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NORTH SLOPE SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC MEETING  
February 16, 1995  
North Slope Borough Assembly Room  
Barrow, Alaska

**VOLUME I**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Edward Itta, Acting Chair  
Harry K. Brower, Jr., Secretary  
Terry Tagarook, Member  
Gordon Upickson, Member  
Jim A. Aveoganna, Sr., Member  
Ray F. Koonuk, Sr., Member  
Frank K. Long, Jr., Member  
Barbara Armstrong, Coordinator

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CHAIRMAN ITTA: I'm going to go ahead and call the North Slope Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council meeting to order, taking place here in the North Slope Borough Assembly Room in Barrow. Today's February 16th, the time is 7:18 p.m.

I'm going to refer you to our blue agenda. We're going to go ahead and follow that pretty much verbatim. At this time I'll ask for roll call. Harry?

MR. BROWER: Okay, Edward. Fenton Rexford?

CHAIRMAN ITTA: Fenton will be excused tonight. No planes in and out of Kaktovik.

MR. BROWER: Edward Itta?

CHAIRMAN ITTA: Here.

MR. BROWER: Harry Brower? I'm here. Gordon Upickson? Not here. Frank Long, Jr.?

MR. LONG: Here.

MR. BROWER: Jakie Koonuk? Not here. Ray Koonuk?

MR. R. KOONUK: Here.

MR. BROWER: Jim Aveoganna?

MR. AVEOGANNA: Here.

MR. BROWER: And Terry Tagarook?

MR. TAGAROOK: Here.

CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Thank you and welcome.

Barbara, have you heard anything about our colleague from Point Lay? No? You just .....

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He said he was going to be here. He said he was going to come back in from Fairbanks today.

CHAIRMAN ITTA: Oh, maybe .....

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's all I know. And he called me

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from Fairbanks.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ITTA: All right.

4

5 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: But I haven't heard from him since,  
6 because I've been travelling, so .....

7

8 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. All right. Thank you.

9

10 We have a quorum. We'll go ahead and continue with our  
11 meeting. I want to go ahead and welcome everybody that's here,  
12 and before I do, I want to go ahead and introduce a colleague  
13 of ours who's attending his first meeting. He's from Point  
14 Hope, a whaler, hunter and good friend. Ray Koonuk, Sr., is  
15 also the mayor of the City of Point Hope. This is Ray Koonuk  
16 here.

17

18 Everybody knows Frank. Frank, Terry, Jim, Harry, me.  
19 We've been getting pretty comfortable with meeting here after  
20 I think it's what, our third, fourth time maybe we've been  
21 meeting together?

22

23 I want to just briefly go ahead and start from this  
24 corner and have you introduce yourselves and who you're with?

25

26 MR. ULVI: Steve Ulvi, Subsistence Manger for Gates of  
27 the Arctic National Park.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

30

31 MR. HUNTER: I'm Paul Hunter, Subsistence Specialist  
32 with the National Park Service out of Anchorage.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

35

36 MR. MILLS: I'm Dave Mills, the Acting Superintendent  
37 for Gates of the Arctic National Park out of Fairbanks.

38

39 MR. YOKEL: Dave Yokel with the BLM, Arctic District.

40

41 MR. JAMES: I'm David James. I'm with the Arctic  
42 National Wildlife Refuge, and I'd like to point out that the  
43 new Refuge Manager, Jim Kurth, will be here tomorrow he hopes.  
44 He's in Anchorage today, but he'll be here tomorrow .....

45

46 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

47

48 MR. JAMES: ..... if you'd like to ask him any  
49 questions about the Refuge.

50

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1  
2 CHAIRMAN ITTA: All right. Thank you.  
3  
4 MR. PEDERSON: Michael Pederson, Arctic Slope Native  
Association.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Hi, Michael.  
7  
8  
9 COURT REPORTER: Meredith Downing, R & R Court  
Reporters.  
10  
11  
12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Helen Armstrong, Fish & Wildlife  
Service, Subsistence.  
13  
14  
15 MR. KOVACH: Steve Kovach with the Fish & Wildlife  
Service, Subsistence.  
16  
17  
18 MR. KNAUER: Bill Knauer, Fish & Wildlife Service,  
Subsistence.  
19  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Welcome, everybody. Faces and names  
are starting to get a little familiar here. I know if we keep  
seeing each other, we'll get the names and faces together yet.  
22  
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But, Ray, these are our staff people that work with us.  
And Barbara, of course, is our coordinator here who also does  
Region Nine, which is the -- it's essentially the Kotzebue  
District over there.

I want to go ahead and we're at item four, which is the  
review and adoption of our agenda. And I'd like to entertain a  
motion to approve the agenda, then get into a discussion about  
it?

MR. R. KOONUK: So move.

CHAIRMAN ITTA: Moved by Ray Koonuk to approve .....

MR. LONG: Second.

CHAIRMAN ITTA: I mean -- go ahead. Second?

MR. LONG: Second.

CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. We're open for discussion. Have  
we got any amendments?

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1 MR. KOVACH: Mr. Chair?

2

3 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Uh-huh.

4

5 MR. KOVACH: The Refuge Manager for Arctic Refuge,  
Mr. Jim Kurth, will be arriving on tomorrow morning's flight.  
So he would like to have the update for the Refuge moved until  
tomorrow.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Is that item 6-B?

11

12 MR. KOVACH: Six-A-six.

13

14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: A-six, yeah.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Six-A-six. Okay. All right. We need  
to move the Arctic Refuge, item 6-A-6 to tomorrow. We'll go  
ahead and do that if there is no objection. It would be just  
right in there for 2/17. All right.

20

21 Any more additions? Corrections? Harry?

22

23 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to insert the  
summary of the minutes from our last Council meeting.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ITTA: All right. Okay. Where would .....

27

28 MR. R. KOONUK: That will be on tomorrow?

29

30 CHAIRMAN ITTA: The minutes as summarized by our  
secretary out of the transcriptions, we will insert as item  
52A, approval of minutes. I think Harry's done a fine job on  
being able to summarize all those -- that information on tape,  
plus some of the discussions we have in our native language,  
native tongue.

36

37 Any more corrections, additions?

38

39 MR. R. KOONUK: How about this guy over. He's .....

40

41 MR. LONG: He's coming in tomorrow. He'll be here.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah.

44

45 MR. BROWER: That's the same person.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Do you have -- who is it, Dave or --?  
You mentioned that the new Superintendent of ANWR is going to  
be here. Does he have a spot in here? Did he want some time

50

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With us, or just to attend the meeting?

2

3 MR. JAMES: I think that's what Steve Kovach was  
4 referring to.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Oh, okay. All right.

7

8 MR. JAMES: That Jim would be glad to talk to you  
9 tomorrow.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. We've got that taken care of  
12 then. Any more corrections? If not, somebody call for the  
13 question here?

14

15 MR. R. KOONUK: Question.

16

17 CHAIRMAN ITTA: The question's called on approval of  
18 the motion to -- oh. Boy, you got in there. Just got in  
19 there.

20

21 MR. KNAUER: I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ITTA: That's all right.

24

25 MR. KNAUER: I didn't realize that there is a segment  
26 that needs to be talked about, the NARC petition. Northwest  
27 Arctic Regional Council petition to the Secretary. The  
28 material is in your book, but I didn't realize it was not on  
29 the agenda.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

32

33 MR. KNAUER: So possibly some place under new business.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

36

37 MR. KNAUER: Maybe in between B and C would probably be  
38 the most appropriate place for it.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

41

42 MR. KNAUER: So between 7-B and 7-C.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. We'll go ahead and -- did you  
45 say between A and B or B and C?

46

47 MR. KNAUER: Between B and C.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. And that's the NARC position.

50

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1  
2 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: NARC petition.  
3  
4 MR. KNAUER: N-A-R-C. Northwest Arctic Regional  
5 Council. I'll explain more.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah. All these acronyms we use around  
8 here. They're getting all out of hand. A-W-C, D-W-C-A. Okay.  
9  
10 With that, we'll go ahead. The question was called on  
11 the motion. All those in favor signify by saying aye?  
12  
13 IN UNISON: Aye.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Opposed, same sign?  
16  
17 (No opposing responses)  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Hearing none, continue with -- we want  
20 at this time go ahead and take a minute and read about one  
21 of our colleagues who passed away during a tragic plane crash  
22 here right prior to the holidays from the other region next to  
23 us over there.  
24  
25 "In memory of Roy P. Otton. Roy Otton was appointed by  
26 the Secretary of the Interior to serve a two-year term on the  
27 Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional Advisory council and was  
28 serving on the Council up until his untimely death in a plane  
29 crash in December 1994. He served a one-year term as Vice-  
30 Chair of the Council during the first year of its operation.  
31  
32 "Roy was a traditional subsistence user and commercial  
33 fisherman residing in Koyuk, Alaska; he knew the resources and  
34 their uses very well. He was an acknowledged expert on caribou  
35 in the region. He had outstanding communications skills,  
36 especially of a cross-cultural nature. He was highly respected  
37 by local people and represented them on the local fish and game  
38 advisory committee and the board of directors for the regional  
39 nonprofit corporation. He was an active participant in  
40 meetings."  
41  
42 I want to go ahead and take a moment of silence in his  
43 memory.  
44  
45 (Pause)  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. That -- It's always difficult to  
48 lose a colleague, especially one that was as esteemed as he  
49 was. He had such real high hopes for his role in that Council  
50

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from the folks that I knew, and the way they talked about him.  
I didn't know him personally.

3

4           Okay. We'll go ahead and get into approval of our  
minutes. That's the ones here. I think you all have them.

6

7           MR. BROWER: I sent them out. Some of them have them,  
and others don't, Mr. Chairman.

9

10          CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Barbara will be coming in with  
some here, but I want to go ahead and move to approve the  
summary of the minutes from the October 5 through 6, 1994,  
meetings at ASRC, third floor conference room in Barrow,  
Alaska. And I'd entertain a motion.

15

16          MR. LONG: So move, Mr. Chair.

17

18          MR. TAGAROOK: Second.

19

20          CHAIRMAN ITTA: Moved by Frank Long, Junior.

21

22          MR. TAGAROOK: Second.

23

24          CHAIRMAN ITTA: Seconded by Terry to go ahead and  
approve the minutes. We're open for discussion.

26

27          Not really related to the minutes here, but I wanted to  
ask a question -- oh, Barbara's not here. Or maybe somebody  
can answer for me from staff here.

30

31          MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I'm here.

32

33          CHAIRMAN ITTA: Oh, there you are. I was looking for  
you back there. In relation to -- I was just referring to the  
seats, the mention of the seats in here, Jackie Koonuk's seat,  
when is that up? Weren't you .....

37

38          MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It's up at the -- the seat is up.  
They put Ray on a three-year term, and then .....

40

41          CHAIRMAN ITTA: Right.

42

43          MS. B. ARMSTRONG: ..... put Jackie on the one-year. So  
has .....

45

46          CHAIRMAN ITTA: But he has not been replaced yet,  
correct?

48

49          MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No.

50

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1  
2 MR. BROWER: Not until this year.  
3  
4 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He should have been here today.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN ITTA: He should have been here today. So I  
7 mention that, because Ray had said that they understood it was  
8 out, .....

9  
10 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... and maybe that's why he wasn't  
13 here and we didn't convey to him that he needed to stay.  
14  
15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He's got information. I talked to  
16 him last week.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Oh, you did.  
19  
20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: He said he would be here. And  
21 because you guys .....

22  
23 CHAIRMAN ITTA: All right. Good.  
24  
25 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: ..... are on a three -- a cycle of  
26 three years, .....

27  
28 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.  
29  
30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: ..... and then they put Jakie on  
31 that one-year term in place of George Ahmoagak's place.  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Uh-huh.  
34  
35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And so his term is up as of this  
36 year, so we have three seats open.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Uh-huh. Okay. Thank you.  
39  
40 Any comments? Discussion? Let me call for the  
41 question.  
42  
43 MR. BROWER: Call for the question.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Thank you, Harry. Question by Harry.  
46 All those in favor of approving the minutes, the summary of the  
47 minutes, signify by saying aye?  
48  
49 IN UNISON: Aye.  
50

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1  
2 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Opposed, same sign?  
3  
4 (No opposing responses)  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Hearing none, the motion carries.  
7  
8 We'll go on down to item six, Old Business. There is  
9 subsection (A), number one. We will hear from our National  
10 Park Service staff.  
11  
12 MR. MILLS: I believe that's me here.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.  
15  
16 COURT REPORTER: Up to a microphone, please?  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Would you approach up here where we can  
19 get you recorded? Maybe, Frank, you could push out that chair  
20 there?  
21  
22 MR. MILLS: Have a seat right here?  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah.  
25  
26 COURT REPORTER: And state your name, please?  
27  
28 MR. MILLS: Yeah. My name is Dave Mills. I'm the  
29 Acting Superintendent for Gates of the Arctic National Park.  
30 And I should mention with me as he mentioned, Steve Ulvi from  
31 Gates of the Arctic National Park, our subsistence manager, and  
32 he'll be able to answer any specific questions, and he's  
33 certainly the one that has a lot of the detailed knowledge.  
34 I'm fairly new here, and I'm just getting my feet on the  
35 ground.  
36  
37 Also from our regional office, if there are any  
38 questions, we have Paul Hunter.  
39  
40 But as I mentioned, I've just started this job, but I  
41 have a little background on myself. I have worked in Kotzebue  
42 for a number of years, and more recently I temporarily lost my  
43 senses apparently and went from Kotzebue to Washington, D.C.,  
44 for just a limited time. But, fortunately, while -- the two  
45 years I was in Washington I had the chance to work on the Hill  
46 for Congress and actually worked on the Anaktuvuk Pass land  
47 exchange agreement while it was in Congress there. So that was  
48 fortunate for me, at least, because I missed Alaska a lot and  
49 had the opportunity to become a little more familiar with where  
50

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that was at and it was a nice stepping stone for me to come back to Alaska and to continue that work.

