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1 North Slope Federal Subsistence
2 Regional Advisory Council Meeting

3
4 ASRC Building
5 Barrow, Alaska

6
7 September 12, 2000
8 9:00 a.m. o'clock

9
10
11
12 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

13
14 Fenton Rexford, Chairman

15 Amos Agnasagga

16 Gordon Brower

17 Harry Brower, Jr.

18 Terry Tagarook

19 Peter Williams

20
21
22 Barbara Armstrong, Coordinator

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'm going to call the
North Slope Regional Advisory Council meeting to order.
Today is September 12th, 9:40 a.m. At this time I'll have
Harry call the role. Harry.

MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Fenton Rexford.

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Here.

MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Harry Brower, I'm here.
Benjamin Hopson.

CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Nope, he's resigned Harry.

MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Okay. Terry Tagarook.

MR. TAGAROOK: Here.

MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Amos Agnasagga.

MR. AGNASAGGA: Here.

MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Raymond Koonuk. Leonard
Tukle. Michael Patkotak.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We excused Leonard.

MR. H. BROWER, JR.: What about Ray Koonuk?

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He's -- I don't know if
he's back yet.

MR. H. BROWER, JR.: And we have Gordon
Brower.

MR. G. BROWER: Here.

MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Edward Itta.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He's excused.

MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Paul Bodfish.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He's excused.

MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Peter Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS: Here.

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1 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman, we have a
2 quorum present.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Six present, we have a
5 quorum. All right, thank you, Harry. I want to welcome
6 everybody. There's a sign-in sheet going around, if it
7 doesn't come to you be sure and look for it. There is going
8 to be public testimony, opportunities throughout the meeting.

9
10 We'll start with Amos and go around the table, our
11 recording secretary and then work our way back to the
12 gentleman over there in the corner to the left. Amos, where
13 are you from.

14
15 MR. AGNASAGGA: I'm Amos from Point Lay.

16
17 MR. TAGAROOK: I'm Terry Tagarook from
18 Wainwright.

19
20 MR. WILLIAMS: Peter Williams from Anaktuvuk
21 Pass.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'm Fenton Rexford from
24 Kaktovik.

25
26 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Harry Brower, Jr., from
27 Barrow.

28
29 MR. G. BROWER: Gordon Brower from Barrow.

30
31 REPORTER: My name's Tina, I'm the court
32 reporter for today.

33
34 MR. PROBASCO: Pete Probasco, Fish and
35 Wildlife Service.

36
37 MR. UBERUAGA: Richard Uberuaga from
38 Anchorage with Fish and Wildlife Service.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Perhaps a little bit more
41 background than Fish and Wildlife Service. What do you do
42 and what's your mission or whatever you do.

43
44 MR. PROBASCO: Okay, I'm sorry. Yes, I've
45 been recently hired with the Office of Subsistence
46 Management. I'm the State Liaison between the Federal and
47 the State system for fisheries. I'm recently retired from
48 the Department of Fish and Game in Kodiak.

49
50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you.

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1 MR. UBERUAGA: I'm a fisheries biologist
2 working in the Office of Subsistence in Anchorage. I was
3 hired in July from -- I came from Idaho where I worked for
4 the Forest Service. I used to live up in Alaska a long time
5 ago and just moved back, just now, and I'll be working with
6 the North Slope and Northwest Arctic and Seward Penn Councils
7 and representing you in regulations, changes and proposals in
8 fisheries. It's a pleasure to be here.

9
10 MS. COHEN: Good morning, my name is Janet
11 Cohen. I'm a cultural anthropologist. I work with National
12 Park Service in the Anchorage support office. I've worked
13 and lived in Kodiak before in the '80s and early '90s. I
14 worked for Fish and Game a bit after the oil spill on the
15 subsistence studies in the communities around Kodiak. And I
16 recently moved back to Alaska from Arizona where I was
17 working with the Navajo tribe doing cultural resource
18 management. My current duties are mostly with the fisheries
19 program.

20
21 MR. NELSON: Good morning, I'm Dave Nelson.
22 Also with the National Park Service in Anchorage. I've been
23 in Anchorage now since May and prior to that I was a
24 management biologist -- management fisheries biologist for
25 the Department of Fish and Game down on the Kenai Peninsula
26 for about 28 years. Now, I'm with the National Park Service
27 as a fisheries biologist in Anchorage. I'm working on the
28 regulatory process and also working on the field projects.

29
30 MR. JENNINGS: Good morning, Mr. Chair and
31 Council members. My name is Tim Jennings. I'm with the
32 Office of Subsistence Management with Fish and Wildlife
33 Service. I'm a division chief, I supervise the regional
34 staff for several of the regions including this region,
35 Donna, Barbara, Rich and then Helen Armstrong are your Staff
36 members who support your Council for wildlife and fisheries
37 issues. I'm a long-term resident of Alaska over 30 years,
38 I'm trained as a fisheries biologist.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Tim.

41
42 MS. DEWHURST: So Council members, remember
43 to say nice things about Barb and Helen and.....

44
45 (Laughter)

46
47 MS. DEWHURST: I'm Donna Dewhurst. I'm a
48 wildlife biologist and I'm on your Council support Staff with
49 the Fish and Wildlife Service. I've been supporting this
50 Council for three and a half years, almost four years now.

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Donna.

2

3 MR. McCLELLAN: Good morning, Council. My
4 name is Greg McClellan. I'm with the Arctic National
5 Wildlife Refuge and I'm in a shared position with the three
6 National Wildlife Refuges based out of Fairbanks. My
7 position is a subsistence coordinator, and so with the Arctic
8 National Wildlife Refuge I work with the community of
9 Kaktovik as far as administrating the Federal subsistence
10 muskox permit hunt. I've been with the Refuge for about four
11 years now.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Greg.

14
15 MS. HILDEBRAND: Mr. Chairman, I'm Ida
16 Hildebrand, BIA Staff Committee member to the Federal
17 Subsistence Board.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Ida.

20
21 MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, I'm Sverre
22 Pedersen with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game,
23 Division of Subsistence. Involved in issues from the
24 regulatory realm to subsistence studies since 1979 up here on
25 the North Slope.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you Sverre.

28
29 MR. D. JAMES: Good morning, I'm David James.
30 I'm with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife
31 Conservation. I work out of Fairbanks. I'm the management
32 coordinator for Region III which includes the Interior and
33 the eastern North Slope. My job primarily is to supervise
34 our six area biologists throughout the region.

35
36 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Good morning. I'm Barb's
37 escort.

38
39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Vice versa.

40
41 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Fred Armstrong. I work in
42 the office of the Regional Director as the Native issues
43 advisor and I work with all the programs that Fish and
44 Wildlife is involved with in Alaska.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Fred.

47
48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Barb Armstrong,
49 Coordinator, your coordinator. Thanks.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right, thank you all.
2 We'll move on to item number 4, we'll review and adopt the
3 agenda and we'll add any new items or delete if we need to.
4 Is there anything else to be added to the agenda at this
5 time? We have the minutes that are loose. I'll give a brief
6 Chair's report from the Board meeting in May, the Board
7 meeting, the annual report response from Chairman Mitch.
8 We'll go around the table here and hear the concerns from the
9 villages. We have an opportunity to review what it takes to
10 get a proposal in. The wildlife regulations and C&T
11 determination, fisheries. Agency Reports. So maybe we'll
12 try and get done today or tomorrow, depending on how things
13 go. We'll first go with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, a
14 number of items and projects to implementing the fisheries
15 management consultation, coordination with the State of
16 Alaska, regional fisheries training Phase III, change rural
17 determinations, customary trade, subsistence contest,
18 migratory birds, also ANWR. Under Fish and Wildlife Service.
19 National Park Service. Dave Yokel, BLM. Department of Fish
20 and Game, Geoff and Sverre and Susan. Wildlife Department,
21 Taqulik. Any other reports and also election of the
22 officers. Any other business. Travel process and special
23 action for moose. Any other business.

24
25 The Chair would entertain a motion to adopt.

26
27 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: So moved to adopt the
28 agenda.

29
30 MR. TAGAROOK: Second.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Terry, thank
33 you, Terry. Discussion.

34
35 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: I have a question, Mr.
36 Chairman.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

39
40 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: In regards to this
41 election of officers for the Council, do we need to get that
42 done right away this morning or is going to be election for
43 our next meeting?

44
45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's up to you. If you
46 want to change it and do it now, it's fine with me. It's a
47 flexible agenda.

48
49 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: I was wondering if we
50 need to finish up through this year for the current?

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1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No, yours is fall
2 elections, so sometime during today you can do your elections
3 for your new officers for the next year. Your year ends at
4 this meeting.

5
6 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Uh-huh.

7
8 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Northwest ends in
9 December.

10
11 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Okay.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Discussion of number 10,
14 any other discussion?

15
16 MR. TAGAROOK: Shall we wait on that until we
17 have a quorum?

18
19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, we'll think about
20 that for a minute or two and see what the Council wishes at
21 this time?

22
23 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: We don't have a quorum,
24 because we have five members excused.

25
26 MR. TAGAROOK: I meant when we have the other
27 people from the villages.

28
29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (In Native)

30
31 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Do we have any other
32 folks coming in for this meeting?

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Well, Paul called in, he
35 can't make it. I think that was the only one pending and the
36 others are excused.

37
38 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Paul, Leonard, Mike
39 and Edward are excused. Ray, I haven't heard from and I put
40 down as absent. There are six of you here.

41
42 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: So our current seats are
43 Fenton, the Chairman and who's our vice chair?

44
45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Ray.

46
47 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Ben.

48
49 MR. G. BROWER: Ben.

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1 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: I think it's Ray or Ben.

2
3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Ray.

4
5 MR. G. BROWER: Ray?

6
7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh. When Ben didn't
8 make it that time, you guys put temporary Ray Koonuk -- or
9 after that you guys did vote Ben back in as vice chair so he
10 was vice chair. There's no vacancies.

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Terry, are we saying that
13 you want to wait until the others are here to have the
14 election?

15
16 MR. TAGAROOK: If that's okay with the rest
17 of the Council.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any objection to that or
20 any discussion?

21
22 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

25
26 MR. G. BROWER: I think it's appropriate to
27 wait until everybody's here to have a good nominating
28 platform.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

31
32 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chair.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Peter.

35
36 MR. WILLIAMS: When is the next meeting for
37 this one?

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Well, the next one will be
40 in February.

41
42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Your window is back here
43 beginning February 18 until March 24th, and that's your
44 window for meeting dates that you guys can pick from. So
45 it's February through March, whichever date that you guys
46 select to meet.

47
48 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Call for the question,
49 Mr. Chairman.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All in favor of approving
2 the agenda, say aye.

3
4 IN UNISON: Aye.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed same sign.

7
8 (No opposing votes)

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, Harry.
11 Moving on to number 5, the adoption and review of the minutes
12 of February 17. Please take a moment to go over the minutes
13 for approval.

14
15 (Council reviewing minutes)

16
17 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

20
21 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: I make a motion to adopt
22 the North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council minutes
23 of February 17, 2000 for discussion purposes.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Harry. There's
26 a motion to approve the February 17th, 2000 minutes.

27
28 MR. G. BROWER: Second.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Seconded by Gordon, thank
31 you Gordon. Discussion. Harry.

32
33 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: I have some questions in
34 regards to fisheries update.

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Federal/State MOU/MOA, the
37 last paragraph, the sentence starts with Peggy asked for
38 comments on Tab S and ends with Northwest and North Slope
39 Council Chairs voicing their concerns. So we'll bring that
40 up. Do you want to discuss that now, Harry?

41
42 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: No, I want to put that
43 on the agenda for discussion.

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Let's see, we'll put that
46 under 9(A)(1) or (2), one of those. Thank you, Harry.

47
48 Good morning, Peggy, welcome, you're plane
49 must have got in late. Perhaps before we could -- let's see,
50 right after the motion we'll get the other introductions

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1 going.

2

3 The other one I have is a minor correction on
4 the last name or first name under the NPRA, let's see BLM,
5 under BLM, number 2, third to the last page here, customary
6 trade, BLM, item number 2 we have the third sentence where it
7 says December 15th or 16th the members are Lou -- that should
8 be Luke.....

9

10 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Luke.

11

12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Kagak, K-A-G-A-K, instead
13 of a Q make that a G.

14

15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's a G.

16

17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes. Luke, L-U-K-E,
18 Kagak, K-A-G-A-K.

19

20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

21

22 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chairman.

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Terry.

25

26 MR. TAGAROOK: On the same page under
27 customary trade, at the last meeting the NW and NW Councils,
28 should that be NS.

29

30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

31

32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: There's two NWs.

33

34 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It should be North Slope
35 and Northwest.

36

37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Terry, so
38 noted, delete one of the NWs and replace it with North Slope,
39 MS. Anything else? Any other discussion on the minutes.
40 Any other corrections or deletions? If none, I'll call for
41 the question. All in favor of approving the minutes of
42 February 17, signify by saying aye.

43

44 IN UNISON: Aye.

45

46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed same sign.

47

48 (No opposing votes)

49

50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Before we proceed

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1 with the Chair's report, we have gone around the room already
2 there and made introductions for the benefit of the new
3 Council members or new members, so please introduce
4 yourselves and we'll start off with Mr. Yokel.

5
6 MR. YOKEL: I'm Dave Yokel with Bureau of
7 Land Management, Mr. Chairman.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Go a little bit deeper or
10 little bit further, we're getting personal here David so let
11 us know what you do or what else?

12
13 MR. YOKEL: I'm a wildlife -- I'm BLM's
14 wildlife biologist for the National Petroleum Reserve Alaska
15 and various other BLM lands on the North Slope. I've worked
16 with the subsistence program and BLM wildlife program on the
17 North Slope and now the wildlife and habitat mitigations for
18 oil exploration development in NPRA.

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Dave.

21
22 MR. VIAVONT: I'm Tim Viavont, and I'm with
23 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Sportfish Division in
24 Fairbanks. I work on -- I'm a fisheries biologist and I work
25 on resident and anadromous species both, pretty much all over
26 the AYK and Arctic, Yukon and Kuskokwim drainage depending on
27 where the projects take me. And I'm working on an anadromous
28 dolly varden project right now that's funded by the Office of
29 Subsistence Management.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Go ahead,
32 Helen.

33
34 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I'm Helen Armstrong. I'm
35 a cultural anthropologist for the North Slope team working
36 out of the Subsistence Management office in Anchorage. And
37 I also have been doing stuff up here in Barrow since 1981 and
38 I have been with this Council since day one. I am sorry I'm
39 late. I had some family issues and couldn't come in last
40 night.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. I think,
43 Peggy, you're next.

44
45 MS. FOX: I'm next, okay, great. Thank you.
46 I'm Peggy Fox and I'm the Deputy for Subsistence with the
47 Federal Subsistence Management Program, Fish and Wildlife
48 Service. And I've been in Alaska for 12 years and working
49 with this program since it started -- almost since it
50 started, actually, early '91. And I'm very glad to be here,

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1 I often come to the North Slope, I appreciate working with
2 Fenton and the Council and I'd like to welcome the new
3 members and hope your participation is productive for you and
4 your village and everything else involved. Thank you.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, Peggy.
7 Okay, we'll move on down to the Chair's report and then I'll
8 call for a break for the Council.

9
10 MS. FOX: Excuse me, Mr. Chair.

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Peggy.

13
14 MS. FOX: I apologize. I think I'm
15 responsible for leaving Dave at the airport. And he's one of
16 my key Staff, so I have to apologize in front of him to all
17 of you, but Dave McGillivary, we were just giving
18 introductions of the new people.

19
20 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Okay.

21
22 MS. FOX: And so if I could, I'd like to have
23 Dave introduce himself.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, Dave.

26
27 MS. FOX: Thank you.

28
29 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Dave McGillivary. I work
30 with Peggy at the Subsistence Office in Statewide Support
31 Division. And I was in Utah for the last two years and I was
32 up here, prior to that, for many years. So I was able to
33 find the building, I recognized it.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right, thank you,
36 Dave.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, we'll get into the
39 reports here. I'll be very brief on the Chair's report.
40 This May, at our annual meeting we have a Chairman's meeting
41 with all the regional chairs -- all the 10 Chairs meet to
42 prior to the Federal Subsistence Board meeting to discuss any
43 common issues or common concerns. And every year some of the
44 concerns that have been reminded to the Federal Subsistence
45 Board are the stipends Regional Council members receive.
46 This is a yearly issue. So I'm not sure where that was at
47 but I think the Northwest Council had written letters and
48 also Interior have written letters, Craig Fleener has written
49 letters and Bill Thomas, our Chairmans' Chair, has also
50 written letters to the administration and to no avail. We're

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1 still bringing that up as far as stipends for the Regional
2 Council members.

3
4 Board structure. We talked about ways to
5 maybe restructure the Federal Subsistence Board. We should
6 have a voting member maybe within the six. There are six
7 members of the Federal Subsistence Board and we feel that our
8 Regional Councils should have a say, a voting member within
9 the Board. So that also was discussed.

10
11 Another topic was the delegation of authority
12 for fisheries to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Someone
13 can correct me if I'm not saying it right.

14
15 But those were the three main topics that we
16 discussed. If there are any questions or I can think up more
17 information or facts about that meeting, I'm sorry, I don't
18 have anything written. And then the morning of May 2 we also
19 have a quick Chair's board meeting before the main meeting
20 throughout the week. There were no proposals that really
21 affected us as you can see the letter from Mitch that
22 discusses the proposals that were passed or issues that were
23 discussed throughout that week. So I think that's under Tab
24 C. I'll just go over and refer to that, it's under Tab C,
25 the letter's dated August 24th, the recaps, our annual report
26 through December of '99.

27
28 Number 1, the issue under 26(A), incidental
29 muskox take. As you know the State has worked out a system
30 for those that are in Unit 26(A) to incidentally take muskox
31 in Unit 26(A) and we're seeing that's working. We've given
32 it a couple years. That issue can be addressed and we have
33 an ongoing comprehensive muskox management plan in place, if
34 that issue does arise, we can resurface Proposal 99-63.
35 Again, that's a Federal Subsistence regulation under 26(A)
36 that we're under State management programs.

37
38 Number 2, Musk-Ox Management Plan. We are
39 continuing, we have a working group between the Regional
40 Council and the North Slope working group with various
41 biologists and North Slope Borough biologists and Harry
42 Brower's in it, I'm in it, Ms. Reynolds from ANWR, Taqulik
43 Hepa, BLM-Dave Yokel, from the working group and we have
44 National Park Service also in that working group. We haven't
45 met in awhile. So that harvest plan is coming to its second
46 year, almost third year now. It also serves as a model for
47 the rest of the state to try and work out or work together,
48 the various entities, State and Federal and local
49 governments, working out management plans. ADF&G recently
50 announced Tier II permit winners for Cape Thompson and six

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1 permit went to locals from Point Hope and Kivalina. And
2 again the harvest plan also involved portions of Unit 26(A).
3

4 Council stipend. The North Slope Regional
5 Advisory Council, this is an issue that we're still pursuing.
6 I stated last year, according to Mitch, the Board is
7 sympathetic to the concerns expressed, however, the Secretary
8 of Interior's position is that the Regional program should be
9 based on volunteer participation. The Secretary remains firm
10 that financial compensation beyond standard travel expense
11 would significantly alter the nature of the participation and
12 set a precedent and it would undermine the spirit of public
13 service with other advisory groups throughout the country.
14

15 So that's a brief report, any questions for
16 the Chairman or.....
17

18 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask
19 a question. This muskox, is it closed management to
20 Anaktuvuk Pass?
21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We have, let's see, who
23 can address that question? Donna.
24

25 MS. DEWHURST: The issue has gone around now
26 for, what, two or three years and the way that's being dealt
27 with is ADF&G has that incidental take, you can request a
28 special permit through ADF&G and that's how it's being
29 handled because the Park is closed to harvest. So we talked
30 about trying to set up something in the Federal system but at
31 the time, I think it was last year or the year before, that
32 the State set that system up for all of 26(A) including
33 Anaktuvuk Pass, to try that system, and so far the
34 indications we've had is it seems to be addressing the needs.
35 But if you have other information, we'd certainly be
36 interested in hearing it. But that's the way the system is
37 right now, is if you see a muskox in the vicinity of
38 Anaktuvuk Pass, you can call up Geoff Carroll and he can
39 issue a permit to take it.
40

41 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, because, Mr. Chair,
42 muskox coming around, you know, off the mountain, you know,
43 there'd be about four or five of them and the village is very
44 concerned about that. Because, you know, they hear rumors
45 from the villages of the coastal areas that they disturb the
46 caribou. I'm not sure if it's true or not, but, you know,
47 the way it sounded. And a lot of people said that the meat
48 is pretty good, soft and tender and, you know, they want to
49 hunt that thing but, you know, they don't get information.
50 We finally get information last month on this meeting, they

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1 had a meeting in Anaktuvuk. That's the kind of meetings we
2 need to get more of, you know, to the villages. I've been
3 asking questions for the last eight or nine years now about
4 this, you know, who's involved on this. Okay.

5

6 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

7

8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

9

10 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: I have a question for
11 Earl, is the are you're identifying is what -- when you're
12 looking at this map, within the purple or in the white areas?
13 Is it the area north of Anaktuvuk Pass? Is that area seeing
14 those muskox?

15

16 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, they -- well, the last
17 time they were over below Umiat, you know, was the last time
18 they heard of them.

19

20 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: So that's up north of
21 Anaktuvuk?

22

23 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah. And before that they
24 were right up by Anaktuvuk Pass in that mountain, there was
25 about five of them there that one time. They don't bother
26 us.

27

28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: There is a system now
29 where we call Geoff Carroll.

30

31 MR. WILLIAMS: Well, we didn't have that
32 information before so we need more information on this.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Terry.

35

36 MR. TAGAROOK: I have one question for Earl.
37 Are these muskox in the migration route of the caribou?

38

39 MR. WILLIAMS: No, I think what they do is
40 they just travel, you know, they don't migrate, they just
41 travel. And now and then you see four or five muskox up
42 there, in that area you get all excited about that, a lot of
43 coastal people say it's nice soft meat and it's pretty good
44 they said, and we'd like to try too.

45

46 MR. TAGAROOK: Yep.

47

48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: David. David James.

49

50 MR. D. JAMES: Mr. Chair, the.....

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1
2 please?

REPORTER: Wait, wait, can you come up,

3
4 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: You have to get a mic.

5
6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You have a soft voice.

7
8 MR. D. JAMES: The discretionary permit
9 that's being discussed here applies to not only Unit 26(A)
10 but also to a portion of Unit 24. In the regulation it says,
11 let me read it to you here, State managed lands and the
12 Anaktuvuk Pass area within two miles of the John River and in
13 Unit 26(A). So that permit applies to some portions of 24 as
14 well, south.

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, David, for the
17 information. Earl.

18
19 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, Mr. Chair, we got these
20 different units, do we go to another unit to go hunting for
21 that or what, like we were talking about, you know, that.....

22
23 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman, I think
24 there needs to be a point of clarification. When you're
25 talking about units and then just the Federal management
26 program, we need to identify the areas as to which
27 regulations you're looking at. You're just saying regulation
28 book, it doesn't comprehend as to whether it's State or
29 Federal management program or regulations.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: David James.

32
33 MR. D. JAMES: The units apply to both sets
34 of regulations, Federal and State. I think I may not have
35 answered your question yet, though, if you want to ask it
36 again.

37
38 MR. WILLIAMS: I just wanted to know because
39 we got three different units -- I think it's four, I'm not
40 sure, but they open and they close and we go to another one,
41 it closes, about five miles from Anaktuvuk there's another
42 unit there. I'm just asking the question about that, you
43 know, do you have to go to another unit to, you know.....

44
45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He's asking to see if they
46 can cross from their unit to another unit to hunt.

47
48 MR. D. JAMES: Yes, you may.

49
50 MR. WILLIAMS: Okay, thank you.

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, David. Any
2 other questions? Good question, Earl. We'll make sure Geoff
3 hears your concern, we'll keep on passing on the information
4 and keep repeating it, and let us know if it's not working.

5
6 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

7
8 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman, I have a
9 question.....

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

12
13 MR. H. BROWER, JR.:in regards to your
14 Muskox Working Group, any comments as to when they're going
15 to be meeting again?

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No, the working group
18 haven't met for at least a year or so. And his name, he's
19 gone.....

20
21 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Steve Ulvi.

22
23 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Steve Ulvi.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:Steve Ulvi was going
26 to be taking the lead if there needed to be any other
27 meetings but he has moved on to other projects. We seem to
28 be coasting at the moment and we didn't know about your
29 concerns or issues from the other working group interests to
30 -- we have three years from the time that it was approved,
31 '98, so we have one more year to go with any other amendments
32 or improvements that need to be made. So they've given us
33 three years.

34
35 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman, the reason
36 I was asking that I see there's been a lot of turnovers in
37 the Federal Management Program, there might be some new
38 people that we need to meet and discuss this plan and review
39 it sometime. That was the reason I was bringing up that
40 question.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Taking the place of Steve
43 Ulvi, anyone from National Park Service want to pitch in and
44 see about continuing or identifying a person to jump in on
45 the working group?

46
47 MR. NELSON: Mr. Chairman and members of the
48 Council, I'm Dave Nelson and I do work for the National Park
49 Service as a fisheries biologist. Regrettably Dave Mills,
50 the superintendent and Jeff Mow, who is the subsistence

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1 manager, they send their regrets, they could not be here.
2 They had a conflict with a meeting in St. Louis. And I'm not
3 familiar, personally, with the issue on muskox, but certainly
4 the National Park Service is still interested in
5 participating with you in the muskox planning effort for the
6 North Slope and certainly ready to follow the lead of the
7 Chair in establishing additional meetings and additional
8 discussion. That's all the information I can provide to you
9 at this time.

