version of Inupiat that
47 the older Eskimos cannot understand because it has some
48 English mixed in with Inupiat and a lot of the -- some of
49 the older people that make decisions for the family don't
50 have the right information and monies and time need to be

1 spent in terms of proper interpretation and
2 communications being proper communications and
3 interpretations, being more seriously looked at.

4
5 I know that there are a lot of well-
6 intentioned materials and more important matters but all
7 that doesn't matter at all if you don't get the right
8 information at all. It doesn't matter how badly you beat
9 that drum if you don't interpret properly to the
10 decision-makers of the community which are in most cases
11 elders, you accomplish nothing. And I think that maybe a
12 good example of that was what was said and done this
13 morning.

14
15 Thank you., Mr. Chair.

16
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike for
18 bringing that up again. Any further comments from the
19 Council.

20
21 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Yes, Mr. Chair.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Rosemary, go ahead.

24
25 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I just wanted to add
26 that I agree with what he has to say. One of the things
27 that we're still trying to deal with was the fish
28 consumption, the health consultation related to tiktalik
29 (ph), and that interpretation and we're still trying to
30 work through the proper education that should have gone
31 with that issue. People need to be educated that, you
32 know, they looked at that study to look for contaminants
33 but that doesn't mean that we're going to see changes in
34 the fish from a fish that has contaminants in it. And
35 that misconception with the elders, some of them think
36 that they're going to be able to tell by looking at the
37 fish whether or not that's a good fish to eat. And, you
38 know, working on getting that correction information out
39 there.

40
41 For a year the community went without
42 eating tiktalik, because it took a year to get people
43 into the community to discuss what that health
44 consultation was. So, you know, that was a hold year to
45 build a lot of fears and misconceptions that we're still
46 trying to combat and to address. So it's really
47 important that the right communications get out there and
48 that there's information that's translated for people out
49 there. Having the perception that the radio is a good
50 way to get the information out there is okay if you

1 receive the radio well in your community but in our
2 community we have very poor reception so that's not a
3 good mode for our village so that kind of stuff is really
4 important.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
7 Robert.

8

9 MR. SUYDAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
10 Council members. My name is Robert Suydam. I'm a
11 wildlife biologist with the North Slope Borough
12 Department of Wildlife Management.

13

14 Mr. Chairman, I wanted to talk a little
15 bit about information needs for fisheries issues down
16 near Point Lay and Point Hope. I'm not sure if this is
17 the right time to do that or not.

18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We're right in the
20 subject.

21

22 MR. SUYDAM: Okay, great, then I'll go
23 ahead. Over the last couple of years representatives
24 from Point Lay, representatives to the North Slope
25 Borough Fish and Game Management Committee have come to
26 that committee with the concern that grayling have
27 disappeared from the Kuparuk [sic] River just south of
28 Point Lay. In addition to the Fish and Game Management
29 Committee members, other community members have talked to
30 me about this concern as well, that they're just not able
31 to get grayling anymore from the Kuparuk [sic] River.

32

33 I believe that there's a similar concern
34 that's been expressed by Point Hope committee
35 representatives as well in the past. I'm not sure if
36 that situation is still the same, whether there's a
37 shortage of grayling down near Point Hope.

38

39 I guess I'm here today to encourage the
40 Council to try to do what Polly suggested a little while
41 ago, to get the concern on the list, that we need to
42 figure out what's going on with grayling down in the
43 rivers, kind of in western -- northwestern Alaska. That
44 very little is known. You know, perhaps there's some
45 additional predators, perhaps overfishing has occurred,
46 perhaps there's been some long term changes in the
47 rivers, we don't know because so little is known about
48 those areas. But getting it on the list of issues, I
49 think, would be really important so that somebody at some
50 point could put in a proposal to learn more about what's

1 happening with grayling in those rivers and try to change
2 that situation.

3

4 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Robert, for
7 bringing that out. Any other comments. Polly.

8

9 MS. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
10 Looking at the -- actually the status of Arctic grayling
11 populations, particularly near Point Hope is an issue
12 that's been identified, but maybe it would be useful if
13 the Council directed specifically the Kuparuk River
14 [sic], I don't know if that's spelled right, but that
15 that be specifically identified, so that it gives people
16 more direction or investigators more direction.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay.

19

20 MS. WHEELER Spell it for me.

21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: When you're saying it,
23 the way you're pronouncing it you're talking about a
24 different area from the oil fields that we're accustomed
25 to hearing, Kuparuk. The proper pronunciation would make
26 a big difference. It's all about communication.

27

28 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, Mr. Chair, thanks.
29 Yeah we are still having problems with grayling. It's
30 decreasing, although they caught some early this summer,
31 but not very much. And it's still a problem. We don't
32 know what's going to happen this winter because I think
33 that's a time when they have a hard time catching the
34 grayling because it's decreasing, and the trout. So it's
35 still going on. And there was a proposal that was
36 brought up, I think a year.....

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: A couple years ago.

39

40 MR. KOONUK:a couple years ago, it
41 was brought up and I think they were looking for more
42 funding to do the studies around the Kupuk River.

43

44 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond.
47 Robert.

48

49 MR. SUYDAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
50 Just a procedural question for Polly. Once you put out

1 an RFP can anybody bid on or put in a proposal so it's
2 not restricted to government agencies, a consultant firm
3 or universities or whomever could put in proposals.

4
5 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair.

6
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Polly.

8
9 MS. WHEELER: Thank you for asking that
10 because I think that is a misconception out there. We
11 encourage entities other than government. There's
12 actually a policy decision on the part of the Board that
13 no more than -- more than 60 percent of the funding has
14 to go outside of Federal government, but that doesn't
15 mean it should then only go to the State government. I
16 mean we encourage any entity to put in for a proposal.
17 And I guess the best approach is to sort of do a
18 partnership which is where we've really seen where you
19 may have, I know the ones that you've worked on with
20 Sverre where you've got the State and the Borough and the
21 community that are working together. But, yeah, by all
22 means, any entity is certainly actively encouraged to put
23 in for these proposals.

24
25 And like I said, we'll put out the
26 request for proposals in November, they'll be due in
27 February. If you have any questions about anything, if
28 you want me to review a proposal or something like that,
29 and the first page is just a one to two page sort of a
30 conceptual design more than anything else, you don't have
31 to get into the specifics. It's sort of like here's an
32 idea, here's what we want to do, and then the Technical
33 Review Committee decides whether or not that's a good
34 idea and it should be further developed.

35
36 So, yeah, anybody, any tribal
37 organization, non-profit, government, individual, we
38 actually have some projects -- one of the projects in
39 this thing is a private researcher that submitted one.
40 So by all means get the word out and the more projects
41 that we have to consider by different entities, the
42 better. And that's certainly the interest of the Board
43 is to get the best information available and certainly
44 anybody's open to try for that.

45
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Raymond.

47
48 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, I have one question as
49 far as your Technical Review Committee. I don't know I
50 might have missed it because I came in a few minutes

1 late, who stands on the committee?

2

3 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair. The Technical
4 Review Committee it's an inter-agency Technical Review
5 Committee. We have a representative from the five
6 agencies within the -- dealing with subsistence, the
7 Federal agencies, there's Bureau of Indian Affairs,
8 Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Fish
9 and Wildlife Service, who else am I forgetting, Forest
10 Service. We also have representation from the State,
11 from three divisions within the Department of Fish and
12 Game, the Division of Sportfish, the Division of
13 Commercial Fisheries and the Subsistence Division. And
14 then we have two representatives from -- that are funded
15 through the Partners Program, which I'll talk about after
16 we're done with this, where the Office of Subsistence
17 Management is funding positions for biologists and social
18 scientists in several different Native organizations and
19 so we have a partner biologist and a partner
20 anthropologist that are sitting on the Technical Review
21 Committee.

22

23 Mr. Chair.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Does that
26 help with your question, Ray.

27

28 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair. Do you have
29 local involvement as far as, you know, making decisions
30 with what projects you are going to -- like our Chairs
31 or, you know, from each region, are they involved?

32

33 MS. WHEELER: I would say on the
34 Technical Review Committee, we do not have Regional
35 Advisory Council representation, but we're -- as I said
36 earlier, and I'm not sure if you were here, the Technical
37 Review Committee makes their recommendations for these
38 projects, then those recommendations go out to all of the
39 Regional Advisory Councils for the particular regions, so
40 that's your opportunity, rather than having an individual
41 on the Technical Review Committee, all the Councils have
42 the opportunity to review the projects and say, yeah, we
43 agree with the Technical Review Committee or we don't
44 agree with the Technical Review Committee and here's why,
45 and then those recommendations go to the Federal
46 Subsistence Board when they make their decisions at the
47 December meeting.

48

49 MR. KOONUK: Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other comments,
2 questions.

3
4 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Mr. Chair.

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Rosemary.

7
8 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: One of the other areas
9 that I know people are very concerned about is the
10 climatic change that's occurring and the affect that it's
11 going to have on our subsistence resources. With the
12 recent warming trends, the depths of the water has
13 changed. We're having water withdrawn in our area, if
14 that water is not coming back, you know, what type of
15 changes are going to occur, and those kind of concerns.
16 So I think that's also an area that needs to be looked
17 at.

18
19 The elders worry about with the high
20 meltdown from the mountains causing increased erosion,
21 the rivers aren't frozen during the summertime so there's
22 more erosion and what kind of changes is that causing and
23 those kind of things have been presented at some of our
24 recent meetings.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
27 Any other comments from the Council.

28
29 (No comments)

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Polly, you did state
32 that we need to make some kind of supporting
33 recommendation or motion to those three?

34
35 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair, on Page 3,
36 there's Table 3 which has the stock, status and trends
37 project for the Arctic/Kotzebue and North Slope regions.
38 There's five projects there. And then on the next page,
39 Page 54, there's four projects on the harvest monitoring
40 and traditional ecological knowledge data type.

41
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay.

43
44 MS. WHEELER: And there's the project and
45 then the Technical Review Committee recommendation and
46 then the requested budget there in the table, so it's
47 Table 3 and Table 4, and we would ask that you consider
48 the Technical Review Committee recommendation and support
49 their recommendation or -- that's what we would ask, but
50 you're certainly free to not support their recommendation

1 if that's what you decide to.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

4

5 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Ray.

8

9 MR. KOONUK: I'd like to make a motion to
10 support and accept Table 3 and Table 4 as recommended.

11

12 MR. TAGAROOK: Terry here, I second it.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any further discussion.

15

16 (No discussion)

17

18 MR. AGNASAGGA: I call for question.

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been
21 called. All in favor of supporting the motion of the
22 recommendation.....

23

24 MR. PATKOTAK: On the call for question,
25 Mr. Chairman, I'm wondering if that any of this, there
26 could be an addition to one of the projects because of
27 the availability of money in view of terms of providing
28 extra funds or even applying for more grants to fund a
29 study in terms of the overflow and flooding and the
30 effects of land-locked fish being -- and how ice roads
31 will affect them in their future?

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think we're
34 discussing a motion right now, Mike, and be a little more
35 specific on what your question regarding this motion is?
36 We're just acting on supporting.

37

38 MR. KOONUK: There was a question called
39 for by Amos or Terry.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Amos.

42

43 MR. PATKOTAK: Was there discussion, Mr.
44 Chair?

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We were under
47 discussion and the question was called.

48

49 MR. PATKOTAK: Oh, okay. And I asked a
50 question under call for question.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No, the question was
2 called after the discussion. We're on discussion.....

3
4 MR. PATKOTAK: Okay, well.....

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm trying to get
7 clarification on your comment there, Mike, in terms of if
8 we need to bring this up under another issue and not in
9 the.....

10
11 MR. PATKOTAK: No, it could be definitely
12 but also I thought maybe -- I thought for sure that there
13 was a call for question, and under the call for question
14 that I brought out the fact that there are some excess
15 monies here that are -- which is probably used for all
16 intents and purposes, administration, but I would assume
17 that money like this could be spent for -- earmarked for
18 studying land-locked fish during flooding seasons of the
19 spring thaw.