3

4 I know all of you here, ASRC as well as the Nunimuit, have spent years and years working on this, and it appears as you may well now that we're close. Congress is getting very close. I know we've been there before, but as you may be aware, the House of Representatives passed the legislation a few weeks ago without any dissenting votes. And now it's in the Senate, and we're being told by the Alaska delegation that they support it, and fortunately they're on important committees right now that can move the legislation through, so we're being told perhaps within a month there will finally be legislation on Anaktuvuk Pass, so we're all keeping our fingers crossed and hoping that that can happen, and then we can get on with the important agreement that it ratifies that allows residents around Anaktuvuk Pass to carry on subsistence activities using ATVs in certain areas, and it accommodates those uses in an agreed upon manner there, so I think it's a good step.

21

22 That was the first general good news I wanted to pass on. I don't know if there's any comments or questions on that particular aspect of it.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Just on the process. You mentioned it's in the Senate. Is that going through committee now? And how many steps are kind of involved?

29

30 MR. MILLS: Yeah. Well, on the House side, Chairman Young was able to eliminate a lot of the steps. He -- they did a good job over there, and they -- because he is the chairman of the full committee, and there were hearings in the previous session, they didn't have any hearings. They eliminated the hearings and went right to his full committee. It was marked up and then on to the House floor for a vote. So it went very fast there.

38

39 And I'm being told that in the Senate they'd like to do the same thing, and hopefully in the next month or so they'll be able to -- it will still have to go to the committee, but it will be Senator Murkowski's committee, and hopefully he can move it through and onto the Senate floor and we'll be done with it.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ITTA: We'll see what he's made out of.

47

48 MR. MILLS: Yeah. We'll .....

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN ITTA: I kind of smile about that, when it's  
 2 getting this thing through.

3  
 4 MR. MILLS: Well, I've got -- I did work with his staff  
 5 up there quite a bit, and I know they're -- his -- actually his  
 6 personal staff is now the staff director for that committee,  
 7 and I know he has a personal interest in this and wants to see  
 8 it work, so we're hoping to have sometime late spring or early  
 9 summer some sort of celebration where we can acknowledge all  
 10 the hard work that's gone in on this from a variety of groups,  
 11 but definitely from the people here in Barrow and Anaktuvuk  
 12 Pass just to acknowledge all the hard work and kick the whole  
 13 agreement off on the right direction. So hopefully in a few  
 14 months we'll have good news on that.

15  
 16 Also along that line, I've begun to work with ASRC, and  
 17 met with a number of the leaders today about other land  
 18 agreements and how we can take a look at some corporation lands  
 19 and park lands and Interior lands that are being considered by  
 20 ASRC and other groups for a possible exchange. It's kind of  
 21 just in the formative stages right now, but there's just some  
 22 thoughts out there and ideas that would allow for villages  
 23 to abound -- in the North Slope Borough that weren't allowed to  
 24 select many lands around their villages to have an opportunity  
 25 to do that, and that's -- it goes beyond the National Park  
 26 Service, that's more of a bigger thing that involves the  
 27 Department of Interior as well as the State and other things,  
 28 but we've begun discussions on that, and I've been involved in  
 29 that in Washington, D.C. and now here in Alaska. And we hope  
 30 to continue that. I don't have a lot to report on that, other  
 31 than that there's just some general discussions going on with  
 32 that, but I think there's some good opportunities to take a  
 33 look at some of those ideas.

34  
 35 Another thing I wanted to pass onto you, we're very  
 36 excited about, and Steve Ulvi is personally involved in the  
 37 Wild Lands Camp program that we're planning. It's really a  
 38 joint effort between a lot of Federal agencies, Fish & Wildlife  
 39 Service, the BLM, the North Slope Borough, Park Service .....

40  
 41 CHAIRMAN ITTA: What's the name of the project again?

42  
 43 MR. MILLS: Wild Lands Camp is the name of it, and the  
 44 I'll let Steve fill in the details, but I'll give you a  
 45 brief over-view of it. It's an opportunity for high school  
 46 kids during the summertime from villages all over the region,  
 47 from this region and other regions, to get together with wild  
 48 life biologists and land management professionals at a ten-day  
 49 camp. And in this case it's going to start at Circle Hot

50

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Springs, and then they're going to move on the Yukon River to other camps. to learn a little bit about the nuts and bolts of working as a land manager, and being a wildlife biologist, being an archaeologist, all the different disciplines that are involved, and help them get a start and develop their interest in that. And we're real excited about sharing our staff, and I know the other agencies, Fish & Game's also involved in this. There's money coming from all sorts of organizations to get this pilot program going, so I think there's an exciting potential there in that project.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ITTA: I'll volunteer my daughter for that Mesa project over there. That's -- I've heard a little bit about this, and -- that there's some .....

15

16 MR. MILLS: I just want to -- oh, I'm sorry, go ahead.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ITTA: There's some -- my wife had mentioned that. She's a member of our school district .....

20

21 MR. MILLS: Uh-huh.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... up here, and wanted some info. Just I thought it's kind of timely. She has mentioned maybe that would be a good place to send our -- one of them, one place to send our daughter for the summer, so .....

27

28 MR. MILLS: Yeah. Yeah. Sounds great.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Anyway, I'm sorry to interrupt. Go ahead.

32

33 MR. MILLS: No, no. I think -- and I think it's long over due. And this is just a pilot program.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah.

37

38 MR. MILLS: If it works well, we're hoping to expand it much larger than the ten-day period, the one session that's going on this summer, so -- Steve, anything to add to that that? .....

42

43 MR. ULVI: No.

44

45 MR. MILLS: Feel free to get with Steve on that. He's helping to develop the curriculum, and really involved with it. And I know a lot other agencies are involved with it.

48

49 The reason I bring it up, we're the -- this initial

50

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year, Gates of the Arctic is kind of the host staff that's pulling -- helping to pull things together.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

5  
6 MR. MILLS: We have other -- a lot of other people helping though.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Uh-huh.

10  
11 MR. MILLS: Another project going on that we're real excited about is the -- an ethnography study that's actually funds from the Park Service to the North Slope Borough that will fund studying Anaktuvuk Pass through Grant Spearman and other people there to better document some of the ethnographic information that's -- some of it already available there in Anaktuvuk Pass and other sources, so that's the type of thing we'd like to continue to encourage. There's a lot of real experience and talented, knowledgeable people out there that we'll try to continue to tap into.

21  
22 We also have -- as you're probably aware of, there's a cooperative caribou monitoring project in Anaktuvuk Pass that involves Fish & Game and the North Slope Borough, and that's continuing, and I understand that's been a very successful program going on up there that we're a part of also.

27  
28 And then the other thing that I wanted to throw out, I'm personally very interested and committed to trying to do a better job with our local hire program and in getting native people on our staff and working with our staff, whether it be at Anaktuvuk Pass or wherever we work. And I just wanted to let people know that this summer we will be looking for perhaps a student or whoever would work in well there. In the past we've used a RAP student at Anaktuvuk Pass to help out with some of the activities around there, and we plan to do that again this summer, so we're looking to do that.

38  
39 And if there's any other suggestions or avenues that we could pursue to be a little bit better at bringing up students, such as these camp programs and whatever, we're open to suggestions on trying to make that work better. Co-op students at the University or whatever it takes.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Uh-huh. Frank?

46  
47 MR. LONG: I have a question. We're talking about a student. What grade are you talking about?

49  
50

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1 MR. MILLS: Well, the RAPS program is high school.

2

3 MR. LONG: High school.

4

5 MR. MILLS: And generally for most of the programs that  
we have, they need to be at least high school. But we also  
have a co-op program with the University in Fairbanks, too,  
that's -- I know I've done that in Kotzebue. It's worked well  
in Kotzebue, and I know it's working well around the State, so  
either high school or college will be fine.

11

12 MR. LONG: Uh-huh.

13

14 MR. MILLS: And we've also done -- I know in Kotzebue I  
worked closely with Jonas Ramouth there. We shouldn't just  
limit it to young people. There's elders that have a lot to  
contribute, and Jonas has been a real valuable asset there,  
too, so we're open to whoever is interested, really.

19

20 MR. LONG: I have another question. Local hire. Do  
you have any limitations, such as age purposes, like middle  
age, senior? How old?

23

24 MR. MILLS: No, it can -- it can be any of those. I  
think you have to be -- I think you have to be 18 years old for  
that program, but 18 or above, and there's no age limitation.  
We're interested in a variety of ages actually is really nice.

28

29 And the local hire program actually allows us, and this  
isn't just with the Park Service, this applies to any Federal  
agency, it allows us to hire people based upon their -- the  
skills and the knowledge they bring from being residents in an  
area, so we can -- we can avoid some of the bureaucratic  
requirements of Federal Government with this local hire  
program, and kind of cut through the red tape and get at the  
important aspects that many local people can bring to the job  
without worry too much about some formal education requirements  
or other requirements of previous government service and things  
like that. So it's a good program.

40

41 MR. LONG: Okay. Let me ask you another question. You  
were talking about people that are experienced. We do have  
experienced people in this area, but I think there would be a  
small problem factor of, you know, there's some people that  
does not quite well read or write.

46

47 MR. MILLS: Uh-huh.

48

49 MR. LONG: Would you require interpreters or somebody

50

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that would be able to understand what's going on in your paperwork and whatever books that you present?

3

4 MR. MILLS: Yeah, I think -- I think there's all sorts of opportunities depending on what a person brings. I can think in the case of Jonas Ramouth who continues to work in Kotzebue, he was a valuation asset because he was bilingual, and he did a lot of interpretation for us, and he would -- he would help me understand some of the cultural things that I didn't necessarily understand, so I don't think the -- there's any specific requirements, that -- you know, that the local hire program is to bring in local knowledge that exists in villages. That traditional knowledge is what we're after, and understanding that. And somebody on the staff that can make sure that that's a part of the whole management philosophy and what we're doing.

17

18 MR. LONG: The reason that I'm saying this is .....

19

20 MR. MILLS: Uh-huh.

21

22 MR. LONG: ..... because we have a senior citizen over here who is bilingual, you know.

24

25 MR. MILLS: Uh-huh.

26

27 MR. LONG: But the really experienced persons that we have in our communities does not have that cross-cultural or bilingual aspect, and they are very -- they are very intelligent, but the problem with them is understanding the English language, and writing or putting something on paper unless they have an interpreter.

33

34 MR. MILLS: Well, that -- you know, depending on the circumstance, that hopefully wouldn't stand in the way if there was, you know, a need and something they could offer in that respect. I think there's a lot people like that can offer, .....

39

40 CHAIRMAN ITTA: And I think Frank's got a position, a long-standing position up here, and I think we made that clear to some of our staff earlier, and that is the extreme amount of knowledge that is available here that is not used, because either your policies or your job descriptions have all these limitations that they've got to be able to write this 1,000 page report and understand ten kinds of .....

47

48 MR. MILLS: Yeah.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... number systems to get from one to  
2 ten. It's a shame, and I agree with Frank. Got to utilize  
3 that knowledge, and especially with somebody like Jim Allen who  
4 can speak both languages and all kinds of information in there,  
5 plus a lot of history.

6  
7 MR. MILLS: You bet. It's very valuable.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN ITTA: He's got a lot of history, Jim Allen.  
10 Okay. Sorry, Frank. Go ahead.

11  
12 MR. MILLS: Yeah. That's about all I had. I'll -- you  
13 know, as I mentioned, Steve and Paul are here to -- in fact, I  
14 think Steve's on the agenda a little bit later here, and he'll  
15 be talking about the Region Six, Eight and Ten boundary issue.  
16 So I'll let him do that.

17  
18 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chairman, I have one question. You  
19 said something about ATVs, and is there anything -- is there  
20 something that was said about snow machines?

21  
22 MR. MILLS: Well, snow machines are allowed.

23  
24 MR. TAGAROOK: Oh, okay.

25  
26 MR. MILLS: And so that's really not -- not really a  
27 problem right now, so -- it was the ATVs use in the summer, and  
28 the use of park lands, so this legislation that's going through  
29 right now is -- it's taken ten years or so, is an agreement  
30 that works out that problem to both sides satisfaction.

31  
32 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah, the people in the legislature  
33 should realize that an ATV doesn't weigh tons.

34  
35 MR. MILLS: Yeah.

36  
37 MR. LONG: Yeah, let me ask you, what's your -- what is  
38 your real definition for an ATV?

39  
40 MR. MILLS: Boy, I'm not sure what the legal  
41 description is. I think there's probably some -- if I remember  
42 right -- Steve, do you want to fill in on that?

43  
44 MR. LONG: Is it .....

45  
46 MR. MILLS: Is there a weight limit? I think there's  
47 some weights involved.

48  
49 MR. ULVI: Mr. Chairman, part of the -- within this  
50

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agreement, the definition of an ATV is a six or eight-wheel off-road vehicle that weighs 1200 pounds empty or 2,000 pounds loaded. So it takes into account the six and eight-wheel Argos that are used in Anaktuvuk Pass.

5

6 MR. LONG: Yeah, so it .....

7

8 MR. ULVI: But would not include three-wheelers or four-wheelers.

10

11 MR. LONG: Oh, okay. Most of the ATVs that they use I know at Anaktuvuk are like you mentioned six and eight wheeler, but they've also got these four-wheel ATVs that's got four-wheel drive and has as much power, but weigh -- but the weight of it is lighter.

16

17 MR. ULVI: That's right.

18

19 MR. LONG: And they carry as much load.

20

21 MR. ULVI: That's right. The way the agreement, if it comes to pass and becomes legislation, would be that all-terrain vehicles that are smaller than those six or eight-wheeled vehicles under 2,000 could be considered to be used by the Secretary of the Interior if it's shown that they have no more impact than the larger ATVs, .....