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you. Harry,
12 do you want to set a date or do you want to maybe get Geoff
13 involved in this and Patricia Reynolds and maybe have another
14 meeting in the near future?

15
16 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I
17 think that would be appropriate to get the working group back
18 together and figure out where and what the next step is in
19 the program and move forward on it. I think some additional
20 discussion about a comprehensive management plan, which was
21 requested by National Park Service, not being present at the
22 time, and maybe set up a date for the working group to meet
23 again.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

26
27 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chair.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Earl.

30
31 MR. WILLIAMS: Are you going to involve an
32 Anaktuvuk representative or is just involving coastal?

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Oh, yeah, we don't want to
35 exclude anyone out of that working group. We have some key
36 players in that issue and perhaps we'll provide you a copy of
37 the management plan and you can work on that then.

38
39 MR. WILLIAMS: Okay, thank you very much.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any other questions?
42 Thank you, Harry. No more? All right, thank you. What's
43 the wish of the Council in village concerns, to you want to
44 jump in?

45
46 (In Native)

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Terry.

49
50 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah, I have one. I'd like to

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1 mention this to whoever makes our travel arrangements, if you
2 could get our tickets to the air carriers, not to Alaska
3 Airlines. That will be much easier for us, otherwise they
4 just look for the paperwork.

5

6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Terry.

7

8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Terry. We
9 might as well jump right in and continue here with village
10 concerns.

11

12 MR. AGNASAGGA: In Point Lay we don't have
13 any concerns. We had a good supply of caribou. No beluga
14 this year, first time.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Just for Earl's
17 information we go around the table and hear village concerns
18 while the Federal program and the State program -- any
19 matters of.....

20

21 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chair.

22

23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Earl.

24

25 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chair, when we were at the
26 last meeting when Harry was there, anyway, some village
27 people brought up that, you know, we're having a bad year
28 with caribou there, they're way out maybe about 20 miles or
29 something. And we've been having that for the last few
30 years. And at first, an old elder said that Haglund came
31 through, now the State land came through and now they're
32 going to have that drilling up through the foothills, you
33 know, and it's all clear migratory routes, and they're very
34 concerned about that, because now we're having more people
35 coming through there, hikers. They brought all these issues
36 up at the last meeting, you know, and I'm glad that they had
37 this meeting going because a lot of elders have questions.
38 I think the elders are more important than what we're talking
39 about because they don't want arresting of people. A lot of
40 people ask me, how we're going to deal with this stuff, you
41 know, we can't deal with it, we got to work together to deal
42 with it, you know. I don't know how to explain it but, you
43 know, it's hard to express something when you want to say.
44 What I'm saying, you know, is the State, you know, where the
45 sports hunting is going on, there's always planes flying back
46 and forth, I think Harry's familiar with that, we've been
47 getting a lot of little Pipers in there, you know, people
48 flying from Bettles, float planes. I mean it don't go just
49 one day, it goes constantly. Is there some kind of deal to
50 deal with them, you know, like the State of Alaska on the

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1 State land or what?

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I wonder, they going into
4 the State lands?

5

6 MR. WILLIAMS: No, what I'm saying is the
7 caribou migratory route right -- say there's State land
8 there, there's a lot of sports hunting going on there. They
9 bring a lot of horns and stuff but, gee, we don't see nothing
10 else, and that's the problem. They've been giving us that
11 meat and stuff, you know, out of the airport and stuff. But
12 that don't settle the issue. We've been talking about is,
13 you know, how they gear out and the caribou, you know?

14

15 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Yeah.

16

17 MR. WILLIAMS: You know, that's our main
18 concerns. Now, they're going to Chandler instead of going to
19 the Summit.

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The caribou or the.....

22

23 MR. WILLIAMS: The caribou.

24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Does anyone comment on
26 that or debate?

27

28 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chairman.

29

30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Terry.

31

32 MR. TAGAROOK: We had some people from
33 Anaktuvuk Pass visiting Wainwright and they mentioned that
34 they have to go hundreds of miles to look for caribou.

35

36 MR. WILLIAMS: Uh-huh.

37

38 MR. TAGAROOK: And I think that's an issue
39 that needs to be worked on. Because in the last, the
40 caribous used to be just right out near the villages, near
41 the village.

42

43 MR. AGNASAGGA: Mr. Chair, I think they had
44 a problem with this before because of these spike camps, you
45 know, first caribou going through if they let them alone but
46 a lot of these sport hunters, they got these camps and they
47 don't know about that, where you let the first bunch go
48 through or make a trail for the rest.

49

50 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh.

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1 MR. AGNASAGGA: If they could let that be
2 known maybe things would change.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, they don't know
5 about the traditions of the.....

6
7 MR. AGNASAGGA: Elders.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. This is National
10 Park lands and perhaps at the call of the Chairman to have
11 National Park Service available for us to hear the concerns
12 and follow-up with the serious concerns that, again, we're
13 hearing from Anaktuvuk Pass to resolve the conflict in users.
14 I know we had a conflict meeting in Kotzebue with all the
15 parties involved, the user groups. I think it's a good idea
16 and it would be recommended that at the meeting to have
17 National Park and maybe the other users, or perhaps set up a
18 meeting similar to Kotzebue but concentrating on and around
19 Anaktuvuk Pass. Right now we don't have anyone from National
20 Park Service except their fisheries staff at this time. Mr.
21 Jennings or Barbara, could you pass that on to the National
22 Park Service that they are sorely missed here and to provide
23 answers or to further debate the issue, perhaps help try and
24 find resolution to such a serious matter for the residents of
25 Anaktuvuk Pass. That's all I can think to say for Earl, you
26 know, we travel this far and we get our concerns aired and we
27 want to try and get them resolved at the same time rather
28 than have to wait until the next meeting and the season has
29 gone by, perhaps two seasons before any resolution is made to
30 avoid the conflict.

31
32 Thank you, Earl.

33
34 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

37
38 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: I'd like to learn a
39 little bit more on Mr. Williams' comments in regard to the
40 aircraft usage and hunting up north of AKP, I think it's
41 managed by the State and they should also be a part of
42 monitoring the events there as to what, you know, aircrafts
43 are flying into an area north of AKP, you know, they got to
44 learn something that's being -- that's disrupting the caribou
45 migration up north. Around the activity of the aircraft
46 flying low looking for caribou, they could even have an
47 influence as to the disruption of the migration. And it's
48 also on the part of the State to monitor and to hear the
49 concerns of AKP. There are State lands up north of Anaktuvuk
50 Pass.

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Sverre, who helps you in
2 the state of Alaska in that -- in lieu of this discussion --
3 provide a resolution or communications between the residents
4 of Anaktuvuk Pass and the Pipers and sports and -- do you
5 have any suggestions or any names that we can communicate
6 with Sverre?
7

8 MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, this is Sverre
9 Pedersen, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of
10 Subsistence. This is a chronic problem in Anaktuvuk Pass.
11 We have addressed it since about 1990, Geoff and I have
12 carried out quite a bit of work in Anaktuvuk Pass, together
13 with the North Slope Borough and the community and we've come
14 up with several sets of solutions over the years. The most
15 recent solution involved basically the community playing a
16 larger role in resolving the issue and the North Slope
17 Borough supporting the community in resolving a problem by
18 providing some equipment and even transportation to the
19 community to hunt further to the west in the Chandler
20 drainage. And because the work that we did indicated that it
21 was really kind of a complex situation that we were dealing
22 with. What the known factors were is basically that caribou
23 are moving farther -- migrating farther to the west, and the
24 solution for the community was to hunt farther to the west,
25 and we're not talking hundreds of miles here, we're talking
26 40, 50 miles farther to the west. And maybe Harry Brower can
27 address the actions that the North Slope Borough has taken to
28 try to help the community reestablish some traditional
29 hunting camps in the Chandler drainage to facilitate, you
30 know, them hunting more effectively farther to the west.
31 There are some land use problems that the community faces in
32 hunting farther to the west during the non-snow season, in
33 that, they're inside a park and there's certain wilderness
34 areas that do not allow passage of the conveyances, the
35 summer conveyances that the community is using, so they have
36 some special problems in reaching some of their traditional
37 hunting areas. And the North Slope Borough has tried to work
38 with the community to resolve that.
39

40 But in a nutshell, in terms of the migration,
41 what Geoff and I were finding were was basically that -- and
42 we found this through both aerial surveys and also working
43 with hunters in the community, that in the early fall or late
44 summer, if there are not caribou north and northeast of the
45 community, about 60 to 70 miles out, there will unlikely be
46 a migration through Anaktuvuk Pass. And I thought we had a
47 system in place where the North Slope Borough provided some
48 aerial monitoring of the caribou movement up there to advise
49 the community of whether or not the caribou were, in deed,
50 amassing north and northeast of the community. So maybe

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1 Harry Brower could also address that.

2

3 We continue to be interested in this
4 situation and concerned about the situation in Anaktuvuk, and
5 would like to assist. And I would also like to mention that
6 the amount of sport hunting that is now taking place north of
7 Anaktuvuk, we know the guides that work up there. They know
8 the community, we have had several sessions where we've
9 worked with the guides and with the community and community
10 representatives, with the Department and with Park Service
11 personnel to try to minimize the effects of sport hunting
12 organized by these guides. One of the guides has not been
13 hunting in the area for the last two years, and that's Mr.
14 Guthrie. He typically hunts north, northeast of the
15 community. There's another fellow guiding north, northwest
16 of the community, Dennis Ranier, and he has very few clients
17 at this time because of the moose situation on the North
18 Slope, they have, you know, far fewer clients than they used
19 to have. And the clients they now have are mainly interested
20 in bear hunting and they do take some caribou
21 opportunistically when they're out. And in talking, you
22 know, over the years with the guides, they have experienced
23 the same problem in finding caribou as Anaktuvuk has. You
24 know, the years when Anaktuvuk did not see a good migration,
25 the guides were having a tough time finding caribou as well.
26 So it seems to be a shared condition there.

27

28 You know what the base problem seems to be is
29 that the center of abundance for the Western Arctic Caribou
30 Herd, which migrates south through the Pass, the center of
31 abundance has moved farther west. Anaktuvuk is ending up
32 being on the periphery of the southward migration for the
33 herd and this is not new, this has happened in the past. And
34 in talking to elders in Anaktuvuk, it's pretty clear that,
35 you know, this has occurred. And in the past the community
36 wasn't exactly as -- well, the community had greater
37 flexibility in meeting the challenge, they could move farther
38 west and catch caribou. Today there is some constraints that
39 they didn't have before and that makes it more difficult for
40 the community when caribou are not coming through.

41

42 So that's the information I have and what I
43 think is salient in this setting here to pass on. And if
44 there's something, Earl, that you'd like me to talk about in
45 addition to this, or Mr. Chairman, I'm happy to do so.

46

47 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chairman.

48

49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Terry.

50

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1 MR. TAGAROOK: Yes, I think I'll make a
2 suggestion in having the guides meet with the residents of
3 Anaktuvuk Pass so they can hear their concerns.

4
5 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chair.

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Earl.

8
9 MR. WILLIAMS: The elders talked about this
10 a couple times that they know that the sport hunters could
11 let the herd go through first instead of corralling them with
12 the little Piper planes for the hunters, you know, to go
13 catch that caribou and get their \$500, you know, instead of,
14 you know, they could deal with this in better ways instead of
15 earn their money before the caribou get to us. But a couple
16 of elders talked about this, that they should let the first
17 herd, at least, go through, you know, but then they could
18 follow, anything they shoot, the second herd, they'll still
19 go, you know, they'll still follow that route. But if you
20 scatter out all these first herd, next thing you know they're
21 going the other way and this way and I really appreciate this
22 one here. You know if you could get the word to the sports
23 hunter and explain it to them right, you know, because back
24 here somewhere it's talking about Federal customary and
25 traditional, we should use that as an example.

26
27 Thank you.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Earl. Harry.

30
31 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman, Sverre, I
32 know like, you know, despite all that previous stuff that
33 we've done trying to address the concerns from Anaktuvuk
34 Pass, it's still doesn't address the concerns that we're just
35 trying to get out, was the monitoring by the State on the
36 aircraft that goes up beyond north of Anaktuvuk Pass to hunt.
37 There's some kind of monitoring that needs to be put in there
38 because all of that is taken somehow -- it's somehow
39 affecting this migration. You know, you can't discard it
40 just because there's some other issues that we've tried to
41 address -- related issues that we've tried to use to address
42 the concerns for the community. Even though we've done all
43 those preventive measures there's still problems that appear
44 that are not really mentioned.

45
46 You know, the North Slope Borough purchased
47 a boat and outboard motor and placed them into that channel
48 right there but then, in turn, these people that fly in start
49 taking these things out of here, the outboard motor, fuel
50 tanks, they're all gone. People flying in there taking them

00025

1 out. So now all they got is this little boat, the motor's
2 gone, you know, that kind of stuff is -- that needs to be
3 addressed. These people that are flying in and taking
4 advantage of materials that are brought here for another
5 purpose and being taken away. And then this flying, this
6 sport hunting issue is getting to be a problem again. It's
7 not the first time I've heard it this summer, it's also from
8 other folks from Anaktuvuk, I've heard of this fly in hunters
9 go up north and harvest their caribou and all they bring back
10 is the racks and getting fuel and then going back to wherever
11 they came from, that continues to be a problem today. I
12 think the flying part needs to be monitored a little bit more
13 closely as to how much activity is taking place north of AKP.
14

15 Sverre, I don't mean to put you on the spot
16 or anything like that, it's just that the State needs to
17 something in regards to State lands north of AKP. The people
18 can't, we can't try to accommodate their hunts matters, but
19 they're still an existing problem as we speak. There's some
20 people that do bring in the meat but they don't even try to
21 communicate with the people that they've dropped off
22 something there at the airport, you know. People could be
23 thinking that could be for somebody else or somebody specific
24 that that aircraft brought that box in for. By the time it's
25 been sitting there it could get, you know, rotten just from
26 sitting there. I think monitoring needs to be set in place
27 to where the aircrafts are monitored as to their activity
28 taking place. It needs to be monitored on a daily basis,
29 especially when there's a sport hunt opening. There must be
30 a lot of people flying in to harvest their caribou up north.
31

32 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Harry.
35

36 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chair.
37

38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Earl.
39

40 MR. WILLIAMS: A comment on Harry, that at
41 that meeting they just had with the Borough Mayor, a couple
42 elders brought up a concern about, you know, having a Native
43 -- were you there when that Mayor was over there -- I know he
44 brought a comment about having local residents, you know, be
45 down there with a Park Service man or something along that.
46 Harry's correct, because the last time they brought some meat
47 in they didn't tell nobody about it and it was down there and
48 left it there and five days later, you know, nobody didn't
49 know nothing about it. There was about 10 bags down there,
50 I guess, and then it starts smelling, you know, they smelled

00026

1 it. But nobody didn't tell them about picking up no meat.
2 See we need close communication.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It's called wanton waste.
5 Okay.

6
7 MR. WILLIAMS: If that was us, if that was us
8 doing this, we'd get fined for this, you know what I'm
9 saying? Because there's a couple of people that got fined
10 already at home. But, you know, because a couple caribous
11 were sick and they just left it because, you know, the bears
12 come around and eat them. I don't know if there's a
13 different story about that but they got fined \$500 and stuff.

14
15 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Do you have an idea of
16 which plane came out of this?

17
18 MR. WILLIAMS: I don't remember, I think it
19 was Dennis, I'm not sure though. It was one of them.

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That's wanton waste
22 because they could spoil out there if they're just left out
23 there.

24
25 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Definitely wanton waste.

28
29 MR. AGNASAGGA: Mr. Chairman.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Amos.

32
33 MR. AGNASAGGA: These guides, when they issue
34 them license, they should have guidelines they should go by
35 and if they don't go by those guidelines they should have
36 their license taken away.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: There's procedures for
39 that. We'll pass a copy of our minutes to the outfitters
40 that they're wanton waste and communication with the
41 communities and also conflicts.

42
43 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, this issue was brought
44 up at the meeting with the Borough Mayor.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, Earl.

47
48 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

49
50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Anything else. Terry, did

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1 you have any concerns from the Wainwright area?

2

3 MR. TAGAROOK: We have no concerns.

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Good.

6

7 MR. TAGAROOK: Hunting is good.

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Gordon.

10

11 MR. G. BROWER: The foothill lease sales,
12 we've been talking about that here a little bit. I know that
13 the State is doing that foothills lease sale -- about that
14 lease sale and making comments to the lease sale, I think
15 that as a body, as a general advisory council, should make
16 some sort of a comment on that lease sale. It is in the area
17 of subsistence activity. There has been some concern as to
18 sport hunters. It's very well known that sport hunters are
19 in the area. As a body I think that a comment should be
20 forwarded concerning the use of Anaktuvuk Pass for
21 subsistence resources. Some of the ideas that have been
22 formed and some ideas that were used in the past were
23 designating an area free from sports hunters as identified by
24 the villagers and using that as a means to maybe set --
25 recommending to set aside some portions of that lease sale.
26 I think that these areas, even the National Park Service, in
27 those areas should look into some of those kinds of -- is it
28 recording?

29

30 REPORTER: Yes, I'm recording, it's not a
31 problem with this system.

32

33 MR. G. BROWER: Well, I really like to
34 whistle when I talk, you know?

35

36 REPORTER: It's not you.

37

38 MR. G. BROWER: It must be the metal in my
39 leg. Anyway, I would just like to say that as a comment
40 because I think it's a big concern when you're going to
41 introduce industry to an area that's already troubled with
42 trying to provide subsistence uses to support a village.
43 It's in the boundaries where we work, the influence, and I
44 think a comment should be forwarded in that fashion to where
45 the villages should identify a use area and keep it free from
46 industrial, even from sport. I think it's been tried before
47 with the State at one time but I don't know how long ago it
48 was, maybe five years ago, to identify a controlled use area
49 just below Anaktuvuk Pass. I don't know if that failed at
50 that time but with the advent of lease sales, potentially, in

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1 those areas, that should be a concern and I would recommend
2 that type of just forwarding a comment from a body of this
3 type.

4
5 Another thing I had was anadromous fish. I'd
6 like to find out to what extent Federal agencies have studied
7 on the North Slope to identify anadromous fish areas because
8 we use those, too, at the local level for protection to look
9 out as development occurs and some of these should be further
10 identified.

11
12 Those are my concerns and I'll stop there
13 right for you, talking to you about it.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Thank you, Gordon.
16 On the first issue, making comments to such things as public
17 comments from this body to another political division, I'm
18 not quite clear as to how the Council can get into or pursue
19 that. Any comments Barbara or Jennings or someone on that
20 issue as far as lease sale comments from this body?

21
22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Jennings.

25
26 MR. JENNINGS: Yes, Mr. Chair, Tim Jennings,
27 Office of Subsistence Management. In this regard, if it's
28 the Council's wishes to provide comments on the lease sale
29 that Gordon mentioned, you could work with your coordinator,
30 Barb, to prepare a letter for your signature and we can
31 forward those comments on. So it's at the Council's desire.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: And, yeah, like Gordon was
34 saying that Anaktuvuk Pass has an area that maybe we could
35 identify which of the area -- where the lands that are being
36 used and saying maybe during migration -- maybe work with
37 someone from Anaktuvuk Pass or the North Slope Borough or the
38 State.

39
40 MR. JENNINGS: And then the other thing would
41 be to identify, Gordon, if these -- does this lease include
42 some Federal lands or is it all State lands lease; is it part
43 of NPRA?

44
45 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

48
49 MR. G. BROWER: This is Gordon. I think it's
50 south of Umiat, there's a map identifying it, I'm pretty sure

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1 it's all State, I'm not too sure, but I think it's all State
2 land. But it's the influential area of Anaktuvuk Pass,
3 certainly exists in that area for subsistence use and quite
4 a bit of concern really exists, even without industry in the
5 area. And there should be some effort to comment to try to
6 mitigate some of these things, even from this level going
7 down that way.

8

9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon, do you know the
10 deadline for the comment period for this?

11

12 MR. G. BROWER: I think the comment period is
13 very short now. I submitted my comments to -- I think to Tom
14 Loman and he was putting a unified comment with the Mayor to
15 be submitted by September 15.

16

17 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman.

18

19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Earl.

20

21 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, they had a meeting on
22 this at home, in Anaktuvuk Pass in July but they tabled it
23 because everybody -- all our representatives were preparing
24 for EO, the Eskimo Olympics and they wanted to reschedule it
25 for somewhere in August but I think they rescheduled it for
26 September, I'm not sure, but the Mayor came over and
27 discussed the matter with the village. The village was very
28 concerned about that. They wanted to have a meeting again
29 with this because some of the drilling -- drilling
30 representatives -- you know, they discussed this and they
31 want to discuss it some more because it's very important.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon, I would kind of
34 tend to lead toward what Anaktuvuk Pass' community is working
35 with the North Slope Borough in making their comments. I
36 would just say maybe we can echo what the North Slope Borough
37 and the villages are saying, that we support their concern
38 from the village meeting or the town meeting with the Mayor.
39 But what this Council can do, I know the matter is short, but
40 they are meeting here and we can send up support to the
41 subsistence hunters of Anaktuvuk Pass. I don't think this
42 body can identify better than the folks from Anaktuvuk Pass
43 can and we can just support their comments that, you know,
44 I'm pretty sure that they'll mention, you know, the
45 possibility of interference and that's all we can do that for
46 on that matter.

47

48 The second one was anadromous fisheries?

49

50 MR. G. BROWER: Anadromous fish. That was

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1 just my concern because I work with those and try to work to
2 try to protect subsistence in what I do as a job. Sometimes
3 I see the lack of studies areas, I think, that needs to
4 identify these.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, we might be running
7 across that. I think there are some projects that are
8 identified in here. Harry do you know if one of the
9 projects, stock identification, what kind of things -- is
10 that going to be talking about Gordon's concern?

11
12 MR. G. BROWER: Just as to where fish go to
13 spawn and leave, some concerns exist to the foothills lease
14 areas to the BLM areas. Some of the current data that I try
15 to work with show very little anadromous streams that are
16 documented and certainly a lot more.....

17
18 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Dr. Jessie Ford.

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The North Slope Fish and
21 Game Committee, Dr. Jessie Ford was doing some research this
22 summer. I think she was going to be done with her report or
23 research this winter in February or March, wasn't it, Harry?

24
25 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman, her
26 studies are focusing on contaminants in lake fish. That's
27 the work that Jessie Ford was doing.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any other concerns Gordon?

30
31 MR. G. BROWER: I think that was my concern.
32 I mean we have an effort, I think, at our Borough that we'll
33 try and update some of our coastal resource atlases that we
34 use for applying policies, and there are very limited funds
35 to try to -- I mean I don't think there are any funds to try
36 to identify where the areas of anadromous streams. Our atlas
37 shows -- I know that more streams exist and there should be
38 an effort to get those policies applied to anadromous
39 streams.

40
41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We'll have to hear
42 something from the fisheries of the possibility of what the
43 program can cover under that. You can do that a little bit
44 more later. Okay, well, you can do that a little bit more
45 later, Gordon, on the fisheries resource. Thank you, Gordon.
46 Harry, any concerns from this area?

47
48 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman, I haven't
49 really heard any concerns coming from our community. You
50 know, hunting here has been fairly good this past couple of

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1 years. You know there are large numbers of caribou and we do
2 have communities that have hardly seen any caribous
3 throughout the summer because of the place of caribou at
4 different times of the year. I don't think I've heard --
5 I've talked to quite a few people, some here in Barrow, that
6 haven't really brought out any concerns in regards to
7 hunting.

8
9 Just for information purposes, some of that
10 information Earl was talking about earlier was in regards to
11 the Western Arctic Caribou working group that met earlier
12 this summer, I was in part of that as an observer for the
13 North Slope Borough as part of our wildlife management. And
14 then there were members from our fish and game management
15 committee, Jody Hopson, we had our biologist, toxicologist
16 Tyra Hara also present at the meeting. So that was a meeting
17 sponsored by the state of Alaska, Department of Fish and
18 Game. And there was concerns brought out in regards to
19 caribou at that meeting but I don't really have anything on
20 the Federal Management Program.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, Harry.
23 For Kaktovik, this summer we've had several meetings
24 discussing the community residents concerns of Kaktovik
25 regarding permitting systems for muskoxen. That issue is
26 still ongoing, there is no change in the permitting system
27 under ANWR, the Refuge administering the issuing of permits,
28 however, they're well aware that there is a need for change
29 in the way they issue permits. I'd rather not delve into
30 those, it's being worked out with Arctic National Wildlife
31 Refuge, perhaps even a change in the season, opening season
32 for muskox was also discussed. We have a deadline of going
33 according to the proposals that can be submitted, there is a
34 blue card, a blue piece of paper here so any of the members
35 can give to their community members and organizations,
36 usually when they work together you have a better chance of
37 having a proposal not be refused by the Federal Subsistence
38 Board. So the residents of Kaktovik will be working on a
39 proposal, and the deadline is October 27th. This is on the
40 terrestrial, right, am I correct on this? Get this
41 permitting system, I think that can be worked out
42 administratively as far as this effecting permits perhaps a
43 new proposal change will be sought -- or pursued by the
44 people of Kaktovik to change the open season. The
45 possibility -- I think we may have gotten a response, I'm not
46 sure, from the Refuge, but the people would like to see the
47 carryover from one season to the other, if the 15 were not
48 caught in this season then the ones that weren't caught can
49 be carried over to the next.