20
21 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair, point of order.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.

24
25 MR. KOONUK: Back to the main motion.

26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Ray. Yes,
28 we were -- I think there's a little bit of confusion here
29 on to what we were questioning on the motion. We were
30 acting on the motion, Mike, and so we'll get back to what
31 we were doing, act in terms of the motion, and brought up
32 the discussion and the question was called to take action
33 on the motion, and that's where the confusion is.

34
35 MR. PATKOTAK: Okay.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So the question was
38 called and I was just ready to state, all in favor of the
39 motion signify by saying aye.

40
41 IN UNISON: Aye.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any opposed.

44
45 (No opposing votes)

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank you.
48 Do you have any other information that you need to bring
49 out?

50

1 MS. WHEELER: (Nods affirmatively)

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Continue please.

4

5 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair, just a short
6 piece of information. On the last page of Tab C which is
7 the first page before Tab D there's a one page
8 description of the Partners for Fisheries Monitoring
9 Program which I'd mentioned earlier. And this is just an
10 update, you've had updates before. This is just saying
11 that the program is moving along well. We've got
12 positions, we've got biologists positions at the
13 Association of Village Council Presidents, Tanana Chiefs
14 Conference, Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments,
15 Kuskokwim Native Association, Bristol Bay Native
16 Association, and we have one single social scientist at
17 the Native Village of Eyak. My understanding is that we
18 will be advertising possibly for a new anthropologist
19 position or social scientist position in the new future,
20 although the specifics of that haven't been outlined.

21

22 But that program is moving along well,
23 the folks have worked out on projects all summer long and
24 have, like I said, they sit on the Technical Review
25 Committee, or two of them do and it's been -- it's moving
26 along real well. So that's all I had to add on that, Mr.
27 Chair.

28

29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Do we have
30 any other action items that we need to address under your
31 presentation?

32

33 MS. WHEELER: (Shakes head Negatively)

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's going to be
36 several people that will be going through these agency
37 reports from the different agencies or what -- I'll start
38 with Mr. Fisher.

39

40 (Pause)

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I have a question,
43 Helen, did we have any proposals that we need to review,
44 Item 11, it says call for proposals to change Federal
45 Subsistence Wildlife Regulations?

46

47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'll let Dave answer.

48

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, thank you.

50

1 MR. FISHER: We didn't have any for fish.
2 I have drafted a proposal here for the Council to
3 consider for moose for 26(A) and that's what I'm going to
4 talk about.

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.

7
8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Harry.

9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Helen.

11
12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, this is the
13 time when the Council can come up with any proposals to
14 change wildlife regulations so if any of you know of
15 something you want changed, then now would be the time to
16 make those proposals. You can also submit a proposal
17 anytime between now and the end of October -- or maybe
18 it's October 24th. But if you want to make a proposal
19 today we're happy to work with you on it and decide on,
20 you know, if we'd need to work on wording. And then Dave
21 has one for 26(A) that he's going to suggest that the
22 Council may be interested in making.

23
24 Thank you.

25
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Continue
27 Mr. Fisher.

28
29 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If
30 you'll recall at our last meeting there was some concern
31 about establishing a season for -- an early moose season
32 in 26(A), apparently there was some animals harvested in
33 August and we wanted to take a look at that and come up
34 with a possible recommendation for a season to allow
35 subsistence hunters to take animals in that area when
36 they do get down in that area during the summer.

37
38 In talking with Geoff Carroll, he has
39 submitted a proposal to the Board of Game for them to
40 consider and I think Terry will be talking about that
41 when he comes up here. But in my conversations with Mr.
42 Carroll, he worked up some information, sent it to me, I
43 took a look at it and it looked pretty good and so I just
44 more or less patterned a proposal for you people to
45 consider, it's very similar to the Board of Game's and
46 you should have a handout that describes that and I'll
47 just briefly go over it with you.

48
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Could we identify that
50 handout to see if the Council members have it?

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1 MR. FISHER: It's just a two page.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Wildlife proposal?

4

5 MR. FISHER: It should have been passed
6 around.

7

8 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Yeah, it went around
9 but he's asking for the correct name on the paper that
10 we're looking for?

11

12 MR. FISHER: Oh.

13

14 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: It's Wildlife Proposal
15 2004?

16

17 MR. FISHER: Yeah, Wildlife Proposal
18 2004-2005, Federal Subsistence Regulations for taking
19 wildlife on Federal Public Land. The Chairman had it.

20

21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The line stopped here
22 at the Chair. I must have been busy, anyway, sorry about
23 that and here's the rest of them. That's what I was
24 trying to figure out, is where the rest of the proposal
25 was. Continue Mr. Fisher.

26

27 MR. FISHER: Thank you. The current
28 season is August 1st through September 14th. What we're
29 proposing is to change that season, be able to harvest
30 one moose and you may not take a cow with a calf during
31 July 1 through August 31st. That would be the early part
32 of the season that we wanted to address.

33

34 And then we've sort of modified the
35 second part of the season, which would be one bull, that
36 would be September 1st through September 14th.

37

38 Occasionally, each summer a small
39 population of part of the moose there in 26(A) move from
40 the major river drainages down on the coastal plain and
41 this would allow for a season to accommodate those
42 subsistence users to take animals when those animals are
43 down there.

44

45 The area that we're talking about is a
46 little bit different from the current area and if you'll
47 take a look at your colored map that you have, it's this
48 map here. We were talking about an area west of 156
49 degrees, west longitude and north of 69 degrees, 20 north
50 latitude and roughly that area, if you'll take a look at

1 your map and you look up where it says Arctic Ocean, it's
2 Point Barrow, if you'll draw a line north and south down
3 to where it says 26(A) and 26(A) is in red, and then if
4 you'll go west out towards Point Lay, it comes out just a
5 little bit by Point Lay, it's kind of a pie-shaped area.

6
7 Basically that's about all I have. I
8 want the Council to consider that. If you want to go
9 with this or do you want to make any modifications, let
10 us know, we have until October 24th to finalize this as a
11 wildlife proposal. And if you go along with it then
12 we'll go ahead and do the analysis on it and we'll
13 consider it for Federal Board action.

14
15 That's all I have, if anybody has any
16 questions.

17
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions from the
19 Council.

20
21 (No comments)

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I have one if nobody's
24 going to go. This description of the 56 west longitude
25 and north of 69 20 north latitude, longitude/latitude,
26 yeah.....

27
28 MR. FISHER: Mr. Chair, it's kind of on
29 that early map that I gave you.....

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

32
33 MR. FISHER:with the red mark on
34 it.

35
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. That kind of
37 shows that it's excluding a portion of the most active
38 hunting -- most hunting activity that occurs within the
39 Barrow area. It's missing the Ikpikpuk River, the most
40 traversed river up and down, you know, besides the Meade
41 and the other rivers, the Tapargaruk River (ph), the
42 Ikpikpuk River is the most used river and that seems to
43 be missed in this description that you gave. If it could
44 be moved further to the east including the Ikpikpuk River
45 I don't think we'd have too much of a problem with that
46 in the Barrow area.

47
48 MR. FISHER: Okay, I'll make that note
49 and I'll make a change in what we're considering here and
50 talk with Mr. Carroll on it and get back to you on that,

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1 how would that be?

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, that would work.

4

5 MR. FISHER: Okay.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We're in pretty good
8 communications with Geoff here in Barrow.

9

10 MR. FISHER: Okay. Now, you may want to
11 ask him the same question and tell him that I brought it
12 up here or that we discussed it at this meeting and I
13 will talk with him about it.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think that would be
16 the only thing I could bring out, you know, just from
17 reviewing the proposal, something that I could note just
18 as we're talking about it.

19

20 Any other comment from the Council
21 regarding this proposal.

22

23 (No comments)

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I just have another
26 question to you, Mr. Fisher, this proposal is in
27 existence with the State management program?

28

29 MR. FISHER: This proposal, I believe has
30 or will be submitted shortly to the Board of Game and
31 they will discuss this proposal -- Terry can probably
32 answer that question, I believe they'll discuss it in
33 November.

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Terry.

36

37 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, thank you.
38 This is a proposal that will be discussed by the Board of
39 Game at its meeting November 1st through November 4th in
40 Anchorage. There is another part to it that I think is
41 missing from Dave's proposal, and that has to do with
42 changing the aircraft restriction dates in the controlled
43 use area.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

46

47 MR. HAYNES: I don't believe Dave
48 mentioned that.

49

50 MR. FISHER: It won't affect the Federal

1 lands so that's why I didn't -- it will already been in
2 effect on Federal lands. Am I correct on that?

3

4 MR. HAYNES: Well, Mr. Chairman, just to
5 be clear, there is -- the Federal regulations do have a
6 similar provision to the State regulations regarding
7 aircraft and the State proposal will also close the Unit
8 26(A) controlled use area to transportation of moose
9 hunters and of moose beginning in July, July 1st rather
10 than August 1st, which is currently the situation, and we
11 would recommend that change in Federal regulations, too.

12

13 MR. FISHER: I stand noted on that. I
14 will make that correction.

15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. So the two
17 proposals will be looking similar in addressing the same
18 areas? Terry.

19

20 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, the intent of
21 Geoff's original proposal and what Dave has handed out to
22 you today would be recommending the same types of changes
23 in the State and Federal regulations. If you amend the
24 proposal to move the boundary farther east to include the
25 Ikpikpuk River, I can't commit the State to doing that
26 right now and I will mention it to Geoff and see if he's
27 willing to consider that. At the end of the day we'd
28 like to see the State and Federal regulations remain the
29 same, if possible, in this area.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think I agree with
32 the last comment just to keep from getting confused with
33 all the differences.

34

35 (Pause)

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other comments or
38 questions from the Council regarding this proposal.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So we'll have until
43 when to make the revisions?

44

45 MR. FISHER: The proposal period closes,
46 I believe October 24th but as soon as I get back I'm
47 going to talk to Mr. Carroll on this and I will get the
48 message to you on what we come up with and if you have a
49 chance you may want to talk to him, too.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.
2
3 MR. FISHER: And I think Terry will shout
4 with him.
5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay.
7
8 MR. FISHER: Thank you.
9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Does the
11 Council want to make any kind of recommendation or do we
12 need to take any action on this proposal at this time?
13
14 MR. FISHER: Well, the Council may want
15 to debate it and they may want to, I guess, adopt that
16 proposal if that's the way they want to go with the
17 change that you're talking about, plus extending that
18 aircraft restriction to, I think it's July 1st, and that
19 would be a proposal that the Council would favor and it'd
20 be taken up for analysis and so on, or you could wait and
21 talk with Mr. Carroll and wait until I talk to him and
22 Terry talks to him and then maybe we can come up with
23 something that's more unified. I think we have plenty of
24 time to address this issue. So it's kind of up to what
25 the Council wants to do.
26
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think I like the last
28 comment you made, is to wait until we get all the issues
29 ironed out and both proposals are looking pretty much the
30 same and making a supporting motion at that time or
31 letter supporting both the proposals, with the
32 modifications.
33
34 MR. FISHER: Well, what we can do, once
35 we kind of get things ironed out, I can redraft the
36 proposal and send it to you and you can look at it and if
37 you agree with it then we'll go ahead with it.
38
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, I think we'll go
40 with that last comment. Terry.
41
42 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, also since the
43 Board of Game will action on this proposal before
44 November, if the Board of Game adopts something different
45 we will bring that information to you at your winter
46 meeting and it will be possible to amend the Federal
47 proposal at that time, if there were changes made to the
48 State proposal before it is acted on by the Board of
49 Game.
50

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1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Do you anticipate
2 seeing any changes to the proposals, the current proposal
3 as written?

4
5 MR. HAYNES: I don't, but one never knows
6 what the Board will do.

7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, thank you. Any
9 other comments or questions to Mr. Fisher.

10
11 (No comments)

12
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Fisher.
14 I think we're done here and we'll be moving on to the
15 next item. Agency reports, Tab E, Office of Subsistence
16 Management. Helen, you're on the spot.