27

28 MR. LONG: Uh-huh. They .....

29

30 MR. ULVI: ..... and I think you would agree the -- probably a four-wheel drive four-wheeler would have less impact than a (Indiscernible, simultaneous speech) or larger .....

33

34 MR. LONG: Will you -- then would you consider a four-wheel ATV as a legal all-terrain vehicle? A legal.

36

37 MR. ULVI: In the purposed of that agreement, they could be used.

39

40 MR. MILLS: Yes.

41

42 MR. ULVI: Right. If that analysis is made that they have less impact. The same or less impact than the ones I described.

45

46 MR. LONG: Uh-huh. Okay.

47

48 MR. ULVI: Yeah, they could be in Anaktuvuk.

49

50

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1 MR. LONG: Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Any questions for Dave here or his  
4 staff? Like he said, we will be talking some more with them,  
5 and I want to make sure I get with Steve about the last. Thank  
6 you.

7

8 MR. MILLS: Thank you. It's a pleasure to be here.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. This is a guy I like to question  
11 up coming up next about our caribou. Where in the world are  
12 they? Geoff Carroll.

13

14 MR. LONG: Yeah, what happened to them?

15

16 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Geoff's a good guy to get to know, Ray.  
17 You can call him up and ask him where is -- where are the  
18 animals.

19

20 MR. LONG: If they all disappear, he'll find it for  
21 you.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah. If he can't, we're in big  
24 trouble.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Go ahead Geoff.

27

28 MR. CARROLL: I'm Geoff Carroll. I'm the Alaska area  
29 wildlife biologist. Yeah, I'm surprised you put me on the  
30 agenda, working for the State and all, but I do have a few  
31 things I'd like to talk about, so I'll take advantage of it.

32

33 What I -- I guess the first thing is the moose  
34 population on the Colville River has really taken a decline  
35 during the last two years. Kind of my -- I go and count the  
36 moose every spring and April and then I go again usually in  
37 late October and count them again, see how many bulls there are  
38 compared to how many cows and things like that. And since --  
39 between 1991 and '94 the number of moose in the areas that I  
40 count -- I don't count the entire population every year. I  
41 have certain trend areas that I count every year so that I can  
42 look at the -- whether the trend is up or down or whatever, but  
43 and basically what I count is the main Colville River, the  
44 Aaktuvuk River and the Chandler River. And between 1991 and  
45 1994, the number of moose that I've counted in there have  
46 declined from 717 moose down to 407 moose. That's a decline of  
47 43%. And that's not good.

48

49 But what's even worse is the last two years, in '92 and

50

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1- or in '93 and '94, when I've done counts during the fall, the percentage of calves in the population has dropped from like 22% calves and 24% calves in 1991 and '92 to only 5% and 4% calves in '93 and '94, so we're having almost no calf survival in there for some reason. We're not getting any recruitment, nothing added to the population.

7

8 So I have submitted a proposal to the Alaska Board of Game to change the seasons in there in order to kind of take the pressure off the moose as much as we can. I designed the proposal to have as little effect as possible on the -- on the local subsistence hunters, particularly the Nuiqsut hunters. And although this kind of goes on a little more with the explanation of what's going to happen there, but it's probably easier to look at if you go to the second page, and under the summary, and it has under there just the proposed changes, and this is what's going to change with this new proposal if it passes.

19

20 The cow season will be -- at this -- the way the old regulations were, basically we had a wide open season from the first of August to the end of March. You could take any sex, any size -- any size of bull. You could take cows or any size of bull. I want to change that so that you can only take cows during the month of August.

26

27 And we also have a -- we've had a regulation in place for some time. It's called a controlled use area in there, and you cannot use airplanes to hunt during the month of August, so that really restricts the number of people that are coming in there. It basically limits it, you know, to the people that run boats up from Nuiqsut, and hunt during August. There is a little bit of a loophole in the law where people can fly into Umiat and take boats from Umiat to hunt, and there are a couple of people that do that, too.

36

37 So that will be one change. You'll only be able to take cows during August.

39

40 So -- and then another change in the regulation is after September 1st, you'll only be able to take bulls that have antlers that are greater than 50-inch antlers. That's basically -- we're limiting the -- we're trying to, you know, like I say, take the pressure off the population, so we're limiting the number of bulls that will be killed, and one way to do that is say you can only take the real big ones. So, you know, a lot of the real big ones like that are getting beyond 48 I mean, when they get real big, into the 60-inch range, they're usually kind of beyond -- they're starting to move out

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of the breeding age. And so we're trying to keep the younger, more vigorous bulls in the population.

3

4 So the resident season, that means anyone who is an Alaskan resident, will be reduced from August 1st to March 31st, which is what it is now. We're going to reduce that to August 1st to December 31st. So we're eliminating -- I mean, in this proposal we're talking about eliminating the season from January 1st to March 31st. And the reason I want to do that is because we want to reduce the number of cows that are harvested as much as possible, and after the moose lose their antlers in the spring, I think it will be very hard for people to tell -- I mean, it doesn't make much sense to have a bulls only regulation when you can't tell -- during the time when you can't tell bulls from the cows. So anyway that's why we've proposed to do away from -- with that spring hunt.

17

18 Non-residents, their season will be reduced from September 1st through December 31st to only a ten-day season. It will just be from September 5th to September 15th, so they've had their season shortened the most.

22

23 Okay. I think that kind of sums up the changes that I'm proposing.

25

26 You know, the benefits hopefully will -- the number of cows that are killed will be greatly reduced, you know, and the major problem with the population now is the calf production and survival. And, you know, so it's obvious that we need to maintain as many cows in the population as possible, you know, to produce calves and try to rebuild the population.

32

33 Now, the reason we're limiting the number -- trying to reduce the number of bulls harvested is we don't -- we don't have many bulls coming into the population at this point. The calves aren't surviving, and so we don't have any bulls being added to it, so, you know, if this goes on for four or five years, we're going to have very few bulls in the population, so we need to maintain some bulls in there for breeding purposes, too.

41

42 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chairman?

43

44 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Harry.

45

46 MR. BROWER: Geoff, I have a question for you. To reduce the -- you said the recruitment or the calf survival, wouldn't you just take out the non-resident hunt for like a couple years until the population comes up again, and then

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re-open it at that time, or is that too much trouble to get into?

3

4 MR. CARROLL: Well, there's lots of ways to look at it, I guess, you know, and I tried to be fair about it. I tried to set it up so that, you know, all the user groups were giving up something, you know, and -- but -- and I tried to set it up so that the local subsistence hunters were giving up the least. I mean, most Nuiqsut hunters do their hunting in August or at least they have that option. They can do their hunting during August, and I've tried to leave that season almost completely alone so that it's pretty much unrestricted there.

13

14 Like I say, I did -- I set it up so that the non-resident hunters are -- you know, they're going from a three-month season to a ten-day season. They're taking quite a bit they're giving up quite a bit.

18

19 And, you know, the other thing is that there are some guides that have worked in that area for 20 years, you know, and they run good operations, you know. They go in and take a limited number of moose, and, you know, they always report and they -- you know, they work pretty closely with the community at Anaktuvuk Pass. You know, they work through there quite a bit. And I know that if, you know, suddenly -- you know, they've got clients set up, you know, for next year and all that sort of thing. And I know that if we cut the season off completely, they would show up in force at the Board of Game meeting, and I -- you know, and I wouldn't want to see that happen. I mean, I -- that's okay for them to show up. I just think that if they -- if they go to the Board of Game meeting and feel like they've really been treated poorly that, you know, they would ask for everything back, you know, whereas they might accept, you know a big reduction like this and still figure they can have some clients, but not as many. So that was my thinking in that.

37

38 You know, it might get all changed around by the time it gets to the Board of Game, so .....

40

41 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Yeah. Thanks, Geoff. Frank and Ken Ray.

43

44 MR. LONG: Let me explain a little bit about this August. In the past it used to be from September 1st till March 31. The Village of Nuiqsut had requested to the Board of Game, I think it was in 1974 or 1975, to put in August as the opening season for the reason that we as local people would be able to hunt without the interference of sport hunters or

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aircraft. And it is quite good. But we still have a problem of aircraft that flies out there, and the sport hunters that go out there.

4

5 And we in our community go do our hunting not on the day or the beginning of August 1st. What we try to do in the past few years, due to our whaling activities that comes in September, we try to utilize most of August, but the majority of our people are hunting in September when they're nice and fat and tender at that time.

11

12 The only reason why we requested August is to get away from all this activity that takes place while we're doing our hunt. At most times in the whole -- in the whole season, we end up with not even one moose. And it kind of scares me to hear this word "decline".

17

18 A week and a half ago, there was a whole bunch of young boys that went upriver looking for some guy that was stranded and broke down. And in the Itkillik and part of the Colville, they indicated that there is a lot more moose than they ever seen before. I think the reason for this is when there is no aircraft activity, then they'll show. What I'm assuming is during our hunt in August and September, is that due to air craft that flies and hovers or circles around the moose are chasing them over either to the Kuparuk River or the Siksikpuk River, which is not very far from the Colville. And there is just as much nourishment over there as there is in the Colville.

30

31 We as moose hunters, caribou hunters, where we do all the majority of subsistence hunting, at most times end up with no catch at all, although we have August as our opening season. And it kind of scares me to see this word "decline". Where did they go? Where did 310 moose go when last year there was only three moose harvested?

37

38 MR. CARROLL: Well, I mean, that's a very good question, and I don't know the entire answer to it. There's a lot of possibilities, and, you know, kind of the first thing a person kind of looks at is, I mean, there are rapidly expanding wolf populations, .....

43

44 MR. LONG: Uh-huh. Yeah.

45

46 MR. CARROLL: ..... and bear populations all along the Colville River, and we could have a big predation problem here.

49

50

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1 MR. LONG: Uh-huh.

2

3 MR. CARROLL: And so, I mean, that's kind of the first  
 thing that occurs to me. But there's other possibilities, too,  
 you know. I mean, there's -- and I'm going to be looking at  
 all these things this year. One of them -- well, I'll just  
 say, kind of -- the research, kind of my strategy for research  
 on trying to figure out what's going on there is the first  
 thing we're going to do is we're going to do an area-wide  
 census this spring. Like I say, usually I count certain trend  
 areas to see if it looks like they're increasing or decreasing,  
 but once every several years we fly absolutely every drainage  
 on the North Slope and see just how many moose there are, to  
 make sure that, you know, it's not just a matter of the ones  
 that I'm counting in this area have moved over into another  
 area. We fly all the areas so that we can compare that to the  
 last time we did a full census. So that will give me a better  
 idea just exactly, you know, what we have as far as the  
 population, although, you know, I'm pretty confident that there  
 are fewer moose than there were.

21

22 You know, another guy that's -- Billy Patkatuk, he  
 makes long trips out of Wainwright. He's called me the last  
 two years and said in the Upper Colville River he's not seen  
 nearly as many moose along there as he's seen in the past.

26

27 But, you know, another possibility is that that area's  
 become over-grazed. You know, there's been a relatively high  
 moose population in there for -- a good, steady population for  
 20 years in there, and that's really unusual for a moose  
 population. Usually they go way up and they go way down,  
 depending upon the amount of browse they have to eat in there.  
 And so I'm going to get a browse expert in there, a guy that  
 has looked at moose habitat a lot and can tell me if it is  
 over-grazed or not. If that's the case, if they are, you know,  
 36 if they're not getting enough food, then in a lot of times  
 the cows come through winter in poor shape and they produce  
 poor -- weak calves, and the calves die right away.

39

40 MR. LONG: Uh-huh. Yeah.

41

42 MR. CARROLL: And so that's one thing I'm going to look  
 at.

44

45 Another thing is just pregnancy rate, see if for some  
 reason the cows aren't getting pregnant. See, I've been doing  
 the counts in the fall, and that's when already the numbers are  
 real low, you know. Usually you expect over-winter die off,  
 you don't expect them to .....

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1  
2 MR. LONG: Yeah.

3  
4 MR. CARROLL: ..... die in the summer. So there are  
methods that you can -- well, the method that is used is you go  
along and find a cow moose and collect a couple turds from her,  
and then you can take those in the laboratory and have them  
examined, and they can say whether that cow is pregnant or not,  
so we're going to be kind of doing a pregnancy test on the herd  
this spring.

11  
12 Another thing, I want to be there during calving and  
just see what's going on. Are these cows having calves, or --  
you know, and if they are having calves, what's happening to  
them. Are the bears coming along and just eating them all up  
or what's the story.

17  
18 I tried to do that last spring, but it just turned out  
that the same week the moose were calving, we were calving. We  
were down in Anchorage having a baby, so I kind of missed it.  
I didn't get there until three weeks after the calving period,  
and so by that time -- but already after three weeks, there  
were -- there was only like 11% calves in the population, and  
it should be up around 30 or 40% at that time. So I -- but I  
still didn't answer that question, you know, were they being  
born, or are they just being killed real soon after birth.

27  
28 So I'm going to be looking at all these things, but  
and of in the meantime what I'd like to do with this proposal  
is just take the human hunting pressure off the moose, you  
know, reduce the human hunting pressure for a couple year so we  
can figure out what's going on.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Ray, you had a question?

35  
36 MR. LONG: Let me -- let me finish. ....

37  
38 MR. R. KOONUK: Yeah.

39  
40 MR. LONG: ..... Let me finish my statement here.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

43  
44 MR. LONG: I agree. I agree with your proposal here,  
which is I think will work out. But I would say that if the  
sport hunters or the non-resident season which would be only  
seven days, that they do have big meetings in Fairbanks or  
Anchorage, and -- on caribou and moose or any other wildlife.  
At the meeting that I listened to not too long ago, I think it  
50

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was a month ago or so, was on caribou, and the statement was why is it that we non-residents of the North Slope is not hunting and these natives can subsist. They're not thinking really good. And a bunch of sport hunters, they just look for a decoration for their home.