50

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1 We've also talked about taking calves. That
2 again, we'll work with -- the committee will work with each
3 other to see what the best opportunity -- the best way to
4 pursue in getting -- making it easier for the residents of
5 Kaktovik to get muskoxen.

6
7 The other issue is moose. The count is low
8 but the community is going to pursue in making a proposal
9 lenient for the residents to take moose for subsistence
10 purposes. As you know the Porcupine Herd did not stay around
11 in Kaktovik very long so they want to have the opportunity to
12 get a moose or two moose out of the 14 that's been counted.
13 The residents know there are more than 14. As far as the
14 government, U.S. government count is there is more than 14,
15 that's what the residents say so they're going to pursue
16 getting one or two moose under the proposal system.

17
18 So other than that good caribou that have
19 been hanging around earlier this summer, so once the caribou
20 get down to the coast that's the opportunity -- that's a good
21 opportunity for those that are out on boats so they don't
22 have to pack them very far. So there's very few days when
23 the caribou go down to the coast. So they've been catching
24 caribou.

25
26 Nothing else, no other concerns. Other than
27 the muskox and the moose.

28
29 Any questions from the Staff about our
30 village concerns? Hearing none, the Chair will call for a
31 break to get on to our next item, we'll take a 10 minute
32 recess.

33
34 (Off record)
35 (On record)

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'd like to call the North
38 Slope Regional Advisory Council meeting back order after a
39 brief recess. We got done with 6(E) and again, throughout
40 the meeting the floor is open for public comments on the
41 Federal Subsistence Management Program and this opportunity
42 will continue throughout the meeting. If you need to testify
43 there's some forms on the table in front of us. If you do
44 need to make a comment, give the form to our coordinator
45 Barbara.

46
47 We'll move on to item number 7, at this time
48 there are no proposals to come before the Regional Council.
49 But just a brief statement or review of the proposal to
50 change Federal subsistence regulations for wildlife and

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1 customary and trade use determination, traditional use
2 determinations. There are these blue forms, the proposals
3 will be accepted from August 18th through October 27th, 2000.
4 Again, these can come from the public and the regulations
5 come from the Federal agencies, State agencies and also from
6 the Regional Council. And from experience, proposals from
7 the North Slope, it usually helps when we have the city, the
8 village corporation or the tribal government to get together
9 and pursue the proposal change and also working with the
10 Regional Council. However, we do not have anything at this
11 time that we can review -- or have you seen any proposals
12 come in Barbara for this region from any of the three public
13 agencies or Regional Council members?

14
15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Before we move on to item
18 number 8, from the villages, do you see a need for a change
19 in regulations? Amos.

20
21 MR. AGNASAGGA: On these here, is there
22 somebody like myself or somebody they could just give it to
23 because I know a lot of it won't be mailed because they got
24 no stamp on them.

25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Good question.

27
28 MR. AGNASAGGA: These are for the public,
29 right?

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

32
33 MR. AGNASAGGA: Uh-huh.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It's usually the person
36 making the proposal or city or village -- Barbara.

37
38 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Fax them.

39
40 MR. AGNASAGGA: Fax them, oh, okay.

41
42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Fax them to me, you have
43 my fax number.

44
45 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Amos, what are you
46 talking about, people getting these in the mail or what?

47
48 MR. AGNASAGGA: Yeah. I'm sure these here
49 will probably be in the post office or something, right.

50

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1 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: You need to talk to
2 Barb. What are they sending all this stuff in the mail to,
3 proposal.....
4

5 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Let me revert that to Tim.
6 Are these being mailed out to.....
7

8 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: The general public?
9

10 MS. B. ARMSTRONG:the general public?
11

12 MR. JENNINGS: I'm not aware that they are.
13

14 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Usually they are
15 because.....
16

17 MR. JENNINGS: We would make them available.
18

19 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Are these just being sent
20 like this to make available for the public here at the
21 meetings, is there one separate that's being mailed like they
22 used to? I know I used to get one but I haven't checked my
23 mail for the last few.....
24

25 MR. JENNINGS: Haven't we done fliers in the
26 past for wildlife proposals around the villages? No?
27

28 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Usually a proposal form is
29 mailed to all of the.....
30

31 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Box holders.
32

33 MS. B. ARMSTRONG:box holders in the
34 state. I usually get one, too, you guys will probably get
35 one, too, and then those usually have a return stamp on it.
36 But if you guys from the villages know of anyone that wants
37 to do a change, they can fax them to me and I can get them in
38 for you.
39

40 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.
41

42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.
43

44 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: This is a comment then
45 in regards to what we heard this morning in regards to
46 Anaktuvuk Pass, would it be worth putting a proposal to
47 change sport hunting regulations? Would it be worth doing to
48 address the concern here? It's just a comment that I'd like
49 to bring out, maybe just for discussion purposes. I'm not
50 sure if it would be worth putting up a proposal or it would

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1 help the residents of Anaktuvuk Pass in regards to the
2 aircraft flying in and then using -- I mean hunting up north
3 of AKP, you know, it could have an impact to the caribou
4 migration is what I'm trying to get at. I'm not sure if it
5 would be worth putting in a proposal to delay the sport hunt
6 to see what kind of affect that would have in regards to the
7 migration moving closer towards Anaktuvuk Pass or is -- you
8 know, I'm not sure. I want to help the residents of
9 Anaktuvuk Pass is just what I'm concerned about, Mr.
10 Chairman, while we're under this discussion of proposals.

11
12 MS. DEWHURST: Mr. Chairman, I believe.....

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Donna.

15
16 REPORTER: Donna, can you.....

17
18 MS. DEWHURST:what Harry is talking
19 about is a State issue. It's not under the Federal program
20 because under the Federal program hunting in the Park and
21 Preserve is restricted to subsistence users. So there is no
22 sport hunting, there's no guided hunting through the Park.
23 So I think you're talking mainly about a State issue so I'm
24 not aware that a Federal proposal would do you much good,
25 that would be something that would need to go to the State
26 Game Board.

27
28 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Does that also include
29 this land on BLM, all this orange land?

30
31 MS. HILDEBRAND: Mr. Chairman.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ida.

34
35 MS. HILDEBRAND: Mr. Chairman, Donna's
36 correct, in that, not in a Federal proposal but the Council
37 can submit a State proposal to the State Board of Game.

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

40
41 MS. DEWHURST: And as far as the aircrafts,
42 being a pilot, you can restrict where they land but you can't
43 restrict air space, that goes by FAA regulations. And they
44 can restrict altitudes but they're only recommended
45 altitudes, there's no teeth to the law. A lot of times on
46 the aviation maps that, you know, the pilots get, it will
47 have that we recommend you stay at 2,000 feet over National
48 Parks and other Federal lands but there's no teeth to it.
49 There's no enforcement on it. So it's been a problem
50 statewide as far as saying -- the only thing that they can do

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1 with aircraft fly-overs as far as that goes is if somebody
2 actually witnesses aircraft harassing wildlife, actually
3 moving the animals then you can make a case. But it's a
4 tough case to make. You almost need video or something.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

7
8 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Yes, Mr. Chairman, Mr.
9 Williams did state that there was aircraft running low and
10 trying to get the caribou to move towards their clients,
11 that's an indication that the aircraft is harassing the
12 animals.

13
14 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, it's just that that
15 would have to be State case with the brown shirts, with the
16 Alaska Fish and Wildlife protection officers. So that might
17 be something to talk to Geoff about to try to get those guys
18 involved because that's a State violation. But, no, you're
19 right, Harry, if it is witnessed, you can make a case. It's
20 just with my experience they're tough cases to prove in
21 court.

22
23 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Yeah.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Donna.
26 Deadline for the proposal window, Sverre or what's the --
27 David James.

28
29 MR. D. JAMES: The proposal deadline for
30 State regulations for that area 26(D) will be in December of
31 2001 because the next board meeting that deals with those
32 regulations is in 2002 in March. So that's a year and a half
33 -- more than a year and a half out from right now.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

36
37 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

40
41 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. James, would it be
42 worth putting in the proposal in regards to what we've heard
43 this morning, you know, the aircraft flying in and hunting up
44 north of AKP and putting some kind of restriction? Would it
45 be worth seeking a proposal and putting it in, what would
46 your feelings be on that?

47
48 MR. D. JAMES: The way that's normally
49 controlled under State regulations is with a controlled use
50 area. One of the speakers earlier mentioned that, and maybe

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1 it was you. Recently, within the past two years, attempts to
2 expand or establish new controlled use areas has met
3 tremendous political resistance. In fact the Board of Game,
4 although, they have the authority to establish those has
5 gotten the message loud and clear from the Legislature that
6 it's -- that that kind of action is really not encouraged at
7 all, so it's a bit of a political stalemate there. And
8 that's probably the best way I can answer it. I hate to tell
9 you what I think you should do or not do.

10
11 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Uh-huh.

12
13 MR. D. JAMES: If it's an issue you're
14 concerned about, you know, those kinds of issues are brought
15 up in front of the Board for discussion on a regular basis.
16 All I can tell you is what the history has been, you know,
17 and for the past years and it has not been a very friendly
18 atmosphere for controlled use areas.

19
20 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

23
24 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman.

25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Williams.

27
28 MR. WILLIAMS: I'd like to ask Dave a
29 question, how can we set up some kind of meeting with the
30 State, you know, that deals with that kind of problem
31 because, you know, we've been dealing with them for the last
32 13 years and nothing's been resolved between the State and
33 Anaktuvuk Pass and that State land. Maybe, at least, you
34 know, give some explanation to the village that way they
35 could have more understanding then they've been having.

36
37 MR. D. JAMES: I could suggest a couple of
38 different ways to improve the dialogue on that issue. One of
39 them is to bring it through the Fish and Game Advisory
40 Committee process. The other is through Staff. You know,
41 our Staff regularly meet on a formal or an informal basis in
42 different communities on different issues. The one that you
43 have been discussing right now and before the break is a
44 difficult one. Just three or four weeks ago for the first
45 time ever I drove the Haul Road during the hunting season
46 just to see what it looks like. I happened to hit it at
47 somewhat slow period, there was some hunting going on but I
48 was told I had missed the heaviest part the week before and
49 it probably got heavy the week after I was up there. There's
50 no doubt about it that there is a lot of hunting along there.

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1 Just to share some of my own personal experiences, I think
2 about what I used to see on the Kobuk River and there's a lot
3 of hunting there, too, just camp after camp after camp after
4 camp during the height of the migration. That kind of
5 activity can co-exist, you know, because we know it's been
6 there for many, many years, thousands, the archaeologists
7 tell us, the anthropologists tell us. What kind of
8 comparison you can make between what goes on in a situation
9 like that where there's a very important migration corridor
10 and compared to what goes on in the North Slope, I personally
11 don't have that knowledge. Like I said, that's the first
12 time I'd ever driven the road up there so I don't have that
13 much personal familiarity with it. I have to be honest with
14 you, because I see that activity along the road, I cannot
15 automatically conclude well, they must be disrupting the
16 migrations that take place there. I am unwilling to come to
17 that conclusion, you know, based on my past experience and
18 what we know scientifically. At the same time my past
19 experience forces me to say, well, you know, we can't dismiss
20 it either. It seems to be one of those issues that has gone
21 unresolved for a long time because of a combination of very
22 limited scientific information, extensive traditional
23 knowledge that we have in the area; it's a tough one to deal
24 with.

25
26 That's not the only issue here, I realize,
27 because there's concern about the airplane traffic, too.
28 Well, as far as the monitoring goes of that, during that trip
29 a few weeks ago, we stopped at Happy Valley and the brown
30 shirts, Fish and Wildlife Protection had quite a major
31 program going on there, they had three aircraft and four
32 Troopers working the area, not just the road but off the
33 road, too, over towards your area, north of it anyway. They
34 were checking caribou hunters and sheep hunters, primarily.
35 So they had a major monitoring effort going on there this
36 hunting period. I think it was -- I can't remember, two or
37 three weeks in duration. They don't have the resources to do
38 that all the time, everywhere. Typically they move from one
39 place to the other, from one year to the next to hit an area
40 real hard to try and send a message more than anything. If,
41 you know, a representative was here for this meeting, perhaps
42 -- well, I know they could fill us in on the details of that.
43 And since I don't work for that agency, I only know they were
44 doing that very active and I really don't know the conclusion
45 from it. They made several cases, I do know that.

46
47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you, David.
48 We've got another year or so to continue to work on this.
49 Fred, did you have.....

50

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1 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

2
3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Armstrong.

4
5 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And
6 I seriously would have you guys really look carefully at the
7 issue of controlled use area. We had an incident, well, not
8 an incident, but there was a proposal before the State Board
9 of Game, to expand the Noatak controlled use area, which
10 really had put it in jeopardy of them losing that. Mr. James
11 is right, it's a political situation, also legal, because
12 there was threats of a lawsuit and stuff like that that the
13 Board was faced with. And so we barely lucked by and the
14 Board took no action on that proposal, otherwise they would
15 have lost that in the Noatak area.

16
17 Perhaps one way to address this issue of user
18 groups is to probably convene a meeting of the different user
19 groups together similar to the one in Northwest Alaska. John
20 Cody was instrumental in facilitating this group discussion
21 with different user groups and perhaps the same thing can
22 occur with AKP.

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Uh-huh.

25
26 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: And it's working,
27 actually, I mean they're getting to where they can air the
28 issues and try to come to some resolution because of some
29 incidents in our area that were pretty serious.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: There's also the Western
32 Caribou working group that Anaktuvuk has a seat in, I'm not
33 sure who the representative is.

34
35 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Harry Hego.

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry Hego is the
38 representative, I understand that.....

39
40 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And I think he's
41 alternate, I think Pete is alternate for Harry.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So that's another avenue
44 to continue talking about that issue. Okay. All right, on
45 the proposals, I think we've thoroughly discussed what we
46 need to do here. Any other villages that might want to
47 pursue a proposal or want to pursue a proposal change in
48 regulation? I know Kaktovik will probably submit something
49 before the deadline.

50

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1 We'll move on to item eight real quickly,
2 proposals to change Federal subsistence fisheries regulations
3 and customary and traditional use determinations. At the
4 present time we remain status quo on our fisheries
5 regulations. At the last meeting or so, the Council here
6 decided to remain status quo or remain with the State
7 regulations, stay in line with them. Again, if there's any
8 communities or public or if the Council wants to submit a
9 proposal, the deadline is January 4. I'm not sure what the
10 form looks like but you can get some information from the
11 green book on fisheries.

12
13 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

16
17 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: I have a question to the
18 Staff, whether there's been any proposals submitted other
19 than from this Regional Council or from others?

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any people from public on
22 fisheries, that would be your question, Harry?

23
24 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Yeah.

25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. Jennings.

27
28 MR. JENNINGS: Yes, Mr. Chair, if I
29 understand the question, Harry, you want to know if there
30 were other fisheries regulatory proposals that were submitted
31 this year?

32
33 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: In regards to the North
34 Slope?

35
36 MR. JENNINGS: Oh, in regards to the North
37 Slope, no. Statewide we had about 40 proposals, none, of
38 which affected the North Slope.

39
40 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Thank you.

41
42 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Tim. Questions
43 on the fisheries regulations proposal opportunity from the
44 Council? Okay, we're halfway done, flip the page over here.

45
46 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chairman.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Terry.

49
50 MR. TAGAROOK: I move that we have a lunch

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1 break.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Move for lunch break, any
4 objections to a lunch break, come back at 1:15?

5

6 MR. TAGAROOK: 1:30.

7

8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 1:30. Okay, 1:30. Any
9 questions before we have a recess?

10

11 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, Harry.

14

15 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman, I would
16 just -- maybe when we come back from lunch, I have a question
17 in regards to this in-season management. I wasn't here at
18 the last meeting so I have some questions in regard to that,
19 in terms of the fisheries regulations, the in-season
20 management.

21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Who's going to be covering
23 for.....

24

25 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Peggy will be here.

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Peggy, on 1A on the next
28 page, okay.

29

30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: On the projects and
31 resource monitoring program?

32

33 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Uh-huh.

34

35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. When we get to it
36 this afternoon.

37

38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right, any other
39 questions? If not, see you at 1:30.

40

41 (Off record)

42 (On record)

43

44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Good afternoon ladies and
45 gentlemen. I'll call the North Slope Subsistence Regional
46 Advisory Council meeting back to order. Where's Gordon --
47 Gordon should be in, his topic is coming up for discussion
48 and he'll probably catch up. But our next item that we're
49 going to be on is the agency reports. Briefing on agency
50 concerns, issues related to subsistence use and wildlife

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1 resources, including the status of wildlife population and
2 updates and reports. So we'll go to Tab E, Fish and Wildlife
3 Service, I believe maybe Peggy's got the floor. Peggy.

4
5 MS. FOX: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going
6 to give two of the briefings and then others on the Staff are
7 going to provide the following ones. I'm going to do the
8 cooperative projects and staffing. Pete Probasco, our new
9 State liaison is going to cover the coordination with the
10 state of Alaska. Tim Jennings is going to cover the training
11 and statewide rural determination briefings. And Barb is
12 going to touch on the art contest that we have underway.
13 There is no one to do the migratory birds update, the
14 materials are there, there isn't anybody here to do that.
15 And then, I guess, Greg is scheduled to do the Arctic Refuge.

16
17 So with that, I think I'll go ahead and get
18 started, if that's all right?

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yes.

21
22 MS. FOX: Okay, thank you. My purpose on
23 this topic is to update you on the subsistence fisheries
24 monitoring program and answer questions that you may have.
25 Specifically, I want to point out the projects approved for
26 the North Slope and then I want to bring to your attention
27 opportunities for Council involvement in the project planning
28 schedules for 2001 and 2002. And as the Chair indicated, I'd
29 like you to go to Tab E and we're going to be talking about
30 some of these documents.

31
32 For this year, out of the 45 projects that
33 were funded, the North Slope region will benefit from three
34 studies. In your packet those projects are listed and
35 described if you go, let's see, how many pages in, I
36 apologize that there are no page numbers, but where it starts
37 with Arctic, Kotzebue, Norton Sound projects, about four
38 pages in or so, and then you'll see a project narrative,
39 there's several projects for that entire region.

40
41 The first project that I just briefly wanted
42 to point out to you for the North Slope is the eastern North
43 Slope char abundance and distribution project. And this
44 project arose out of concerns for potential effects of
45 increasing non-local sport fishery and oil development on
46 subsistence uses of dolly varden. The study is focusing on
47 stocks in several rivers and the details of that project are
48 laid out here and I believe somebody, Tim -- Tim is available
49 to answer specific questions on this project if you have
50 them.

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1 The second project that will benefit the
2 North Slope is on the following page, project number 16.
3 That has to do with access to fisheries information in the
4 Arctic Yukon-Kuskokwim region. This project will pull
5 together all known information on fisheries in the region,
6 summarize it and make it available to fishery managers and
7 others who may be interested for the purpose of improving our
8 decision-making and our knowledge of the fisheries. Right
9 now it's pretty scattered so this is an effort to try to pull
10 it all together.

11
12 And lastly is project 17 called the statewide
13 subsistence fisheries harvest monitoring strategy. Currently
14 there are different methods used in different parts of the
15 state and by different agencies to collect fisheries harvest
16 information and there is no statewide summary available once
17 this information is collected. This project will not only
18 gain consistency in how harvest information is collected,
19 analyzed and made available but it will also result in a
20 training program for people who hired to collect that
21 information. So that should help provide consistency in the
22 future. This is a noteworthy one because we have a large
23 committee, including tribal representatives who are involved
24 in developing the methodology.

25
26 Are there any questions on the projects that you'd
27 like to ask Tim or myself? I'm not sure if there's anyone
28 else here to discuss any of the other projects. Dave, are
29 you on the harvest monitoring?

30
31 MR. NELSON: No, I'm not.

32
33 MS. FOX: No, okay. Any more questions?

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: On the 16, when will the
36 information be available?

37
38 MS. FOX: I'm not sure what the.....

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Or when will this project
41 be done?

42
43 MS. FOX: It's supposed to be done, I think,
44 in a couple of phases so it might take a couple of years for
45 the entire project to be complete. I think Phase I is this
46 year and Phase II is next year -- oh, no, it says Phase I
47 and II will be completed in 2000, excuse me.

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

50

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1 MS. FOX: Other questions?

2
3 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

6
7 MR. G. BROWER: On the information access of
8 fisheries management data and for capacity building for the
9 Arctic, is that a substantial amount of data that's already
10 been collected or in the process of being collected?

11
12 MS. FOX: Well, from what I know of it, it is
13 quite a bit of information as you can imagine. The Yukon has
14 certainly been studied quite a bit. I'm not so sure that a
15 lot's been done on the Kuskokwim and maybe there's somebody
16 in the room who has some more knowledge on that. But my
17 understanding is is that there is quite a bit of information
18 out there and it's just nobody's ever focused funding to try
19 to pull it all together to tell us.

20
21 MR. G. BROWER: There's one point that I'm
22 pointing out to is the Arctic region, is Arctic, Yukon,
23 Kuskokwim regions for the Arctic area data?

24
25 MS. FOX: There was quite a bit of data
26 collected for the purposes of establishing a baseline if you
27 will, and I was just talking to Dave Nelson about it earlier,
28 in the '70s, on the North Slope, in and around the area of
29 the Preserve, the National Petroleum Reserve, excuse me. And
30 so we do know that that information is out there and there
31 have been studies subsequent to that for the EIS that was
32 recently done and perhaps some other projects that we want to
33 kind of compile it together. And I don't know if contacts
34 are being made with the Borough about the work it's been
35 doing or not, I hope so.

36
37 MR. G. BROWER: This is Gordon again. Yeah,
38 there was some cooperation some time that I've noticed
39 concerning the collection of data on anadromous streams. The
40 coastal resource atlas of the North Slope Borough, it's on
41 its movement to being updated and very few streams exist on
42 the current atlas and the effort to try and collect more data
43 on anadromous streams within the North Slope is a concern and
44 I would have -- just tried to point out that that was an
45 effort of data collection that was going on.

46
47 MS. FOX: Do you know about when that was?

48
49 MR. G. BROWER: Dan Berrington was heading
50 that but he's since left the Borough and there was a

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1 collaboration that he had put together, I think, with the
2 wildlife department, ADF&G. I'm not sure if it's the U.S.
3 Fish and Wildlife Service may have played a part in that.
4 But currently, I think, data still needs to be included for
5 those kinds of stuff. As far as development is moving, to
6 try and make sure you know about these things to properly
7 protect and make sure you know what fishes are where as
8 development moves on.

9
10 MS. FOX: Yes, I recall you raising a concern
11 this morning. And, you know, for one area up on the Slope
12 south of Umiat and this is one of the important roles that
13 the Council can play in helping focus some effort on a study
14 that might be needed, is to raise issues, identify
15 information needs. That's one of the key roles for the
16 Council. And then that helps us, you know, that flags us
17 that that needs to have some kind of study or some kind of
18 effort directed, if we can find somebody to do it, get a
19 project proposal in, and it will get considered by the Board.

20
21 MR. OKAKOK: Charlie Okakok and I'm with the
22 community of the Arctic Slope. I'm here for Bill Tulesula,
23 he's our EPA officer, right now he's doing fish studies up
24 towards the Umiat area and it was funded by EPA doing some
25 contaminant studies on the fish that were brought about by
26 the Army Corps of Engineers, I believe, they did some
27 studies. And also what he is doing is fish consumption
28 studies at Nuiqsut, and possibly at Umiat at that same time.
29 What had happened is back in -- when Umiat studies -- the
30 fish studies came out the Corp of Engineers had issued a
31 report and the State of Alaska also put out an advisory for
32 the people not to eat six berbot liver a year and this was
33 just a small advisory. And this is what he's doing, and I
34 wonder if this can be implemented into some of these programs
35 -- projects?

36
37 MS. FOX: If that information can be gathered
38 or you're talking about a separate, additional study?

39
40 MR. OKAKOK: Additional studies, yes.

41
42 MS. FOX: An additional study, yeah. Yes.
43 We would accept a proposal to do that type of work wherever
44 it affects Federally qualified subsistence users so I'm not
45 exactly sure what area you're talking about and in all
46 probability it's going to pass -- let's see, maybe you could
47 show me on the map, Gordon, do you know where's talking
48 about?

49
50 MR. OKAKOK: Umiat.

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1 MR. G. BROWER: Here is Umiat.

2
3 MS. FOX: Yeah, there but.....

4
5 MR. G. BROWER: And Nuiqsut is here.

6
7 MS. FOX: Yeah.

8
9 MR. G. BROWER: I think the study area that
10 Mr. Tulesula is undertaking is along this route.

11
12 MS. FOX: Along the Colville?

13
14 MR. OKAKOK: Yes.

15
16 MS. FOX: Okay, good, yes. If there's
17 additional work needed, that would certainly be a proposal
18 that the Board would consider funding. But I don't know who
19 would end up issuing the -- or developing the proposal, would
20 it be EPA or somebody else?

21
22 MR. OKAKOK: No, Mr. Tulesula himself.

23
24 MS. FOX: Okay. Okay.

25
26 MR. OKAKOK: Okay.

27
28 MS. FOX: Well, if he needs a contact to find
29 out more about submitting a proposal you can give him my
30 name. I have a card I can leave with you, for example, and
31 then maybe I could help him get his proposal submitted.