17
18 (Laughter)

19
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I was just going to ask
21 where -- we're just moving along the agenda into the
22 agency reports? I guess we don't have any other
23 proposals to review or submit at this time unless any of
24 the Council members are interested in forming a proposal
25 at this time. I don't have one.

26
27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

28
29 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

32
33 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman, ban -- stop
34 the Greenpeace ship from coming up during spring --
35 summertime when it's walrus hunting time.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'll leave that up to
38 Helen to bring it up to law enforcement to keep the
39 Greenpeace ship out of our area.

40
41 (Laughter)

42
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's a tough one.
44 Yeah, I'll go out there and tell them not to come up.

45
46 (Laughter)

47
48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: One thing, Harry, you
49 can also make changes to customary and traditional use
50 determinations at this time so if there are any of those

1 that you wanted to change at all, just so you remember
2 that, too. We did have the one problem on, because the
3 moose C&T for 26(C) was so broad that we ended up with
4 the ceremonial harvest. I don't know if you want to do
5 anything or not, you can just wait on it.

6
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I would prefer to wait
8 on discussing that issue.

9
10 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. You have until
11 October 26th to submit proposals.

12
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Helen.
14 Discussion on the moose, 26(A), that's taken care of.
15 2003 annual report issues. Did Barb have any issues that
16 we need to get identified for the 2003 annual report?

17
18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, actually these
19 are issues that need to come from the Council. And we've
20 had some discussions in our office about encouraging the
21 Council to really think about this because this is your
22 opportunity to bring up issues that you want to be taken
23 to the Secretary of Interior. And I think it's good for
24 the Council to recognize how really important that is,
25 that if there are things that you want taken to them, to
26 her, you know, it's your opportunity to do that. So if
27 there are issues, I mean there have been things that
28 you've brought up today, I mean some of them we can't
29 address in our program, but sometimes people like to
30 bring up issues. But preferably they would be issues
31 that we might be able to deal with. You don't have to
32 have any issues. You don't have to have an annual
33 report. Some of the Councils have chosen not to have
34 one. But if you'd like to have one then this would be
35 your time to discuss what issues you want to go into the
36 annual report.

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I know from the past
39 reports, we've referred to the minutes that we've
40 addressed that are raising red flags as far as those are
41 the issues that we identified and submitted as the annual
42 report and they've been addressed fairly responsibly and
43 we've had responses back from the Chairman, the Federal
44 Subsistence Board Chair in terms of our issues we've
45 identified.

46
47 So unless there's some new issues that
48 the Council members would like to bring out or that they
49 want addressed on this annual report -- you're welcome to
50 bring them out.

1 (Pause)

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If we don't have any
4 issues we can move on to the next item.

5

6 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.

9

10 MR. KOONUK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
11 There's one issue that we keep bringing up, I guess,
12 every year is our stipends that we receive, and I still
13 would like to see the Chairs pursue that to the
14 Department of Interior.

15

16 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Ray. Yes,
19 it's been an issue that we've been trying to address for
20 several year, but the Federal Management Program has
21 different ideas. So we'll continue to pursue it anyway.

22

23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We can put that in the
24 annual report, that's fine.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Any other
27 issues.

28

29 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

32

33 MR. PATKOTAK: Something that I'd like to
34 see is the study of ice and ocean current and
35 temperatures and ice thickness issues to be monitored and
36 I know this would fall under different but still
37 something that should be channeled to the right people.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike, I think we need
40 to keep in mind of what we're trying to address here, is
41 that global climate change is something beyond the
42 purview of the Federal Subsistence Management Program.
43 We're dealing with land, terrestrial animals to begin
44 with, and trying to address something out of that purview
45 would be something else that we'd have to take into
46 another avenue, probably with the National Oceanic
47 Administration.

48

49 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

2

3 MR. PATKOTAK: With all due respect to --
4 I think it's still something that is worth mentioning.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay.

7

8 MR. PATKOTAK: And I'll mention it here,
9 that there are too many agencies brushing this kind of
10 issues off and I think it's worth mentioning here that
11 most of our subsistence activities relate to the ocean.
12 And in this case I'll mention it more than once until
13 it's blue in the face. I'll mention it again, and I'll
14 take time out to mention it again. I'll go brush against
15 the agenda. If land-based issue are the question, I'll
16 brush up against them. It's something that needs to be
17 addressed and it needs to be addressed to the right
18 agency if possible. If possible as a letter. Because
19 most of our subsistence activities are ocean-based.

20

21 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike. We'll
24 take note of your comments and see where we can address
25 it in getting a letter formulated to the right agency.

26

27 Any other issues before moving on to the
28 next agenda item.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Helen.

35

36 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Just so I'm clear with
37 what we should direct Barb, then you want her to go
38 through the transcripts or the minutes and find issues
39 and then she'll work with you on what those should be?

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

42

43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Thank you.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, the next agenda
46 item is draft predator management policy, Sandy.

47

48 MR. RABINOWITCH: Good afternoon Mr.
49 Chairman and Council. I'm Sandy Rabinowitch with the
50 National Park Service and I sit on the inter-agency Staff

1 Committee to the Federal Board. This item is in Tab E as
2 in Edward in your book and there's several documents
3 there and I'll walk you through them in a moment. What I
4 will do is try to just highlight things about each of
5 those and I'll try to pause in between and see if you
6 have questions.

7

8 Probably like Polly said earlier, there's
9 a lot of material on this subject and I could probably
10 talk for quite a long time. I assume that you don't want
11 me to talk for a really long time so I'll try not to do
12 that.

13

14 This issue, I think, was probably most
15 recently borne out of some proposals in the Bristol Bay
16 region for several years, going back a few years.
17 Bristol Bay region had a number of proposals that dealt
18 with different aspects of the topic of predator control,
19 and those proposals, mostly about hunting wolves went
20 through the process and were ultimately voted on by the
21 Board. And the Chairman from that Council, I guess I
22 would say probably wasn't maybe completely happy so he
23 asked for the Board to look into the whole subject about
24 predator control a little bit more. I think that's where
25 things sort of really started in terms of this particular
26 effort and this draft policy that I'll talk about.

27

28 So what the Board did was it asked the
29 Staff to analyze the subject of predator control and to
30 look into various laws, regulations, policies and other
31 things that would govern how the Federal Subsistence
32 Board deals with the topic. That's occurred over
33 probably about an 18 month period, it's been sort of
34 slowly and methodically done by Staff in the Office of
35 Subsistence Management. The developed a first draft
36 policy quite a number of months back. The Board reviewed
37 that and asked for further work. Further work developed
38 into the policy that you have in your book today -- the
39 draft policy that you have in your book today.

40

41 The analysis -- I'll give you the bottom
42 line right now, right up at the beginning. The review by
43 the Staff found that the Board does not have the
44 authority to engage in what we'd call active predator
45 control and the basis of this is the 1992 environmental
46 impact statement. You actually heard about that
47 environmental impact statement a little earlier from
48 Peggy Fox. She was referring to the same document, but
49 on a different topic.

50

1 In the review and the material that's in
2 your book, there are two important terms, one is predator
3 control and the other is predator management. They're
4 used in the following way and let me just read two
5 sentences, predator control is the intention to reduce
6 the population of predators for the benefit for the prey
7 species. Predator management may involve a variety of
8 actions to increase or decrease populations, improve or
9 maintain health, provide for non-consumptive uses,
10 provide for subsistence harvest opportunities, et cetera.
11 Two different terms, with different meanings.

12
13 And the other thing to be aware of is
14 that the Board over a lot of years has received two kinds
15 of proposals. Those that were specifically trying to
16 target a species and wolves is a common one, it might
17 also be brown bears, to reduce the number of that
18 particular species with the hopes of increasing the
19 number of some other species, whether that be caribou or
20 moose or deer, deer in Southeast perhaps. And the other
21 type of proposal is one that's simply interested in
22 changing a season or a harvest limit for a particular
23 species because maybe their numbers have gone up so
24 there's a little more opportunity to take more, whatever
25 the case may be.

26
27 So those are the introductory remarks
28 that I have. On Page 93 of your book, this is all in Tab
29 E is the first piece here and I'll move through these
30 items. This first piece is just really a little
31 introduction and it tells you about this draft policy.
32 It specifically says that the Federal Board intends to
33 adopt a draft policy very much like the one you have
34 here, okay. As I already said the Board's talked about
35 this at two different work sessions. But the Board is
36 very much interested in all the Councils reviewing this
37 material, offering any comments, corrections,
38 observations or number of different things that you might
39 want to comment on and it is looking to take this up at
40 its December meeting of this year and have a final
41 discussion about it and then take action from there.

42
43 So that's simply the intentions of the
44 Board.

45
46 The overall hope is that this policy will
47 provide clarification to users so they understand where
48 the Board wants to act and where the Board does not want
49 to ask.

50

1 And with that I'll flip the page and I'll
2 kind of look around to see if anybody has questions.

3

4 (Pause)

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 MR. RABINOWITCH: Okay. So I'm onto Page
9 95 now and what you have here is a two page executive
10 summary. I know you're all familiar with executive
11 summaries, you try to condense everything down into a
12 couple of pages and that's the goal of this. Well, the
13 things that I've highlighted out of there to emphasize,
14 on Page 95 in the second paragraph, at the very bottom of
15 it, there's two questions that were asked. The first one
16 is, is it necessary to distinguish between the types of
17 requests? Those are the two types I was just talking
18 about a minute ago. And, should the Federal Board take
19 actions to control predator species for the beneficial
20 harvest of another desired species? Those were two key
21 questions that were looked at in the analysis and we'll
22 get to the analysis document in a minute. But those were
23 kind of points of light for the work that occurred.

24

25 On the second page of this, on Page 96 in
26 the second paragraph of this page, it again speaks to the
27 1992 environmental impact statement, and quotes some
28 material from there. The key line of which is that the
29 document stated that habitat manipul -- that predator
30 control, along with habitat manipulation is the
31 responsibility of the land managing agency and is beyond
32 the scope of what the EIS looked into. So the
33 distinction is that if you're talking about an issue on
34 Park Service land, the agency that I work for, the issue
35 lies with the individual agency rather than the Federal
36 Board, that's the key distinction, or any one of the
37 other Federal Board agencies.

38

39 And the conclusion, which I've already
40 told you but I'll repeat it one more time is that the
41 Federal Board's role is limited to predator management as
42 to predator control. So can you propose changes to bear
43 seasons or wolf seasons, yes, absolutely, you certainly
44 can. But if someone comes forward and says I want to
45 take more bears because what I really want is more
46 caribou, then under this policy what would happen is the
47 Federal Board would reject your proposal on that basis.
48 It would say we don't enact regulations to make more
49 caribou by taking more bears. That's really the bottom
50 line of what would happen.

1 And, again, I'll pause and see if there's
2 any questions.

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 MR. RABINOWITCH: Okay. Then on Page 97
7 then is the actual policy itself. There's a couple of
8 paragraphs and then at the bottom of the page there's an
9 A and a B. And I've really just said what this policy
10 results in already and that is that the Board will
11 continue to take proposals like it has, like many of you,
12 you know, you all have submitted in past years, but it
13 would reject proposals who have a predator control intent
14 stated in them.

15
16 And that's really all this policy does.
17 It's actually not terribly complicated and, you know, I
18 think people are probably pretty familiar with the
19 division, the line that's being drawn here.

20
21 And then on Page 99 through 113, you have
22 a 14 page analysis. I won't go into those 14 pages unless
23 somebody has specific questions. I mean I'm happy to do
24 that but my sense is you don't want me to sit here page
25 by page and walk you through all that. So I guess the
26 real bottom line is on Page 97, those are the key words
27 of the draft policy. You may have comments on any of
28 these documents, obviously. There may be some things in
29 the analysis that you either question or might disagree
30 with. Maybe there's some errors you might be able to
31 correct. Really, any number of things.

32
33 I think I'll stop there. I'll err on the
34 side of trying to keep it short and if you have questions
35 I'll take them and if you think of some later I'll be
36 here so you can call me back up or whatever you like.