6  
7 MR. CARROLL: In other words, what -- is there a question? I .....

9  
10 MR. LONG: Yeah, it -- it is kind of obvious for a person like me that's understanding what's going on.

12  
13 MR. CARROLL: Uh-huh.

14  
15 MR. LONG: For a person that's outside, 1,000, 10,000 miles away comes out here and says, "Why can't we subsist like these guys are subsisting?" The reason that I'm saying this, they don't subsist. All they're there is for the antler.

19  
20 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I get it.

21  
22 MR. LONG: A piece bone that's useless.

23  
24 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I -- yeah, really.

25  
26 MR. LONG: They don't eat that bone, we do.

27  
28 MR. CARROLL: Uh-huh. Well, yeah, they're not my favorite type of people either, but they are .....

30  
31 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Let me ask you, before Ray asks his question, it's kind of related to what Frank is saying, the proposal's going before the State Board?

34  
35 MR. CARROLL: The State Board of Game, yeah.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ITTA: The State Board of Game, .....

38  
39 MR. LONG: Yeah, I like your proposal.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... and the meetings are going to happen in Anchorage or Fairbanks or where -- where does Nuiqsut get its chance for input to counteract the sport hunter point of view?

45  
46 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Boy, you kind of caught me with my pants down on that one. It's either in Fairbanks or Anchorage.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Uh-huh.

50

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1  
2 MR. CARROLL: I was planning on having a public meeting  
3 in Nuiqsut, and I've been .....

4  
5 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

6  
7 MR. CARROLL: ..... trying to line up with their .....

8  
9 CHAIRMAN ITTA: All right.

10  
11 MR. CARROLL: ..... city council meeting, except it  
12 got .....

13  
14 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Good.

15  
16 MR. CARROLL: ..... the last one got cancelled, so I  
17 plan on going over and, you know, making a .....

18  
19 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Frank, .....

20  
21 MR. CARROLL: ..... presentation at the village.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Keep him to his word.

24  
25 MR. CARROLL: Well, I'd love to do it. I've just got  
26 to figure out -- got to figure out the .....

27  
28 MR. LONG: See me up to .....

29  
30 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, just got to figure out a time when.  
31 You know, this week didn't work, and the week before I was  
32 scheduled to go over, but they postponed the meeting, and so if  
33 you .....

34  
35 MR. LONG: Uh-huh. Yeah. I .....

36  
37 MR. CARROLL: ..... happen to know when the next .....

38  
39 MR. LONG: I heard about that.

40  
41 MR. CARROLL: ..... when the next council meeting is,  
42 I'll sure be there.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Good. Ray?

45  
46 MR. R. KOONUK: Yeah. Could you repeat your first  
47 statement about where you were studying these moose, the  
48 population of the moose?

49  
50

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1 MR. CARROLL: Where studying them?  
2  
3 MR. R. KOONUK: Yeah. I mean, where -- is it  
Anaktuvuk, Colville?  
5  
6 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, it's the .....

7  
8 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Canning?  
9  
10 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. We don't have a map that shows  
right here, but it's the .....

12  
13 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Right here.  
14  
15 MR. CARROLL: Basically the Colville River and its  
tributaries as well.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN ITTA: All the waters lining into the .....

19  
20 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, this is the Colville River right  
along here, and so my sample areas are this area between the  
mouth of the Anaktuvuk River and the Killik River. I count the  
moose in there. And then the ones on the Anaktuvuk River and  
the Chandler River.  
25  
26 MR. R. KOONUK: Is that the migration route there for  
the moose or .....

28  
29 MR. BROWER: Just the .....

30  
31 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, the -- these moose do travel around  
a lot more than most moose. They're kind of -- they're  
movement pattern is in the spring as soon as the snow starts  
going off, they spread out over the North Slope and up into the  
foothills, and they graze a lot of this area. In the winter,  
as the snow gets deeper, they tend to move down into the river  
bottoms where there's good willow growth, and kind of -- later  
they'll -- the later in the winter it gets, the more of them  
you'll find in the bottoms of the rivers. I do my fall surveys  
the end of October. There's about half as many moose as there  
are in there by April. By April almost of the moose .....

42  
43 MR. R. KOONUK: Well, since you're studying the moose,  
did you ever go further northwest, because there's some moose  
out there that are running around and .....

46  
47 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, that's .....

48  
49 MR. R. KOONUK: ..... you know, we have -- we're having  
50

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a different year, you know, with caribou. They're migrating -- thousands of caribous is wandering right around Point Hope, and that's, you know, a strange year this year.

4

5 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Uh-huh.

6

7 MR. R. KOONUK: And I wonder if the moose, if they've gone .....

9

10 MR. CARROLL: You're thinking maybe they've moved down.

11

12 MR. R. KOONUK: ..... further northwest and over here a way, you know.

14

15 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Well, that's one thing I'll be doing this spring. I'll fly every drainage on the North Slope that has a patch of willows on it, you know, looking for moose. I'll fly the Itkillik River, the Kigalik, the Kuparuk, you know, we'll hit all of those, and that will give me -- you know, that will be kind of the final answer on this, you know, what's the status of the moose population, if they have just, you know -- the strange thing is .....

23

24 MR. R. KOONUK: Well, the reason why I ask is that we haven't seen very much moose last summer.

26

27 MR. CARROLL: Uh-huh.

28

29 MR. R. KOONUK: Probably I think one or two, you know, was caught, and nothing here.

31

32 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Yeah. And, you know, in addition to that, they do -- other people do counts over in this area, the Fish & Wildlife service people do moose counts over in here, and the moose populations all across the North Slope are down considerably, and there's very poor calf survival all through the North Slope, and even, you know, a lot of the Natak drainages and even down around Nome there. All the moose populations, for some reason there's just kind of a northern part of this, it's kind of common in the whole northern part of the State, the moose populations are down. But I -- they're kind of worse on the -- they've gone down the most on the Colville River.

44

45 MR. LONG: It's common knowledge.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ITTA: It's the ozone layer.

48

49 (Laughter)

50

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1  
2 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Well, it's got me kind of baffled.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN ITTA: That's good. Yeah. Any more comments  
5 for Geoff?  
6  
7 MR. R. KOONUK: Mr. Chairman.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Ray?  
10  
11 MR. R. KOONUK: As far as, you know, counting the  
12 moose, what else do you do besides count the moose or .....  
13  
14 MR. CARROLL: With the moose?  
15  
16 MR. R. KOONUK: I mean, any animals like caribou or --  
17 do you take samples or .....  
18  
19 MR. CARROLL: I'm mostly just an animal counter, you  
20 know. I keep track of movements and count the population is my  
21 primary job. You know, we do capture caribou and put radio  
22 collars on them. We put some satellite collars on and some VHF  
23 collars so that we can track their movements around the North  
24 Slope. When we capture an animal like that, we usually go  
25 ahead and weigh it and take a blood sample and things like that  
26 we can check them for disease or anything like that. We've  
27 collected some caribou and collected samples for contaminant  
28 studies, you know, to see if they have cadmium or things that  
29 we don't want to be eating in them. And also I've gone around  
30 and collected samples like that from moose that hunters have  
31 taken. Yeah, other than that, I'm mostly just a .....  
32  
33 MR. R. KOONUK: Just count.  
34  
35 MR. CARROLL: ..... just a counter.  
36  
37 MR. R. KOONUK: Maybe I'll find somebody who can  
38 analyze .....  
39  
40 MR. LONG: Let me ask an additional question. When you  
41 do your counting, do you do it by air? Mostly by air or .....  
42  
43 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, most of the count.  
44  
45 MR. LONG: You know, .....  
46  
47 MR. CARROLL: Just since .....  
48  
49 MR. LONG: ..... when we go up river and do our moose  
50

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Hunting, I think one reason we can't find a moose is they've  
got hide outs up there, like Quonset hut, and they go to them.

3  
4 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. It's hard to see them from the air  
Even sometimes, but it's easier .....

6  
7 MR. LONG: Maybe what -- how you do the counting if a  
moose is in one of those.

9  
10 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Well, I'm sure we don't get every  
one of them, but it's -- compared to other places, you know, we  
have it pretty easy. I can imagine how it is trying to count  
moose in a thick forest. That's pretty .....

14  
15 MR. LONG: Yeah.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Mountains, thick forest, yeah.

18  
19 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.

20  
21 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chairman?

22  
23 MR. CARROLL: It's pretty tough.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay, Geoff. I want to try to keep  
moving. Terry.

27  
28 MR. TAGAROOK: Just I like the proposal also, and I  
agree with Harry, that if you take the non-resident season out  
until the population is healthy enough for non-residents to  
come back in. And I have one question for Frank, and, Frank,  
is any -- do you have any sightings of musk ox in your area?

33  
34 MR. LONG: Oh, man.

35  
36 MR. TAGAROOK: Maybe that might be another problem,  
maybe the musk ox are driving the moose away.

38  
39 MR. LONG: That's an issue of its own, because -- those  
musk ox.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN ITTA: We're going to have a musk ox report.  
We'll get to that. I see on our agenda we do have an item.

44  
45 MR. R. KOONUK: We have one more. Mr. Chairman?

46  
47 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Right. Jim?

48  
49 MR. AVEOGANNA: We're talking about the moose and all

50

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that. Always any movement like moose and them caribou and all that stuff, so I want to check with Geoff about this one here. When you check through the areas and all that, what time of the day, what kind of weather were you coming around through the areas where you might be that source and like that.

6

7 MR. CARROLL: Well, when I do moose counts, I usually go and base out of Umiat, you know, we can -- I have a cabin there and I can -- I just sit there and wait for a perfect day. You know, I wait for a nice sunny day. I don't usually do those in anything but real good weather. I wait for good visibility conditions.

13

14 MR. AVEOGANNA: Okay. You've been contact by the mention about the airplanes and all that around the areas.

16

17 MR. CARROLL: Uh-huh.

18

19 MR. AVEOGANNA: Okay. Make sure that they're coming through, fly around to have the sport hunters around. That's how they do.

22

23 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, that's -- it's always a tough one trying to -- I mean, there are a lot of people in the State and lots of airplanes, and, you know, and not all of them are perfect, law-abiding citizens, and, you know, it's a hard thing to control, those airplanes. We have very few enforcement officers on the North Slope, and that's always a problem up here. And -- I mean, I wish we could -- Frank was saying that they do see planes come in there in August at times, and that's definitely against the law to use an airplane to hunt moose in August. And, you know, I wish that we could catch everyone that does that, but we can't. It's just real big country, and always a chance somebody could sneak in there.

35

36 MR. LONG: Use a dog.

37

38 MR. AVEOGANNA: There's a lot of these sport hunters and all that stuff though, they're moving out to a move now. And before that, we know about what we hunt, and we always know that, so they're after them. And then when they start talking about the moose and what not, they make more money. The sport hunters, they don't even tell the -- let us know where they're going to fly around, like with F.A.A., and for sure that they always flying people that have to have a permit and all that, use and everything, and there's something they may not report of where they're going to fly on a day. Because all these people that F.A.A., they're supposed to know exactly what airplanes are going through that area. That's how they are,

50

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Because I travelled myself in my young days, and still is right now if I have to, and there's -- me and my wife were travelling up on the Tuvak River all the way from way pretty close to -- took the kid (ph) all that stuff, and pretty damn (ph) near the Colville River. Yes, we found an airplane, and make a report of it, and get the number, and then advised that there was a small airplanes, they landed on the Colville River -- I mean that Anaktuvuk (ph) there, and I found out when I checked with 9- in town in Anchorage, no records of flier asking to fly in that area. That's how they do. So we have to make sure that all these have a permit and all that in order to fly around the sport hunters. Sooner or later, that's what we're talking -- we're going to talk a lot about it on the areas, and we know the animals, and the time of the year. So the weather's changing, there's a lot of action throughout some of the animals that we have right now, because all these elders -- I'm not talking as an elder, but -- so you might as well understand, because I'm an elder and I'm a real mover. About 205 miles a day sometimes, and back to our village. There's a lot of changes of this animals in no time on account of the airplanes flying around. And the weather. As for the weather. So I'd like to see more about that, all these guys got to have a permit like we have, like the Eskimos in those days. I don't go out polar bear hunting without a permit or anything like that. So I don't want to talk about it, it's not -- we have it arranged for polar bear. I'm going to talk about it. And we're on the moose right now.

28

29 I have a place around that area up there where you check, that's the land that goes through, what, about five years or so. All the way through that and halfway to -- down at the mouth of the Anaktuvuk. You've been around, but there's a lot of changes right now in our areas. Where they migrate and the weather's changed quite also. Rains in the fall time. And all these animals knows -- they know where to go and they know where to eat. Where they're going to feed. Once the ice on the flat and all that. How they move right to where they know, and start feeding themselves again. That's how they operate.

40

41 Weather. When it's hot, when you're close by -- come close to the Brooks Range, you see nothing if the weather is hot. Cool out, they come out. There's a lot of animals.

44

45 I know that you look around with the airplanes and try to keep a count of the animal and like moose, you fly over, over the clouds. I knew that. I asked you one time how you count these animals like caribou and moose and all that. So you take care of every bit of animals around when you use the

50

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instruments from that area and find out exactly how much  
 missing -- how much they're plentiful or something like that.

3

4 You know, all these instruments, on the count -- during  
 the time you guys, all these instruments. You know, one time I  
 6- you guys fly in the area, and then I got to make sure and  
 check it. That's why I count you guys, and find out that you  
 guys are looking for the caribou with a radio.

9

10 MR. CARROLL: Uh-huh.

11

12 MR. AVEOGANNA: So do you have any -- that way for uses  
 of instruments to contact the caribou what you have collars on,  
 any animals? Is it improving?