32
33 MR. OKAKOK: Okay, thank you.

34
35 MS. FOX: You're welcome.

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Peggy.

38
39 MS. FOX: Okay, thank you. The other thing
40 I did want to address, very briefly, on this subject is the
41 role of the Councils and there are basically three
42 opportunities for the Council to influence the projects that
43 are funded on an annual basis.

44
45 First of all, it's in doing things like
46 Gordon has done and the gentleman who was just up here by
47 surfacing issues or opportunities that are important to
48 people and making sure that we're aware of the need for a
49 study and then we will make an effort to follow-up and see
50 who might be able to work on that.

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1 Second, the Councils can encourage specific
2 agencies, such as EPA or Fish and Game or Arctic Slope,
3 whoever to submit proposals to get them to work on a
4 particular issue that you're concerned about and then those
5 would be forwarded to the Board for possible funding.

6
7 Thirdly, once proposals are ready for the
8 approval process, the Councils will be reviewing the
9 specifics of the projects that did make it through the
10 screening process and offering advice to the Federal
11 Subsistence Management Program on the proposed projects that
12 are specific to your region.

13
14 Now, for 2001, the projects at this stage --
15 where we are right now for projects in 2001 is that we're
16 still collecting project proposals and the final date is
17 September 15th so is it coming up rather quickly. But I
18 don't know if anyone has submitted a study as of yet relative
19 to the North Slope, but if you know of something and you can
20 encourage some organization or individual to submit a
21 proposal, we have until Friday to do that for 2001 funding.

22
23 Project proposals specific to the North Slope
24 region then will be made available to the Council about
25 January 1st, we'll be mailing them out to all the members.
26 And then a special session, and we'll be discussing this
27 session a little bit later, Tim Jennings will discuss it with
28 you and it will be held during the week of January 22nd
29 through the 26th and you'll have the opportunity to provide
30 your comments and advice the specific proposals that affect
31 your regions, and all council members will be invited to
32 Anchorage for that purpose among other agenda items. So then
33 Council comments will go directly to the Board and then in
34 February decisions will be made on the projects to be funded
35 for 2001.

36
37 Moving on to the project planning process for
38 2002, we are lengthening that project proposal process so
39 it's going to start earlier than it has in the last two
40 schedules. For example, it's only a couple months away.
41 Starting in November we'll be asking for project proposals
42 for 2002 and you'll have until February 1st, that's a three
43 month period over the holidays but -- to submit proposals for
44 2002. So you have quite a few opportunities right now and in
45 November, December and January to identify proposals and
46 perhaps work with some organizations who can do the work and
47 get that proposal submitted.

48
49 There's quite a bit of other information in
50 here that I thought that you could look at at your

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1 convenience. I wanted to primarily talk about your roll in
2 this process. So that concludes my comments on this subject
3 unless there are questions.

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Special session, what were
6 the dates again and will all the Regional Councils from the
7 North Slope attend that special session?

8

9 MS. FOX: Yes, it's January -- the week of
10 January 22nd through the 26th and all members of the Council
11 will be invited -- all members of all the Councils will be
12 there, we hope, probably with a few exceptions but we're
13 going to be spending one day on each Councils -- on just
14 these projects and each Council will have the opportunity to
15 make comments on the proposals.

16

17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ida, and then Bing.

18

19 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
20 Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff Committee member. Just for your
21 information while you're on the topic of projects for
22 fisheries studies, these projects in your Council book are
23 what are called pre-proposals, so if anybody's interested in
24 requesting a project for either the project that Charlie was
25 talking about or Gordon's studies of anadromous fish this is
26 what they'd look like, they'd be a page or a page and a half
27 that describes what you're interested in and why and that
28 would be what would need to be submitted by September 15th or
29 very soon. And you can work with either the Fish and Game
30 people you work with here or North Slope Borough or whatever
31 Federal agencies are around that area that you want to do
32 your studies in.

33

34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Ida. Mr.
35 Armstrong, Fred.

36

37 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Just a question for Peggy,
38 last year, you know, we had a so much different process for
39 the selection of projects, perhaps you could do a breakdown
40 of what the process will be this year because last year there
41 was a preselection made and only certain projects were
42 selected for Board approval.

43

44 MS. FOX: That's correct. And that process
45 continues every year. We, for example, last year we received
46 160 project proposals and they need to go through an initial
47 screening to -- I think the criteria are actually on the
48 first page of Tab E, the primary criteria that were applied,
49 that the project addressed subsistence fisheries management
50 issues on Federal lands and waters, secondly, that it built

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1 on existing planning efforts and expertise and thirdly, that
2 it supported partnership with local Alaska Native and other
3 organizations. Those are the primary criteria. There's a
4 few others and we do want to take the opportunity to look at
5 projects across the state so not any one area is going to get
6 all of the studies or any two or three areas. So there's
7 other criteria, I don't know if they are minor or lesser
8 important but there are a few other criteria that are also
9 applied. So when we get those projects in, they have to meet
10 these criteria and that whittles it down. And we have a
11 committee that is set up to do that, a technical committee
12 and Ida was on that committee last year, for example, among
13 many others.

14
15 And we have people from the State as well as
16 the Federal agencies reviewing these. The State has a lot of
17 expertise to offer on how some of these projects, you know,
18 stand up against things that they've already done, for
19 example. Anyway, so they're screened and as you can see, out
20 of the 160 project proposals we ended up funding 45. Now,
21 some of those proposals, and that's at the point where -- we
22 still had good projects but we ran out of money. So
23 obviously money is another criteria. But some of the
24 projects just didn't meet the criteria so, you know, we
25 talked to the proponent and pointed out why. But that type
26 of process will continue every year.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: The criteria are listed in
29 the booklet?

30
31 MS. FOX: Tab E, first page of Tab E right in
32 the middle.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Questions for
35 Peggy?

36
37 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chair.

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Earl.

40
41 MR. WILLIAMS: We were discussing about
42 fisheries, three or four years, I guess they been studying
43 fish on Chandler and Anaktuvuk because the village people are
44 concerned about all those contamination barrels that they
45 left behind from years back of -- you know, those people that
46 have been, what do you call them, sports fishing, there are
47 a lot of contaminant barrels in those two smaller lakes down
48 on Chandler, there's some barrels there in the water -- you
49 don't see it, from the sky, but you get see it when you come
50 by there. They are very concerned about that.

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1 Another concern they had about is when that,
2 what do you call it, this -- before the -- it was Hickel
3 Highway made through there, they left behind a lot of barrels
4 and cables and CAT tracks, CAT blades, you don't see it, but
5 it's in the ground, you can see it growing from veggies and
6 stuff that's grown over it but when you're riding down that
7 way -- that's why a lot of people from village don't fish
8 around down around toward North Fork because there's too many
9 stuff that's been left behind. And you know we've been
10 bringing it up but there's been nothing done about that. I
11 guess, you know, this is under EPA and you know this is
12 something that should be considered.

13
14 MS. FOX: I do know some work has been done
15 on that by BLM. When I worked for BLM, and maybe Dave could
16 add to the record on that, but we did and continue to have a
17 hazardous materials program in BLM and funding was directed
18 -- because I remember going out and looking at some of those
19 sites along the road there and I know exactly what you're
20 talking about. I imagine it's a very slow process. Like
21 you've indicated there's an awful lot of stuff off the road
22 and around the airports.

23
24 MR. WILLIAMS: That's why the village people
25 don't go fishing down that way.

26
27 MS. FOX: Uh-huh, but that could be another
28 opportunity for a project proposal.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Was there another hand up
31 somewhere?

32
33 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

36
37 MR. G. BROWER: I don't know if this has been
38 an existing study that's taking place but it's something that
39 I've been concerned about is during the winter, the
40 withdrawal of water from fish bearing lakes for use in
41 building ice roads.

42
43 MS. FOX: Uh-huh.

44
45 MR. G. BROWER: Extensive ice roads. And at
46 what point, if there is a study, and somewhere along the
47 line, at what point do you know that when you withdraw water
48 that enough of it has been withdrawn to where you're
49 affecting the oxygen level to sustain the rest of the fish
50 for the duration of the winter. I know they had marks of

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1 probably, I think 15 percent or something in that order, I'm
2 not too exactly sure but I always wondered where the figures
3 would come from to really know what the effect is on the fish
4 that are in the lakes. Because some of these lakes that are
5 being used for building ice roads is a concern and always
6 trying to find a comfortable, maybe a study that's existing
7 to where you can use that for the back up. Because a lot of
8 residents have concerns over the use of lakes that are
9 subsistence bearing for food. And that's a question that I
10 had for a long time is at what point do you know, for real,
11 if there is a study existing that you're effectively taking
12 enough water out if you're removing the oxygen to sustain for
13 the rest of the year.

14
15 Maybe somebody can answer that.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, that sounds like
18 that could be identified.

19
20 MR. YOKEL: I was going to touch briefly on
21 that, Mr. Chair, when my turn comes up.

22
23 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

24
25 MR. YOKEL: If we can wait until then.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Peggy, proceed.

28
29 MS. FOX: Thank you. I'll move on to the
30 next briefing, it follows the projects. The charts in
31 particular here, it's just a one-pager, it looks like this.
32 The reason we have this in here and I want to bring this up
33 is at the winter meetings held last February and March, many
34 of the Councils expressed a lot of concern about our progress
35 in hiring additional staff in order to be ready to manage
36 subsistence fisheries this fishing season. Several of the
37 Councils actually sent letters to the Secretary of the
38 Interior urging him to approve the Federal staffing plans so
39 agencies could get key staff in place as soon as possible.
40 The expressions of support and urgency were well received and
41 very effective, and we do want to acknowledge the Council's
42 role in that process and in fact I know Willie Goodwin went
43 back there personally, the Northwest Regional Advisory
44 Council Chair and met with members of the Secretary's staff
45 on this issue. The one page briefing in your book provides
46 a status report then, knowing that this is of concern to you,
47 on Federal hiring. And I'd also like to -- and as a result
48 I'd like to point out four things about this briefing.

49
50 First of all, that we're halfway through the

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1 hiring. We're still, in my mind, significantly short-
2 staffed. So we've hired 21 people and we've yet to hire
3 another 22 for a total of 43, which was the limit that the
4 Secretary put on all the Federal agencies for permanent full-
5 time staff.

6
7 Secondly, in addition to the permanent staff,
8 this year, through these projects we've hired 83 temporary
9 staff at the local levels to assist with the subsistence
10 fisheries projects.

11
12 Third, over approximately the next six
13 months, we plan on contracting for an additional nine full-
14 time technical positions and I want to emphasize contracting,
15 those will not be Federal employees. We will be looking to
16 rural organizations to submit contracts to find a person who
17 would help oversee these projects out on the ground or
18 wherever they may occur.

19
20 Fourth, I just wanted to bring to your
21 attention the decision to -- well, actually it was the
22 Secretary's guidance that we hire a Native liaison specific
23 to our program to work with all the different Native
24 organizations and entities that are involved and concerned
25 with subsistence. That position will be -- is advertised
26 currently by the Bureau of Indian Affairs -- will be a Bureau
27 of Indian Affairs employee. And the role of that position
28 will be -- at this point is to work closely with the Staff
29 Committee and the Board and actually serve as the Board's
30 assistant and sitting with the Staff Committee, and this
31 person will be out visiting the Councils during their
32 meetings and talking about issues that are important to the
33 Native community.

34
35 And that concludes my comments on this
36 subject unless there are questions.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Questions on the staffing
39 of the Federal Subsistence Fisheries Management Program?

40
41 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

44
45 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Peggy, I wasn't here at
46 the last meeting but there was some discussion about the in-
47 season management, does that have anything to do with what
48 you're discussing here?

49
50 MS. FOX: It's the next topic that Pete

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1 Probasco is going to provide. It's part of the overall
2 briefing on coordination with the state of Alaska.

3
4 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Okay. I had a question
5 in regard to why there was some lumping of regions as to the
6 fisheries management, North Slope, Northwest, the councils
7 being lumped into one area, why was that done and why
8 couldn't it be separated into their own specific regions like
9 how we have it described on the maps.

10
11 MS. FOX: Right. The reason for that is
12 because we adopted the State's way of organizing regions for
13 the purposes of managing fisheries. So the regions that we
14 have in our regulations booklet are the same as the State's,
15 the way that they're organized. No, they don't overlap with
16 the Council boundaries that -- the Regional Council
17 boundaries or for any -- I don't think for any of the
18 regions, I'm not sure, but that's probably a fair statement.
19 That's where we started, and frankly that's probably, you
20 know, tied to -- well, I don't know, I'm not going to even
21 try to speculate. I know it's tied, a lot of it, to river
22 systems but why the North Slope or the Arctic Slope would be
23 combined with the Yukon-Kuskokwim, I'm not sure. But simply
24 how the State did it and we adopted the State regulations for
25 the most part and so we used their way of organizing
26 information.

27
28 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: You know, there's
29 different species that we use from the different regions in
30 providing submitting proposals for fish resources. I don't
31 think it's right to lump three regions into one to try to
32 address the Arctic region, you know, we have different
33 species that we use and they also have different resources
34 that they use that we don't use.

35
36 MS. FOX: Right.

37
38 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: So that's going to be
39 somewhat conflicting if you really look at how these
40 proposals should be prepared.

41
42 MS. FOX: And I would tend to agree. I think
43 it's been helpful to -- working with the wildlife management
44 units or game management units and the way that we broke up
45 the 10 regions across the state, you know, with the advice of
46 Council members, what we did is get -- like I was saying, it
47 was a place to start. We weren't even sure we were even
48 going to be taking over fisheries management, we didn't know
49 what the Legislature was going to do. We do know that like
50 the wildlife program, when we first started that, after the

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1 first years we made some changes and I expect that in a year
2 or two we're going to evaluate how we're organized, how we do
3 the regulations. I don't know if we've got enough time built
4 in to do the fisheries regulations appropriately, but we're
5 going to take a look at that and get comments from the
6 Council and the agencies and look at some proposed changes.
7 This is all new territory so we're learning as we go.

8
9 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Well, the reason I bring
10 this up is if we start seeing competition between proposals
11 being submitted for the different regions in our area and we
12 have these three areas lumped into one group and we have a
13 specific funding amount that could be utilized to do the
14 research, there's going to be some cut-throat being played
15 there as to who's going to be getting the research dollars to
16 do the research. I don't think that's fair, you know,
17 whoever gets the proposal, you know, just because we don't
18 have anything submitted right now, today, doesn't mean that
19 we don't have concerns that need to be addressed, we do have
20 concerns that need to be addressed and probably some of our
21 key players that need to be here are not here, probably --
22 you know, other things -- they're getting other matters taken
23 care of. But if and when they do decide to come back and
24 want to submit proposals in regards to research, I think that
25 that's not going to be fair.

26
27 MS. FOX: Well, there is a strong awareness,
28 as I indicated in my earlier comments, of the need to look at
29 information needs around the state. It's not our intention
30 to leave any area of the state without any kind of funded
31 projects. But you're right, Harry, that it takes somebody
32 submitting a proposal and a proposal that's going to make it
33 through the system and that's where we need your help and we
34 will help to try to identify people that we could link up
35 with the information needs and the issues that you've brought
36 up here today. We will try to facilitate that but we don't
37 write the proposals and we don't do the work. We want
38 agencies, organizations to submit requests and to do the
39 work, we provide the funding.

40
41 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Well, I was just trying
42 to get back to your first comment in regards to the benefit
43 of the people. And it's somewhat misleading if you take that
44 big group that's been lumped into one large area and when you
45 see the rest of the state divided into smaller groups because
46 of what the resources are available to them, it's not right.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: We had a motion to that
49 regarding the Kodiak/Aleutians, Bristol Bay, being lumped
50 with the North Slope as far as staffing was concerned, was

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1 that -- how did that move, it was in our previous minutes,
2 that we passed that FWS staff organizations and the northern
3 areas didn't want to be part of the Kodiak/Aleutians and
4 Bristol Bay, lumped into one management personnel -- is that
5 still the same or do they have the state divided up into.....

6
7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's the area when
8 that.....

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Grace Cross and.....

11
12 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:wrote a letter or was
15 going to write a letter expressing discontent on that
16 staffing?

17
18 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Fisheries biologists were
19 different?

20
21 MS. FOX: Right.

22
23 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's what he's asking,
24 for you to explain that to see who's working with who in what
25 area in what regions?

26
27 MS. FOX: Right. We proposed originally
28 having only two fisheries biologists cover -- well, four,
29 total, covering the state in terms of responding to
30 regulatory proposals and working with the Councils. And it's
31 the same thing as what we've done with wildlife where Donna
32 covers North Slope, Northwest and Seward Peninsula. We have
33 a fisheries biologist identified to cover, I think the same
34 three areas and it's Richard Uberuaga here. There isn't
35 enough workload to have one per region nor is there enough
36 funding, but, you know, that's how they get distributed
37 across more than one region. But hopefully, you're getting
38 the service, you know, from the technical staff that are
39 assigned to you and if you're not, then the Division Chief
40 would need to know about that and maybe some discussion about
41 workload needs to occur. But, again, that's where we started
42 and depending on what the workload evolves into, that may be
43 revisited in the future.

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Peggy.

46
47 MS. FOX: Okay, thank you.

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Further questions on the
50 subject of staffing? Thank you, Peggy. Next person. Pete,

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1 a Viking's van, all right, go Vikings.

2

3 MR. PROBASCO: Thank you, Mr. Chair, my
4 name's Pete Probasco and I'm the new State liaison for the
5 Office of Subsistence Management. I'd like to point you to
6 the next document under Tab E, the title of it is
7 consultation/coordination with the state of Alaska. And I'll
8 briefly be touching on the highlights that are presented in
9 this briefing, focusing on the Memorandum of Agreement, the
10 in-season management protocol that was developed this year
11 for the Yukon River and then finishing up my brief talk here
12 on the protocols that are going to be developed this year.
13 And I want to thank Peggy for assisting me in putting
14 together this briefing. As you know, I've just been on the
15 job for a month and so I was not involved in the past year as
16 you Regional Councils were in developing and assisting with
17 this Memorandum of Agreement.

18

19 The Regional Advisory Councils have expressed
20 a great deal of interest in tracking our working
21 relationships with the state of Alaska and included in your
22 book is this briefing as I expressed. Last year this group
23 commented on this Memorandum of Agreement. This agreement
24 was finalized in April and it sort of set the stage for
25 future management within the state of Alaska on fisheries.
26 After this Memorandum of Agreement was adopted, both agencies
27 took a look and focused on the Yukon. And the reason the
28 Yukon fisheries management protocol was the first one in the
29 hopper to be developed is it's a river system that was
30 considered at highest risk currently under dual management
31 for conflict and disruption to fisheries because of concerns
32 around low returns of salmon issues. And I think everybody's
33 very familiar with what happened in this area of the state as
34 far as returns of both, chum salmon and chinook salmon.

35

36 Now, this in-season management, this year
37 being the first year between the two groups, I think now that
38 things are pretty much settled, I think we could give it very
39 high marks, it went very well. That's not to say that there
40 were some difficulties in-season, there always are with a new
41 system, but those were worked out and I think the results of
42 how that in-season management went this year, in that, the
43 management was coordinated to the best of their ability,
44 subsistence needs tried to be met. Keep in mind the runs
45 were very low. In addition, we tried to meet the escapement
46 needs as well as the needs for the Canadian fisheries across
47 the border.

48

49 This year the group, the Federal and the
50 State working group will be starting to develop other

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1 protocols which the Regional Councils will be asked to be
2 involved with, both in developing and as well as commenting
3 on them as they go through the process. And if you'd draw
4 your attention to this document in your booklet, there, the
5 second part will identify some of the specific agreements and
6 protocols and the crucial areas that will be worked on this
7 year. I think it's important that you take a look at these
8 and if there are some that draw your attention that you would
9 like to be involved in, we encourage your involvement, either
10 directly with the groups that are working on this or as a
11 review process as these documents are developed.

12
13 And again, I'd like to reemphasize, in the
14 near future, I'd ask the Council to discuss participation in
15 the protocol committees and let your coordinator know if
16 anyone would like to volunteer in assisting. Participation
17 in the committee will be, at time, by teleconference, we'll
18 tie you in to where you live, and at other times it will
19 require you travel to Anchorage. When the draft charters are
20 available comment, these will be made available to you for
21 your review.

22
23 So Mr. Chair, that's my briefing for you on
24 the consultation and coordination with the state of Alaska.

25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

27
28 MR. PROBASCO: Are there any questions?

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Questions for Pete.

31
32 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

35
36 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: I don't know if my
37 comments are going to fall into line with this consultation
38 and coordination, is this any way that this is going to be
39 used as educational material for the Legislature to get into
40 compliance with the subsistence dilemma that we're in right
41 now?

42
43 MS. FOX: I don't quite understand what you
44 mean?

45
46 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: This consultation and
47 coordination with the state of Alaska?

48
49 MR. PROBASCO: This, I think, is more related
50 to the.....

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1 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Issues?

2

3 MR. PROBASCO:in-season on-the-ground.
4 I think what you're developing is more in the political arena
5 that we would not be involved in.

6

7 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Well, it's a Memorandum
8 of Agreement between the Federal agencies and the Alaska
9 Department of Fish and Game. I'm not sure if I'm making it
10 clear, you know, it's consultation and coordination that came
11 about because the State is out of compliance for Federal
12 management -- you know, for State management, Federal
13 takeover took place to address the subsistence issue. So is
14 this consultation and coordination going to be used as
15 educational material for the Legislature or whoever, the
16 political arena in getting back into compliance?

17

18 MR. PROBASCO: I think the consultation and
19 coordination that I'm addressing is that we both recognize
20 that there's -- as you are aware, there's both Federal and
21 State lands.

22

23 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Yes.

24

25 MR. PROBASCO: And our fish populations,
26 identical fish population and stocks encompass both those
27 areas and so it's very important that both management bodies
28 coordinate so that the goals and objectives of each agency
29 are met, particularly since both the State and the Federal
30 government recognize a subsistence priority as being number
31 1. Now, what you're talking about is the next step which is
32 the political arena. And this consultation and coordination
33 does not address that part. But I would think that the
34 results of this coordination between the State and the
35 Federal government would be used as a reference, if you will
36 when addressing the needs in subsistence fisheries, Mr.
37 Chair.

38

39 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ida.

42

43 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Ida
44 Hildebrand, BIA Staff Committee member. In response to part
45 of your statement or question, Harry, so far the projects
46 have been used as a tool to not fund State agencies by the
47 State Legislature, it hasn't, in my opinion helped any. It
48 does help subsistence users, that, we gather more information
49 on subsistence uses and impacts for the subsistence users
50 when working on the projects that the Federal, State and

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1 local people have been working on but it has not been made a
2 positive impact on the Legislature.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Ida.

5
6 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Thank you.

7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Pete, thank you.

9
10 MR. PROBASCO: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Phase III Training on
13 fisheries for the Regional Council. Mr. Jennings, Tim.

14
15 MR. JENNINGS: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
16 Council members. If you'll turn in your book under Tab E to
17 the next page or two, you'll see a one page summary of this
18 next briefing, it's called Regional Council fisheries
19 training, Phase III.

20
21 The purpose of this briefing, Mr. Chair, is
22 to provide a status report, some of our initial thinking
23 about this next phase of training and obtain some of the
24 Councils early feedback on what it is you and Council members
25 would like to see at the next round of training. And in
26 order to set the stage for new Council members and for others
27 who may not be familiar with some of the initiatives that
28 we've already undertaken in regards to training, I want to
29 give a brief background and then we'll talk about some
30 potential agenda items.

31
32 You may recall that we just got into the
33 fisheries implementation at the Federal level last year,
34 October 1 as a result of the Katie John decision. And in the
35 planning for the Federal takeover on Federal lands, one of
36 the initiatives was to address the needs of training Federal
37 Board members, Council members and staff on some of the key
38 fisheries issues. Phase I of this training was to orient
39 Board members, Federal Board members and late last summer,
40 Federal Board members spent some time going into the field on
41 the Yukon River and other areas to look at subsistence
42 fishing sites to become familiar with, at least, some of the
43 sites first hand for those Board members who had never, you
44 know, gone out on the river and looked at subsistence fishing
45 underway. Phase II was last January. And I think some of
46 you, Fenton, Terry, and I don't know about Gordon and Harry,
47 were in Anchorage last January when we brought all the
48 Councils together for the fisheries training, that was Phase
49 II. And you'll recall we had several days of meetings,
50 presentations on fisheries implementation, we had a caucus

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1 where we had Councils that caucused together on key fisheries
2 issues in their regions. Then in late May we had a meeting
3 in Anchorage on in-season management. And I'm not sure if --
4 I remember talking to you about this, Fenton, I'm not sure if
5 we had a representative from the North Slope Council at that
6 one day training, it was to address in-season management
7 issues for the year 2000. Primary focus again was the Yukon
8 River and the Kuskokwim River but it also brought together
9 all the delegated Federal officials who had in-season
10 management authority delegated to them by the Board, and then
11 key Council members who were going to be involved this past
12 summer in in-season management issues for fisheries.

13
14 And so that brings us up to the next phase
15 here, Phase III. After the first season of Federal
16 implementation is now largely behind us, there are some --
17 probably some important things that we can look back and
18 reflect upon to discuss and to go into the second year with
19 a better understanding of what the needs are. And so we
20 wanted to conduct this Phase III training for the benefit of
21 Council members and also key Staff.