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions or
39 comments from the Council.

40
41 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

42
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

44
45 MR. PATKOTAK: The predation of muskox by
46 bears.....

47
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike, your microphone.

49
50 MR. PATKOTAK: Oh, sorry about that.

1 Now, the predation of muskox by bears, has that been --
 2 is that a documented scenario and if so, how much is the
 3 bears taking the muskox? You know the muskox is a pretty
 4 tough animal.

5
 6 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: In Nuiqsut we have
 7 muskox around our community and this summer, Itlikluk
 8 area (ph), there was a herd of, it started out with 40
 9 and was reduced quite a bit, maybe by 10 animals, eight
 10 to 10 animals by a couple of bears out there. So it does
 11 occur and it's relation to what other natural species
 12 they have to go after. There wasn't as many caribou
 13 around that area now, so the bears of that area were
 14 preying on the muskox which are more territorial. They
 15 stay in the area whereas the caribou migrate.

16
 17 But I know when we were out with the
 18 camp, they got three muskox while we were out there in
 19 the two, two and a half, three weeks we were out there.

20
 21 MR. AGNASAGGA: Mr. Chairman.

22
 23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Amos, go ahead.

24
 25 MR. AGNASAGGA: Yeah, last year we had
 26 two herds of muskox and we had no caribou. This year we
 27 got no muskox we got lots of caribou. I know there was a
 28 Federal agent went to Point Lay last year trying to let
 29 people hunt the muskox but nobody wanted to because who
 30 wants an animal when you have no use for it. But this
 31 year we got no muskox and we got a lot of caribou.

32
 33 MR. RABINOWITCH: Okay.

34
 35 MR. AGNASAGGA: That's just a comment I
 36 wanted to make about the muskox.

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

40
 41 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

42
 43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike, go ahead.
 44 Microphone.

45
 46 MR. PATKOTAK: No, I think this can wait
 47 until after, I was wanting to talk to.....

48
 49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Rosemary.

50

1 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: We support his
2 statements also in our area. We've had many people
3 concerned about increasing in muskox number and
4 decreasing of the caribous in our area but it's not
5 related to this, but I just wanted to support it.

6
7 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

10
11 MR. PATKOTAK: What about, I know they
12 can't enact -- increase the bear take but muskox is
13 starting to realize a really good delicacy. What's being
14 done in terms of this increase in grizzly bears? I know
15 my cousin and my nephew spotted a bear, grizzly, with
16 three cubs, which is unheard of up here, because a sow
17 usually doesn't hunt that well to support that many cubs.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think, Mike, there's
20 been some regulation changes from -- just some minor
21 changes in the number of animals that could be taken in
22 terms of brown bear. And the language we read, one bear
23 every four years, but there's been a revision, another
24 proposal to change the wording to one bear every year. I
25 think that's one of the steps that's been taken to try
26 and manage this bear increase, brown bear increase that
27 we've noticed over and around the North Slope. That's
28 one issue.

29
30 MR. PATKOTAK: You mean we can hunt
31 legally for a change instead of hunting like criminals?

32
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think I like being a
34 legal hunter myself.

35
36 (Laughter)

37
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Well, that's just a
39 comment I wanted to bring out, that I know from reading
40 the proposals that have been submitted to Alaska Board of
41 Game and that's one of them that's being changed to try
42 and liberalize the brown bear take. Any other comments.
43 Questions. Raymond.

44
45 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman, talking about
46 muskox, we had one, a couple of them in our area and
47 those couple of muskox went south and people were
48 concerned of those two animals and then one of them come
49 back where the caribou traveling right now, I don't know
50 if -- we don't know how to steer them from that caribou

1 route area. I don't know how we do that. That's
2 people's concern of that because caribou are scared of
3 those muskox in that area. So it happened a couple
4 times.

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Raymond. I
7 know the population of muskox has been declining in the
8 Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and I'm not sure how
9 they're going to be addressing that. I'm not sure if
10 they're ready to transplant another 20 over there to
11 increase the number, but it's been -- I'm not sure what
12 the numbers are at now, they were at 18 the last time I
13 heard of them and dwindling downward because of the
14 bears, brown bears taking them, taking the muskox down
15 and utilizing them as food within the Arctic National
16 Wildlife Refuge. So I'm not sure what they're planning
17 to do to help recover the muskox in that area. Unless
18 they put a fence over there on the Canadian border.

19
20 (Laughter)

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The animals have been
23 moving into Canada and dispersing into other areas
24 outside of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge because
25 there's been an increase in brown bears, and they're
26 learning that they're dangerous to the muskox.

27
28 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Uh-huh.

29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other questions to
31 Sandy regarding this predator management policy.

32
33 (No comments)

34
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, thank you. Did
36 you have any other comments or issues you wanted to bring
37 up, Sandy?

38
39 MR. RABINOWITCH: No. But if anyone does
40 have comments, you know, you could certainly submit them,
41 you know, up until the December meeting, you know, if you
42 look this over and have something to offer in you're
43 certainly welcome to do that. If anyone has questions,
44 you could really be in touch, you know, with any of us,
45 myself, Helen, Peggy, really any of us that are
46 convenient to be in touch with.

47
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: A question to you, is
49 the Council going to be meeting again soon or.....

50

1 MR. RABINOWITCH: No.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER:are you referring
4 to another Federal Subsistence Board meeting?

5

6 MR. RABINOWITCH: No, I'm not aware that
7 the Council will meet between now and then. I'm
8 referring to the December meeting of the Federal Board.
9 But I'm simply saying that as individuals, if any of you,
10 you know, decide you have a comment next week or
11 whatever, you could certainly send it in. You know
12 there's nothing stopping anyone. The goal of the Board
13 is specifically to see if Councils have any comments on
14 this and that's why we've brought it up today. I am
15 certain that if next week you decided you had a comment
16 and you wanted to call it in or write it down and send it
17 in I'm sure the Federal Board would be happy to hear
18 that. That's what I was trying to say.

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

21

22 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chairman.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

25

26 MR. PATKOTAK: I almost forgot I don't
27 know whether Sandy has anything to do with this but my
28 nephew got pretty irritated at some airplanes that were
29 flying around over at Peard Bay. And, you know, they
30 land and, you know, kind of buzzing around over and
31 harassing the hunt of my nephew, both on land and out in
32 the bay, out in the ocean where -- actually harassing the
33 Native hunt. I don't know what the Feds or the State are
34 doing in there. I know they have a lot more
35 responsibilities down in Southcentral where there's a lot
36 more serious allegations of misuse of aircraft, but
37 definitely the misuse of aircraft in terms of harassing
38 hunters on the Slope has been increasing also especially
39 up here in the North.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mike.
42 Sandy, did you have anything to do with that?

43

44 MR. RABINOWITCH: I don't think so. I'm
45 not a pilot so it wasn't me. But I do wonder, and I'll
46 look across to Terry Haynes. Terry, am I correct to
47 think that the State has a statute where it's illegal to
48 harass hunters or am I -- I am on the right track?

49

50 MR. HAYNES: Yes.

1 MR. RABINOWITCH: Okay. So Terry might
2 -- I mean if he's familiar with that incident but he
3 might be able to speak to what the State statute has to
4 say if you would like that.

5
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

7
8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Maybe I'll just say
9 something. This has come up at other Council meetings
10 and what I've heard before is that if you get harassed,
11 if you can get the numbers off the plane and call it in
12 but it is illegal to harass wildlife. And I'm assuming
13 illegal to -- I don't know, it's illegal to harass
14 wildlife, I'm not sure if it's illegal to harass hunters.

15
16 MR. PATKOTAK: The reason why I'm saying
17 it, and that's one of the first questions I asked my
18 nephew and he said that's one of the first things he
19 looked for was the markings on the aircraft and they seem
20 to have been altered or covered in this case.

21
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: A description of the
23 aircraft and the color would be very helpful if the
24 number are not identifiable, that, you know, if you have
25 a specific date and area that the aircraft was seen would
26 be very helpful in terms of identifying the aircraft
27 that's doing this harassment. I think that would be one
28 step that, you know, that could be taken.

29
30 MR. PATKOTAK: I told him to get a
31 camera.

32
33 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: In our area they
34 recommended that we just call straight to the State
35 Troopers with any information, the sooner the better,
36 specifics, location, date and time and any description
37 that they can provide. If they can get pictures that's
38 even better. But that's a quick way to deal with it.
39 But that's very difficult when the burden is placed upon
40 the subsistence hunter trying to get this information.

41
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other comments
43 regarding draft predator management policy.

44
45 (No comments)

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for your
48 time, Sandy. You folks want to take a few minute break
49 here before we go on to the next item or did you want to
50 continue. Shall we go on an-about?

1 (Laughter)

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, we'll continue, I
4 suppose, it's majority rules.

5

6 (Laughter)

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I have number 12(A)(4),
9 Staff Committee Role, Dr. Glenn Chen.

10

11 MR. CHEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For
12 the record my name is Glenn Chen. I'm a fisheries
13 biologist with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and a member
14 of the Inter-agency Staff Committee. I'm here today on
15 behalf of the Staff Committee as its representative and
16 I'd like to discuss an issue which is very important to
17 us, and specifically the role of the Staff Committee in
18 the process of the subsistence regulatory proposals.

19

20 The material I'll be presenting to you
21 starts on Page 117 of your Council book.

22

23 If you look in the Federal Subsistence
24 Management regulations, the Staff Committee was
25 established to provide assistance to the Board. And our
26 Board members rely upon us for support and advice
27 regarding procedures, policies and technical issues in
28 the Federal Subsistence Program. And one example would
29 be the predator management policy that Sandy Rabinowitch
30 just presented to you.

31

32 Recently, though, there's been some
33 concerns raised by a number of Councils and Council
34 Chairs regarding the Staff Committee's role. There are
35 feelings and perceptions that we are having an undue
36 influence on the Federal Subsistence Board, especially
37 with regard to the decision-making process for
38 subsistence regulatory proposals, and also the Board's
39 consideration of RAC recommendations on these proposals.
40 Now, these concerns were most recently expressed at the
41 May 2003 Board meeting in Anchorage and in response to
42 these concerns, Chairman Demientieff, directed that a
43 review of our role be conducted specifically with regards
44 to the process of developing Federal Subsistence
45 regulations.

46

47 What we've done since the May meeting is
48 we've held a series of meetings between the Staff
49 Committee and with the Federal Subsistence Board in
50 response to the Chairman's direction. And at this point

1 we've developed a number of proposed changes to the Staff
2 Committee's role that we would like to present to you, to
3 the North Slope Council for your review and comments.

4
5 I'd like to turn your attention to the
6 table on Page 119 in your Council book. This is a table
7 that was prepared by Peggy Fox from OSM, it does a really
8 good job of summarizing the process that we use now and
9 how the proposed changes might affect that process.

10
11 So if you follow that table, I'll go into
12 the proposed changes.

13
14 The first step that we undertake is we do
15 analysis of the proposals and specifically what we do is
16 we review the Staff analysis that's prepared once a
17 proposal is received, this review takes place with the
18 Staff Committee, the authors of the analysis and the
19 Office of Subsistence Management and also with members of
20 the ADF&G Staff. And this takes place prior to the
21 publication of these books and prior to the Council
22 meeting. What we're proposing for changes is rather
23 minor in this regard. We're going to keep the same
24 process, but the Staff Committee would also then develop
25 talking points that we would then bring to the Council
26 meeting to present to you, which brings us to the next
27 step here, and that's the actual Council meeting, like
28 the one we're having now.

29
30 Right now, at present, Staff Committee
31 participation and attendance at these meetings is
32 optional. And we really don't have a specific role
33 that's defined for us in how we should participate with
34 the Council's at these meetings. What we're proposing to
35 change is as follows. We would, of course, institute
36 that a Staff Committee representative or representatives
37 attend these meetings, and we would discuss proposals and
38 other issues with the Council. And we would also offer
39 that we could provide any assistance that the Council
40 might request, technical issues regarding the analysis,
41 or perhaps agency policies or so forth. And this would
42 be, again, provided upon request of the Council. And
43 what we're trying to accomplish here is we're trying to
44 establish direct communication with the Council, and
45 that's been part of the problem right now, is there's
46 been a lack of direct communication with the Council
47 members and Chairs between the Staff Committee, and we
48 would like to get this communication and engagement early
49 in the process rather than towards the end.