15

16 MR. CARROLL: Well, you know, in recent years, we've  
 been using the satellite radio collars that, you know, they  
 send a signal up to a satellite and then .....

19

20 MR. AVEOGANNA: Uh-huh.

21

22 MR. CARROLL: ..... back down to the earth, so we don't  
 even have to fly out in an airplane and find them. So that's  
 24 I mean, that's been an improvement that's made it easier to  
 track movements of caribou. For instance, you know, last year  
 when all the caribou kind of moved off the coastal plain, you  
 know, just suddenly there weren't any caribou around any of the  
 villages and we really didn't know where they were, except that  
 we could just look and see where our satellite collars are, and  
 they were all up there between Umiat and Anaktuvuk Pass, and so  
 they flew up there, and sure enough they were -- thousands of  
 Teshekpuk Lake caribou were all up there in the foothills, you  
 know, so it made it a lot easier to find where they were.

34

35 So, yeah, you know, we get new technology and we try to  
 use it.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Geoff, I'm going to stop you right  
 here at this point. I'm going to exert my new found authority  
 as acting chair of this council and declare a break for ten  
 minutes right here.

42

43 MR. LONG: Let me make one more comment.

44

45 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Then we'll get back into -- we'll start  
 with Frank when we -- when our break finishes.

47

48 MR. LONG: Real short before the break.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Go ahead.

2

3 MR. LONG: What I'm going to say is, you know, Benjamin  
Franklin's got more voice .....

5

6 MR. R. KOONUK: Very good.

7

8 MR. LONG: ..... than a subsistence hunter that hunt  
for his nutritional need.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. We'll take a ten-minute break  
here at this time. Be back in ten minutes.

13

14 (Off record)

15

16 (On record)

17

18 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Go ahead and call our recess back to  
order. And I'd like for the record to note that our member  
from Point Lay, Gordon Upickson, is here now. Welcome, Gordon,  
I'd see you can make it.

22

23 MR. UPICKSON: My apology to the Board. We had 100  
miles an hour head wind coming in from Fairbanks.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ITTA: That's quite all right. We're glad to  
see you here. You know everybody here just about. Gordon's  
been a member with us here since we began. So, Gordon, just  
for your sake, we're down to item on our agenda 6-A- .....

30

31 MR. BROWER: Two.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... 2. And Geoff was talking here,  
and we took a break, so we're going to go ahead and continue.  
We need to get as much done this evening as we can. And we're  
just going to try to keep moving along here, and I would ask  
you to just keep that in mind.

38

39 Also, I didn't note that our chairman, Fenton, would  
be chairing this. I'm the vice chair, and I'm just chairing this  
meeting during his absence, and he will be here in the morning.  
So .....

43

44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Oh, he will?

45

46 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Right. We'll get him -- we'll get him  
in here.

48

49 Okay. With that, Geoff, do you want to go ahead and

50

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continue?

2

3 MR. CARROLL: Okay. Are we done with moose? Anybody  
4 have any more questions?

5

6 CHAIRMAN ITTA: I think we're done with the update  
7 there.

8

9 UNIDENTIFIED: Gordon, we took care of the moose.

10

11 MR. CARROLL: This is a proposal to change the moose  
12 regulation that's being submitted to the State Board of Game,  
13 and I'm just kind of requesting you guys look it over and  
14 consider, you know, changing the Federal regulations around a  
15 little bit, too, so you can talk that over and decide what you  
16 want to do about it.

17

18 The next -- the other thing I wanted to talk about, and  
19 I want to keep this brief, but I'm going to bring up the bad  
20 word, I have to do it, musk ox.

21

22 MR. BROWER: Thank you, Geoff.

23

24 MR. CARROLL: But hopefully this will be .....

25

26 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Thank you.

27

28 MR. CARROLL: Did you get one?

29

30 MR. LONG: No.

31

32 MR. CARROLL: Oh, I'm sorry. Frank didn't get one.

33

34 What this is is we -- there's kind of a -- we found  
35 kind of an administrative route to change the -- to change the  
36 Tier II musk oxen hunt in Game Management Unit 26(B), that area  
37 between Nuiqsut and ANWR. The way that's set up now is there's  
38 a Tier II hunt where only -- where you're allowed to take two  
39 musk oxen, but they have to be taken on the east side of the  
40 Haul Road. It turns out that there is a provision in the  
41 original regulation that if we can come to an agreement between  
42 the North Slope Borough, Alaska Department of Fish & Game,  
43 we've been talking to ASNA about this, and the Village of  
44 Nuiqsut, where we can change that hunt to where we can take a  
45 total of five musk oxen in that area, and at least two of those  
46 musk oxen can be taken on the west side of the Haul Road, so we  
47 would be able to hunt that population that's real close to  
48 Nuiqsut there.

49

50

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1           And just kind of a history on this, when the -- when  
 2 the original regulation was written, it was written in such a  
 3 way that up to 15 musk oxen could be taken in that area, in  
 4 26(B) -- or in 26(B) and (C). Currently ten musk oxen are  
 5 taken in 26(C) through the Federal hunt, and then two more are  
 6 taken in the Tier II hunt, so if we can come -- you know, we  
 7 can come up with an agreement, to get the concerned people here  
 8 an agreement, we can add three more onto that hunt. And like I  
 9 say, it's been one of the big complaints in the past is, you  
 10 know, to hunt in that Tier II hunt, the poor people from  
 11 Nuiqsut had to travel clear over to the eastern side of 26(B),  
 12 and that's always been very inconvenient, so we're going to  
 13 change that, or we're working on changing that. And so that  
 14 they can be taken closer to town. And this is something that  
 15 doesn't need to be run through the Board of Game, it's just  
 16 kind of a matter of -- it's an open possibility, and we have to  
 17 come to an agreement on how to do it.

18

19           So, I don't know, you can just kind of figure that into  
 20 your equation in, you know, your other talks about musk ox  
 21 regulations, some things that are -- there is likely to be this  
 22 change made, so .....

23

24           CHAIRMAN ITTA: Any questions for Geoff? Did you have  
 25 a question?

26

27           MR. AVEOGANNA: Yeah. What I was going to say, I'm  
 28 going to be out of order, was we start talking about musk ox  
 29 right now. In the first place, we had to go on a break, and I  
 30 still had something to say about the moose. So that's out of  
 31 order, I'm going to be out of order here.

32

33           CHAIRMAN ITTA: I'd prefer to go ahead and get off the  
 34 musk ox first, and then we'll go ahead and continue your  
 35 question for Geoff. He'll give us the time to ask any  
 36 questions regarding anything else, and I'll give you the time  
 37 then.

38

39           MR. AVEOGANNA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

40

41           CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. I'd prefer to go ahead and focus  
 42 on this -- on the musk ox discussion. Go ahead, Ray?

43

44           MR. R. KOONUK: Yeah. You said 26(B), and so you have  
 45 an agreement that you're going to work out with the Borough,  
 46 Alaska -- or with Arctic Slope Native Association?

47

48           MR. CARROLL: Uh-huh (affirmative).

49

50

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1 MR. R. KOONUK: Why is -- what part is Point Hope? 23?  
2  
3 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, you're -- you guys are a long way  
4 from this area actually. That's the next area we need to work  
5 on as far as getting some reasonable musk ox regulations  
6 as .....  
7  
8 MR. R. KOONUK: Well, why are we far from -- what are  
9 you saying here, way out here, .....  
10  
11 MR. CARROLL: Oh, you want to know where 26(B) is?  
12  
13 MR. R. KOONUK: ..... because we have a lot of musk ox  
14 running around our area.  
15  
16 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.  
17  
18 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: If you'd turn to the map in your  
19 book?  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Would that be -- let me ask a question  
22 here first. Under the musk ox update by Steve, are you going  
23 to cover that same subject or not? Or are we just talking this  
24 proposed agreement right here, okay.  
25  
26 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, this is really just -- this hunt is  
27 all taking place on State land, and it's really an agreement  
28 between .....  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN ITTA: But I think -- yeah, Ray?  
31  
32 MR. R. KOONUK: You know, on this proposal here, it  
33 says North Slope Borough, and we're part of the North Slope  
34 Borough, and, you know, .....  
35  
36 MR. CARROLL: Yeah.  
37  
38 MR. R. KOONUK: ..... it wouldn't be fair.  
39  
40 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman? Couldn't we table the  
41 musk ox discussion until our chairman is here?  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Right.  
44  
45 MR. UPICKSON: Kaktovik is affected very much so .....  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.  
48  
49 MR. UPICKSON: ..... about the musk ox situation, and  
50

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I'd like our chairman to be here.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Good point.

4

5 MR. UPICKSON: He's quite well -- he knows the musk ox  
6 situation more so than any one of us on the Board. So we could  
7 table this, the musk ox discussion until he's here. I think  
8 we'd .....

9

10 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. So noted. That's a good point.  
11 And we'll go ahead and wait until Fenton gets here and we'll  
12 incorporate this draft discussion along with the discussion you  
13 have prepared, Steve, for tomorrow. So this portion of Geoff's  
14 report regarding the draft management plan I guess.

15

16 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. And it's .....

17

18 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah. Regarding musk ox, we can  
19 continue tomorrow as well as Steve's report there, 6-A-4.

20

21 MR. LONG: Yeah, I agree with that. That's .....

22

23 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, I didn't know how appropriate it is  
24 to talk about this. I mean, it's more of a State matter,  
25 but .....

26

27 CHAIRMAN ITTA: At least give us a chance to take a  
28 look at it, too, and probably .....

29

30 MR. LONG: Yeah, and would give us a chance to have a  
31 better review of .....

32

33 CHAIRMAN ITTA: All right.

34

35 MR. LONG: ..... this draft.

36

37 MR. CARROLL: One thing about it, with this Tier II  
38 hunt people from Barrow -- I mean, anybody's eligible to apply  
39 for this, but the people from Nuiqsut, because they're the  
40 closest to that area, they get a lot of points for being close  
41 to the resource. I know .....

42

43 MR. LONG: Yeah. The only problem with that Tier II  
44 thing is that we're so close to this -- to these animals, and  
45 they are surrounding us on both sides of the Colville River,  
46 and we're so unfortunate to get permit to even .....

47

48 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, well, that's what this is going to  
49 try to change. It's going to .....

50

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1  
2 MR. LONG: Uh-huh.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.  
5  
6 MR. CARROLL: ..... make it possible for you to get  
7 permits to that close population.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN ITTA: We'll go ahead and continue this  
10 discussion on the musk ox tomorrow.  
11  
12 Any -- you had a continuation. I'd ask you to keep it  
13 limited to briefly here. We've got to continue with our  
14 reports. Jim, you had a question for Geoff?  
15  
16 MR. AVEOGANNA: Okay. I've got a question for --  
17 considering about the moose, and how much information you can  
18 hand out to us about how dangerous they are, once you come up  
19 with them?  
20  
21 MR. CARROLL: Boy, I guess I don't have anything right  
22 now. I mean, after the incidents they've had in Anchorage this  
23 year, probably the Anchorage Fish & Game office has some  
24 good .....  
25  
26 MR. AVEOGANNA: Yes.  
27  
28 MR. CARROLL: ..... pointers on how dangerous moose  
29 are. I'll check with them and see if they have any good  
30 pamphlets on how to .....  
31  
32 MR. AVEOGANNA: All these -- excuse me. All these  
33 animals that we have up here on the Arctic Slope, what  
34 information we get from the elders in those days and still it's  
35 and I run into one musk ox -- I was driving the weasel,  
36 waiting for Gordon (ph) here yesterday, and there's two men  
37 besides me, two elders, older than me. And then we left that  
38 musk ox -- I better get out from that musk ox here. That  
39 moose. Action (ph), we went through the wood by the willows  
40 there and then that moose run. Started running. And that old  
41 man told us that once we let that moose run like that, there's  
42 going to be something happen towards our families. That  
43 letting a moose run like that. And it did. I might as well  
44 tell, a little discussion, that's true. My oldest sister was  
45 died in Anchorage after what's happened. After that old man  
46 was saying to us when we let that moose run. So we have to  
47 watch for it. Don't ever try to let those moose run like that.  
48 And he know -- in the same year, just about the same year, Al  
49 Natook's (ph) daughter was burned again. My sister was living  
50

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down at Lane Hotel. And then another thing, that old man, Abe Simmon's wife was run by the car. Hit by the car and she died right there. That's what happens. There's a lot of things that goes on in Anchorage area, somewhere like that, what reaction, on account of these moose.

6

7 So I'd like to hear from you, I'd like to hear that something like the dangers. That's something we've got to pass on to our young ones.

10

11 MR. CARROLL: Yeah. Of course, they present a real present and direct danger sometimes, too. They .....

13

14 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Thank you.

15

16 MR. LONG: Mr. Chairman.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Go ahead.

19

20 MR. LONG: Yeah, I'd like to make a statement on the incident that took place in Anchorage. It's -- really it's not unusual to any native that knows animal. We all know that when you go into an area where an animal feeds or breeds or has a daily life, if you put in place a structure, he'll come back later on and say, "This is my area which you've taken away from me." That's the first impression I thought of when that incident happened in Anchorage, because we as natives know that, you know, we don't try to go in and take their area, because later on they'll come back, regardless of how many years it takes. And they will put a claim to it, even though there's a structure or anything that's put up in that area. And if somebody happen to bother them, they're just like everybody else, they'll go after that person. I just want to make that statement.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Thank you, Frank. Thank you, Geoff.

38

39 MR. CARROLL: Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ITTA: We'll go ahead and go down to item A-3, A-3. BLM. Dave?

43

44 MR. YOKEL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Council members. My name is Dave Yokel. I'm with the Bureau of Land Management, Arctic District.