22
23 Now, the timing of this in January was to
24 capitalize on the need to get Council recommendations on the
25 fisheries study program projects for the year 2001. Peggy
26 has already mentioned that process and she had mentioned that
27 in January we'll be pulling all the Council members into
28 Anchorage for that review and recommendation on the fisheries
29 study plan. And so on this draft agenda in your booklet, the
30 first item there, the review of the draft fisheries studies
31 plan, that's the only part of this agenda that is really set
32 or developed, and that will be one day. The rest of these
33 potential agenda topics, of which there are five possible
34 topic areas, in-season management, the status of Western
35 Alaska salmon runs, fisheries assessment methods, developing
36 the fisheries study project proposals and fisheries
37 regulatory proposal processes, that's some initial thinking
38 that we've had as potential topics of interest. And so one
39 of the purposes today with this briefing is to gain some
40 feedback from you about if any of these topic areas would be
41 of benefit to you? Also we'd like to hear from you, either
42 today or at a later time if you're not ready to comment
43 today, about the suggested format of this additional
44 training. For those of you that were there last January, did
45 you like the caucus setting, do you think that's more
46 beneficial to be involved in these discussion groups between
47 Council members and key Staff or do you have a preference to
48 have, at least, some more formal presentations from fisheries
49 scientists or others in the subsistence arena. And so I want
50 to emphasize that the agenda is just developing and we're

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1 here to obtain Council input and to have you help us guide
2 the agenda so it will best meet your needs for additional
3 training.

4
5 So with that, I'll stop here, Mr. Chair, and
6 answer questions or take comments.

7
8 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

11
12 MR. G. BROWER: I got a question on the
13 training, whether there's a preference to the type we had in
14 January, with -- what would entail the training with the
15 Staff-type people of that type? What would entail that? I
16 mean is that using Staffers as guides in better use of how we
17 manage here in making proposals so that they're more
18 effective, and is that the type that you're referring to?

19
20 MR. JENNINGS: Yeah, Gordon. That's possible
21 under the last two bullets, that's one possible area that
22 Staff could help in discussions with the Council members.
23 One area would be the regulatory proposals to change
24 fisheries regulations. To talk about helping to develop the
25 proposals to change the regulations. The other potential
26 facilitation or help -- assistance from Staff would be to
27 help the Councils look at these fisheries study projects and
28 the proposal process to obtain potential funding for the
29 studies projects and to help Council members or others in the
30 community that you live in to help them better understand how
31 to submit proposals that are effective and will gain serious
32 consideration by the Board. So both of those are potential
33 topic areas.

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

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

38
39 MR. G. BROWER: I think that type of a
40 training would be pretty much beneficial. I've had that kind
41 of experience in trying to put together effective comments to
42 the State and where Staff from the State were very beneficial
43 in steering you to provide comments that were effective and
44 being able to use.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. The only one
47 I see in there is Western salmon run status for this area
48 here. I don't think that will pertain to us too much, but
49 the other topics look good. Get them right in learning how
50 to put in the proposals and the processes for regulations.

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1 Good start for an agenda or for the other four days or two or
2 three days.

3
4 MR. JENNINGS: One possible option on the
5 status of the Western Alaska salmon runs, as you mentioned,
6 Mr. Chair, that won't be of high interest to some regions
7 like the North Slope, and that could become a topic for a
8 regional caucus.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah.

11
12 MR. JENNINGS: Of the Y-K and the Eastern
13 Interior and Western Interior Councils, so that's one
14 possible option.

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah. Our caucus we had
17 with regions picking out projects was kind of tough with the
18 other regions in there. I mean even though we're together,
19 lumped together. It will be worked out. So there's going to
20 be decisions made or actions made by the Council then at this
21 training for the first topic or.....

22
23 MR. JENNINGS: I believe on the first topic,
24 the review of the draft fisheries studies plan for year 2001,
25 we would be seeking formal Council recommendations for
26 proposed studies in your particular regional area for 2001 at
27 this meeting in January.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So there will be notices
30 put out to our residents from this area that we'll be making
31 decisions in Anchorage?

32
33 MR. JENNINGS: I don't know that we'll
34 be.....

35
36 MS. FOX: I need to address that with you Mr.
37 Chair. These would not be, the way I would describe it as
38 formal Council recommendations that would require a public
39 hearing or public notice. This is an opportunity for all the
40 Councils to work with the Staff on specific projects and the
41 way we put it is to provide advice.

42
43 MR. JENNINGS: Okay.

44
45 MS. FOX: Our regulations don't require,
46 because obviously this was never envisioned in our
47 regulations, to obtain a formal Council recommendation on
48 these studies, but we always want to work through the Council
49 and make sure that these are relevant to the needs of the
50 region. So we've set up an opportunity for the Councils to

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1 review and the way we put it is provide advice so that we
2 don't need to hold public hearings.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

5
6 MS. FOX: Thanks.

7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you.

9
10 MR. JENNINGS: Thank you, Peggy, for that
11 clarification.

12
13 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any further questions for
14 Tim on the training or comments, suggestions? All right,
15 thank you, Tim.

16
17 MR. JENNINGS: Okay, Mr. Chair, then I will
18 also do the next briefing.

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

21
22 MR. JENNINGS: Which is on the next page in
23 your book under Tab E, it's entitled statewide rural
24 determinations. Mr. Chair, the purpose of this briefing is
25 informational to give you and the Council an early status
26 report of this initiative that's been started by the Board
27 and by our office.

28
29 As you may be aware, in our regulations
30 there's requirement to review the rural/non-rural
31 determinations every 10 years on a statewide basis. And so
32 there's an initiative underway to do that with the results of
33 the 200 census data. The Federal Board has given some
34 direction to our office and Staff about how to approve that
35 statewide rural process and non-rural process. We recognize
36 through some recent work tat we've done that there's room for
37 further improvement and refining how these determinations are
38 done and how some of the characteristics more appropriately
39 reflect rural/non-rural characteristics of towns and villages
40 in the state. And we don't have as much expertise in our
41 office on these issues as we would like and so the Board
42 asked for our office to begin a third party contracting
43 effort on a portion of this rural/non-rural determination to
44 help us with developing the improved methodology. So this is
45 a heads-up to the Council about that we're starting this
46 process, the third party contracting. That as the results
47 and as we go along this pathway with the third party
48 contractor, we are thinking that through the Chairs that we
49 would like to ask to have some involvement like we did on the
50 fisheries implementations from a couple of Council Chairs to

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1 work with the Board on this issue as it unfolds over the next
2 18 months to two years. It's going to be a fairly lengthy
3 process to do all this review.

4
5 So that's a summary of my briefing and the
6 current status is that we're in the initial phases of this,
7 the briefing paper before you lays out the process and the
8 third party contract initiative and I'll stop at this point
9 and ask if you have any questions about the statewide rural
10 determination process.

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: What's the latest on the
13 Kenai determination, can you update us on that issue?

14
15 MR. JENNINGS: Yes, Mr. Chair. I'll give
16 some brief background for Council members who may not be
17 familiar with that decision. I know you were at the May
18 Board meeting when the Board took that action.

19
20 The Board accepted an out-of-cycle review for
21 rural/non-rural status on the Kenai Peninsula. And at its
22 May 4th Board meeting it made a determination that the entire
23 Kenai was rural. That regulation became effective July 1 and
24 as some of you may be aware there's a 60-day waiting period
25 during which the public or petitioners could ask the Board to
26 reconsider its decision, and it's similar to a wildlife
27 proposal as well, is that, there's that kind of
28 administrative appeal, if you will, of a Board decision. We
29 received two requests for reconsideration during the 60-day
30 time period, and the Board on August 15th voted to reconsider
31 its decision, to go through that administrative process, so
32 we are currently in the process, in our office, to develop
33 some additional Staff work and support to the Board in the
34 form of a Staff analysis on some of the issues that were
35 raised in the petitioners' request for the Board to
36 reconsider and then we will go forward with a public meeting,
37 a public hearing on the Kenai Peninsula sometime late this
38 winter and then the Board, upon obtaining additional public
39 input and Council recommendation would make its decision on
40 the administrative appeal or this request for
41 reconsideration.

42
43 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

46
47 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: When will we be able to
48 review the criteria that's used by the Board in making these
49 determinations?

50

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1 MR. JENNINGS: On the statewide rural
2 process, that will come along over the next several months,
3 it won't be right away until after we get the third party
4 contractor on board and they've started their work. Some of
5 our initial thinking is that that third party contract
6 process will take several months to complete. And when
7 they're nearing completion with submitting deliverables, that
8 information will come, I believe, to the Board and we'd also
9 bring forward to the Council for review and input. So it's
10 going to be over the next several months, Harry. At this
11 point I can't give you an exact time table of when that would
12 occur. We might have -- we would certainly have another
13 update at the winter meeting on where we stand with that
14 process if you hadn't already heard back from us in the
15 meantime.

16
17 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Thank you.

18
19 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right, thank you, Tim.

20
21 MR. REXFORD: Mr. Chair, may I offer a
22 comment?

23
24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Delbert.

25
26 MR. REXFORD: Yeah, for the record Delbert
27 Rexford.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Could you get up near the
30 mic.

31
32 MR. REXFORD: I got a question for Tim. In
33 terms of the third party that will be reviewing the statewide
34 rural determinations in preparation for what needs to be
35 conducted and done, what firms are being looked at and what
36 kind of interests do they have as a third party? Is there
37 impartiality?

38
39 MR. JENNINGS: Hi, Delbert, how are you?

40
41 MR. REXFORD: Hi, Tim, good to see you.

42
43 MR. JENNINGS: Yes, glad you could come over.
44 The way the contracting process will work is it will be wide
45 open to any qualified bidders. There were will be certain
46 criteria that will be, in terms of expertise, that I believe
47 will be laid out in the contracting process. I'm not an
48 expert in the Federal government contracting process but as
49 I understand it, we will lay out specific baseline
50 qualifications for potential bidders to demonstrate that they

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1 possess, in order to do this work. For instance, familiarity
2 with Alaska, familiarity with rural issues, with subsistence
3 issues and ANILCA; those, in my mind, would be some key
4 issues that potential bidders would need to demonstrate
5 qualifications and expertise in.

6
7 MR. REXFORD: Mr. Chairman, I got a follow-up
8 question. Will these statewide rural determinations in any
9 way contribute to, for instance, the subsistence resource
10 commission up in Gates of the Arctic to be direct recipients
11 of the management in their particularly area, for instance,
12 my good friend is from Anaktuvuk, we've been working with the
13 National Park Service to get those contracts that are passed
14 through to the State.

15
16 MR. JENNINGS: Well, as I understand, this
17 initiative that we have on statewide rural it is to
18 facilitate and help the Board -- to assist the Board in
19 making the rural and non-rural determinations statewide. And
20 that's where this contract would stop.

21
22 MR. REXFORD: And so that's the limits of the
23 proposed work?

24
25 MR. JENNINGS: Yes, sir.

26
27 MR. REXFORD: I just want to express concern
28 that all too often in the past that special interest groups
29 have been in the wings in helping determine rural
30 determinations, that live outside of the rural communities as
31 defined under Federal rules and regs. And I would encourage
32 that, as you stated, Mr. Jennings, that those firms that have
33 a cultural, traditional, and customary familiarity with our
34 communities be highly considered and recommended for this
35 type of work, because it is our lifestyle, it is the
36 renewable resources that we depend on that are being made
37 determinations on and so I would highly recommend that. I
38 love to hunt and fish.

39
40 MR. JENNINGS: Yeah, I know.

41
42 MR. REXFORD: Just like the economic disaster
43 that is ongoing in the Bristol Bay region. Because man
44 manages those resources, the Native community as a whole
45 suffers all the way from the Bristol Bay region up to Ft.
46 Yukon, and these are very, very deep-seated concerns that we
47 have, in that, we play a part in making those determinations,
48 that we have full participation in every essence of the
49 terminology of full participation, not as an advisory role,
50 but to sit down at the table and to make determinations on

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1 our future destiny. And those are the recommendations and
2 concerns I have.

3
4 And I'll close on that note, Mr. Chairman.

5
6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Delbert.

7
8 MR. REXFORD: Thank you.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Tim.

11
12 MR. JENNINGS: Thank you.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Customary trade.

15
16 MS. FOX: Yes, Mr. Chair.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Peggy.

19
20 MS. FOX: Thank you. Actually, there really
21 isn't much to report. We prepared this briefing and put it in
22 your book and put it in a couple of other books but then it's
23 going to be pulled from the other ones because once we started
24 to look at what we were presented, we really don't have much
25 substance to report on any progress made with looking at
26 customary trade. Our intent was to be able to tell you what
27 we learned as a result of a statewide review of customary
28 trade practices, ask you if what we learned about this region
29 was appropriate and take those comments back and finalize a
30 summary on a regional basis of what customary trade practices
31 are. However, due to the press of business a couple of
32 things fell through the cracks and we didn't get those
33 reports completed. So we will be reporting those to you at
34 the winter meeting.

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

37
38 MS. FOX: Okay.

39
40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Good, thank you.

41
42 MS. FOX: Okay.

43
44 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Barbara.

45
46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chairman. Subsistence
47 lifestyles art contest 2000, I just learned that I was going
48 to present this so I think this information has been sent out
49 to all the schools. Is it statewide?

50

00068

1 MS. FOX: Yes.

2
3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And there's information
4 where the students will be sending in some art contents
5 regarding what they see as subsistence lifestyles from each
6 school. And once these are collected, the last date will be
7 October 27th, it's the deadline, this is an art contest, the
8 drawings will be mailed to the Office of Subsistence
9 Management in Anchorage. And they said the purpose of and
10 spirit of this art contest is to convey positive messages
11 concerning living a subsistence lifestyle. And it says that
12 the people who are going to judge these drawings will be the
13 Chairs at their meeting in December, this coming December.
14 And the people who win in this contest will be notified by
15 mail and there are some regulations that they have sent out
16 to each school in the region -- or statewide.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I see there's K-6, and
19 then on the following page on number 3 it says K-12, I wonder
20 which one is correct?

21
22 MS. FOX: Mr. Chair, it's supposed to be K-
23 12, that was an error on the front page.

24
25 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, so it's K-12.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: So was this already mailed
28 out then, with this K-6?

29
30 MS. FOX: Yes, that's correct it was mailed
31 out with the K-6, however, we also sent a supplementary
32 mailing to indicate that it was open to K-12.

33
34 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you.

35
36 MS. FOX: The purpose of the contest is to
37 provide more art for our regulations booklets and other
38 publications that our program does. You've probably gotten
39 tired of looking at the same art over the years, but we
40 thought the students could help us out in that capacity.

41
42 MR. REXFORD: Take my picture.

43
44 (Laughter)

45
46 MR. REXFORD: Oh, art, okay.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, thank you Barbara.
49 No migratory birds.

50

00069

1 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

2
3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

4
5 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Are we going to hear
6 from the people in regards to migratory birds at our next
7 meeting?

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Do you want to take a shot
10 at that Bing?

11
12 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, I could, I've been
13 involved in it. Basically since the treaty was amended to
14 include spring hunt of migratory birds in Alaska, there's
15 been considerable work done. This spring, representatives
16 from all regions in Alaska met in Girdwood to come up with a
17 set of draft bylaws that the Alaska Native Migratory Bird
18 Council would work under.

19
20 MR. BROWER: The working group.

21
22 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Or the working group, of
23 which Charlie is a member.

24
25 MR. BROWER: I'm the Chair.

26
27 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Or the Chair. Actually
28 I'll get to that. They play an integral part in the process.
29 The draft bylaws have been sent out to the different regions
30 for comment and will be under discussion, I believe, they've
31 set the meeting date as October 30th through November 1st.
32 It will be a two to three day meeting. The decision by the
33 Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Regional Director was
34 that there would be seven regions representing the Alaska
35 Native interests and they're outlined in your book there, the
36 Chugach Region, Cook Inlet, Copper River is one,
37 Aleutian/Pribilofs, Kodiak area is another, Bristol Bay
38 Native Association is another, AVCP, Kawerak, Maniilaq
39 Association and North Slope are combined together and TCC.

40
41 There was a lot of discussion about the
42 management body and voting structure, because there'll be a
43 lot of Native representation on there versus one Federal and
44 one State, how is there going to be equality in how people
45 vote on issues. That, again, will be brought up at our next
46 meeting at the end of October.

47
48 In the meantime the Regional Director has
49 identified the Native Migratory Bird Working Group, which has
50 been working under the auspices of RuralCAP and Charlie is

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1 the Chair of that Migratory Bird Working Group. They will
2 act as the management body until the regions have selected
3 their representatives, at which time that organization will
4 phase out. But the goal is to have regulations in place for
5 the year 2002. They'll start working on regulations next
6 year, in the year 2001.

7
8 MS. HILDEBRAND: Where's the meeting?

9
10 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: The meeting?

11
12 MS. HILDEBRAND: Yes.

13
14 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: That's still being --
15 they're trying to figure -- I imagine it will be in Anchorage
16 because that's where most people can go to. But there's a
17 letter that's being drafted and being sent out to all the
18 organizations probably within a week or so.

19
20 Okay, any questions?

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Bing. Does
23 that answer your question, Harry?

24
25 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: I guess.

26
27 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Thanks.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: It's getting stuffy in
30 here. Why don't we turn the heat down. It's time to take a
31 break, I think, a five or 10 minute break, back at 3:00.

32
33 (Off record)

34 (On record)

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: I'll call the North Slope
37 Regional Advisory Council meeting back to order. Okay, ANWR,
38 Greg McClellan. Greg, the floor is yours.

39
40 MR. McCLELLAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
41 Council. I handed out earlier this morning a handout with
42 all the things I'm going to go over today for the Refuge
43 report and there's extra copies on the back table if folks
44 would like to grab one. But I wanted to report on surveys
45 completed on four different species on the Refuge this year
46 and probably the main point to bring out from all four
47 surveys is that we believe with the deep and persistent
48 winter snow and the delayed arrival of summer, that that
49 likely contributed to the low calf success of muskox, dall
50 sheep and caribou.

1 To start off with, muskox, the Refuge
2 completed a muskox census on the Refuge in April and counted
3 246 animals and this compares to 254 counted last year, and
4 then Figure 1 in your handout shows the results of the
5 surveys from the last 20 years. And then in early July, the
6 Refuge completed a composition count and observed 184 muskox
7 on the Refuge. Probably the biggest outcome of this survey
8 or point of concern to the Refuge was that only one calf was
9 observed of the 184 muskox. And then again on that same
10 page, Table 1, shows the composition of the muskox observed.
11 And then Figure 2 shows the muskox calf production for the
12 last 10 years and as you can see it has greatly decreased
13 over the last five years. Now, we know more calves were
14 seen early in the summer by both Refuge Staff and Kaktovik
15 residents but also we know that, at least, some of those
16 calves that were early seen died, if not all of the ones seen
17 earlier in the summer died. And another point from the
18 spring and summer is that we documented about 10 mortalities
19 of muskox due to grizzly or brown bears. And then something
20 that's been asked at past meetings and is shown in Figure 3,
21 shows the number of muskox observed across the North Slope
22 for the last 10 years, it includes information for both 26(B)
23 on State lands and 26(C) in the Refuge and then in Northwest
24 Canada. And then the last point on muskox was on this past
25 Thursday, September 7, we had the drawing up in Kaktovik for
26 the 15 Federal subsistence muskox permits, and I was able to
27 issue 12 of the 15 permits that following Friday.

28
29 And then going on to sheep, the composition
30 count of dall sheep in the Hulahula River Valley was
31 conducted in June. And this is a survey the Refuge tries to
32 do every year, and on the survey only 17 lambs per 100 ewes
33 were counted which is considered to be a low count.

34
35 Next, with Porcupine Caribou, the Alaska
36 Department of Fish and Game, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
37 and the Yukon Renewable Resources Department participated in
38 cooperative efforts to document the spring migration and
39 calving success of the herd. During the winter the herd
40 wintered in two primary groups, one near Arctic Village in
41 Alaska and the second in the Ogilvie Mountains north of
42 Dawson and that's kind of shown in Figure 4 of your handout.
43 The movement towards the calving ground was a couple weeks
44 later than normal with most of the calving occurring in
45 Canada this year, with some calving even occurring south of
46 the Porcupine River. Caribou didn't move into the Arctic
47 National Wildlife Refuge until the end of June and that's
48 shown in Figure 6 of your handout. Typically, the peak of
49 calving is around June 1 with most calves born by June 5th.
50 This year the peak of calving was about June 7th with calving

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1 occurring as late as June 30th. The parturition rate and
2 early calf survival were both low in 2000 with calf survival
3 less than any year observed during the decade of '91 to '99
4 and then this is shown in Table 2 of your handout. A photo
5 census was planned for the summer of 2000 to conduct a
6 population census but the caribou never gathered into large
7 aggregations so we were unable to do a photo census this
8 year. The photo census will, again, be attempted in 2001.
9 The last census was conducted in '98, and the population was
10 estimated at 129,000 caribou.

11
12 And then the last topic is moose. Annually,
13 the Refuge tries to census moose on the Refuge from the
14 Canning River to the Dalton Highway in Unit 26(B). This
15 spring when we conducted the survey, 165 moose were observed.
16 This compares to the peak of 629 that were counted in -- or
17 observed in 1988. And then closer to Kaktovik for the area
18 east of the Canning River to the Canadian border, all the
19 drainages were flown and only 14 moose were observed. The
20 last time this survey was flown was in 1984 when 38 moose
21 were counted. And a couple of points on the moose surveys is
22 the survey is not intended to observe all the moose, it's
23 just to get a trend of the moose population to compare over
24 the years. And as you mentioned earlier, Fenton, the
25 residents of Kaktovik believe there are more than 14 moose in
26 the area where we counted between the Canning River and the
27 Canadian border, and we agree, that there are more than --
28 that 14 moose wasn't all that there was, that there was
29 probably more, but, you know, an exact number we don't know.
30 We would estimate that there's probably somewhere --
31 something into the 20s or 30s.

32
33 But that summarizes the handout and I'd be
34 happy to try to answer any questions that you might have.

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Questions for Greg. Yeah,
37 last Thursday's issuing of permits, you said 12 of 15 were
38 issued?

39
40 MR. McCLELLAN: Yeah, both yourself and Mr.
41 Burdell Kuchuck were out whaling on Friday when I was there.
42 And then Dale DuFore who was out of town was the 15th person
43 whose name was drawn for the drawing. And I left the permits
44 with the city council office and talked with the Mayor and
45 Dale is supposed to be back in town. He was hoping to fly
46 back up there Monday but he won't get there -- hopefully
47 he'll get there today, but then he'll issue the remaining
48 permits to you.

49
50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, but all 15 will

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1 be.....

2

3 MR. McCLELLAN: Yeah, all 15 will be issued.

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

6

7 MR. McCLELLAN: It's just I wasn't able to
8 get you and Burdell on Friday.

9

10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. What happened to
11 that numbers of dall sheep over the last few years, could you
12 -- do you have that letter? Do you have that information in
13 this.....

14

15 MR. McCLELLAN: I'm afraid I don't have the
16 information.....

17

18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Or the current population
19 of the dall sheep?

20

21 MR. McCLELLAN:in this but I think the
22 population's been holding fairly steady but I can, either get
23 that information and send it to you and be sure and present
24 it at the next Council meeting but I don't have that with me
25 right now, I'm sorry.

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Questions for Greg.

28

29 MR. McCLELLAN: Yes, sir.

30

31 MR. AGNASAGGA: On these sheep, are they
32 getting populated because we used to never see some around
33 Brooks Range toward Cape Lisburne and now we're starting to
34 see some around there. All these years we never did see any.
35 Either that or they're getting populated.

36

37 MR. McCLELLAN: No, the sheep have always
38 been in that portion of the Brooks Range on the Arctic Refuge
39 where these surveys were conducted. They've always.....

40

41 MR. AGNASAGGA: But they used to be on the
42 other side, but now they've started to work towards the
43 ocean.

44

45 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

46

47 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

48

49 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Greg, has there been any
50 other time as to when the caribou did all their calving on

00074

1 the Canadian side?

2

3 MR. McCLELLAN: Yes. It's happened before
4 when there's been a late spring. I have an overhead, if I
5 could.

6

7 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: I mean was the migration
8 late because of the snow conditions or late thawing?

9

10 MR. McCLELLAN: Late spring. Could I use
11 your machine?

12

13 MR. YOKEL: Go ahead, it's not mine.

14

15 MR. McCLELLAN: This is from 1987, the last
16 year there was a late spring and, again, it shows that most
17 of the calving occurred in Canada. And then there's an
18 overhead again, in '83, that's showing where the primary
19 calving occurred with the Porcupine Herd.

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

22

23 MR. McCLELLAN: And again showing in '87 that
24 it primarily occurred in Canada and that was the last time
25 that there was a late spring like this spring.

26

27 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Earl.

30

31 MR. WILLIAMS: When you're talking about
32 calving in Canada where that calving ground was around '92 or
33 something, is that where the drilling activity is going on,
34 in Canada?

35

36 MR. McCLELLAN: There's no drilling activity
37 on the North Slope of Canada where.....

38

39 MR. WILLIAMS: I mean Canada.....

40

41 MR. McCLELLAN:these caribou are.

42

43 MR. WILLIAMS: Because when I went to Arctic
44 Village for an international meeting, they brought this issue
45 up about that drilling and about the calving ground.