50

1 The next step that would follow the
2 Council meeting, is the Staff Committee would then
3 convene another meeting and at present we develop
4 recommendations on these proposals, you've probably seen
5 the Board book that -- often times there's a Staff
6 Committee recommendation, Staff Committee majority and
7 minority recommendation if we don't come to consensus.
8 And we also incorporate input from the Alaska Department
9 of Fish and Game during the Staff Committee meeting,
10 which generally takes place about a month or so before
11 the Board meeting. And in the past we've occasionally
12 invited the Council Chairs to participate in the meeting.
13 Here's what we're proposing to change. We're proposing
14 to institute that the Council Chairs always attend or
15 participate in this meeting, actually attendance would
16 probably be by teleconference. And then this would give
17 us the opportunity to consider the Council's
18 recommendation and get direct input and feedback from the
19 Council Chair. We recognize that the Council Chair can't
20 represent the entire Council but it's been very valuable
21 to have the Council Chair's perspective on the proposals
22 and why the Council made its recommendation.

23
24 And then following this meeting, we, the
25 Staff Committee would then develop comments rather than a
26 formal recommendation to the Federal Subsistence Board.

27
28 Okay, so what we're trying to accomplish
29 -- a number of things here. Again, we're trying to get
30 better communication between the Councils [sic] and the
31 Chairs on all the proposals and get this communication to
32 occur before the actual Board meeting. This also gives
33 the Chair an opportunity to learn about the Staff
34 Committee's deliberations and perhaps find new
35 information that might be presented by the Staff
36 Committee, other agencies or the Department of Fish and
37 Game and then they can bring that information back to the
38 Council and be more informed prior to the actual Board
39 meeting.

40
41 Following Staff Committee meeting then
42 there would be the actual Board meeting itself and there
43 are a number of changes that we could propose here for
44 your consideration. Again, at -- right now, the Staff
45 Committee actually gives a formal presentation at the
46 Board meeting on its recommendations, sometimes two
47 recommendations, a minority or a majority recommendation.
48 And what we would change there -- or we would suggest
49 that there could be some changes made, we suggest that we
50 could actually not have a formal role, not actually have

1 a formal presentation, the Staff Committee could provide
2 comments, the comments could be in the Board book and not
3 actually read during the meeting. We could also provide
4 maybe a brief oral presentation as well. But again there
5 would not be a formal Staff Committee recommendation on
6 how the Board should act on these proposals.

7
8 There's been some comments or some
9 concerns raised about our visibility at the meetings.
10 And I think some people have commented on the fact that
11 the Staff Committee walks around behind the Board members
12 during the deliberations and it appears as if there may
13 be some negotiations going on, those sorts of things. So
14 we would eliminate that process here and actually try and
15 minimize these side conversations that we have during the
16 actual meeting.

17
18 And finally, when it comes to decisions
19 and deliberations by the Board, at present, a lot of the
20 Board members choose to make their motion by following
21 the Staff Committee recommendation, what we've proposed
22 changing here is eliminate that and have the Board member
23 or a Board member start with a Regional Council
24 recommendation, as its initial motion. And we think this
25 would help in an effort in regards to, it focuses the
26 Board's deliberations on the Council's recommendation
27 rather than the Staff Committee's recommendations and it
28 would emphasize compliance with ANILCA, Sections .805(c)
29 and Section .815. And probably more importantly it would
30 insure that the Staff Committee isn't on the same level
31 as the Councils when it comes to recommendations to the
32 Board.

33
34 That's a summary of the current process
35 and the proposed changes in what we're trying to
36 accomplish with the proposed changes.

37
38 (Pause)

39
40 MR. CHEN: At present the Board is
41 seeking your comment and feedback on some of these
42 proposed changes, and the Board would also like to learn
43 about any additional suggestions that you might have with
44 regards to what might be a more effective way of
45 addressing the Staff Committee's role and the concerns
46 about the Staff Committee's role.

47
48 If you could turn to Page 120 in your
49 Council book, this shows a timeline, timeframe that the
50 Board is considering for resolution of this issue.

1 At each Council meeting this fall there
2 will be a Staff Committee representative giving this
3 presentation and seeking, soliciting each Council's
4 feedback and input. And the Board will then consider all
5 these comments and feedback and also take this issue up
6 directly with the Council Chairs at the December 2003
7 Board meeting and invite them to open discussion between
8 the Board members and as well as the Council Chairs.

9
10 Either during or perhaps immediately
11 after the December 2003 meeting the Board will then make
12 a decision and then direct the Staff Committee to
13 incorporate all the changes that it desires.

14
15 So that pretty much concludes my
16 presentation. And, again, we'd like to seek your
17 comments and feedback and any additional suggestions that
18 you might have with regards to addressing this issue
19 about the Staff Committee's role.

20
21 Thank you.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Dr. Chen.
24 Any comments from the Council, questions.

25
26 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I think it's
27 important.....

28
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Rosemary.

30
31 MS. AHTUANGARUAK:to recognize that
32 depending how the teleconference is run will invoke how
33 well you have participation with your members. If you
34 have no way of identifying that there's someone that's
35 trying to communicate then there may be an issue that
36 comes up that gets completely bypassed because of the
37 rapidity of the people that are presenting information.
38 So that's just something -- I've been involved with a lot
39 of teleconferences, some are good, some are bad, but you
40 have to incorporate time for responses if you want
41 adequate involvement. If you don't incorporate that
42 you're not going to get adequate involvement with the
43 teleconference. That's the only hesitation I have with
44 what's presented. Face to face you're going to get some
45 involvement, but you may be limited with teleconferences.

46
47 MR. CHEN: Thank you, Rosemary. I would
48 agree that face to face is definitely a much better way
49 to engage in discussions.

50

1 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chair.

2

3 MR. CHEN: In a number of cases -- oh,
4 I'm sorry, go ahead.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mike.

7

8 MR. PATKOTAK: One of the concerns I've
9 got from some of the elders is that the attitude of
10 already having prepared legislations and regulations and
11 coming and asking for input only after the fact, I don't
12 know if any other members have heard that from their
13 respective villages, but some of the elders I've talked
14 to seem to get the impression that different agencies
15 come up just to appease without ever really taking into
16 serious consideration, the testimony that's being taken.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other comments.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If we don't have any
23 other comments, thank you, Dr. Chen. Or did you have
24 another issue you wanted to bring up?

25

26 MR. CHEN: Yeah, just in closing. I
27 think I would kind of follow the same process that Sandy
28 used, we would invite comments or suggestions at any
29 time.....

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

32

33 MR. CHEN:up until the Board
34 meeting. And again, there will be an opportunity at the
35 Board meeting for the Chairs to speak directly with the
36 Board members and the Chairman about this issue. So you
37 can call the Office of Subsistence Management or myself
38 or any of the Staff Committee members to offer your
39 comments and suggestions.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Our next
44 agenda item is regulatory cycle, review, briefing.
45 Helen. No last name, just Helen.

46

47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: There's only one of
48 me. Thank you, Mr. Chair. This is really brief. It
49 appears on Page 121 of Tab E, and this doesn't affect the
50 Council a great deal. The office was reviewing how we do

1 our, what we call our regulatory cycle and, you know, the
2 timing of when Council books go out, Federal Subsistence
3 Board activities, and the one thing that we had been
4 concerned about was Council books not getting to Council
5 on time and I believe that everybody got theirs except
6 for Rosemary. Did everybody get their Council books this
7 time on time, I know they went out pretty early. So
8 that's been accomplished.

9
10 We're also doing some things like
11 reducing this -- trying to reduce the size of some of the
12 Board books. We're going to be providing things on CD
13 for people who don't want to get a paper copy. We'll be
14 providing the Council and the Board books on line. Those
15 things affect the public.

16
17 We will be extending the fall Regional
18 Council meeting until a little bit later in October.
19 This probably won't be affect this Council because you
20 usually like to have your meeting quite early in
21 September. The Board meeting is going to be meeting a
22 little bit earlier in May and we'll move the December
23 meeting to mid-January, so that will be affecting the
24 Chair but not the rest of the Council.

25
26 We're going to work on making the
27 regulation books more user friendly so that will affect
28 all of you more readable and more understandable so we're
29 developing some ideas on that.

30
31 And we're shifting the date for fish
32 regulations from March 1st to April 1st.

33
34 And then we'll be reexamining this every
35 three years. So, you know, if along the way you come up
36 with some idea on how we can make our process better or
37 more efficient or more user friendly to the subsistence
38 users you can let us know.

39
40 Thank you, Mr. Chair, that's all.

41
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Helen. Any
43 questions or comments.

44
45 MR. PATKOTAK: Just when we're learning
46 the.....

47
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Turn your mike on
49 please, Mike.

50

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1 MR. PATKOTAK: Just when we're learning
2 how to use the book you're going to change it on us
3 again, uh?

4
5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We're going to make it
6 better and easier.

7
8 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Just a note on your
9 recommendations, you need to keep it early in October due
10 to our meeting late in October so that's important to
11 note. It just seems, especially on the North Slope,
12 we're cramming a lot into October, so just be aware.

13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Are we anticipating any
15 changes to our meeting dates for earlier times or are you
16 recommending later times?

17
18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It will make it -- no,
19 the window will be longer in October.

20
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay.

22
23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And you get to choose
24 when your meeting is. It will give you more of an option
25 to do it, if you want to do it, you know, closer to AFN
26 you can do that. But it won't -- we're not making it
27 shorter on the September side. So it's giving you more
28 time, not less time in where you can choose your window.

29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay.

31
32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I mean your date, the
33 window is larger.

34
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm getting some
36 confusing information here.

37
38 MR. PATKOTAK: Mr. Chair.

39
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm starting to think
41 that we're going to meet shorter times and have longer
42 winters.

43
44 (Laughter)

45
46 MR. PATKOTAK: Have the meeting in
47 Anchorage just right before AFN for a three day period.
48 That way we can schedule our return for after AFN.

49
50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Well, that's too many

1 conflicting meetings for me. I got three of them I got
2 to go to and trying to get to AFN before I even get
3 there. So I don't know, I think I like to remain status
4 quo for now.

5
6 I'm not sure, did you want some more
7 discussion on the issue there, Helen?

8
9 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No.

10
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think we'll be
12 looking at our window of opportunity down here when we
13 get down to establish time and place of next meeting, so
14 we'll have further discussion on that issue at that time.

15
16 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.

17
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

19
20 MR. TAGAROOK: I suggest we take a place
21 before we fall asleep.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We'll take your
24 recommendation, five, 10 minute break.

25
26 (Off record)

27
28 (On record)

29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We're under agenda Item
31 12. I think we just got done with the regulatory cycle
32 briefing by Helen. Now, we're under 12B, National Park
33 Service, Sandy.

34
35 MR. RABINOWITCH: Thank you, Mr.
36 Chairman. I'm here representing Gates of the Arctic
37 National Park. I have several just stray informational
38 items for you, there's no action that you need to take
39 and if you have any questions I'll do my best to try to
40 answer them.

41
42 I got input from a couple of different
43 people in the Park so I'll flip a few papers here to make
44 sure I cover them. Some of you might know Mike Hubert
45 who's been in Anaktuvuk Pass for the last six years as a
46 Park Ranger, he has recently transferred to the Lower 48.
47 Verna Webber, who I don't know, but as I am told, a
48 lifetime resident of Anaktuvuk Pass has been recently
49 hired by the Park Service as a village liaison in that
50 community.