47

48 It's somewhat fortuitous that I was on the agenda right after Geoff, because I wanted -- one of the things I wanted to

50

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discuss with you was the moose situation in 26(A) that Geoff just mentioned. The proposal that Geoff presented to you was also presented on December 20th last year to the North Slope Borough's Fish & Game Management Committee. And that committee discussed it, and I believe they decided to support that proposal. So it occurred to me that if the Board of Game then passed that proposal, we might want to submit a similar proposal to the Federal Subsistence Board. The regulations for this area of 26(A) on moose are currently the same in both the State and the Federal regulations. If the Board of Game passes this proposal, and the Federal Subsistence Board does not act on a similar proposal, then they will be different again.

13

14 So if the Board of Game passes it, we can submit in June to the Federal Subsistence Board a similar proposal as a special action. The main difference between that and the proposal Geoff presented to you would be that it would not include anything for non-residents since individuals that are not residents of Alaska can obviously not qualify to hunt under Federal subsistence regulations.

21

22 This meeting today and tomorrow will be the only time that your Council will get together between now and June, so I thought it would be beneficial for you to have the opportunity to discuss it for the record, in case it does pass the State Board of Game, and a similar proposal is submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

30

31 MR. YOKELE: I mean, some of your members tonight have expressed support for Geoff's proposal, but that is for a State regulatory change, not for a Federal regulatory change.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ITTA: May I ask a question? On the North Slope Borough Fish & Game Management Committee, they recommended -- they're in concurrence with the proposal? Is that correct?

39

40 MR. YOKELE: To the best of my knowledge, that was the .....

42

43 CHAIRMAN ITTA: That .....

44

45 MR. YOKELE: ..... the consensus .....

46

47 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

48

49 MR. YOKELE: ..... consensus of that group. And Fenton,

50

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1 if he were here, could .....

2

3 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Right. That's what I was just going to  
4 say. I know Fenton .....

5

6 MR. YOKELE: ..... could concur with that.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... Fenton is probably really up to  
9 speed on this, and I was just writing down here that I need to  
10 discuss that with our Chairman. And I think you're right, we  
11 do need to -- we've tried to support the Wildlife Management  
12 Committee and their recommendations, and follow suit, so that  
13 also .....

14

15 MR. YOKELE: Harry also might require that.

16

17 MR. BROWER: Yes, we -- during that joint meeting,  
18 there was some discussion on that, and we acted on some  
19 proposals at that time, and it was part of that.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

22

23 MR. BROWER: They supported -- they acted on it and  
24 supported on it.

25

26 MR. YOKELE: Yes. Geoff was out of town that day.  
27 Where Peterson presented it to the Fish & Game Management  
28 Committee.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. I'll go ahead and -- I've got a  
31 note made here, and we'll talk with Fenton about that, and see  
32 where we can slip it in in here if we need to take any formal  
33 action at that time. But I think you're right. Okay.

34

35 MR. YOKELE: Well, I think it would be to your  
36 advantage, whether -- if you strongly agree or disagree with it  
37 do have that on record, so .....

38

39 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Uh-huh. Okay.

40

41 MR. YOKELE: ..... the Federal Subsistence Board can  
42 take that into consideration if it comes before them.

43

44 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, I have a question.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

47

48 MR. YOKELE: If you want to postpone that discussion,  
49 the only other thing I wanted to bring up was just -- do you

50

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Have something?

2

3 MR. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, may I ask .....

4

5 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Go ahead, Harry. I'm sorry.

6

7 MR. BROWER: Dave, while you're on the subject of this  
moose in the area of 26(A) now, what -- how much of this is --  
would be covered under Federal lands?

10

11 MR. YOKELE: If we can pull this one back down for a  
second, correct me if I'm wrong, Geoff, but it's -- the  
regulation affects the Colville River drainage, is it upstream  
from and including the Anaktuvuk, or .....

15

16 MR. CARROLL: Yes, this regulation was just written for  
all of 26(A). We didn't -- we got rid of all that complicated  
language about upstream of the Anaktuvuk and all that.

19

20 MR. YOKELE: Okay. Well, then it .....

21

22 MR. CARROLL: Tried to make it a more simple  
regulation.

24

25 MR. YOKELE: It would obvious include Federal NPRA, and  
there's some mixed Federal lands out here. I think there are  
actually more than what this map portrays here. I'm pretty  
sure there's a larger block in the Oolamnagavik River region of  
Federal land than this map shows, but it's kind of hard to keep  
up with the conveyances to the State and the regional  
corporations to know exactly where the Federal lands are, but  
if they're selected, actually they're not included under  
Federal regulations any more anyway. Is that right, Bill?

34

35 MR. KNAUER: That's correct.

36

37 MR. YOKELE: I think there's a larger block of  
unselected lands than what this shows, but it's really hard to  
keep up with them.

40

41 MR. LONG: Can I ask a question, Dave, while you're  
here? Would this include the National Park Service lands  
which a lot of those people have their -- do their subsistence?

44

45 MR. YOKELE: There's a little bit of Gates of the Arctic  
Park that is included in 26(A).

47

48 MR. LONG: Uh-huh.

49

50

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1 MR. YOKELE: Not a little bit, but .....

2

3 MR. LONG: Yeah.

4

5 MR. YOKELE: ..... a portion of the park is in 26(A).  
And they are currently included the Federal regulation I  
believe that covers the moose in this area.

8

9 MR. LONG: Does it also include the one in your area,  
off, 26(C)? (B)?

11

12 MR. CARROLL: The regulation that I've proposed only  
covers 26(A), but a very similar proposal was submitted for  
26(B) and (C) as well.

15

16 MR. LONG: Uh-huh.

17

18 MR. CARROLL: Because they're having the same problems  
in 26(A).

20

21 MR. LONG: Right. Right.

22

23 MR. YOKELE: I was not referring to anything outside of  
26(A).

25

26 MR. LONG: Okay.

27

28 MR. YOKELE: I'm not sure what the Arctic Refuge might  
have in mind.

30

31 MR. LONG: Uh-huh. Okay.

32

33 MR. YOKELE: The other subject that I just wanted to put  
in front of you tonight, Mr. Chairman, was that in December the  
State of Alaska officially opened the Dalton Highway to  
noncommercial traffic. And I don't have anything to discuss  
about it, but if the Council has any questions about that,  
questions for the BLM, then I would be glad to try and address  
those questions.

40

41 MR. BROWER: That's referring to the Haul Road?

42

43 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Uh-huh. Any questions for Dave  
regarding the Haul Road issue?

45

46 MR. BROWER: What kind of -- what areas are you going  
to be able to watch over -- excuse me, Mr. Chairman.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Go ahead. Sure. No, go ahead.

50

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1  
2 MR. BROWER: On the Haul Road, what kind of services  
are they going to be bring for like watching over traffic or  
anything like that? Or you have -- is BLM going to address any  
of those concerns if they are brought out?

6  
7 MR. YOKELE: Well, the actual traffic on the road would  
be a concern primarily of the State, because the highway itself  
is a State of Alaska right-of-way on the BLM lands. The BLM  
Arctic District does have a resource management plan for the  
corridor that was signed in 1991. And they have a recreation  
management plan that is kind of a subset of that to describe  
developments that might occur along the highway to handle  
campers and recreational users.

15  
16 MR. BROWER: Would any of those be within the -- within  
the North Slope, or are they all on the .....

18  
19 MR. YOKELE: The -- one suggested campground would be in  
the Galbraith Lake area, which is definitely in the North  
Slope Borough. That's the only one that I can recall at this  
time. The Chandalar Shelf area is in -- is called a  
development node in the over-all plan, and the idea is to keep  
development along the highway in -- concentrated in a few  
places as opposed to being one strip of disbursed businesses  
all up and down the road. And the Chandalar Shelf, which is in  
the North Slope Borough, is one of those areas, but I'm not  
sure of any recreational developments that BLM has planned  
there.

30  
31 MR. BROWER: Thank you.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Frank?

34  
35 MR. LONG: Mr. Chairman?

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Go ahead.

38  
39 MR. LONG: On the corridor of the Haul Road, on both  
sides of the road, there's limitations on hunting. Is that  
going to change?

42  
43 MR. YOKELE: There is no plan to change that at this  
time. The limitations are in State law primarily.

45  
46 MR. LONG: Uh-huh.

47  
48 MR. YOKELE: Well, I should -- one limitation is that  
it's illegal to use firearms within five miles .....

50

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1  
2 MR. LONG: Right.  
3  
4 MR. YOKELE: ..... of the Haul Road. There is no --  
5 there is to my knowledge no plan to change that at this time.  
6  
7 MR. LONG: Oh, okay.  
8  
9 MR. YOKELE: Another limitation is on the use of  
10 snowmobiles and four-wheelers. They're prohibited within five  
11 miles of the Haul Road for hunting.  
12  
13 MR. LONG: Yeah.  
14  
15 MR. YOKELE: And there's some rather more complex issues  
16 on using them for trapping, and I'm not sure if the State --  
17 I've heard some rumors that there's some ideas about changing  
18 that, at least for trapping.  
19  
20 MR. LONG: Okay.  
21  
22 MR. YOKELE: But I really can't give you particulars on  
23 what the State might do.  
24  
25 MR. LONG: Yeah. The reason I ask this question is  
26 that Nuiqsut has a real big concern on this a few years back  
27 when they were first -- the first proposal to open up the Haul  
28 Road for the public, and we had started off with one mile, and  
29 changed that to three. And what I was thinking of, really  
30 there was changes to be made. I think it will -- in my  
31 village, we have a big concern to the extent the limitation,  
32 for the -- only three mile.  
33  
34 MR. YOKELE: The -- all I can tell you for sure is that  
35 the BLM's regulations say that we -- in the matter of off-road  
36 vehicles, we can not have a policy that's any less stringent  
37 than that of the State.  
38  
39 MR. LONG: Uh-huh. Okay.  
40  
41 MR. YOKELE: And so ours will at least be as stringent  
42 as those of the State.  
43  
44 MR. LONG: Well, I would assume that you would have  
45 public hearings if the -- if there was anything to be made with  
46 the communities that -- near to the affected area.  
47  
48 MR. YOKELE: Well, the recreation area management plan  
49 did discuss a less stringent snowmobile use regulation, but it  
50

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was only -- and that was part of a public process. It was only to be implemented though if the State were to legalize the use of snowmobiles.

4

5 MR. LONG: Uh-huh. Okay. Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Any more questions? Jim?

8

9 MR. AVEOGANNA: Yes. If we were to understand quite well, and many of our people understand quite well as to what we're getting at now between the BLM and Federal. We've got to know exactly what the way we have to use the Federal lands on the area. There's something that we've got some people on -- like President Clinton. I know he's got some plans somewhere in line. Use of any of these weapons or whatnot. There's a lot of ways what he's getting at is for some criminals and whatnot, what's going to be the law or something on the Federal land. We're also going to be included. We've got to work things right. We have to listen to the people in Arctic Slope, in our area, see what they have to say. Got to be on the good land and long-term planning for that. Once -- before this gets to be the law. Maybe the BLM close the area. The BLM are the ones acting on what -- after they put up something like that. They're still acting on to help the -- our area in our region here. There's a lot of it to be done before somebody get in trouble. Okay.

27

28 MR. YOKEL: Okay.

29

30 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman?

31

32 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Go ahead, Gordon.

33

34 MR. UPICKSON: Was not the legality of opening the Haul Road to noncommercial traffic questioned by the North Slope in courts regarding how Hickel opened the -- the Hickel Highway  
35 .....

38

39 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah.

40

41 MR. UPICKSON: ..... noncommercial traffic? Did not the North Slope Borough have a position on that issue? Is not this -- is there a court proceeding going on about this? Maybe somebody here is more familiar .....

45

46 MR. LONG: Yes.

47

48 MR. UPICKSON: ..... about the issue?

49

50

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1 MR. LONG: Yes.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah. Frank is aware of it. Go ahead  
4 and let -- that's still ongoing, correct?

5

6 MR. LONG: Yes, it's still on-going.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah. So in spite of that, I mean, the  
9 judge refused to issue an injunction to stop traffic, and for  
10 all intents and purposes people -- it is open right now, .....

11

12 MR. YOKELE: Sir, .....

13

14 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... even though the challenge is  
15 still on-going in court.

16

17 MR. YOKELE: My understanding back in November was that  
18 the judge that was hearing a case at the time said there was no  
19 legal reason to keep the Haul Road closed .....

20

21 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Right.

22

23 MR. YOKELE: ..... to noncommercial traffic, and so the  
24 State then opened it in early December.

25

26 MR. LONG: The nonlegal crowd (ph) would be Nuiqsut.

27

28 MR. YOKELE: I don't know if there's -- if the North  
29 Slope Borough and I think TCC also was opposed to opening the  
30 road, I don't know if there's been continued litigation since  
31 that point or not.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ITTA: A good question now, and I'd ask what  
34 time does our meeting start tomorrow, nine?

35

36 MR. BROWER: Nine o'clock.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Harry, can you ask who on your -- who  
39 on your guys staff, Tom would probably be the one most  
40 knowledgeable about that, huh?

41

42 MR. BROWER: Tom Lohman?

43

44 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Uh-huh.

45

46 MR. BROWER: Yeah.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Can he come in and give us an update on  
49 that? It think that will just -- if we could ask him, please?

50

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49  
50

MR. BROWER: Sure.

CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Thank you. Okay.

MR. YOKELE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN ITTA: Musk ox is out. And at this time we have -- we have the Regions Six, Eight and Ten boundary for the Gates, and that's by Steve Ulvi? This is in -- and maybe you could just give a little background for the benefit of like Ray and what and how we got to where we are on this, please, if you could speak?

MR. ULVI: All right. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, I'm Steve Ulvi, subsistence manager with Gates of the Arctic National Park. I work out of Fairbanks now.

In a nutshell, this is an issue that was brought forward by the residents of Anaktuvuk Pass, and for some time now, since the Federal program began and the regionals were formed and Councils were formed, they've been concerned that because of the Federal policy that you have to live within the region in order to be able to serve on a board like this, and their traditional use area's kind of split about 50% between the foothills and the North Slope in Region Ten, this Council's region, and to the south into the trees in Region Six. So they have felt concern that they don't have the opportunity for direct representation on both councils, both Federal Councils.