46

47 MR. McCLELLAN: Well, the residents of Arctic
48 Village are concerned about potential -- any potential oil
49 drilling activity within the calving ground of the Porcupine
50 Caribou Herd, but the current areas, both in the U.S., in the

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1 Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and in Canada, there's no
2 current drilling activity going on in the calving ground,
3 there's the potential for it but there's nothing currently
4 occurring.

5
6 MR. WILLIAMS: And another question.

7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Go ahead.

9
10 MR. WILLIAMS: The sheep season, I was
11 working for wildlife management we brought this issue up
12 about sheep hunting, you know, instead of like we hunt them
13 between August, September and then we don't hunt them around
14 October and December is cold weather, and they're trying to
15 change the hunting seasons that time from like, what February
16 to April or something because it's warming weather when the
17 sheep come down. Did they bring that issue up before or
18 again?

19
20 MR. McCLELLAN: Not that I'm aware of. In
21 the four years that I've been involved with this I'm not
22 aware of there being any discussion as far as changing the
23 current sheep seasons under either the Federal regulations or
24 the State regulations.

25
26 MR. WILLIAMS: Harry, have you heard anything
27 about that one? No.

28
29 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: What we're talking about
30 is the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge right now, Earl, and
31 the current regulations are still the same. We have not made
32 any changes since we fixed the sheep hunting regulations for
33 the residents of Anaktuvuk, they haven't changed since then.
34 We've kept them the same.

35
36 MR. WILLIAMS: But I think the villagers are
37 trying to get a point where, you know, where they said
38 they're going to hunt that period of time when it's written
39 here like, you know, the dates?

40
41 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: From August 1 to April
42 30 is the one for Anaktuvuk residents.

43
44 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Questions for Greg.

47
48 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

49
50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

00076

1 MR. G. BROWER: The muskox, there were some
2 concerns made by the people of Kaktovik, they reported the
3 three calves on Aryie Island.....

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Uh-huh.
6

7 MR. G. BROWER:and do you guys, do you
8 not intervene in these kind of situations or to where they
9 eventually died on the island?

10
11 MR. McCLELLAN: Well, what ended up happening
12 with that and Fenton can correct me if I make an error, but
13 there was, both Patricia Reynolds, the ecologist with Arctic
14 National Wildlife Refuge who works with the muskoxen, Geoff
15 Carroll both received calls from Kaktovik concerning three
16 calves on Aryie Island that felt that they got abandoned by
17 the adult group of musk-ox that was out there previously, and
18 it's not sure what -- it's assuming that either a bear or
19 maybe something spooked them and scared the adults away and
20 Kaktovik worked with Geoff Carroll with Alaska Department of
21 Fish and Game and Geoff hired a couple of local residents of
22 Kaktovik to go out with snowmachines to Aryie Island to try
23 to either pick up or round up the calves and try to reunite
24 them with the adult group of muskox that were back on the
25 mainland. And they were able to get the three calves and get
26 them close to the group but the adult group never took back
27 the -- apparently they never took back the calves and the
28 calves ended up dying.

29
30 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any questions for Greg.
31 Yeah, we cooperated, we worked with Geoff and Patricia on,
32 not only that one but also during the summer, with boats we
33 herded back to the mainland and they do get stuck.

34
35 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, in some of the
36 readings, it seems to me there's like some correlation
37 between the type of winter, with snow in the various
38 different animals, calves dying or low reproductive rates,
39 and that is the primary cause if you're seeing it in
40 different species.....

41
42 MR. McCLELLAN: Yeah, for.....

43
44 MR. G. BROWER:for a year?

45
46 MR. McCLELLAN:the North Slope of
47 Alaska, part of the Arctic Refuge, yeah, we feel that the
48 weather can definitely have some significant impacts on
49 muskox, caribou and dall sheep as far as the success of the
50 calving, whether it's a successful year or not, that's

00077

1 probably the primary factor with predation also being a
2 factor and then human hunting. But by far weather being the
3 dominant factor.

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ida.

6
7 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff
8 Committee member. What did you attribute the caribou calf
9 mortality to, was that the same thing, weather?

10
11 MR. McCLELLAN: The weather, yeah. The
12 reason they had low calf survivability was -- we're
13 attributing that to the weather, yeah.

14
15 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you.

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Greg.

18
19 MR. McCLELLAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
20 thank you, Council.

21
22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: National Park Service,
23 Jeff.

24
25 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He is not here.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

28
29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Unless there is other Park
30 Service people here.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

33
34 MR. NELSON: Mr. Chairman and members of the
35 committee, once again, I'm Dave Nelson and I'm a fishery
36 biologist with the National Park Service. I work out of
37 Anchorage. As I mentioned earlier this morning, Dave Mills,
38 who's the superintendent of the Gates of the Arctic National
39 Park and Preserve and Jeff Mow, their subsistence manager,
40 they both send their regrets. They did have a conflict with
41 a National Park Service which was occurring in St. Louis.

42
43 I'll be very, very brief this afternoon, in
44 that, I only have three things to present to the committee.
45 First of all the Parks Subsistence Management Plan is nearing
46 completion and Jeff Mow will send a copy to the Chairman as
47 soon as it's ready and also to any other members who wish to
48 receive a copy of it.

49
50 And then secondly, the North Slope RAC

00078

1 appointment to the Park Subsistence Resource Commissions
2 continues to be Ben Hopson and his term continues until
3 November of 2001.

4
5 And then finally the Park Subsistence
6 Resource Commission has not yet scheduled it's fall meeting,
7 but it's likely to be in late October or November.

8
9 And that just about concludes my very brief
10 remarks. I'd just like to say that this is my first trip to
11 Barrow, even though I've been here in Alaska for more than 30
12 years. I'd like to thank the committee for being so gracious
13 and also for the welcome that I've received here from the
14 people of Barrow. And I don't know if I can answer any of
15 your questions or comments but should you have any comments,
16 I'd be happy to relay them to our Park Staff.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Questions for
19 Dave, National Park Service. Okay, thank you very much,
20 Dave.

21
22 MR. NELSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23
24 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

25
26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

27
28 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: In regards to our muskox
29 working group, who's the superintendent now, Jeff?

30
31 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I think it would be Dave
32 Mills and Jeff.

33
34 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: I mean the person that
35 took over.....

36
37 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Jeff took over Steve
38 Ulvi's place.

39
40 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Do we need to talk to
41 him about setting a date for the working group to discuss the
42 management plan or anything like that? Maybe you could relay
43 that message to Jeff for us.

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, have Jeff talk with
46 Steve Ulvi about the last minutes, or the last plan of
47 action.

48
49 MR. NELSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I will
50 and I will have him get in touch with you.

00079

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, he could get the
2 briefing background from Steve. Okay, thank you. Dave
3 Yokel, BLM. The floor is yours, Dave. Ice roads.

4
5 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Those BLM sport hunting
6 guides.

7
8 MR. YOKEL: Yes, Mr. Chairman, ice roads.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: For hunting?

11
12 MR. YOKEL: My name's -- well, they have been
13 used for hunting this last winter, yes. My name is Dave
14 Yokel, again, with the Bureau of Land Management in
15 Fairbanks. And unlike Arctic Refuge, I'm not going to report
16 on the status of wildlife populations today, I'm going to
17 discuss some activities by the oil industry that have the
18 potential to impact subsistence activities.

19
20 In particular, in mid-January of 2000,
21 construction began on an ice road in the northeastern part of
22 NPRA. Here's Nuiqsut right here, the ice road into NPRA is
23 this line along here. This ice road was connected to Alpine
24 and then on to Prudhoe Bay. In the last nine months, the
25 Bureau of Land Management Subsistence Advisory Panel for NPRA
26 has met four times. And there were several subsistence
27 issues that came up in relation to this oil exploration in
28 NPRA, and I should also point out that last winter these
29 darker colored lakes here, the color doesn't show up well,
30 are ones where water was withdrawn for ice road and ice pad
31 development, and ARCO actually drilled three wells at their
32 Clover A Pad, ARCO, Spark No. 1 Pad, and the Rendezvous A
33 Pad, so this pad, this one and this one had wells drilled.
34 This is the Abludock River (ph) here and Judy Creek, west of
35 the project area.

36
37 I want to very briefly cover some of the
38 issues that came up at the subsistence advisory panel. First
39 was the potential conflict between fish in lakes versus
40 vibrasize seismic exploration going on, what are the effects
41 of vibrasize on fish. I'll just say at this point that a
42 study was done by Western Geophysical last spring to look at
43 the sound level of vibrasize underneath the ice, some
44 preliminary results are out and the report should be final on
45 that later this fall or early winter, so I hope to have that
46 at your winter meeting if you're interested in hearing the
47 results of that.

48
49 People in Nuiqsut expressed concern about air
50 traffic involved with studies, especially fisheries studies

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1 of these lakes in the summertime, air traffic interfering
2 with caribou harvest in the vicinity of Nuiqsut. Likewise in
3 the wintertime, there was some concern expressed that seismic
4 exploration in the area west of Nuiqsut was keeping caribou
5 away from their normal hunting areas. And then thirdly, with
6 winter subsistence activities there's concern that winter
7 roads and trails by seismic cause a hazard to snowmobile
8 operation especially when out there traveling across the snow
9 at night, you come upon these very sudden changes in snow
10 height as you go across roads or trails and this presents a
11 hazard to snowmobilers especially if you're pulling a sled.

12
13 We don't have any resolution to these three
14 concerns at this point but we're working towards that,
15 hopefully we can get some good recommendations from the
16 subsistence advisory panel over time.

17
18 Another concern, which Gordon also brought up
19 today was the withdrawal of water from these lakes,
20 especially when these lakes contain fish over winter. The
21 number that Gordon gave was correct, our stipulations will
22 allow -- if a fish contains -- if a lake contains fish in the
23 wintertime, then we will restrict the water withdrawal to, at
24 most, 15 percent of the free water in late winter. So at
25 maximum ice thickness, they're allowed to take only 15
26 percent of the remaining water. Your question, Gordon, was
27 where did this number 15 come from and what does it represent
28 in terms of fish survival? I can't answer you specifically.
29 I believe this stipulation is one that the BLM adopted from
30 State stipulations further east on the North Slope that were
31 already in place. I assume, I don't know, but I assume that
32 some kind of studies went into arriving at this number. I do
33 know in an area closer to NPRA up here by Alpine, there has
34 been a study going on for about the last five years with a
35 couple of lakes that are experiencing heavy water withdrawal
36 for use at Alpine and that is another study whose report is
37 going to come out this fall and I should have before the next
38 meeting. But they're looking at several things in that
39 study, the amount of water withdrawn versus the draw down and
40 depth of the lake, the temperature of the water is affected
41 by withdrawal, the chemistry of the water, the ph acidity,
42 total dissolved solids, conductivity. They're also looking
43 at the fish themselves, trapping fish, trapping fish in a
44 non-destructive method so they can release the fish again.

45
46 So this is a study that Larry Moulton is
47 doing under contract to ARCO, now Phillips-Alaska. And
48 hopefully that will give us a good idea of how this water
49 withdrawal affects the fish. Now, the idea is the water
50 withdrawn is replaced every summer after spring melt. And,

00081

1 in fact, some of the models show that with this heavy water
2 withdrawal, 15 percent of some of these larger lakes, that's
3 really only a draw down of about one to two inches in depth.
4 So I'm not sure that that small amount, how much we can
5 actually measure, draw down versus recharge. But we will be
6 trying to answer those questions in the future.

7
8 And finally, there was some concern about the
9 effects of the ice road, itself, on the vegetation, the
10 tundra. And at the Fish and Game Management Committee
11 meeting a month ago, they said, we wish you'd have brought
12 pictures of that, I wasn't prepared at that time, but the
13 week after that meeting I was working in the area so now I do
14 have some photographs to show which I haven't had a chance
15 really to look at myself yet, at least not projected.

16
17 Okay, the first slides I have are ones which
18 were taken on May 16th, last May. This is right after
19 operations concluded and so all of the drilling equipment is
20 gone. This is the Clover A pad, the first one as you head
21 west from Nuiqsut, you can see the ice road coming into it.
22 This is where the well was. This well was plugged and cut
23 off underneath the surface of the ground and permanently
24 abandoned. In March when I was on this pad, there were two
25 construction camps out here, the drilling rig, the mud mixing
26 facilities and various other vehicles and everything that are
27 involved in the process of exploratory drilling. There's
28 what you can see after they're gone.

29
30 This is the Abludock River crossing. There
31 is some concern about the effects on the riparian willows
32 there and then they built, both for that reason and because
33 they can't get a heavy drill rig down through the creek, they
34 built a snow bridge over it. And then there's concern of
35 that bridge damming up the river at break up. This is in
36 mid-May so right after they breached that and this shows you
37 where the bridge had been after they removed the snow again.
38 There's another look at it from overhead, the river crossing
39 right here.

40
41 This is just a view of the ice road out by
42 its western end after all activity is over.

43
44 This is the ARCO Spark No. 1 Pad. This one
45 has been temporary plugged and abandoned. It is plugged
46 under ground but they left a Christmas tree on top because
47 they want to come back to this one this winter and do
48 additional work, otherwise it looks like another ice pad.

49
50 And then this is the Rendezvous A Pad out

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1 there. The dark around the perimeter is not dirt here,
2 that's actually shadow around the snow berm. And another
3 view of the Rendezvous A Pad.

4
5 So I just wanted to give you a brief look at
6 what these ice roads and pads look like in the winter time.

7
8 Now, we go back in the second or third week
9 of August, just less than a month ago when I was back out
10 there. And this is the Clover A Pad, the first one west of
11 Nuiqsut. Here is where the well was and you can't see much
12 effect to the tundra from this picture other than where they
13 actually had the well. But from another angle you can see a
14 lot of stripes on the tundra which is an effect of the
15 compression of the vegetation when they're first constructing
16 the ice pad. There's also an effect on the green-up in the
17 summer, you don't see it very well in this slide but you can
18 see in some of the ice road shots that I have.

19
20 This is the crossing of the Abludock River,
21 the ice road came right across here. You can see some effect
22 on the upper edge of the bank on each side, the willows,
23 themselves, down under fared very well.

24
25 Okay, the rest of the slides I have I'll just
26 run through quickly. These show the ice road going across
27 the tundra and you can see that there is some impact. Here's
28 the ice road moving through here. In general, when it goes
29 through drier tundra, you can see that there was some effect
30 because it looks browner in general than the remaining
31 tundra. And there's probably two reasons for this effect,
32 one is there was some compression of the tundra vegetation,
33 which caused some, at least, temporary damage, and also the
34 vegetation underneath the ice road takes about two weeks
35 longer to thaw out than the surrounding tundra so it has that
36 much shorter of a growing season at the beginning of winter
37 when most of the growth is going on. This is over some high
38 centered polygons. This is over some tundra, you can see the
39 brown stripe of the ice road here. This is over some wet
40 tundra, the wetter areas don't show much of an effect because
41 there's water there that turns to ice and it protects the
42 tundra, the only thing sticking up out of the water is the
43 tops of the sedges and so they get knocked down and actually
44 it looks greener than the rest of the tundra because the only
45 thing then remaining next summer is the new year's growth.
46 Here's a flooded area, and you can see the ice road coming in
47 over the tusiks to the left and you can see no effect at all
48 in the flooded tundra, again, because it's protected by the
49 frozen water. And here's some low centered polygons, and
50 these -- yeah, here's the road going right through here.

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1 Actually here's an area where the tundra was damaged and
2 scraped by a blade and this orange here is some flagging,
3 I've set up a study plot there to look at this site over a
4 long period of time. Things like this are the most
5 noticeable damage along the ice road. There are dozens of
6 spots like this, not all this large, but there's not much
7 compared to the 25 miles of roads. Here's another one of my
8 study plots, this is a dwarf-shrub area where the shrubs
9 didn't grow much new leaves this year so I'm going to be
10 looking at that over time. Here's another spot where you can
11 see a whole lot of little scrapes, and this is something that
12 I just saw less than a month ago, asking the oil company how
13 did this happen, you know, in construction, and so we're
14 going to have a workshop next November on ice roads again and
15 see if we can figure out how we can lessen this kind of
16 impact in the future.

17
18 And then the other two well pads, this is the
19 ARCO Spark Pad. From straight overhead it's hard to see much
20 impact to the tundra but there is a little bit that's
21 actually visible when you're there. And here's the
22 Rendezvous A Pad, again, you can see the striping in the
23 tundra.

24
25 So I'm not going to stand here and say that
26 ice roads and ice pads have no impact on the tundra, in some
27 of the literature, especially the oil industry literature you
28 may read -- you may see the words, no impact. The question
29 to me is, how long does it take to recover from this kind of
30 impact and what does the tundra look like after it is
31 recovered? And some work like that has gone on in the Arctic
32 Refuge in the last 15 years on seismic trails and then
33 started a similar study a year ago in NPRA.

34
35 So that's all I have to show you and I'll
36 take your questions now.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Dave. Gordon.

39
40 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair. You said there
41 were some studies over the course of 15 years on this type of
42 disturbance on the tundra, knowing that tundra around here
43 there's permafrost beneath it and the healing nature of it,
44 once it's disturbed is a very great length of time unless you
45 intervene in some way. What are some of the results of
46 those?

47
48 MR. YOKEL: The study in Arctic Refuge is on
49 where they did some seismic work, so they're seismic trails
50 as opposed to ice roads. But I suspect that the impacts will

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1 be similar. In seismic work and ice roads, unless there was
2 a mistake made like I showed you where the tundra was
3 scraped, the vegetation is not removed, like in the old days
4 where they took a blade and just removed the active layer
5 above the permafrost and the frozen ground underneath thawed
6 out and you wound up with a straight canal across the tundra.
7 That kind of stuff doesn't go on anymore. But in some areas
8 in that study there was enough impact to the vegetation that
9 it did, in fact, increase the thawing underneath making that
10 trail wetter than the surrounding area, still completely
11 vegetated but wetter, so that you got a different species
12 composition moving more towards the wetter sedges like a
13 water sedge. In some areas there was no visible impact and
14 in others it was very low. But some of the areas still
15 showed, you know, still visible effects 15 years later.

16
17 Harry.

18
19 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Dave, from the new
20 information you've learned over the -- just from your photos
21 are you going to be permitting in the exact same area for
22 that ice road to be built or is it going to be moved a few
23 feet off the way to get that healing process some time to
24 work? If you are going to keep continuing to permitting to
25 build the road right over the same path, that healing process
26 is never going to take place.

27
28 MR. YOKEL: Right. As I mentioned, they do
29 want to come back to two of these three wells this winter, so
30 they do plan to have an ice road along the same route this
31 coming winter. What we gave them is a one mile wide right-
32 of-way, within which to build this ice road. One of our
33 standard stipulations say that from year to year they will
34 move the road over so that they don't build it on top of a
35 previous years road. There will be points where the two
36 routes will have to cross, even though they have a mile wide
37 right-of-way, they are restricted by terrain to some extent
38 and so there will be some spots where it crosses but for the
39 vast majority of it it will not be two year impacts on top of
40 each other.

41
42 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Thank you.

43
44 MR. YOKEL: Okay, thank you, Mr. Chair.

45
46 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman.

47
48 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Earl.

49
50 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, I'd like to clarify this

00085

1 here is not Earl Williams, it's Thomas Roland from Anaktuvuk
2 Pass.

3
4 MR. YOKE: Pardon?

5
6 MR. WILLIAMS: It's not Earl Williams, it's
7 Thomas Roland.

8
9 MR. YOKE: Oh, oh.

10
11 MR. WILLIAMS: On the advisory panel.

12
13 MR. YOKE: Are you talking about BLM's
14 Subsistence Advisory Panel?

15
16 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah. Yeah. It's Thomas
17 Roland.

18
19 MR. YOKE: That's correct. I don't know
20 what you're reading there but Thomas Roland is the Native
21 Village of Anaktuvuk Pass' representative.

22
23 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Is that in the minutes?

26
27 MR. WILLIAMS: Uh-huh.

28
29 MR. YOKE: Is that your minutes from this
30 Council?

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: February 17.

33
34 MR. YOKE: Well, that's because at the last
35 meeting, Earl, you were the representative appointed by the
36 Native Village of Anaktuvuk Pass.

37
38 MR. WILLIAMS: But they wanted to change it
39 at that time.

40
41 MR. YOKE: That's right, it was changed, you
42 know, after these minutes were taken.

43
44 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah.

45
46 MR. YOKE: That appointment was changed and
47 it is now Thomas Roland.

48
49 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, okay.

50

00086

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Dave.

2
3 MR. YOKEL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4
5 MR. G. BROWER: I got one question.

6
7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

8
9 MR. G. BROWER: Are you planning to do any
10 other type of studies in those areas in this year or is there
11 a continuation of any efforts of studies?

12
13 MR. YOKEL: I'm not sure exactly what's going
14 to happen this coming summer at this point. We're trying to
15 get an inter-agency team together to discuss what kind of
16 studies we're going to do, not only inter-agency, but also
17 include oil industry, environmental groups and University
18 folks and all that, whether or not that will have an impact
19 on this summer's field season, I don't know. The North Slope
20 Borough got a grant through the impact funds, and I know
21 there's going to be a -- we're already working with the North
22 Slope Borough on analyzing Teshekpuk Caribou Herd movement
23 data and they're going to expand that project with these
24 impact funds. Also there's the Borough's Department of
25 Wildlife Management, it got a grant from the same source to
26 do some fisheries work in the area. The oil companies do
27 some fisheries work just on the lakes where they propose
28 water withdrawals, at least, ARCO, now, Phillips-Alaska does.
29 BP has taken a different approach to that and they're just
30 going to assume that all lakes have fish in the wintertime
31 and restrict themselves -- or be restricted to that 15
32 percent withdrawal rule.

33
34 We had a gauge out on the Fish Creek this
35 summer to look at stream flow, but so far we have pretty
36 limited hydrology studies going on, there's also archeology
37 studies going on in the area.

38
39 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

40
41 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Dave, you mentioned
42 something about four meetings so far, was that within a one
43 month period or what?

44
45 MR. YOKEL: Within nine months. Our first
46 meeting was December of 1999 here in Barrow. Our second
47 meeting was in March of 2000 in Nuiqsut. The third was in
48 June 2000 in Nuiqsut. And then the fourth was in Wainwright
49 last month during the little blow that we had up here.

50

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1 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: I thought you mentioned
2 you had four months in one month.

3
4 MR. YOKEL: Within nine months is what I
5 intended to say.

6
7 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Thank you.

8
9 MR. YOKEL: Even in nine months, I think
10 that's pretty incredible.

11
12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Local Yokel.
13 That's his name by the way. So while we're at nicknames, the
14 next one is Sverre Sverre.

15
16 MR. PEDERSEN: I'll try to live up to that.
17 I'm Sverre Pedersen, I'm with the Department of Fish and
18 Game, Division of Subsistence. I just want to give you a
19 progress update, basically, on two projects that I have going
20 in communities on the North Slope that you might be
21 interested in knowing about.

22
23 Both of the projects are in Nuiqsut. I have
24 some written information on one of the projects and I'm just
25 going to give you a very quick review of the other projects.
26 They're both aimed at providing information to the resource
27 management and conditions surrounding Nuiqsut now that we
28 have oil and gas development going on there. We have some
29 substantial data gaps that we're trying to fill. With our
30 current budget we decided to try to meet the needs of two
31 data gaps that we've identified. One was current harvest
32 information on caribou because caribou is the main
33 terrestrial resource harvested by Nuiqsut residents. And the
34 other project was to update a subsistence land use data atlas
35 that we have for Nuiqsut. The last time we updated that
36 atlas was in 1986, so we figured that it was time to carry
37 out another update. Both of these projects have been carried
38 out in cooperation with the city of Nuiqsut, the Ikupik
39 Native Corporation, the Native Village of Nuiqsut, and the
40 North Slope Borough.

41
42 So I'll talk about the caribou harvest survey
43 first. This is basically interim information, it will change
44 a little bit as we go through the final draft. But we
45 carried out this survey in May and June of this year and it
46 was basically a recall survey going one year back so people
47 were remembering back to last summer and through this spring
48 what their harvest was. And if you look at Page -- well,
49 it's actually an attachment, it's Pages 3 and 4, there is the
50 survey instrument that we used, the form that we used to

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1 carry out the survey, it continues to be confidential. We
2 don't write down any names on these forms. They're household
3 based surveys and we're trying to catch all of the
4 information for the entire household, you know, for the
5 survey year. So you can see the categories that we collected
6 information in. I'm just going to give you here, now, a
7 summary of the information that we have on some of the
8 quantitative information, that is, the number of caribou
9 harvested and sort of where the caribou were harvested and
10 I'll answer questions in more detail if you'd like to ask
11 some when I'm done here.

12
13 We surveyed 80 of 92 households in the
14 community and we had eight households that we couldn't -- or
15 12 households that we were not able to contact. We
16 classified eight were hunting households and four were non-
17 hunting households. And they were either inaccessible
18 because they were out hunting or they were out of town when
19 we were carrying out our work. We have, since, the work in
20 May and June, we have met our survey goal, we have an
21 additional six households that have been interviewed and I'm
22 hoping to get the other remaining six households in the near
23 future if I can. But based on the 80 households, which is 87
24 percent of the households in the community, we found that 47
25 of them, a little over half of the households had hunted
26 caribou and harvested caribou during the survey period. And
27 that based on the reported harvest, we figured there were 333
28 taken and if we estimate the harvest by the eight hunting
29 households, we come up to a total estimated harvest of about
30 413 in this community, and that is basically one caribou per
31 person in Nuiqsut for the year.