1 A subject that you have heard reports
2 about over the last couple of years, Park Service has
3 called this either Back Country Planning or Wilderness
4 Planning has been -- the progress on that effort has been
5 slowed down appreciably and basically going into kind of
6 a pause mode so there's not much to offer about that.
7 Mr. Chairman, I do have a one page letter that I'd be
8 happy to leave with you, if you're interested that
9 explains that in a little more detail, but I don't think
10 it's worth me reading very much of this to you right now.
11 But nonetheless, that's been slowed down a lot.

12
13 On the subject of the Gates of the Arctic
14 Subsistence Resource Commission which Raymond is on,
15 their next meeting will be in Fairbanks on November 12th
16 and 13th. And then moving on -- I'm sorry, did you have
17 a question?

18
19 MR. PANEAK: November?

20
21 MR. RABINOWITCH: November 12th and 13th.

22
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's little
24 airplanes behind us making all that racquet and we can't
25 hear you.

26
27 (Laughter)

28
29 MR. RABINOWITCH: All right. On a couple
30 of items that might be of some interest to you. The Park
31 Service has been working with Fish and Game on a moose
32 survey in the Upper Kobuk Drainage, a little bit of that
33 is in Unit 24, to the south of you, but of interest to
34 Anaktuvuk Pass community and then it flows towards
35 Kotzebue and it goes through Unit 23. And just an early
36 comment is that the information they're getting about
37 moose numbers there are that they're very low, so that's
38 the -- the data has not been added up or fully analyzed
39 yet. But that's what they're telling us. So not good
40 but good to know about these things sooner rather than
41 later.

42
43 Additionally, in the Preserve portion of
44 the Gates of the Arctic on the North Slope side of the
45 Brooks range, we have nine rams reported being taken this
46 hunting season by sport hunters. The last time there was
47 a census, a complete census in that area, there were
48 about 40, so what I'm told is that we've got people kind
49 of looking into that because that's kind of a high number
50 of harvest. I wish I knew more about this but that's

1 really all I know, but just to mention it so you're
2 aware.

3
4 The last item in another kind of
5 direction, just to share with you, and I brought a couple
6 of copies that I can leave with you, the Park Service,
7 among other things, has various grant programs and the
8 Native Village of Barrow applied to the Park Service for
9 a Historic Preservation Fund grant that's available to
10 Indian Tribes, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiian
11 organizations, and was granted their request and I
12 believe to the tune of \$50,000. So I've got the project
13 description of that here and, again, I'm happy to leave
14 that with you so the Village of Barrow has been
15 successful in requesting that grant.

16
17 And that concludes what I have for you.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions to Sandy
20 from the Council.

21
22 (No comments)

23
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I have one in terms of
25 did you state that there were 40 animals taken by sport
26 hunters on both sides of the Brooks Range or what was it
27 that I heard?

28
29 MR. RABINOWITCH: No, Mr. Chairman.
30 Well, I'm not sure what I said but let me read: within
31 that Preserve there have been nine reported rams killed
32 this hunting season.

33
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

35
36 MR. RABINOWITCH: Seven were with -- I'll
37 just read this. Seven were with a permitted guide, two
38 were with individuals who hiked in from the Haul Road.
39 Last time the data was collected in 1996 there were an
40 estimated 40 rams in that area.

41
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. All right. Any
43 questions or comments.

44
45 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman.

46
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond.

48
49 MR. PANEAK: Those nine rams were taken
50 in Preserve?

1 MR. RABINOWITCH: Yes.

2

3 MR. PANEAK: Or north -- I guess, I don't
4 know how the boundary works but I'm just wondering where
5 they got those sheep, we thought there were some float
6 planes that were in a closed area where they're not
7 supposed to hunt. But when we reported to the Coldfoot
8 Trooper those hunters were already gone. I don't know
9 where -- I don't know if those were the ones or I don't
10 know what -- which hunters, but it's -- I don't know, I
11 just wanted to bring up that part there.

12

13 MR. RABINOWITCH: I'm sorry, Raymond, I
14 had a little bit of trouble hearing just because of the
15 fan, were you asking where -- were you asking where one
16 would report hunters that were maybe hunting illegal?

17

18 MR. PANEAK: Yeah. Where were the sheep-
19 taking, because there was a report to us that there were
20 float planes where it was in the closed area and not in
21 the Preserve, but this side of the Preserve, where the
22 closed area was. The next valley from that area but I
23 don't think they were any -- there wasn't anybody
24 watching them, I don't know where they were. I think
25 they were hunting sheep, that's what I heard though. But
26 they never -- that trooper guy never catch them because
27 the plane had already left. But most of those sheep were
28 taken in Preserve, right?

29

30 MR. RABINOWITCH: What I have in front of
31 me says that those nine were taken inside the Preserve,
32 that would be to the north and to the east of Anaktuvuk
33 Pass.

34

35 MR. PANEAK: That's Inchulik area, right?

36

37 MR. RABINOWITCH: Yes.

38

39 MR. PANEAK: Thank you.

40

41 MR. RABINOWITCH: Okay.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other comments to
44 Sandy, questions.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If none, thank you,
49 Sandy. We'll move on to the next agenda item, U.S. Fish
50 and Wildlife Service, Arctic Refuge, Wennona Brown.

1 MS. BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Again,
2 my name is Wennona Brown. I'm the subsistence
3 coordinator representing the Arctic Refuge and I think
4 over the break we handed out a little synopsis of
5 research activities that the Refuge Staff has been
6 conducting this field season. I can briefly touch on it
7 or just hit a couple of highlights, whatever's your
8 pleasure, Mr. Chair.

9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Probably make it brief
11 would be okay.

12
13 MS. BROWN: Okay. If you're looking for
14 it, this is the item that was handed out.

15
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay.

17
18 MS. BROWN: I know questions were brought
19 up about muskoxen. In the spring census in April, the
20 Refuge Staff only counted 27 muskoxen, most of which were
21 in a group of 21 and by the end of April, at least, six
22 of those had been killed by grizzly bears. In the June
23 and July census we counted 31 muskoxen, including a group
24 of 12 with four calves. In Game Management 26(B) which
25 is west of the Refuge, number of muskoxen continue to
26 increase. In April they counted 302 between the Canning
27 River and the Colville. East of the Refuge and
28 Northwestern Canada the April count they only counted 85
29 compared with 186 in the same area the previous year.
30 The decline in muskoxen has been attributed to low calf
31 production, increased adult mortalities and moving of the
32 animals out of the Refuge. And a lot of this has been
33 attributed to icing conditions, deep snow as well as a
34 long snow season and predation.

35
36 Refuge Staff currently still does not
37 have any collars on muskoxen and notices how they're
38 moving but hopefully at the end of this week they're
39 trying to -- if weather cooperates we'll try to get out
40 and get, you know, collars on, you know, one or two. We
41 did just hear a report that there was a group of nine
42 sighted on the Junjik River which is on the south side,
43 so they're moving but, you know, hopefully we'll get at
44 least one or two collared and get a handle on how they're
45 moving.

46
47 Other notes of interest, you know, they
48 did do telemetry flights tracking the Arctic -- or the
49 Porcupine Caribou Herd this spring. They had scheduled
50 to do a summer photo census but the caribous never

1 congregated on the coastal plain this year so they
2 canceled that and hopefully we'll reschedule it for next
3 summer. The Refuge Staff will start monitoring the herd
4 closely over the winter months to determine overwinter
5 mortality.

6
7 The North Slope moose survey in April,
8 the Refuge Staff did survey the entire coastal plain
9 between the Canadian border and the Canning River for
10 moose. Through this they observed 52 moose along the
11 river drainages but none on the coastal plain. And this
12 was similar to the number in 1984 which is when the last
13 survey was done. And they anticipate the next survey to
14 be conducted in 2005.

15
16 And they did dall sheep surveys on the
17 Hula-Hula watershed in June. This is the first time that
18 that had been done since 1993 and unfortunately due to
19 poor weather conditions they only got 56 percent of the
20 drainage covered as opposed to what they had intended to
21 do. But in that they counted a total of 910 sheep and
22 the sheep distribution had changed somewhat since the
23 1993 survey, but they think a lot of the distribution
24 differences was attributed to the timing of the survey
25 that they had actually conducted it earlier this year
26 than they had in 1993. And they plan to conduct this
27 survey yearly for the next several years to establish,
28 you know, the population trends. And they also did an on
29 the ground survey in June to establish lamb production
30 and yearling survival. Along the Hula-Hula watershed
31 also they observed 325 sheep over a 20 mile route.
32 Production estimate was 39.1 lambs per 100 ewes and
33 yearling survival at 12.5 yearlings per 100 ewes with a
34 ram component of 32 percent. And this was similar to the
35 surveys done since 1995 and, again, they planned to
36 conduct this annually for the next several years.

37
38 And they also continued the Atigun Pass
39 dall sheep survey that they've been conducting every year
40 since 1987. This year they had noted a total of 38
41 groups totaling 389 individuals. The lamb to ewe ratio
42 was 42.2 lambs per ewes. And yearling survival was
43 nearly doubled from 2001 to 2003. It went from 16.8 per
44 100 ewes to 32.3 per 100 ewes respectfully and rams
45 percentage is holding fairly constant at 14 percent.

46
47 And this year they also surveyed the
48 species of sea ducks, marine ducks and shorebirds using
49 the Barrier Islands. This year they did the eastern half
50 of the Refuge from the Canadian border to Barter Island,

1 examining each island on foot and they noted nests from
2 such things as common eiders, glaucous gulls, Arctic
3 terns, long-tailed ducks, et cetera. Next summer they
4 plan to continue the survey but doing the western half of
5 the Refuge from Barter Island to the Canning River.

6
7 If there's any questions I'd be glad to
8 try to answer those.

9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions to
11 Wennona.

12
13 (No comments)

14
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I have a question in
16 terms of -- in regards to the muskox, has there been any
17 discussion within our U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
18 about doing another transplant of muskox within the
19 Arctic National Wildlife Refuge or has that even been
20 thought of yet?

21
22 MS. BROWN: To my knowledge that hasn't
23 been discussed yet.

24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. I know we've
26 been offering that as a remedy maybe to increase the
27 population of muskox in the Arctic National Wildlife
28 Refuge but.....

29
30 MS. BROWN: Yeah, I'll take that back and
31 advise the Staff.

32
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Questions.

34
35 MR. AGNASAGGA: Mr. Chairman.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Amos.

38
39 MR. AGNASAGGA: I don't have a question,
40 but maybe a comment. I'm so glad they were not around
41 Point Lay this summer. We had a good population of
42 caribou this summer because they were not there.

43
44 Just a comment.

45
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: He's referring to the
47 muskox within the Point Lay area. Thank you, Amos.

48
49 MR. AGNASAGGA: Last year we had two
50 herds of muskox, one was about -- they were both a

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1 population of 20 something and we had no caribou last
2 summer.

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Amos.

5

6 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I noticed on your
7 Atigun Pass dall sheep survey that it was done between
8 2001 to 2003, was there any comparilation [sic] with the
9 construction that was going on in that area at that time,
10 were the numbers related to any of that activity?

11

12 MS. BROWN: I don't know, I'd have to ask
13 -- I don't know, maybe they didn't do a summer last year.
14 But I can certainly go back and ask.

15

16 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I think that might
17 help with some of this interpretation if we understand if
18 there were factors related to those activities that
19 decreased the numbers or not. That's something to note
20 to add to this one.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 MS. BROWN: Uh-huh.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other questions or
27 comments.

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I have none, thank you,
32 Brown for your report.

33

34 MS. BROWN: Thank you.

35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Bureau of Land
37 Management, Bill Morris, 2:00 p.m., you're late, 3:55 --
38 just checking.

39

40 MR. MORRIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
41 guess I should just clarify, I'm just kind of sitting in
42 for Bob, I actually work for the Department of Natural
43 Resources for the State of Alaska. And for those of you
44 who have listened to me talk in the past I did, in deed,
45 used to work for Fish and Game, that's just a recent
46 switch in the last several months.