So they asked first if it would be possible to serve on both Councils, and the answer was, no, you have to be a resident within the region. So they went to the Federal Board and requested that the City of Anaktuvuk Pass be included in Region Ten, because of the cultural ties with -- and the political ties with the North Slope, so the Federal Subsistence Board a couple of years ago did come in and redraw that boundary just by a mile or so and took in the city limits of Anaktuvuk Pass so that Anaktuvuk Pass is in fact now in Region Ten, in your region.

So they felt that then there was really -- since their concern still existed about not being able to be represented, they thought, well, the thing to do is go to the Federal Board with a plan to draw the boundary -- do you have a map in your report there?

CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yes. Are you talking of this one?

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1 MR. ULVI: Yes, that map.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ITTA: That's in your packet here, this orange  
4 one. Did Gordon get a copy?

5

6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Earlier? It's on this orange -- or red  
9 page report here.

10

11 MR. ULVI: So if you look at that map, I have --  
12 actually I have the original map here that we used at a couple  
13 of public meetings in Anaktuvuk, and elders and others were  
14 able to take a look at the map and draw where they considered  
15 the end of the southern boundary of their traditional use area to  
16 be. And it's within Gates of the Arctic National Park there,  
17 but as you can see, and I hope you can clearly see that. It  
18 was kind of hard to draw it on such a small piece of paper, but  
19 basically it would push that boundary line between Region Six  
20 and Region Ten down to the south, you know, 40 or 50 miles.  
21 And it also affects Region Eight out in the Northwest Arctic  
22 Region, a little bit over in the Noatak River area there.

23

24 So this request then to the Federal Board to change  
25 that boundary line by pushing it south, the people in Anaktuvuk  
26 feel that then their traditional area for hunting and trapping  
27 would fall entirely within Region Ten. They do have a chance  
28 to have representation on this Council, as they have in the  
29 past, and then they would feel satisfied then, and their  
30 concerns would be alleviated. So they've gone to the Federal  
31 Board with this proposal.

32

33 One of the first steps, of course, was to send this  
34 information out to the villages and communities and councils  
35 that might be affected by this decision, because the Federal  
36 Board requires that, and so this is an opportunity for this  
37 Council then to decide whether you support that notion or  
38 oppose it or would like further information from the residents  
39 of Anaktuvuk.

40

41 And I think Barbara -- I wasn't able to be at the  
42 Kotzebue meeting. Perhaps Barbara can explain what happened  
43 there when they took up this proposal.

44

45 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I think what the Northwest Arctic  
46 did was to leave it to the tribal governments, the IRAs in the  
47 villages and that they were going to discuss it with the IRA  
48 people or leave it up to the IRA people, like in Noatak, and  
49 Upper Kobuk area, to see if that drop right there where the

50

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Noatak area is involved is okay with them. And then they left that decision up to those people. Instead of deciding anything at all, they kind of say, well, this -- in saying that, they will leave it to the IRA people for that region. Because it involves Noatak. Up in the Noatak River, it just .....

6

7 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Right. I see.

8

9 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: ..... a dip right there, yeah. And also that is close to the Upper Kobuk.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ITTA: And that's the Region Eight.

13

14 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chairman?

15

16 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Terry?

17

18 MR. TAGAROOK: I have a question. Since they are supposed to be within our region, are they restricted from hunting in Region Six or Eight?

21

22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: No.

23

24 MR. ULVI: No, Mr. Chair.

25

26 MR. TAGAROOK: They'd be able to hunt on .....

27

28 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh.

29

30 MR. ULVI: Right. Yeah. It's -- we've talked a lot about that, and it is just the concern of a number of people in Anaktuvuk that they feel that it would be simplified and in their best interest to have their entire traditional use area be in one Federal region. And, you know, that's an appropriate point of view.

36

37 I have no idea how the Board will act on this proposal, but the Board definitely won't act on it without actions by the other affected communities and Councils first. They're going to want to know how the chips lie for everybody, and how everybody feels about this potential change in a boundary line. It's precedent-setting business.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Right.

45

46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And, Steve, excuse me, Mr. Chair? Steve, what -- has the Western Arctic or the Region Six, Western Interior or is it Eastern Interior?

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Region Six is the Interior.  
2  
3 MR. ULVI: Western Interior.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Western Interior.  
6  
7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Western Interior. Have they met yet  
and .....  
9  
10 MR. ULVI: They're meeting next week.  
11  
12 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Next week.  
13  
14 MR. ULVI: The end of next week in Huslia, and they  
have received this, and they will have it on their agenda also.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN ITTA: I'd just like to comment before we go  
any more that we had initial representation here from Anaktuvuk  
Pass, and the position is still open for representation on our  
Council from Anaktuvuk Pass. And I believe later on we will be  
discussing that subject. I just wanted it clear that Anaktuvuk  
fact is included in Region Ten. And I just want to restate  
what you said. Their concern was that they hunt in Region  
Six, and anything that -- regulations that are developed down  
here, they don't have any representation over that land, and  
they're just trying to, I guess what you would call a  
technicality kind of issue, straightened out here, but it's  
very important to them. I know it's very important to the  
Anaktuvuk folks.  
30  
31 Gordon and then Jim.  
32  
33 MR. UPICKSON: I'm glad you brought out that point,  
because we've tried to -- we would like this board to be truly  
representative of our region, and since the inception of this  
Advisory Council, we've never had a member from Anaktuvuk on  
the board sitting here. He never made any of our meetings.  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN ITTA: That's right. That's correct. Jim?  
40  
41 MR. AVEOGANNA: I think you -- excuse me. I need to  
understand quite well what we really need. I've heard talking  
about the hunting and what not. Okay. Down at the AFN I  
attended over the AFN the last two, even though I don't go down  
here, but local council, IRA, local council, if they have  
local council, we need to have a voting power. We ought to  
speak for -- in our villages and the region. That means kind  
of for the view of land, unorganized as to having a tribal  
Council in like that. Once they come up with -- come up with  
50

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ICA's and all that, that's the time they're going to get a lot of help from there. What I'm trying -- what I'm trying to say is the people that live up here in our region, they have a right to say something, have a voting power. Have them organized or something like what they need, when they don't have it in their village. There's a lot of things we're going to have -- going to be involved in, too, a lot of things that we -- last -- as board members, we can't do things alone. We've got some people outside in the village and they know more about the land, what we need to talk about, as to use of Federal land, you know.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah. Thank you, Jim.

14

15 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chairman?

16

17 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Harry?

18

19 MR. BROWER: Steve, regarding this discussion on this new realignment with the boundary, are you asking for our support now? I mean, to get a letter of support for the regional subsistence resource commission?

22

23 CHAIRMAN ITTA: We -- that's what I understand, that we will need to be taking action on this, whether it's support of opposition, to set -- is that about right?

26

27 MR. ULVI: That's correct, Mr. Chairman. In this case, they -- Anaktuvuk Pass is a community within the region that you represent, and so you may choose to take any one of a number of courses of action, but the Federal Board will want to know what the Regional Council for the North Slope thought about this idea before they even consider it. So some kind of paperwork as to your consensus or your feelings is important.

34

35 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chairman?

36

37 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Go ahead, Harry. Please keep it down over here.

39

40 MR. BROWER: I'd like to make a motion that we support Anaktuvuk Pass residents realign Federal subsistence region boundary line.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. We have a motion by Harry to go ahead and support the proposal for the realignment of the boundary.

47

48 MR. R. KOONUK: Second that motion.

49

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1  
2 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Harry's motion is seconded. We're open  
for discussion on the motion. Any comments? Barbara?

4  
5 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair, it's -- Since Western  
Arctic -- Western Interior is meeting next week, and then you  
have decided on this, would you be willing to -- would this  
Council be willing to discuss this matter with the Western  
Interior people on this boundary line? See how their feelings  
are. Since they haven't met yet, we don't know what they  
think. And it would be better for you guys to correspond with  
them or talk with them directly on the phone and then discuss  
and see how they think. Once we find out next week, as soon as  
we find out, or I hear, I could send out a memo to you guys to  
let you guys know what their feelings are. Because I kind of  
feel that we should listen to them, too, and see how they feel  
towards this, have better feelings towards, between these two  
Councils, the Western Interior and the North Slope Arctic. So  
I just want to bring that out to your attention, see how you  
feel about that.

21  
22 MR. LONG: Mr. Chairman?

23  
24 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Thank you, Barbara. Frank?

25  
26 MR. LONG: I think it would be appropriate, what  
Barbara is saying, that we have really someone to attend these  
meetings in this regard, to listen to what they have to say in  
person.

30  
31 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I would be able to go, but then I  
have Seward Peninsula meeting next week on the 23rd and 24th.  
I don't know when -- when does Western Interior meet?

34  
35 MR. ULVI: The same days.

36  
37 MR. KOVACH: Same days.

38  
39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Oh, okay.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Pardon me?

42  
43 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman?

44  
45 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Are you done, Frank?

46  
47 MR. LONG: Yeah.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah. Go ahead, Gordon.

50

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1  
2 MR. UPICKSON: A question for Barbara. Barbara, do we  
have funds to send our chair or co-chair to the meeting that  
you're talking about?

5  
6 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It doesn't hurt to ask. I can ask  
for you .....

8  
9 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Sure. Okay.

10  
11 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: ..... and check it out and see if  
one of you can go.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Harry?

15  
16 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, I think from what I'm  
reading here, Anaktuvuk Pass has discussed this issue with the  
States of the Arctic, with Steve, and they've identified their  
additional land uses, and that they're asking for our support  
of this, and that is why I made my motion, to support the  
residents of Anaktuvuk Pass.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Thank you, Harry. I've got a question.  
You mentioned meetings in Anaktuvuk and you've discussed, and  
they -- they're the ones that came up with this. You had  
public hearings and those sorts of things. But this proposal  
hasn't been yet submitted to Region Six, is that correct?

28  
29 MR. ULVI: They have -- Mr. Chairman, they have  
received the same .....

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ITTA: They have knowledge of it?

33  
34 MR. ULVI: ..... the same set of maps and the memo. It  
was mailed to post offices in villages as well as to Region  
Six, Region Eight, and Region Ten Council, and so everyone's  
had a chance to see it for about a year and a half. And also  
at previous meetings last fall, and the spring before, at all  
three Councils this was brought up. It was on-going, so it's  
not the first time anybody's heard about it, but it is the  
first time that a map .....

42  
43 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

44  
45 MR. ULVI: ..... has appeared that people could sit and  
think about it and look at it.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. I'd .....

49  
50

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1 MR. AVEOGANNA: Mr. Chairman?

2

3 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Go ahead, Jim.

4

5 MR. AVEOGANNA: Yeah, since we've got the people here  
6 as some Eskimos here and they can speak as to it for what they  
7 have, may want to share.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah, we welcome comments from our  
10 audience in regards to this proposal, and I would go ahead and  
11 make time for that. Is there anybody that wants to speak to  
12 this proposal at this time?

13

14 Myself, I'll just go ahead and make this comment, that  
15 I'm sure that Fenton is more knowledgeable about this,  
16 especially when there has been meetings held that he's gone to  
17 when all regions were there, where this was initially  
18 discussed.

19

20 But I'd like to point out also one thing. I support  
21 Harry's premise that this is what the people of Anaktuvuk Pass  
22 want, and that they're looking to us for support, to support  
23 their proposal regardless of what comes up I think down the  
24 road. I think we'd be -- I think that's a fine idea, that we  
25 send somebody down there at this next meeting to Region Six,  
26 and if -- at the very least to listen to them and show that  
27 we're not trying to break anything up here. We're just trying  
28 to address a need of our people up here. So myself, I'd just  
29 speak in favor of the motion here at this time.

30

31 Anybody? If not .....

32

33 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman?

34

35 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Gordon?

36

37 MR. UPICKSON: While you're asking for questions, I'd  
38 like the Chair to recognize a native leader of the IRA Council  
39 of the Native Village of Barrow, Mr. Edwardson.

40

41 MR. EDWARDSON: ICAS.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ITTA: He's with the Inupiat Community of the  
44 Arctic Slope.

45

46 MR. EDWARDSON: Right.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ITTA: George Edwardson, the president. We're  
49 currently going to be hearing from him, because they're real

50

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concerned about the role of the Federal Government in our whole  
 region, which essentially encompasses the boundaries of the  
 North Slope Borough. And they're the Regional IRA, which  
 consists of all tribal, individual village IRAS, so that's  
 George Edwardson for your information over there.

6

7 MR. UPICKSON: And, Mr. Chairman, thank you for  
 correcting me. The Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope,  
 ICAS, not the Native Village of Barrow.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Right. Uh-huh.

12

13 MR. UPICKSON: Thank you for correcting me.

14

15 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Right. Thank you. If there's no more  
 discussion, I'd ask for somebody to call the question .....

17

18 MR. R. KOONUK: Question.

19

20 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... on the motion here? The  
 question's been called on the motion. All those in favor of  
 the motion to support the realignment of the Federal  
 Subsistence Region boundaries as presented signify by saying  
 aye?

25

26 IN UNISON: Aye.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Opposed, same sign?

29

30 (No opposing responses)

31

32 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Hearing none. And we will get a formal  
 letter to that effect that the Advisory Council has supported  
 the proposal, and we thank you.

35

36 Okay. Where are we? We move to 6-B, customary and  
 traditional use update by Helen Armstrong. Helen?

38

39 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm Helen  
 Armstrong from the Fish and Wildlife Service, Subsistence  
 Division. I'm an anthropologist, and for the benefit of Ray,  
 because he's new and hasn't gotten to listen to all of  
 this, .....

44

45 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Thank you. Yeah.