32
33 Successful caribou hunting households shared
34 their catches widely in the community with other, both
35 caribou hunting households and non-caribou hunting
36 households, and that continues a tradition that's, you know,
37 most of you on the Council here, you're very familiar with,
38 but we still need to make sure that others understand the
39 significance of catches and how they're shared in the
40 community.

41
42 We collected name, location information on
43 all the harvests and we came up with 22 locally distinct
44 named hunting locations for this particular year. And just
45 taking a quick look at where these harvest locations were
46 situated, with respect to oil and gas development, we noted
47 that none of them were associated with industrialized areas
48 and that is similar to what we found in 1993 when we did a
49 similar survey and collected harvest locations. It's also
50 similar to a survey that the North Slope Borough carried out

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1 in '94/95 where they also found that none of the caribou
2 harvest locations at that time were associated with oil and
3 gas or industrialized areas.

4
5 So procedurally, I can also mention that we
6 worked with two people in Nuiqsut, trained them to do these
7 kind of surveys, James Talook who works for the city of
8 Nuiqsut and Joe Bolt, a young man who basically was working
9 for the Native Village of Nuiqsut. We also had other support
10 in the community from the city, from the corporation and from
11 the Native village.

12
13 So that is the caribou harvest information,
14 do you have any questions about that?

15
16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Questions for Sverre.

17
18 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman.

19
20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Earl.

21
22 MR. WILLIAMS: I think this is the one that
23 Gladis was passing around at home?

24
25 MR. PEDERSEN: She's doing a similar survey
26 in Anaktuvuk.

27
28 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, she's working with the
29 Borough in Anaktuvuk Pass.

30
31 MR. PEDERSEN: Yeah, we're trying to make
32 these surveys as compatible as possible between what my
33 division does and what the North Slope Borough does. And the
34 work in Nuiqsut, Nuiqsut's a particularly difficult community
35 to carry out field work in. And we agreed to work, the
36 Borough and my division to work cooperatively. We decided
37 that we would try to cooperatively do Nuiqsut this spring
38 because we were having trouble finding someone in that
39 community to carry out, you know, be a local representative
40 and carry out the work. So we decided to go in, with local
41 support and carry out the survey this year and we're hoping
42 that in future years others -- you know, that there will be
43 a community representative who can do it. We're also hoping
44 to do this survey for, at least, you know, four or five years
45 so we can build up a good data base on where the community is
46 harvesting and what the circumstances each year has been for
47 their harvest locations and their harvest success.

48
49 But Earl, that's really an important
50 observation, we're trying to make things as seamless as

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1 possible here between all the surveys going on.

2

3 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

4

5 MR. PEDERSEN: The other work that we've been
6 doing is, like I said, updating the subsistence land use
7 atlas for Nuiqsut, and we have so far done -- this is also a
8 cooperative venture, and James Talook has helped me quite a
9 bit and we have done nine households, interviewed nine
10 individual households for updating the land use atlas and we
11 have picked, based on community or recommendations, the most
12 active hunting households and are working with the North
13 Slope Borough GIS to, you know, get this information into
14 useable forms as quickly as possible. Our goal is to
15 basically have 12 to 15 interviews and then produce an update
16 of the atlas and that should be sometime, we'll have an
17 interim draft sometime this fall, and then a finished product
18 this winter.

19

20 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

23

24 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Sverre, in regard to
25 this caribou survey, were you able to -- were the hunters
26 able to identify what -- well, I should put it another way.
27 Were the hunters able to give you any description as to what
28 caribou they were -- what herd they were harvesting from or
29 was there any question as to some of the.....

30

31 MR. PEDERSEN: No, we actually didn't ask
32 which one, where the harvest was drawn from because it can be
33 difficult to make that separation. Although, in talking to
34 people who are really experienced hunters, they can tell a
35 Teshekpuk caribou from the Western Arctic caribou.
36 And in the future we'll work a little more on developing that
37 information but right now we're working on just reporting
38 what was harvested in the community in total.

39

40 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you. Gordon.

41

42 MR. G. BROWER: Sverre, on the subsistence
43 land use atlas, is that the State's mapping that's being
44 updated on that to develop some sort of a baseline influence
45 of the village?

46

47 MR. PEDERSEN: It's actually, I can answer
48 you in a little more detail here. We're actually working,
49 not only with the wildlife department and the GIS here but
50 we're also working with IHLC. IHLC is interested in updating

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1 a cultural plan for Nuiqsut, and in updating that cultural
2 plan they'd like to have the most recent information on land
3 use in the community. So that parallels interest that we
4 have in making sure that we understand from the management
5 point of view where the community is harvesting resources and
6 also looking for resources so that we can more effectively
7 comment on and others can use this information to comment on,
8 in a proposed oil and gas lease sales, development plans, et
9 cetera, and to help us all be better in protecting interests
10 that we all share here.

11
12 MR. G. BROWER: And just a follow-up, is that
13 going to extend out to some other villages that were in
14 concern of their areas, such as Anaktuvuk Pass?

15
16 MR. PEDERSEN: It could. Our plans are right
17 now to finish up what we have done in Nuiqsut and then we can
18 sit down and talk about where we are to go next or what our
19 next step ought to be with mapping.

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Sverre. Harry.

22
23 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Sverre, I wanted to ask
24 a little bit about the numbers, you mentioned something about
25 400.....

26
27 MR. PEDERSEN: 413.

28
29 MR. H. BROWER, JR.:413 caribou
30 harvested within this time frame?

31
32 MR. PEDERSEN: Yeah.

33
34 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Does that seem to be a
35 normal number or is that somewhat low to previous years when
36 caribou were more available?

37
38 MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, it seems like a
39 reasonable number. What has changed is people have had to go
40 farther to get caribou this year than in the past, and we'll
41 -- you know, when we work through this report, we'll discuss
42 that in more detail and I can come back at your next meeting
43 and give you a little bit more insight into what we think
44 maybe the reasons there.

45
46 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Yeah, the reason I ask
47 that question is, you know, we have the largest caribou herds
48 in the world and yet our communities have difficulties in
49 harvesting the resource. I just wanted to bring that out and
50 make it known.

00092

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Earl.

2

3 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, Sverre, you were at the
4 meeting at Anaktuvuk last month, weren't you?

5

6 MR. PEDERSEN: Uh-huh.

7

8 MR. WILLIAMS: And these brought up these
9 questions about sick caribou, you know, like.....

10

11 MR. PEDERSEN: Right.

12

13 MR. WILLIAMS:when they harvest. Did
14 you find out anything about that after that?

15

16 MR. PEDERSEN: Well, if you look at my survey
17 here, question number 4 is in the last year, did anyone in
18 your household shoot any caribou which were not used because
19 they did not look healthy. So we were interested in that for
20 lots of reasons, and so we asked this question in Nuiqsut and
21 we found that there was very few caribou harvested in Nuiqsut
22 this year that were not well. So they all seemed to be in
23 pretty good shape, the ones that were harvested. And what we
24 mean by this is, you know, (Native) caribou, caribou that
25 have something wrong with them, they've got sticky lungs,
26 they got lumps and bumps or they don't look good. And so we
27 asked this question because often when people report what
28 they harvested, they don't tell you what they left in the
29 field and we wanted to get a better picture of what's being
30 left in the field and what the reason is for caribou being
31 left in the field. And the long-term reasoning we're
32 interested in this is that, you know, the caribou population
33 gets large, sometimes there's more disease in the population
34 and sometimes disease can, in fact, be the factor that
35 eventually begins to reduce the population size of a
36 particular caribou herd. So we want to develop some early
37 warning signs here. We intend to do the same thing in
38 Anaktuvuk.

39

40 MR. WILLIAMS: The reason I asked you that
41 question is because when we were over there, the elders were
42 asking you questions like, do you know what they're going to
43 do with that sick animal, you know, because a lot of times
44 they don't leave it out in the country side because they're
45 afraid they might get fined, you know, for wasting meat and
46 stuff. They brought those questions up and I was just
47 wondering if you had any answers for them after -- a month --
48 gave you a month to think it over?

49

50 MR. PEDERSEN: Well, you know, I answered

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1 that question in Anaktuvuk, you know, that question was
2 raised by people from the Noatak and the Kobuk River area
3 because they have had different experiences than people on
4 the North Slope with supplying this kind of information to
5 our division and to others. And their main concern is that
6 they, you know, if Fish and Wildlife Protection starts seeing
7 that there's a community that's leaving caribou out there,
8 they may focus enforcement efforts on that community. We are
9 engaged in a dialogue with Fish and Wildlife Protection on
10 this particular issue, and hoping to educate on what it is
11 that's usually causing people to leave caribou out in the
12 field. There's no question that sometimes caribou get left
13 for no good reason, but, you know, in my experience virtually
14 all caribou are left for a good reason by an experienced
15 hunter. So we're working with Fish and Wildlife Protection
16 to ensure that if we start seeing, you know, in our survey
17 data that there are more caribou being left out there that it
18 will catch the eyes of Fish and Wildlife Protection and
19 they're going to say, whoa, let's go to Anaktuvuk because it
20 looks like they're leaving a lot of caribou out there and
21 we'll go apprehend some of those folks, we're working to
22 avert that.

23
24 MR. AGNASAGGA: Is there any part of the
25 organ you could take back if they're sick, that way you could
26 study it and see what's wrong?

27
28 MR. PEDERSEN: Yeah. We will try to do that
29 but it's -- you know, actually asking somebody to take parts
30 of a sick animal home with them may not be real popular to
31 leaving.....

32
33 MR. AGNASAGGA: No, but certain organs,
34 right, the liver or.....

35
36 MR. PEDERSEN: Yeah. Yeah, if they feel
37 comfortable with it, we're real interested in it. But we're
38 discovering that people who leave the caribou out there,
39 they're pretty apprehensive about bringing a diseased part
40 back with them. I have, in Anaktuvuk, I have asked people
41 when I have been there to take me to caribou that they have
42 harvested that have been sick and we've collected samples of
43 those animals. But the other way around, we haven't been
44 very successful yet. We will try some different things here
45 and see what will work.

46
47 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman.

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Earl.

50

00094

1 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman, another one is
2 that when we were over at that meeting, they brought up that
3 sick animal and the elders said, you know, they were bringing
4 part of the organs; am I correct, they said they would be
5 bring in a part of the organs?

6
7 MR. PEDERSEN: Uh-huh.

8
9 MR. WILLIAMS: But who do they contact
10 because we have nobody to contact there, you know, there's --
11 once in a while we see that Park Service, Mike, but he's out
12 about five day walk, he's out, you know, patrolling. And I'm
13 thinking that there's something, you know, we need some close
14 communication with Park Service because we haven't had no
15 communication with them, and I think you know about this from
16 the past.

17
18 MR. PEDERSEN: Yes.

19
20 MR. WILLIAMS: And it's been coming up most
21 of the time.

22
23 MR. PEDERSEN: Yeah, I think, Earl, we'll try
24 to work out a method for people to contact either the North
25 Slope Borough Wildlife Department or Fish and Game and find
26 a way, once someone has brought -- taken the time to bring
27 back the sample, to make sure that we see it, that it gets to
28 us and that it's not a great inconvenience to the person
29 who's brought the sample home.

30
31 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

32
33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Bing, one more.

34
35 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: The latest Arctic Sounder
36 just sort of gives you an idea of what to do when you run
37 across a sick caribou animal, you know, you could leave it in
38 the field but to report it so you won't get cited for it.

39
40 REPORTER: Fred, the microphone.

41
42 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: There was another concern
43 I brought up in different meetings that I've attended, it
44 seems to me there's -- I don't know if it's a coincidence or
45 not but.....

46
47 REPORTER: Fred.

48
49 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Well, okay. I don't know
50 if it's coincidence or not but we're seeing migration routes

00095

1 changing in the different herds and I wonder if any kind of
2 study is on the way? Because it's not just one caribou herd,
3 it's not only the Western Arctic Caribou Herd, it's the
4 Porcupine, the Teshekpuk and there's too much of a similarity
5 in why all three herds are changing their migratory routes.
6 I wonder if there's anything being done in that respect.

7
8 MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, the Western
9 Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group is going to address that as
10 part of some of the priorities that it has developed. So
11 we'll find a way to, you know, develop some ideas on studies
12 and then see if we can find funding for them. But, yeah,
13 that's an important piece to have.

14
15 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Right.

16
17 MR. PEDERSEN: Not only from a biologist's
18 point of view, but also from collecting information from
19 local users as to what it is they have seen over time with
20 respect to changes in migratory routes, in paths and timing.

21
22 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Well, I raise that, you
23 know, concern because it's easy for us or anybody to blame
24 something or somebody because of changes in animal behavior.
25 And I think if we had a study done just in that regard then
26 maybe we'd diminish some of these concerns.

27
28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right, thank you,
29 Sverre. Geoff and Susan's not here, okay. We've crossed off
30 North Slope Borough from Taqulik. David.

31
32 MR. D. JAMES: I promise not to take very
33 long.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, go for it David.
36 Just one good question, who is Susan Bucknell?

37
38 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: She's State -- she works
39 with Jim Dau in the Kotzebue office and sort of takes care of
40 the State Regional Advisory Council -- Fish and Game Advisory
41 Council.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Mr. James.

44
45 MR. D. JAMES: Mr. Chair, members of the
46 Council, thank you for a brief opportunity here to address
47 you. If Geoff Carroll were here to represent 26(A) and if
48 Beth Leonard were here to 26(B) and (C), I'm sure it'd be a
49 much more informative and entertaining presentation than I'm
50 about to give.

1 I had limited amount of time to prepare for
2 this so I have a limited amount of information to pass along.
3 I view this primarily as an opportunity to reintroduce myself
4 to this particular Council. I attend almost all of the
5 Interior, the two Interior Council meetings as a routine
6 matter, and I think the way our duties are shifting in Region
7 3, I'll probably become more of a fixture at these meetings,
8 too, in the future. So I don't want to scare anybody off but
9 that seems to be the way we're working right now.

10
11 I have a few little pieces of information
12 that you may be interested in. The State muskox hunt in
13 26(B) last year, I have their harvest for that, and we had --
14 as you know, we have three drawing permits that are issued,
15 two of those successfully harvested a muskox. Of the nine
16 Tier II permits issued for west of the Dalton Highway, we had
17 only one reported harvest from that and we had no reported
18 harvest from the registration muskox hunt which is on the
19 east side of the Dalton Highway, and that hunt was set up to
20 provide for as many as four. So I just wanted to give you
21 that update.

22
23 I might add, too, that as far as the caribou
24 harvest goes, last year, again, this is for 26(B), primarily,
25 Central Arctic Herd, although, probably not exclusively from
26 that herd, we had a reported harvest, this is with caribou
27 harvest tickets of 362, now, that was up from 314 the year
28 before. But it'd be impossible to conclude that that's a
29 trend, we'll just have to watch it and see what happens
30 because that harvest, of course, bounces back and forth from
31 one year to the next depending on how accessible the caribou
32 are. I might add, too, that was on the basis of an increase
33 of 40 more hunters this past year than the year before.

34
35 One other thing, too, you may be interested
36 in, as you may be aware, the Legislature House Bill 205 was
37 passed and approved to allow the crossing of the corridor by
38 hunters on snowmachines that start outside the corridor and
39 then cross to the other side. And that was passed and became
40 effective, I think, just within the past month or two and the
41 next thing that will follow that is a regulation that
42 implements that legislation. The regulation will be -- is in
43 a proposal book and the Board will be reviewing that I think
44 in their November meeting, the next meeting that they have so
45 that they can implement that statutory change as soon as
46 possible.

47
48 That's it.

49
50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right, very good,

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1 Dave. Questions for David. All right, thank you very much.

2

3 MR. D. JAMES: You're welcome.

4

5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Welcome aboard. What's
6 the wish of the Council, do we have any other reports to come
7 to this body at this time? I'm sorry.

8

9 MR. VIAVONT: My name is Tim Viavont.

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, okay, Tim.

12

13 MR. VIAVONT: And I'm with Alaska Department
14 of Fish and Game, Sportfish Division.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

17

18 MR. VIAVONT: And I will also make this very
19 brief, as possible.

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

22

23 MR. VIAVONT: I am currently in the middle of
24 conducting a stock assessment project on anadromous dolly
25 varden, primarily in the Ivishak, but also in the Kongakut
26 and Anaktuvuk Rivers. When I say I'm in the middle of it, we
27 did a survey of the Kongakut and took genetic samples and
28 were successful in doing that. And I'm about to go next
29 Friday up to the Ivishak and start aerial surveys of the
30 Ivishak and the Anaktuvuk and also conduct a mark-recapture
31 population estimate on a portion of the overwintering
32 aggregation in the Ivishak. And the purpose of conducting a
33 mark-recapture abundance estimate is to attempt to validate
34 the aerial surveys to determine how successful we are at
35 counting the number, whether the number of fish that we count
36 is, in fact, what percentage we're actually able to count
37 because we already know that we can't count them all from the
38 air. You just never succeed in counting them but we would
39 like to have a better idea of what kind of a -- you know, how
40 good a job we do of counting them.

41

42 Sportfish Division in Region 3 is submitting
43 several proposals for stock assessment projects for the 2001
44 Federal fiscal year. One of those is a continuation of the
45 project that I'm currently working on and the purpose of that
46 project is to identify spawning and overwintering areas.
47 Currently we know some of those areas but as Mr. Brower
48 pointed out, we don't have good documentation on all of the
49 drainages and because of the potential for resource
50 development, both in NPRA and in ANWR and on State lands, we

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1 would like to have a better idea of what areas are critical
2 habitat for the stocks that are used for subsistence harvest.
3 The other purpose is to continue aerial surveys so that we
4 have trend information on stock abundance because an aerial
5 survey from one years is not particularly useful unless we
6 can compare it to previous years. And the third purpose is
7 to continue to develop genetic database in order to evaluate
8 migration patterns and stock origin and stock contribution of
9 harvests of anadromous dolly varden.

10
11 There is a proposal being submitted by
12 Subsistence Division for harvest estimation and there's a
13 couple proposals that are for the west, so they're not really
14 in this Council's area.

15
16 The only other thing I would like to say to
17 the -- and it's not so much to the -- well, to the Council
18 and to any of the local organizations that are interested in
19 doing resource monitoring, the Department of Fish and Game is
20 willing to assist in the development of proposals at the
21 minimum, even if we have no involvement in the project at
22 all. If you, you know, if ICAS or the North Slope Borough is
23 interested in submitting proposals and they just want us to
24 look at their proposal and, you know assist them when
25 submitting it, that way we can avoid duplication and we're
26 also potentially interested in cooperating on proposals.

27
28 So if you have any questions I'd be happy to
29 answer them.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, questions for Tim.

32
33 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

34
35 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

36
37 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: When you're doing your
38 catch and release are you doing any after monitoring,
39 monitoring of the resource after you've done your catch and
40 release? How long are you doing it, how long of a time are
41 you spending monitoring the resource? You're talking about
42 dolly varden catching and releasing them back into the.....

43
44 MR. VIAVONT: You mean specific to this
45 project?

46
47 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Yes. Wherever you're
48 conducting your dolly varden research?

49
50 MR. VIAVONT: On the Kongakut and we will be

00099

1 doing it on the Ivishak and on the Anaktuvuk. Those fish
2 were sampled with a beach seine and we did not make any
3 effort -- are you talking about post-capture handling
4 mortality?

5
6 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Yes.

7
8 MR. VIAVONT: This project has not addressed
9 that. I mean we -- the fish that we captured, we took a
10 small fin clip from the tail fin and then let them go, that
11 was all we did to them.

12
13
14 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: In the capturing
15 process, aren't they losing any scales from when you're doing
16 the handling of the fish like that, it makes it susceptible
17 for bacteria to grow wherever the scale comes off, then the
18 fish become sick from handling it. And not monitoring it,
19 then eventually they'll die at a later stage.

20
21 MR. VIAVONT: Yeah, it's always a concern of
22 ours whenever we handle any kind of fish that we attempt to
23 minimize any harm that's done. The only studies that the
24 Department has done specific to post-handling mortality has
25 to do with actually hooking mortality, from hook and line
26 sampling. And we haven't -- we've never done one on dolly
27 varden.

28
29 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

30
31 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

32
33 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: The reason I bring that
34 up is that there's some research done at that lake west of
35 Anaktuvuk, Chandler, there's some concerns from the community
36 residents in Anaktuvuk about the fish population going down
37 after the research study was conducted. They're having a
38 hard time catching the fish that used to be plentiful in
39 there and then after the research was conducted, then they're
40 not catching any fish.

41
42 MR. VIAVONT: Do you know when the research
43 was conducted?

44
45 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: No, I don't know any
46 dates and who did the research but these are the concerns I
47 hear from people who do travel over that way to do their
48 fishing.

49
50 MR. VIAVONT: Well, it's something that we

00100

1 always keep in mind in the forefront when we plan a study
2 because the primary concern to us is conservation of the
3 stock.

4
5 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Uh-huh.

6
7 MR. VIAVONT: And I know that, for instance,
8 the Department has almost eliminated electrofishing from our
9 capture method because we determined that it wasn't a very
10 high mortality but it was still higher than we wished to
11 exhibit in research studying.

12
13 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Thank you.

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

16
17 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon.

18
19 MR. G. BROWER: And the only reason for
20 removing parts like that, the scale, is just to identify to
21 do some genetic work?

22
23 MR. VIAVONT: Yeah, primarily. And, in fact,
24 in an abundance estimate, it's necessary to put some kind of
25 a mark on the fish. Migration studies and things, they often
26 use a tag and I'm sure you've probably seen fish with tags in
27 them. I would like to avoid putting any tags on fish as much
28 as I can so I'm taking a fin clip primarily for genetic
29 analysis. In the Anaktuvuk, I'll be clipping some fish, take
30 a small fin clip to put a mark on them in order to do the
31 abundance estimation. You take a clip and you take it in
32 such a way that it regenerates within about a year, and
33 sometimes you'll see a fish and you'll see where the fin has
34 regrown, it has a little funny wavy line. But you take such
35 a small portion of the fish that -- of the fin, that those
36 fins regenerate usually within a year.

37
38 MR. G. BROWER: And these, well, the reason
39 why you're doing this type of genetic work is to identify the
40 fish to see if they're the same stock as the other ones like
41 down by the Ivishak or in those areas?

42
43 MR. VIAVONT: Yeah.

44
45 MR. G. BROWER: And are you finding that to
46 be so?

47
48 MR. VIAVONT: Well, we haven't done the
49 analysis yet. But the intent is to determine stock origins
50 of fish as it relates to where they overwinter and where they

00101

1 migrate, both.

2

3 MR. G. BROWER: Have you tried other means of
4 following these fish around? I think some experience with
5 the North Slope Borough at one time had, I think, radio
6 little beacons that they followed where they spawned and then
7 headed back down.

8

9 MR. VIAVONT: The two other possible methods
10 would be radiotelemetry, putting radio tags into fish and the
11 other method is just a very large scale tagging. It's my
12 understanding that -- well, first of all, radiotagging is
13 more expensive and it's also much higher -- induces more
14 stress in the fish. If you have to put out a large number of
15 radiotags, you have much higher mortality than any kind of
16 other assessment. It is probably the most effective method
17 but it also can be prohibitively expensive to do the number
18 of fish that we would like to do whereas once we take genetic
19 samples from each of the major spawning stocks, we only have
20 to do it once because then the Fisheries Genetics Laboratory
21 in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will develop a set of
22 genetic markers which you can then compare any other sample
23 to.

24

25 MR. G. BROWER: And one last follow-up
26 question.

27

28 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Go ahead, Gordon.

29

30 MR. G. BROWER: Say you had this kind of
31 study thing and moved over to a river that you don't even
32 know has nothing in it and you catch it and these are the
33 types and means of studies that would determine the stream to
34 be anadromous?

35

36 MR. VIAVONT: That's correct.

37

38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Thank you, Gordon. When
39 you're doing the dolly varden research do you run across any
40 whitefish?

41

42 MR. VIAVONT: We did not see -- we saw a lot
43 of Arctic grayling, we didn't see any whitefish.

44

45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Broad whitefish?

46

47 MR. VIAVONT: Not in the Kongakut. I suspect
48 we will see them in the Ivishak. We mostly conducted our
49 sampling work in the very up reaches because that's where the
50 spawning aggregations are.

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1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Up near the foothills?

2
3 MR. VIAVONT: Yeah.

4
5 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

6
7 MR. VIAVONT: And whitefish are probably much
8 more abundant in the lower river.

9
10 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, all right.
11 Transplant more close to home.

12
13 MR. VIAVONT: Thank you very much.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any other reports to
16 become before the Council? None. Hey, this is going to be
17 a short meeting, you get to go home tonight, maybe, 6:00 or
18 9:00 o'clock. All right, I'll call for the last and third
19 and final, any other reports to come before the Council? I
20 have to go through all of these, F3.

21
22 Election of the officers for North Slope
23 Council. We talked about one this morning, I've got one
24 here, our Council passed a motion to amend our charter,
25 Barbara, would you just give us an update or someone from --
26 maybe Tim Jennings or someone, we wanted to change our
27 charter to have -- within our own regional charter to have
28 one representative from each village.

29
30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We discussed that and we
31 were not able to do that in order because of the FACA. We
32 cannot -- what is it now, we cannot go into make that to make
33 a change on your specific charter because of the FACA, rural
34 residence, it has to cover rural residence even if -- we're
35 doing this -- we're making a geographic just for your
36 Council, getting one from each village and then we're just
37 keeping that over for you to be able to get one person from
38 each village, but we cannot put it in writing in the charter
39 to say that North Slope wants a Council member from each
40 village to represent, we cannot put that in writing on the
41 charter because of the FACA regs that we have to follow.