47

48 But basically what I'd like to talk to
49 you about is an experiment we conducted this past winter
50 involving -- well, basically designed to take a look

1 specifically at the potential impacts to overwintering
2 fish from vibrasize. I believe it was 2001, I attended
3 one of the RAC meetings and it was obviously a big
4 concern of people, as it was with us and I was able to
5 talk with Bob Schneider and we were able to secure some
6 funding to actually get this done, so this has been a
7 cooperative study with the Department of Fish and Game,
8 BLM as well as industry, Western-GECO provided all the
9 equipment for the study and the State of Alaska provided
10 our experimental group of fish.

11

12 Basically what we wanted to do was
13 subject a group of fish similar to fish that live up here
14 to vibrasize. So we flew about 500 fish -- actually
15 Arctic char from the fish hatchery in Anchorage, flew
16 them up to an abandoned, well, basically an empty --
17 well, a lake that didn't have any fish in it in the
18 Prudhoe Bay area and we suspended fish in small cages
19 under the ice, so we had about six feet of ice and
20 actually brought the vibrasize -- the big vibrating
21 machines directly over the fish suspended in the water,
22 put videocameras under the ice to videotape fish
23 responses to the machines operating, and basically
24 operated the machines.

25

26 We had several different groups of fish.
27 We had one group of fish that we just basically put in
28 the water in the traps and then pulled them out and
29 preserved them. We didn't operate the machinery on those
30 fish at all. We had another group where we put the fish
31 in the traps under the ice and operated one machine
32 directly over the group of fish, pulled those fish out of
33 the water and preserved them. We had another group where
34 we had all five of the machines that typically -- that
35 you could expect to thump on a water body so we had five
36 of them thump on the third group of fish, and that should
37 represent the most energy put into the water and put into
38 the fish. And then we had a final group of fish that we
39 basically just put into the water in the traps and just
40 left them in the water for the same period of time that
41 all the other fish were in. So this way we basically
42 produced different groups of fish with basically fish
43 that we had subjected to our treatments and fish that
44 were just controlled fish so that we could determine
45 whether or not it was in deed vibrasize having impacts to
46 the fish or just the fact that we were doing so much
47 handling with the fish: flying them from Anchorage,
48 netting them out of the tanks, putting them in cages,
49 putting them under the water.

50

1 That was the first part of the
2 experiment. And so far what I can tell you from the
3 results there are that no fish died in that portion of
4 the experiment. We brought all the fish immediately back
5 to Fairbanks. I guess I should clarify, no fish died as
6 a result of the experiment -- of the vibrasize equipment.
7 All the fish were killed by us in the preservation
8 process so we could bring them back and conduct
9 necropsies.

10
11 Once we got the fish back to the lab we
12 basically looked for damage to the gills, damage to the
13 eyes, their swim bladders. And so far we don't have any
14 statistical analysis for that part yet, but so far just
15 in real general terms there doesn't appear to be anything
16 that really stands out as far as physical damage to fish
17 from vibrasize.

18
19 But another important thing that we got
20 out of -- from the folks at the last RAC meeting that I
21 attended was that there could also be a behavioral
22 response that could impact potentially fishing in certain
23 areas if a vibrasize equipment operates over a bunch of
24 wintering fish and they basically just swim away and
25 don't come back. So once we determined that at least
26 none of the fish in our experimental group died as a
27 result, we went to a small hole in the Sag River that's --
28 basically we put the cameras under the water and there
29 were hundreds of big unoklek (ph), and we put a bunch of
30 cameras down, brought the vibrator rig out onto the ice
31 over the fish in the natural setting and operated the
32 machinery there and basically there was an immediate
33 response, those fish swam away within about two and a
34 half minutes all those fish had returned to just about
35 the same place and we basically continued to operate the
36 equipment to simulate what a normal sweep of a lake might
37 be. So we operated the equipment six times and
38 essentially by the end of the experiment the fish were
39 very minimally disturbed. You know, by the last time we
40 hit it, fish would swim -- basically they were just
41 swimming a few feet.

42
43 And I have -- we have video available for
44 anybody who wants to see it. I actually have a disk if
45 anybody's interested in taking a look at some of that
46 today. And there should be a final report with a
47 statistical analysis and some X-ray analysis that hasn't
48 been conducted yet. We're hoping by December.

49
50 And if there are any questions. Thank

1 you.

2

3 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: On your study.....

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Rosemary.

6

7 MS. AHTUANGARUAK:that was done
8 with the natural area, was there any area where the fish
9 could have escaped or was that just enclosed?

10

11 MR. MORRIS: Well, actually last year
12 they probably could have left the hole, most years they
13 wouldn't have been able to. But as you know the several
14 years have been pretty unique up here as far as rivers
15 not freezing down as far. I'm pretty sure last year they
16 could have left. But you can see the arc. They don't go
17 as far as away as was available to them to go away. They
18 just kind of made a big -- just made a big loop. They
19 could have gone further but.....

20

21 MR. BODFISH: Mr. Chairman.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Paul, go ahead.

24

25 MR. BODFISH: Are you guys planning to do
26 any studies during the winter -- this winter's vibriosis?

27

28 MR. MORRIS: As far as I'm aware of, no,
29 we're going to go ahead and finish the analysis of what
30 we have now and hopefully be able to present that to
31 people and I suspect if there's a need to do additional
32 work then that's what we would want to do.

33

34 MR. BODFISH: The reason I'm asking that
35 question is, is because the area that they're going to be
36 doing their vibriosis this winter, they've got a lot of
37 areas where they can escape to.

38

39 MR. MORRIS: Uh-huh.

40

41 MR. BODFISH: And I want to know what the
42 results of that is, I'd like to know.

43

44 MR. MORRIS: Yeah, that's a real good
45 comment. That's something that we've thought about
46 before. I think at the last RAC meeting, I think it was
47 probably Ned Arey, who kind of recommended that maybe,
48 depending on our studies over the last couple of years,
49 something we could do with radio telemetry work actually
50 would be to actually locate a group of fish in a water

1 body like that and operate the equipment and then because
2 we have the radio tags on them we'd be able to track if
3 they went to another portion of the lake and stayed and
4 didn't come back.

5
6 Just given what we saw in the river, how
7 little they seemed to be bothered by it, I'm not sure how
8 far they'd go. Vibrasize is usually -- I don't know if
9 you've ever had the opportunity to actually be by the
10 rigs when they shoot off but it's pretty -- it's pretty
11 rapid, you know, the total presence, you know, total time
12 on the lake would be pretty quick. But it would be a
13 good thing to look at.

14
15 MR. BODFISH: That's all I had.

16
17 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman.

18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond.

20
21 MR. PANEAK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman I just
22 got a question to him. Last year I heard that they have
23 dumped fish to the Chena Lake, is that part of that or
24 where they dump those -- where'd they get those fish
25 from, and they were talking about Chena Lake over there
26 for recreational? I don't know where they get it from,
27 I'd just like to find out where they get them and they
28 dump them there and they have -- that Chena Lake, that's
29 recreational area, you know, people fish there and, you
30 know, that fish don't belong there, they just brought
31 them over there, I think, Department of Fish and Game or
32 whoever bring those, I'd like to find out where they get
33 it from.

34
35 MR. MORRIS: The fish from Chena Lakes?

36
37 MR. PANEAK: Well, they dumped some fish
38 in Chena Lakes.

39
40 MR. MORRIS: Uh-huh.

41
42 MR. PANEAK: I'm wondering where they get
43 it from. I'd like to find out where those -- where they
44 get those fish from.

45
46 MR. MORRIS: The fish that the State puts
47 in Chena Lakes all come from the hatchery.

48
49 MR. PANEAK: Thank you.

50

1 MR. MORRIS: Yep.

2

3 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Were there various
4 ages of fish that were used, were they all pretty much
5 the same age and the type, female versus male or not?

6

7 MR. MORRIS: That's a good question. The
8 fish in the experimental treatment were all basically the
9 same age because that's what's available to you from the
10 hatchery. However, given that they're from the hatchery,
11 in a real world setting, as far as the sizes of fish that
12 we used, we had fish from, you know, a few inches to fish
13 all the way up to -- I think the largest fish were 17 or
14 18 inches long. They're all the same aged fish, but in
15 the hatchery things don't quite grow like they do in the
16 normal setting. So size-wise, yeah, we had a lot of
17 coverage. Age-wise, we didn't.

18

19 In the natural setting we had, you know,
20 in the river, we had all age classes, we had unoklek,
21 pollock, round whitefish. I think there was some cisco.
22 So we had all kinds of fish in that group.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other comments or
25 questions to Bill.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, very much,
30 Bill for the important information.

31

32 MR. MORRIS: Thank you.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The next agenda item is
35 F, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Fairbanks/FW Field
36 Office, Dave Wiswar.

37

38 MR. WISWAR: Fish and Wildlife Field
39 Office. Good afternoon, thank you. What I want to do is
40 just give you a quick briefing on some of the fisheries
41 activities in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The
42 fisheries office in Fairbanks is separate from the Refuge
43 as far as administration, separate but equal, although we
44 tend to think of ourselves as being more elite.

45

46 The first study is funded through OSM and
47 it's a study in Kaktovik in Jago (ph) Lagoons. We're
48 looking at Arctic cisco and dolly varden char using the
49 same net sites this year and the next two years that were
50 previously used between 1988 and 1991 to see the

1 difference -- well, to see if there's much of a
2 difference in the abundance of fish there and also to get
3 an idea of when we capture the fish, we're taking length
4 and weights of the fish so we can determine if there's a
5 difference in those parameters as well. We're not
6 sacrificing any fish during this study. We're not
7 tagging any fish during this study. So as a result of
8 that we're not sacrific -- well, we're not sacrificing any
9 fish.

10
11 The age usually with these fish would be
12 by oleths and like I said, we're not -- which would
13 require killing the fish or sacrificing the fish and
14 we're not doing that.

15
16 We started a little bit later than we
17 anticipated waiting for the nets to come in this year
18 from our manufacture down in Washington. I think we
19 started around the 14th of July putting the nets in. We
20 would have liked to have started the end of June. Just
21 yesterday they started taking the nets out. The catch
22 rates for dolly varden and Arctic cisco are becoming very
23 low. Most of the larger size dolly varden had since
24 moved back up into the river systems and the only thing
25 they were really catching was the smaller fish under 200
26 millimeters or eight inches. And it's been very
27 sporadic, the number of large size -- or cisco we've been
28 seeing.

29
30 A number of other fish we've been seeing
31 in there is saffron cod which is something that we did
32 not really see previously in the 1988 to 1991 studies.
33 These fish are, I guess, maybe 10-12 inches long. We did
34 catch smaller juveniles back then but they were only like
35 maybe three inches so seeing these fish, I guess, my
36 question would be to people here are they -- are you also
37 seeing them in the nets and are you harvesting them? I
38 was talking with Craig -- Geoff Carroll earlier, I think
39 I got his name right, he's saying it's something that
40 he's heard about in the last five years and I guess I'm
41 wondering about the harvest of those as well, just is
42 this -- this seems to be something newer than what we've
43 seen in the past as far as these saffron cod.

44
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think the mesh sizes
46 are too large for that type of fish, they need to be
47 smaller mesh.

48
49 MR. WISWAR: Okay.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, the saffron cod,
2 only 12 inches, but it's real small in diameter probably
3 an inch and a quarter or so.

4
5 MR. WISWAR: Yeah, it's more toward piro-
6 shaped.