42
43 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chairman.

44
45 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Harry.

46
47 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Well, that creates a
48 problem. We don't ever get a person from Anaktuvuk and that
49 Subsistence Resource Commission states that it has to be a
50 resident user, that's going to create a problem for the

00103

1 community in terms of what you just mentioned Barb.

2

3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, that's why we didn't
4 put it in on the charter, we didn't make that change on the
5 charter. And Tim can add on to that.

6

7 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Tim.

8

9 MR. JENNINGS: Yes, Mr. Chair, Tim Jennings.
10 Barbara is correct that we cannot do it officially on the
11 charter because of the FACA which is Federal Advisory
12 Committee Act regulations. However, we generally encourage
13 the broad geographic representation within the region. And
14 the way it works out with the North Slope Council is with the
15 number of seats on the Council we are able to generally have
16 one representative from each of your villages, and so we will
17 continue to try to work with the Council to meet the desire
18 to have that broad geographic representation.

19

20 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

21

22 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chairman.

23

24 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Fred.

25

26 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: I know there's some
27 limitations but I think maybe would it be possible, I don't
28 know I could check this with our solicitor's office, too, but
29 I was thinking about representing all the communities of a
30 geographic region versus individually which would encompass
31 all the villages; would that be more acceptable? It's just
32 a play on words, see.

33

34 MR. JENNINGS: Yeah.

35

36 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: From individual to all, all
37 the communities on the North Slope.

38

39 MR. JENNINGS: Well, that's also a good
40 point, Fred, and for each of the Council members to remember,
41 is that, you come from a particular village but you do
42 represent all the rural residents of the entire region.

43

44 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: So that's all encompassing
45 is what I'm getting at here.

46

47 MR. JENNINGS: All the residents. And in
48 this case, the North Slope, all the residents are rural.

49

50 MS. FOX: That's right.

00104

1 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: But, you know, I'll check
2 with our FACA expert and see.

3
4 MR. JENNINGS: I think generally what we're
5 trying to tell you, Mr. Chair, is that we believe we can't
6 officially put in the charter in writing but unofficially and
7 in practice we're able to accomplish those goals.

8
9 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right, thank you.
10 What's the wish of the Council on 10, 10A, B and C.

11
12 MR. G. BROWER: Election of officers?

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Uh-huh.

15
16 MR. G. BROWER: I know it's a long time until
17 the next time we meet but still having quite a few of them
18 missing here, it's about an even shot, the timing and with
19 the amount of.....

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Does our charter have a
22 time line on that or it's pretty much open?

23
24 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It's pretty much open and
25 up to you. That's why Northwest has theirs in the winter
26 because they have more attendance at their winter meeting
27 than they do their fall.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Gordon wants us to
30 wait until winter. Mr. Jennings.

31
32 MR. JENNINGS: Yes, Mr. Chair, Tim Jennings
33 here. I believe that your term of offices for your officers
34 is one year, so they -- and that would be up in the fall, so
35 as I understand it, the Council would need to have an
36 election at this meeting in order to designate officers
37 because of the term and the term is up for the current slate
38 of officers.

39
40 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Excuse me, I don't think
41 there's any legal requirement for that, it's not spelled out
42 anywhere.

43
44 MS. FOX: It's in the charter.

45
46 MR. JENNINGS: Well, we believe it's in the
47 charter.

48
49 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: But if it's at the call of
50 the Council, because most of their members are not here and

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1 that's what they're concerned about, then it's at their --
2 would it be at their pleasure to cancel it until December.
3 That's what happened at Northwest a year ago and there was no
4 question about that.

5
6 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: And also we can't dictate
7 how the Council can run their affairs. It's a very important
8 point you got to remember.

9
10 MR. JENNINGS: No, it's not intended to do
11 that, Fred, it's more we thought it was in the charter and if
12 there's a question about that we'll check the charter and get
13 back to the Council.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Well, it's in our agenda
16 and also at the wish of the Council. Gordon says do it in
17 the winter. What does Terry have to say?

18
19 MR. TAGAROOK: I go for that.

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Go for.....

22
23 MR. TAGAROOK: The winter.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:the winter meeting?

26
27 MR. TAGAROOK: Yes.

28
29 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Earl.

30
31 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

32
33 MR. TAGAROOK: Because if we elected somebody
34 that's not present they might not like it.

35
36 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

37
38 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Might as well elect
39 somebody that's here then.

40
41 MR. WILLIAMS: Elect them all.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Three to one so far.

44
45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: (In Native)

46
47 MR. WILLIAMS: (In Native)

48
49 MR. B. ARMSTRONG: I'm going to go whisper
50 and translate that, you know, for somebody that doesn't speak

00106

1 Eskimo.

2

3 MS. HILDEBRAND: Mr. Chairman, could I call
4 for a short break?

5

6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Call for a short
7 break, five minutes.

8

9 (Off record)

10 (On record)

11

12 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: You were out of the room
13 Amos and Gordon wanted to wait until the winter meeting, as
14 well as Terry and Earl, there's six of us here so half of the
15 members want to wait until the winter meeting to vote on
16 that, Amos, what are your thoughts on the election of
17 officers?

18

19 MR. AGNASAGGA: It seems like we don't have
20 a quorum or.....

21

22 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: We do have a quorum.

23

24 MR. AGNASAGGA:not enough people.

25

26 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Yeah, we have a quorum
27 but.....

28

29 MR. AGNASAGGA: We have a quorum but then
30 every meeting at winter it always seems like they.....

31

32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

33

34 MR. AGNASAGGA: I know a couple meetings I
35 went to they either had a full board or pretty much, you
36 know.

37

38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. There's another
39 issue as well, our charter says we have a year term for the
40 Council Chairs, if I have to sign a document and that gets
41 challenged, it's been well over a year, I don't know what the
42 chances of our public challenging signed documents by the
43 Chair or officers, the minutes, that's another issue, too.
44 We just have what five months? Will there be very many
45 documents signed between now and then Barbara, do you see
46 anything as far as.....

47

48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I don't think so.

49

50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:authority for

00107

1 signatures?

2

3 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Not that I can think of
4 right now or any in the future. Do you Tim or Peg?

5

6 MS. FOX: Not that I can think of.

7

8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, I take it that the
9 Council wants to wait until December so we can table, if
10 that's the wish of the Council to table 10A, B and C?

11

12 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: So moved Mr. Chairman.

13

14 MR. TAGAROOK: Second.

15

16 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. We'll table 10A, B
17 and C until our winter meeting in February and seconded by
18 Terry. Further discussion.

19

20 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Question.

21

22 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Question's called.

23 Barbara.

24

25 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Go ahead, I'll wait.

26

27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All in favor of the motion
28 to table the election of officers until February signify by
29 saying aye.

30

31 IN UNISON: Aye.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Those opposed same sign.

34

35 (No opposing votes)

36

37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Barbara.

38

39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Now, that you've done
40 that, then I'm kind of thinking that it would be probably,
41 for the Council to take an action to designate Mr. Rexford as
42 the person to sign any person if there should be in the
43 meantime until December; is that right, Peg? The Council
44 take an action to designate Fenton to sign any papers if
45 there should need be in the meantime from now until the
46 winter meeting?

47

48 MS. FOX: I don't know, we're outside the
49 charter, you know, there isn't a process for that. You know,
50 we're on ground that the Council is choosing to go and so if

00108

1 they want to continue with that path and do that, I mean
2 there isn't a process to follow because we're outside of the
3 charter is my answer.

4
5 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

6
7 MS. FOX: But I was suggesting earlier to,
8 Harry, and I realize you are taking a vote, okay, I'm not
9 asking you to change your vote, but suggesting that you could
10 go with the same officers until the winter meeting at which
11 time you would hold another election and that way it's clear
12 on the record.

13
14 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, that's what I'm
15 suggesting is that they.....

16
17 MS. FOX: That's what you're suggesting right
18 now?

19
20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, that's what I'm
21 suggesting.

22
23 MS. FOX: Okay.

24
25 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Is that the Council vote
26 on to hold the same officers and then do it in a motion form.

27
28 MS. FOX: Yes.

29
30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And hold them until.....

31
32 MS. FOX: Then hold your election.....

33
34 MS. B. ARMSTRONG:the December meeting.

35
36 MS. FOX:in the winter.

37
38 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Is that understood by the
39 Council to continue the current officers until the winter
40 meeting?

41
42 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Yes.

43
44 MR. WILLIAMS: Fully agreed.

45
46 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any objection to
47 that? Okay, so ordered. Thank you. Or should we vote on it
48 or is that good enough, non-objectionable.

49
50 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's good.

00109

1 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: All right. Okay, travel
2 process and requirements, Barbara.

3
4 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We have Dave McGillivary.

5
6 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Mr. Chair, before that,
7 weren't we supposed to get somebody on that Subsistence
8 Resource Commission since our previous member is not there
9 from our Council.

10
11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No, he's there. Ben Hopson
12 is still there, he's still current until 2001 is what
13 somebody reported, Dave Nelson reported earlier that he's
14 still a current member until 2001, Ben Hopson is.

15
16 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: But he's left from our
17 Council as a representative to the Subsistence Resource
18 Commission?

19
20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, his term.....

21
22 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: From this Council?

23
24 MS. B. ARMSTRONG:will be up in 2001.
25 Yeah. His term will be up.

26
27 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: But if he turned in his
28 resignation in.....

29
30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: But he didn't resign from
31 that other Council and we have no control over that other
32 Council besides this one, and he did not resign from the
33 Gates and like Dave reported, his term will be up as of, is
34 it December 2001 or November 2001, or something like that?

35
36 MR. NELSON: I believe it is but we'll check.

37
38 MS. COHEN: November 2001.

39
40 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay. So that position
41 will open as of probably your fall meeting.

42
43 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Does that answer your
44 question, Harry?

45
46 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: I don't know, if they
47 don't know.

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Well, the.....
50

00110

1 MS. HILDEBRAND: Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:let's see subpart B of
4 the program, structure, states that Regional Council shall --
5 what part of that.....

6

7 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Appoint a representative
8 from our Regional Advisory Council to the Subsistence
9 Resource Commission.

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Ida.

12

13 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff
14 Committee member. Dave or Cohen, I don't know, I'm not
15 familiar with this, but I believe the SRC was appointed by
16 this Council but had to be a member of this Council or a
17 member of an advisory committee; is that correct? So the
18 question that Harry is asking is, does Ben still qualify or
19 is he currently a member of the.....

20

21 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He's currently a member of
22 Gates and.....

23

24 MS. HILDEBRAND: No, currently a member of an
25 advisory committee?

26

27 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Not here, not with this
28 Council anymore, he resigned from this Council.

29

30 MS. HILDEBRAND: No, the State Advisory
31 Committee, that would qualify also, I think.

32

33 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I don't know. But I don't
34 know if the Council has the power to ask him to resign from
35 a position that he's in right now from a different
36 commissioner's position, to be able to put somebody else in
37 here.

38

39 MS. HILDEBRAND: Mr. Chairman, Ida
40 Hildebrand, BIA Staff Committee member. That's my question
41 that I'm asking. The question that Harry is asking is to
42 Park Service and you can determine this when you get back and
43 then you can get back to this Council, they just want to
44 ensure that they are legally represented on that Council,
45 that Ben is still qualified although he's not a member and if
46 he's a member of a State Advisory Committee, he is qualified.

47

48 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Thank you.

49

50 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Is the question clarified?

00111

1 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: All right, Ida, thank
2 you.

3
4 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Barbara.

5
6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, that's fine with me.

7
8 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Any other business, travel
9 process requirements.

10
11 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Mr. Chairman, I'll give you
12 a summary on that.

13
14 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay.

15
16 MR. MCGILLIVARY: My name's Dave McGillivary,
17 I work in the Office of Subsistence Management. I'll be
18 giving you some information on travel requests, travel
19 advances, vouchers and payments, and I did talk with Terry on
20 his comment this morning and will try to look into that when
21 I get back to the office.

22
23 Whenever the Council is proposing to do any
24 travel, you need to coordinate with Barbara and then Barbara
25 will pass that information along to our travel person in the
26 Office of Subsistence Management, Terry Wilde. And then
27 Terry works with our travel agency, Omega Travel Services in
28 arranging travel, getting tickets and so on. If you propose
29 to get a rental car you'll need to get approval for that
30 ahead of time otherwise it won't be able to be covered. Once
31 the travel is all arranged, you will be provided an
32 itinerary, either through the fax or through the mail. If
33 you do have problems before your travel or during your travel
34 there's some numbers on that handout there that you can call
35 and try to get things reconciled or sorted out during the
36 travel.

37
38 As far as advances go, you would get an 80
39 percent of the going per diem rate at the time of the
40 meetings and that will be disbursed to you at the meeting.

41
42 For vouchers, when you get to the meeting
43 you'll be given a stamped envelope with our address at the
44 Office of Subsistence Management with an itinerary. On the
45 back of that we would like you to provide the dates of
46 travel, other information costs related to travel such as
47 taxi cab receipts, phone calls, maybe gas if you're using a
48 boat. We would like to have receipts for anything over \$25.
49 If you don't have a receipt it makes it more difficult to get
50 a claim and we have to get more documentation. If you have

00112

1 receipts for things under \$25, they're fine to put in there
2 as well. We would also like you to return that within a week
3 or so so that we can process it through the system. We have
4 to prepare a voucher in order for you to get a payment and if
5 we don't have the information from you within that time
6 period, we go ahead and prepare the voucher anyway. That
7 voucher is usually prepared within 30 days and sent to our
8 Denver Finance Center to be processed. If we don't have all
9 the information and we're only using the information
10 available it could turn out that the amount of money that you
11 were provided in advance is more than what you're actually
12 going to get back in the voucher claim and then you would
13 have to pay back money so it's a good idea to get it into us.
14 And then payments are usually made within four to six weeks,
15 either electronically to your bank account or through a check
16 to you in the mail.

17
18 So if you have any other issues you'd like me
19 to look into or questions, let me know.

20
21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Terry mentioned about
22 getting tickets through Alaska Airlines or in the villages
23 who don't.....

24
25 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Right.

26
27 CHAIRMAN REXFORD:have an Alaska
28 Airlines counter.

29
30 MR. MCGILLIVARY: I talked to Terry at the
31 break and got a little bit more information on that and I'll
32 look into that.

33
34 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: When I was checking in at
35 Kotzebue, I had to go pick up a ticket also to travel with
36 Cape Smythe, and Alaska Airlines ticket agent told me that
37 they don't give out tickets or they don't do tickets unless
38 you have some other connecting flight traveling with Alaska,
39 and I said, I did, I was leaving Barrow from -- with Alaska
40 and we'd go through Anchorage, and then that's why my ticket
41 was there. And they said, otherwise -- I said if I was
42 coming back with Cape Smythe, would my ticket be here, they
43 said, no, so that needs to be known by Omega, that Alaska
44 Airlines will not accept tickets unless they are connected in
45 some way with the travel. It has to be all Alaska or part of
46 your trip could be with Cape Smythe and/or all Alaska.

47
48 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, anyway,
49 when I was caught in Fairbanks, we came in at 5:30, I missed
50 my 4:45 flight up here and they told me I had to call this

00113

1 Omega. When I called Omega down -- somewhere down in
2 California, they said to leave a message and call me back in
3 the morning, we'll be there at 8:00 and the flights don't
4 leave until about 7:00 or something, 8:40 or something like
5 that. Anyways, that lady told me that I had to re-issue or
6 renew my ticket and that I had to go through all this process
7 again. You know, for this. But when I went back over there,
8 they made a mistake and said, there's no flight on Sundays,
9 you know, this week, weekdays, so I was lucky on this one.
10 But they said that if I didn't catch that flight that day, I
11 had to wait that morning to -- you know, after 8:00 o'clock
12 to get this reprocessed to be verified to get on the plane.
13 She said that you just can't come back and jump on a plane
14 like we used to or something.

15
16 MR. MCGILLIVARY: They have an Anchorage
17 office now and they also have an emergency phone number
18 which.....

19
20 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, I called that emergency
21 phone number, call us at -- and it said, please, give your
22 name and number, if this is an emergency, call us back, we're
23 sorry we're not, you know, available at this time, please
24 hold the line and this and that.

25
26 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Right. I tried their
27 number today because I changed my ticket and it worked, but
28 it's during the day, too, you know, it's not at odd-ball
29 hours. But I think hopefully they will be manning it 24
30 hours in Anchorage and be able to, you know, work things out.
31 But I also know that there are things that happened and there
32 are problems. If you're on a travel authorization and
33 something like that happens, we'll do everything to make sure
34 everything's covered. Because I mean you could get weathered
35 in somewhere and you have no control over that so you're on
36 travel authorization or a person could get sick when they're
37 traveling, you know, things come up.

38
39 MS. HILDEBRAND: Mr. Chairman, Ida
40 Hildebrand, BIA Staff Committee member, to Dave, there's a
41 problem in the Omega office in Anchorage which is just
42 opening up and Mr. Williams is correct, if you call the 800
43 number at this point it will go back to the Anchorage office
44 but the Anchorage is closed after hours and so you get the
45 recording so the only way around that is to call the LA
46 number but I don't know how Omega is going to correct this
47 after hours number.

48
49 MR. MCGILLIVARY: We just got a new emergency
50 number for them yesterday and it's on that paper. When I get

00114

1 back to Anchorage tonight I'll call it and see what happens
2 just for.....

3
4 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Is that 1-800-876-6342?

5
6 MR. MCGILLIVARY: It's.....

7
8 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: The emergency number?

9
10 MR. MCGILLIVARY:right here, this one
11 right here.

12
13 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, that's the same one
14 I called.

15
16 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Okay, yes.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Further questions for our
19 travel expert?

20
21 MR. MCGILLIVARY: For the messenger.

22
23 MR. WILLIAMS: One more question.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, Earl.

26
27 MR. WILLIAMS: What if there's -- what if
28 there's bad weather when you get in Fairbanks and you had to
29 stay over night and you got no place to go, you know, if
30 you're out at the airport, International Airport or
31 something, you know, and you can't call 24 hours?

32
33 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Well, if you're weathered
34 in somewhere and you have to get a hotel room there and a
35 taxi cab to the hotel room, it will be covered.

36
37 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, but then he's asking,
38 what if he goes to the hotel and what does he do?

39
40 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Oh, I got you.

41
42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He doesn't have a card.

43
44 MR. MCGILLIVARY: I got you.

45
46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He needs that
47 authorization from our office to get that.

48
49 MR. MCGILLIVARY: I got you.

50

00115

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: If it's after hours at our
2 office, what number does he call?

3
4 MR. MCGILLIVARY: I'll look into that, I
5 think what -- we'll talk to Omega and see what to do in those
6 cases. But I'm under the assumption right now that they are
7 manning that emergency line 24 hours a day and that they will
8 handle those things.

9
10 MR. WILLIAMS: Okay, one more question.

11
12 MR. MCGILLIVARY: But I will look into that
13 and get back to you.

14
15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Give us your credit card
16 number.

17
18 MR. MCGILLIVARY: There you go, we could ask
19 Peggy for hers probably.

20
21 (Laughter)

22
23 MR. WILLIAMS: Another question is, they're
24 changing the flights to Anaktuvuk now, it's going to be
25 Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays on Frontier. So it's going to
26 be a little layover delay, too, so they'll have conflict over
27 that.

28
29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: What about Wright's?

30
31 MR. WILLIAMS: Wright's too. Only if they
32 have passengers, then they'll go, they don't go just -- you
33 know, even if they have one passenger, they won't go.

34
35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: So if you go back, even
36 tonight, you'll have to stay there until when?

37
38 MR. WILLIAMS: What?

39
40 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: If you should go back
41 tonight or tomorrow and today's what, Tuesday, you'd have to
42 wait until Wednesday.

43
44 MR. WILLIAMS: That's how come I want to stay
45 over night here and go home Wednesday.

46
47 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Oh, something needs
48 to be worked with him on his way back.

49
50 MR. TAGAROOK: Sometimes when we have bad

00116

1 weather, you have travel arrangements with one airline and
2 they cancel but when another flight comes in and I hope on
3 that.

4
5 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Right.

6
7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Then they won't let you in
8 unless you're -- it's not like it how it used to be.

9
10 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Right.

11
12 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Omega is different. You
13 have to make complete new travel arrangements, that's what
14 they're saying.

15
16 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Yeah, I think there's a lot
17 of potential for problems and when I talk to Omega, I'll try
18 to lay some of these out there and ask them, you know, that
19 they need to be prepared to have some unusual situations come
20 up. But I know that you used to have a ticket and you could
21 switch tickets and, you know, do a lot of different things.
22 and hopefully we will still have some flexibility.

23
24 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: With American Express, we
25 had tickets like that from the travel agency and those
26 tickets, you could use with any airline.

27
28 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Right.

29
30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That was the flexibility
31 we had with the other airlines, but then since Omega's doing
32 this, we're really in a bind.

33
34 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Well, I know when I called
35 today the lady really was very, very helpful and I called
36 back and she did a lot of things like changing reservations
37 that you couldn't change and things like that, but, you know,
38 it was during the business day. But when I get back tonight
39 later I'll call that number and see and then I'll follow-up
40 tomorrow.

41
42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Well, there's one
43 lady that's working there at Omega that is from Anchorage and
44 then Terry knows, that she's worked with us before.

45
46 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Right.

47
48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: So she knows, and that's
49 who Terry's been having me talk to.

50

00117

1 MR. MCGILLIVARY: We may have to go over and
2 meet with them, you know, some of the folks in our office, go
3 sit down and meet with them and explain some of these issues
4 that we have here.

5
6 MR. F. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, the gals that have
7 moved over to Omega were from American Express so they kind
8 of know a little bit about the situation. This is a result
9 of the Federal government trying to save money.

10
11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, any other questions
12 on travel process and requirement?

13
14 MR. WILLIAMS: One more question before you
15 run off. What if I leave tomorrow and there's bad weather
16 and I get delayed in Fairbanks, sometimes we fly to Anaktuvuk
17 and we can't land and.....

18
19 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Right.

20
21 MR. WILLIAMS:then go back to town, it
22 will be about 6:00 o'clock or 7:00 o'clock, you know, and
23 everything's closed up and then I'll be standing on the
24 street.

25
26 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Well, we're back to that
27 emergency number.

28
29 MR. WILLIAMS: No, I mean like our hotel.

30
31 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: For his hotel.

32
33 MR. MCGILLIVARY: No for everything.

34
35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That 800.....

36
37 MR. MCGILLIVARY: Yeah, there's an emergency
38 number on there and my understanding is it's 24 hours, but I
39 will check on that to make sure it's on there.

40
41 MR. WILLIAMS: Do you guys got some special
42 kind of hotels that you guys go to, you know, this Council?

43
44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: We usually use Klondike.

45
46 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, that's what I heard but
47 I don't want to hang around there.

48
49 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

50

00118

1 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Go out to the best hotel
2 like the Federal government.

3
4 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Go to Sophie's Station.

5
6 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: The Princess.

7
8 MR. MCGILLIVARY: They usually try to get a
9 hotel that the per diem rate covers.

10
11 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, I think.....

12
13 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Princess Hotel.

14
15 MR. WILLIAMS: That's almost \$75 a meal
16 there.

17
18 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, any other questions
19 on the travel process and requirement. Hearing none, we'll
20 proceed to special action on moose. Who's got that?

21
22 MS. DEWHURST: I think that's been covered,
23 you already talked about it.

24
25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. Any other business
26 to come before the Council. Hearing none, time and place of
27 next meeting, you have a calendar window in the back of our
28 booklet starting February 18, closes March 23.

29
30 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: February 18.

31
32 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: No, the window actually
33 opens February 19.

34
35 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: No, February 18th.

36
37 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: That's President's Day,
38 that's a Federal holiday. How about one on the Federal
39 holiday?

40
41 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Why not, make them earn
42 their money.

43
44 MR. WILLIAMS: They'll want a holiday, too.

45
46 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: Every day is a holiday
47 for me.

48
49 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay. The wish of the
50 Council, time and place of next meeting. The place is

00119

1 probably Barrow.

2

3 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: February 20 and 21,
4 Barrow, Alaska.

5

6 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: February 20 and 21 has
7 been suggested.

8

9 MR. WILLIAMS: 20 and 21?

10

11 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: 20 and 21.

12

13 MR. WILLIAMS: What about Terry?

14

15 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Terry, Amos?

16

17 MR. TAGAROOK: Fine.

18

19 MR. AGNASAGGA: (Nods affirmatively)

20

21 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Gordon?

22

23 MR. G. BROWER: (Nods affirmatively)

24

25 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Okay, February 20 and 21
26 it is in Barrow, 9:00 a.m., place to be determined. All
27 right, number 13.

28

29 MR. H. BROWER, JR.: So moved Mr. Chairman.

30

31 MR. WILLIAMS: Second.

32

33 CHAIRMAN REXFORD: Motion to adjourn. I want
34 to thank everybody for coming to this one day meeting here.
35 Thank you all, we'll see you in February.

36

37 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

38

* * * * *

00120

TRANSCRIBER'S CERTIFICATE

I, Salena A. Hile, hereby certify that the foregoing pages numbered 01 through 120 are a true, accurate, and complete transcript of proceedings RE: North Slope Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Meeting, caused to be transcribed by me from a copy of the electronic sound recording to the best of my knowledge and ability.

DATE _____

SALENA A. HILE