7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.
9

10 MR. WISWAR: Yeah, than the -- but it
11 does have those large fins, three large fins in the back.
12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.
14

15 MR. WISWAR: But I guess they kind of
16 flatten out. There's not much of a bony structure to
17 them.
18

19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think them mesh sizes
20 are too large for the gillnets that are used here to be
21 catching that saffron cod.
22

23 MR. WISWAR: Okay, thank you. I do have
24 some copies of the investigation plan for this study, you
25 can see me later. Also if you want to know where the net
26 sites are I did bring a map along.
27

28 We did have trouble keeping the nets up.
29 As I think has been pointed out, it's been kind of a
30 windy year and we lost one of the traps to wave action
31 and we didn't get the replacements up there until late.
32

33 And one of the other sites that we had
34 hoped to duplicate in Kaktovik Lagoon is now located
35 pretty well, they got the sewage outfall pretty close to
36 that site and I couldn't convince the crew to put a net
37 in there so we changed our location of that one. How
38 that's going to affect the study I don't know yet.
39

40 Another study we did was on the Canning
41 River in July. We were looking for overwintering areas
42 for dolly varden. I guess we don't have to worry about
43 this vibrasize technique for mapping the area now but we
44 still have concerns about where overwintering areas are
45 in the lower river and so I'm looking primarily from the
46 foothills on down to the coastal area. And we came up
47 with about 10 or 12 sites that we'd like to look at some
48 of those to see if they are, indeed, being used for
49 overwintering fish. In other words -- and that would be
50 something we're planning on this next April. We mapped --

1 not saying we mapped the areas but we used this neat
2 little gadget, it's a hand-held sonar device and it kind
3 of gave us an idea of the depths and we also have an idea
4 of how long it is using GPS coordinates for these pools
5 we found in the river. So that's a continuing study
6 there.

7
8 The third one is is something that was
9 brought up earlier by Polly, is using sonar on the Hula-
10 Hula River to estimate the population of dolly varden in
11 that area. We wanted to go up about two weeks ago now
12 but the pilot who was going to fly us in described the
13 river as being raging so we postponed it and hopefully
14 we'll be able to get up there, I'm supposed to go again
15 next week and we're going to be looking for sonar sites
16 in the Hula-Hula using this sonar which essentially gives
17 somewhat of a graphic picture of the fish as they -- on
18 the screen of the computers. There are some limitations
19 to the sonar in that the beam does not travel out very
20 far. I think it's a total of about 60 feet. It may
21 necessitate putting an apparatus in on both banks where
22 we can kind of aim toward the middle and maybe even put a
23 small weir in to help move the fish off the shore. These
24 are things we have to look out when we're out there next
25 week.

26
27 If there's any questions I'll entertain
28 them now and thank you very much.

29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any questions to Dave.

31
32 (No comments)

33
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Wiswar.
35 Next agenda is Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Staff,
36 Terry Haines.

37
38 MR. HAYNES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
39 Just for the record again my name is Terry Haynes, Alaska
40 Department of Fish and Game, Division of Wildlife
41 Conservation. As a little bit of background I worked for
42 Subsistence Division for 19 years and went to work for
43 Wildlife Conservation Division last year. I'm the
44 Department's primary contact with the Federal Subsistence
45 program for wildlife issues.

46
47 Geoff and Sverre couldn't be here at this
48 meeting so I agreed to come up and I certainly can't fill
49 in for them in terms of their knowledge. But just to
50 make sure if you have questions or concerns, I'll be

1 happy to pass those on and get answers for you as soon as
2 possible.

3

4 I did want to mention in addition to the
5 Unit 26(A) moose proposal that the Board of Game will be
6 taking up at the November meeting, there is one other
7 proposal that is within your area of responsibility and
8 that -- in 26(A), there's currently a one brown bear per
9 year bag limit. In State regulations right now that one
10 bear per year bag limit counts against -- if you take one
11 bear per year in 26(A), you can't go to another area
12 where the bag limit is one bear per four years and take a
13 brown bear. Geoff has submitted a proposal to change
14 that so that if you take a brown bear in Unit 26(A)
15 you're not prohibited from next year going to another
16 area to take a brown bear where the bag limit is one bear
17 per four years. It's a little bit confusing. But it is
18 an attempt to just provide more opportunity to harvest
19 brown bear. And there are several areas in Interior
20 Alaska where that provision is already in regulation.

21

22 I'll be happy to talk with Dave Fisher
23 about that and see if that would be something that might
24 be appropriate to see in Federal regulations, too or if
25 the Council wants to recommend that we take a look at
26 that, I'd be happy to work with Dave and talk to Geoff
27 more about that.

28

29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I agree, Terry, that
30 might be the preferred method of getting that information
31 all together and sharing that with the rest of the
32 Council. It would probably be a greater effect than what
33 we anticipate and.....

34

35 MR. HAYNES: I'll be happy to do that,
36 Mr. Chairman.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

39

40 MR. HAYNES: On another item, Raymond
41 mentioned earlier about the muskoxen south of Anaktuvuk
42 Pass. Geoff informed me that recently, near the end of
43 August, people in Anaktuvuk Pass reported a couple of
44 muskoxen that were north of the community and there was
45 some talk of getting special permits issued so that
46 people could take those muskox before they started
47 affecting the caribou there. But before they could do
48 anything those muskox moved south of Anaktuvuk Pass and
49 then they were not bothering caribou north of the
50 community. Now, maybe something is coming up again and I

1 guess what I would recommend, Raymond, is if you think
2 there is a problem there it would be good to talk to
3 Geoff Carroll and see what action they might be able to
4 help you take.

5
6 MR. PANEAK: Thank you.

7
8 MR. AGNASAGGA: What about.....

9
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Amos, your mike.

11
12 MR. AGNASAGGA:these spike camps --
13 in Anaktuvuk Pass, these spike camps, you know, they was
14 a problem in Anaktuvuk Pass and the caribou in these
15 spike camps. These people that go hunting. They don't
16 know about that first herd that go by, hunters usually
17 let them go by but these spike camps, they don't know
18 that. Is anything being done about that?

19
20 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, I guess I
21 would defer to Raymond to see if that's still a problem
22 in the Anaktuvuk Pass area?

23
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond.

25
26 MR. PANEAK: Well, it's still a problem
27 but we, too, find out that we can't do nothing too much
28 because first those spike camps get permit from State of
29 Alaska and after they get their permit then they go to
30 North Slope Borough Wildlife Management and get permit
31 and we just can't, you know, do nothing. That's how it
32 happened. I mean they already get the permit from State
33 and then North Slope Borough also give them permits and
34 that -- we're stuck with that, those couple of guides up
35 there north of us.

36
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

38
39 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, we've found in
40 past years when we've raised this issue in commenting on
41 land use permit applications that have been submitted to
42 Department of Natural Resources, that we would raise
43 concerns about this type of issue and the response back
44 from Department of Natural Resources was, well, that's a
45 Board of Game issue, and we've -- the Department's been
46 frustrated over the years in trying to raise these types
47 of issues in the permitting process. But even if we were
48 successful in raising these issues in the State
49 permitting process, as Raymond pointed out, there have
50 been times when the North Slope Borough has then issued

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1 land use permits. So there's kind of two steps in that
2 process that can either work for you or against you.

3

4 But I guess I would just encourage if
5 those problems continue then we can certainly try to keep
6 raising them and see if there are some other steps that
7 could be taken to prevent them from happening.

8

9 MR. PANEAK: Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Raymond.

12

13 MR. PANEAK: Well, we try anything. We
14 even try to block the area, that controlled use area,
15 call it even controlled use area, but it didn't even help
16 us. But all this, your concern like what Amos says, you
17 know, you let the first one go, then nothing stop them.
18 But those couple of guides up north of us, one right
19 maybe 40 miles or less, I don't know how many miles that
20 one camp there and there's one that used to be over
21 Nanusik (ph) area, but I don't know it's a pretty tough
22 issue we always face with those hunters. Not only them
23 but there's also a lot of small plane activities north of
24 our area this time of year.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: To let you know that
27 it's the permitting, the North Slope Borough planning
28 permitting that issues the permits to the spike camp
29 operators and we also have discussed this very issue with
30 our North Slope Borough Fish and Game Management
31 Committee, the same concern being voiced by the
32 representative from Anaktuvuk and we've forwarded it to
33 planning and permitting to see if they could put in this
34 stipulation where maybe even going through a hunter
35 educational program about the traditional practices about
36 letting the first group of caribou going by because
37 they're the leaders and they set the trail for the rest
38 of the animals to follow behind them in the migration
39 path. So that's something that we've been working with,
40 the wildlife department and planning with the community
41 of Anaktuvuk Pass. So there are steps that are being
42 taken to address that concern.

43

44 Did you have any other information you
45 wanted to share, Terry?

46

47 MR. HAYNES: No, Mr. Chairman.

48

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Any
50 questions or comments to Terry from the Council.

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1 (No comments)
2
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted, thank you
4 very much.
5
6 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Wait.
7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Oh, Rosemary.
9
10 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: I just wanted to say
11 that.....
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Sorry.
13
14 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Sorry, Harry.
15
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Rosemary, go ahead.
17
18 MS. AHTUANGARUAK: Was that I think this
19 is a very important issue. We're seeing some of those
20 concerns coming into our area with the increase in
21 activity around Umiat and that camp that's set up there.
22 But this discussion, I know, we've worked with Anaktuvuk
23 Pass in the past and had some of their hunters come to
24 our area when the herd didn't go through. But whatever
25 we can do to get this process and these concerns
26 presented to allow us to come to a resolution of adding
27 the stipulations that are needed to protect the users of
28 this area.
29
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Rosemary.
31 Any other comments.
32
33 (No comments)
34
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry.
36
37 MR. HAYNES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
38
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: 12H, written reports,
40 informational items for Council. Do you have any
41 informational items to pass on to the Council?
42
43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: (Shakes head
44 negatively)
45
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Other new business A
47 and B.
48
49 (Laughter)
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Just trying to make
2 conversation here, everybody's being too quiet. Okay,
3 number 14, establish time and place of next meeting. We
4 have a calendar in the back of our booklet that you can
5 refer to.

6
7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair.

8
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Helen.

10
11 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: They've added some
12 thoughts about planning meetings because we have a
13 problem in our office with teams that overlap, but this
14 is the first Council meeting so you guys get to pick what
15 your meetings are going to be and everybody else will
16 have to work around you.

17
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: For the next meeting,
19 next fall meeting or are we talking about the winter
20 meeting?

21
22 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, the winter
23 meeting's already been set, that you set at the last one.

24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay.

26
27 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And that's March 3rd
28 and 4th, if that's still good, so we're trying to do them
29 farther out so that we can have better planning. So
30 we're looking at fall of 2004, the window starts
31 September 6th, well, September 7th.

32
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right, September
34 6th, Labor Day weekend.

35
36 (Laughter)

37
38 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, we want to start
39 after Labor Day, I'm sure. And then the only dates that
40 are blocked out in there are September 30th and October
41 1st because it's the last day and the first day of our
42 fiscal year, and we can't have meetings on those days.
43 And the window closes October 19th, and AFN is October
44 23rd. But is that -- Peggy, is that being extended,
45 though, that window now.

46
47 MS. FOX: It's six weeks, it was five.

48
49 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay. All right.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: September 8 and 9,
2 Wednesday and Thursday, 2004 (Microphone not on).
3
4 MR. AGNASAGGA: Motion on the floor.
5
6 MR. PANEAK: Second.
7
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right, discussion.
9
10 (No discussion)
11
12 MR. AGNASAGGA: Question called for.
13
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question called for,
15 all in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.
16
17 IN UNISON: Aye.
18
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any opposed.
20
21 (No opposing votes)
22
23 REPORTER: Mr. Chairman.
24
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.
26
27 REPORTER: Microphone
28
29 (Laughter)
30
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Sorry about that, I
32 think we got to restate the motion we didn't get it all
33 recorded here. We're just looking over our calendar and
34 the selection of our next fall meeting for 2004, we
35 selected September 8 and 9, the motion was made to that
36 effect and seconded, and we just voted on it and they all
37 were in favor of the motion, no opposition, September 8
38 and 9, 2004, for the record.
39
40 REPORTER: Thank you.
41
42 (Laughter)
43
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other comments.
45
46 (No comments)
47
48 MR. AGNASAGGA: Move that we adjourn.
49
50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor to

000114

1 adjourn.

2

3 MR. PANEAK: Second.

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Second. Any

6 discussion.

7

8 MR. PATKOTAK: Question.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question called. All

11 in favor signify by saying aye.

12

13 IN UNISON: Aye.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you all for being

16 here and taking time away from your families. Thank you

17 everybody.

18

19 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for
the state of Alaska and reporter of Computer Matrix Court
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Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
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