46

47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: ..... I'll give you some background  
 on it.

49

50

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1           We -- when the Federal Subsistence Program started, we  
 2 automatically -- not automatically, but we adopted the  
 3 customary and traditional use determinations that the State had  
 4 in place, because we couldn't really do in a matter of a few  
 5 short months justice to the whole issue. We have now been for  
 6 three years trying to figure out what to do about customary and  
 7 traditional use determinations, also called -- I'll call it for  
 8 short c&t.

9

10           I have a couple of things to talk about. We had  
 11 started on a process of trying to look at this area by area,  
 12 and I was beginning to do the c&t determinations for the North  
 13 Slope. However, in the process of doing that, we've -- this  
 14 past fall we've sort of hit a little bit of a road block, in  
 15 trying to make decisions on c&t determinations for the Kenai  
 16 Peninsula as well as for Upper Tanana. There were some  
 17 discussion about whether or not we were doing it in the right  
 18 way, and this -- they went back to our Staff Committee and  
 19 discussed it. And it -- and what came -- the long and the  
 20 short of it was they decided that they had to have a meeting  
 21 with the Council Chairs or the representatives of the Councils  
 22 and the Staff Committee, which they did this past Monday. And  
 23 it was a really productive meeting in some senses in that it  
 24 gave -- I think it was good for all of the Chairs .....

25

26           And by the way, the North Slope wasn't represented,  
 27 because of the whalers meetings. They didn't have anybody  
 28 there, so I probably should sit down with Fenton and let him  
 29 know what happened at the meeting.

30

31           But what came out of that discussion on Monday was that  
 32 the process we were using is probably not adequate, and I  
 33 totally agree with that personally, but -- having seen how it  
 34 was working. And I'm not exactly sure where we're moving from  
 35 now, but the gist of this meeting was that people wanted to  
 36 incorporate the c&t decisions into our regulations Subpart D  
 37 process, so that when we come before you in the fall and ask  
 38 you if you have changes for any of the seasons and bag limits,  
 39 that we would also be saying, "Do you have changes for the c&t  
 40 determinations?" And then we would go back and write an  
 41 analysis on that, and then come back to you at this winter  
 42 meeting and give you our analysis, and that would go to the  
 43 Board for some decision. And I believe that's the direction  
 44 we're actually going to go, but I'm not -- we haven't had a  
 45 meeting since that meeting, and I wasn't totally certain  
 46 whether this still had to go before the Board or not for  
 47 decision. Do you know?

48

49           MR. KNAUER: I don't know.

50

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1  
2 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't think anybody really knows  
where we are on that quite frankly. It's still somewhat up in  
the air as to how we're doing this.

5  
6 Then on Tuesday we had the same group of people met  
with the Southcentral Regional Council to discuss the Kenai  
c&t, and that was meant to be a meeting where we could actually  
come up with recommendations to the Board as to what c&t  
determinations should be for Kenai. And -- but they didn't  
have proper notice, so it became just sort of an informational  
exchange, and I think it was really worth while for people to  
see how -- all the chairs, with the exception of the North  
Slope, to see how that Council operated and have discussions  
about c&t.

16  
17 One of the things that really came out was they wanted  
18 to be -- this whole process to be more of bottom-up, so that  
19 would come from the regional councils instead of coming from  
the Federal agencies, so that the regional councils would be  
driving what decisions they wanted to be made, and what the  
changes they wanted to be. And instead of, you know, agencies  
coming and saying, "Well, we think maybe these should be done."  
24 So I think it was all pretty productive, but where we are now,  
25 I'm not totally certain.

26  
27 I'm going to continue writing the things about c&t,  
North Slope c&t, and I'm assuming that next fall we'll be  
coming back to you and saying, "Do you -- what changes do you  
want made?" And I don't know if we want to have any discussion  
now on that or not, as to how people want those changes made.

32  
33 Oh, and another thing that was discussed was, and this  
34 for Ray's benefit, too, the way we do these c&t  
determinations, we have eight factors that determine what --  
whether a community has c&t. And it's community-based, it's  
not individual.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN ITTA: C&T is customary and traditional.

40  
41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Customary and traditional.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Right. Okay.

44  
45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Right. And there was a lot of  
discussion about the fact that those eight factors maybe aren't  
useful.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN ITTA: The criteria?

50

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1  
2 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, they're the criteria. And we  
3 call them -- we call them factors, where the State called them  
4 criteria, because we didn't want them to be so limiting, so  
5 that it wasn't something you had to have. You didn't have to  
6 necessarily have any one of those criteria to fulfill having  
7 it for that resource.

8  
9 There's -- there was also a lot of discussion about it  
10 not being an eligibility determination, that it's actually just  
11 a determination of where you hunt and who hunts where, and not  
12 whether or not they're allowed to hunt. So it was -- there was  
13 a lot of good discussion.

14  
15 So I hope by the time fall rolls around, I'll be able  
16 to come back to you with some more definitive information as to  
17 where we are in this process. It's been for some of us quite  
18 frustrating, because it's been years of people arguing about  
19 how we're going to do this.

20  
21 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chairman?

22  
23 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Harry?

24  
25 MR. BROWER: Helen, from the -- from the last meeting,  
26 this was in October, there's some -- when I was reading over  
27 the transcript, there's some discussion regarding a -- who was  
28 going to be doing, making the determinations by who -- by the  
29 band managers, and there's a comment made regarding to have the  
30 band managers both working together and making the  
31 determinations at the same time, instead of having each of the  
32 band managers coming back and forth to the Council or the  
33 committee to ask for their comments on that. And to have both  
34 band managers working at the same time. Was there any  
35 discussion on that during your meeting?

36  
37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: There wasn't, but I think this new  
38 approach will take care of that problem, so that what would  
39 happen is that this Council could say, "We would like a c&t  
40 determination done on musk ox for all of -- all of the North  
41 slope, for all of 26," and that would eliminate that problem.  
42 And then we would have to address it. Which, in fact, is one  
43 of our proposals, so -- yeah, and that wasn't -- you know, that  
44 issue wasn't discussed then about who would be doing these  
45 analyses if it -- when those proposals come out, but I think it  
46 would be up to the Council to determine what they wanted us to  
47 be looking at, instead of this .....

48  
49 And, see, what has been -- what did happen in the Upper  
50

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Tanana as well as in the Kenai Peninsula was -- and was going to happen with the way we were doing it, is we were going to look at everything, and there are sometimes resources that no one has a problem with the existing c&t determinations, so there's really no reason to do a report on it, since no one -- it's okay the way it's written, and this way, you would drive the question of whether or not we looked at it.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. I'd like to just comment again here, too, I know Fenton has been heavily involved for Region Ten on keeping abreast and up to date on the customary and additional use issue, and before we get too much further into this, he was at the last meetings where all the regions were together down at Anchorage. Was he at that one?

15

16 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, he wasn't there, .....

17

18 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

19

20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: ..... because of the way -- I don't know because of the whaling convention I gather.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah, that's right. Okay. Yeah. That's correct. But nonetheless, he's still the most knowledgeable guy that we have here regarding customary and additional use. But I don't know that -- are you going to be requesting any action, or are you just going to give us an update here on .....

29

30 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's just an update.

31

32 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. So it would just be an update?

33

34 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ITTA: And I don't think that will hurt us, but if there's -- was some action to be taken, I would want Fenton to be here, because as you know -- is he still the chair on the .....

40

41 MR. BROWER: Yes.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ITTA: He's still the chair on the Management Commission?

45

46 MR. BROWER: Fish & Game Management .....

47

48 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah.

49

50

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1 MR. BROWER: ..... Committee? Yes.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ITTA: He's still the chair on the Fish & Game  
Management Committee which covers the same areas we're talking  
about here, and I think he needs to be here to -- before -- if  
we're going to take any action, to fill us in on where he is on  
that whole thing, so with that I'll .....

8

9 You had a question, Terry?

10

11 MR. TAGAROOK: Yes, I have a question on customary and  
additional use of? Are you referring to wildlife or the land  
or both?

14

15 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The wildlife. Yeah. Of all those  
all those resources that we manage, the -- so it would only  
be the land mammals and then fish in non-navigable waters.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Ray?

20

21 MR. R. KOONUK: Do you have any information you passed  
out in the past meetings, or should I have anything that I  
should read or .....

24

25 CHAIRMAN ITTA: The only papers that we've ever gotten  
was the proposed c&t response by what was it, Kenai or which  
region .....

28

29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. That .....

30

31 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... that was down there?

32

33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That might be -- that might be  
useful to get.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ITTA: How about that region meeting. Was  
there any papers produced? I think there was also something  
produced.

39

40 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: There were some papers .....

41

42 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Right.

43

44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: ..... at that meeting.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ITTA: I think if we can get that background  
information to Ray, he has a lot to kind of catch up on on  
these on-going subjects.

49

50

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1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ITTA: And those of you that are involved in  
 4 on-going projects with the Board, I would advise you to get  
 5 Ray's address here and send all your background information and  
 6 he'll review them all and try to get up to speed and in step  
 7 with the rest of us. I know he's working at a real  
 8 disadvantage.

9

10 Gordon?

11

12 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman, a question for Helen.  
 13 Helen, do you have any more planned meetings between the chairs  
 14 or the co-chairs in the future? Because I think for the  
 15 Regional Council to be effective advisory council, the Regional  
 16 Advisory Council to be effective, I think more productive  
 17 advice would come out of any meeting, any more meetings.

18

19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh.

20

21 MR. UPICKSON: Hopefully you have more meetings between  
 22 the chairs and the co-chairs, .....

23

24 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think that .....

25

26 MR. UPICKSON: ..... since they represent all regions  
 27 I'd like to do more of these, you in the future had -- and the  
 28 staff meet.

29

30 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think that .....

31

32 MR. UPICKSON: Schedule more meetings between the  
 33 chairs and the co-chairs.

34

35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: They don't have any scheduled right  
 36 now, but the feeling was .....

37

38 MR. UPICKSON: Okay. This concept of the Regional  
 39 Councils is still fairly new.

40

41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh.

42

43 MR. UPICKSON: You guys can just about write your own  
 44 agenda, so if you guys were to schedule more meetings between  
 45 the chairs and the co-chairs, all of them, I think it would be  
 46 more effective in presenting our views to the Board.

47

48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I wanted to say even though none  
 49 were scheduled yet, the feeling was at that meeting that it was

50

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Very good to do that.

2

3 MR. UPICKSON: Okay.

4

5 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And not only between the chairs and  
6 co-chairs, but between the chairs and the Staff Committee,  
7 which if I could explain this part, too: We have the Federal  
8 Subsistence Board who -- that's made up of the directors of the  
9 land management agencies, and then each one of those agencies  
10 has a staff person, and they call them the Staff Committee.  
11 And they do a lot of the -- just the grunt work, and the  
12 thinking about things before it goes to the Board, and since  
13 these -- the Council chairs met with the Staff Committee, which  
14 was a first that it had ever happened, and people felt really  
15 good about that. There was a lot of good exchange of  
16 information. And they felt that that should happen in an  
17 informal working session kind of way with the Board, not these  
18 formal public meetings necessarily, but some more informal  
19 kinds of meetings. And I think that probably will happen.

20

21 I would suspect, and I'm just guessing, but it's highly  
22 likely that before our Board meeting in April, that there may  
23 be some gathering of the -- I think last year the Council  
24 chairs got together and they .....

25

26 MR. KOVACH: They're planning it again, as far as I  
27 know.

28

29 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. I don't know specifically  
30 what they're planning, but I would gather that they're going to  
31 do that when they come down in April for that meeting, too.

32

33 MR. TAGAROOK: All the regions?

34

35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

36

37 MR. TAGAROOK: I think that's a good idea. Then maybe  
38 once these regional, you know, chairs and co-chairs can meet,  
39 maybe we'll find out where all the moose went.

40

41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think they're all in Anchorage.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Terry was saying they're all -- they've  
44 all migrated to get educated down at UAA.

45

46 MR. TAGAROOK: And I think that's a nice -- I think  
47 what since most of us are natives of Alaska, we should share  
48 information at our -- you know, from different regions. And  
49 that way .....

50

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1  
2 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh. It's really good.  
3  
4 MR. TAGAROOK: ..... we'll find out what's happening  
within the whole State.  
6  
7 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh.  
8  
9 MR. TAGAROOK: Because there's some information that we  
lack up here, like the moose, you know, where are the moose  
going.  
12  
13 MR. BROWER: Mr. Chairman?  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Harry?  
16  
17 MR. BROWER: Helen, while we're under this c&t  
discussion, how far along are you now on that scoping process  
that you had started before?  
20  
21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: The scoping is pretty -- was pretty  
much, as far as I -- I mean, as far as I felt was fairly  
completed. I got letters from agencies. I didn't get much  
response from people up -- you know, individual communities,  
but I did get information when I went out to Kaktovik.  
Probably we need to do some scoping in Nuiqsut. And then if  
it's going to be pursued in the rest of -- I mean, if there's  
requests for more additional work to be done in the rest of 26,  
then we should probably do some scoping in the other  
communities as well.  
31  
32 And, I mean, it's -- I don't know that it would -- I  
don't know. We didn't have time to sit down and have a meeting  
about this in Anchorage before this meeting, but I almost --  
I'd almost like to know what the Council would be requesting in  
the fall, what they -- what changes they would like done in  
oct, but maybe we just wait until fall and find out. I don't  
I'm not sure where we move on that. It's sort of -- it was  
sort of bad timing really.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Any more questions for Helen? Anything  
else you want to add here?  
43  
44 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, that's fine.  
45  
46 MR. EDWARDSON: Could I ask one?  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Go ahead, George.  
49  
50

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1 MR. EDWARDSON: Yeah. On this .....

2

3 CHAIRMAN ITTA: If you could, excuse me, get up on this  
4 chair here and state your name for the record, please?

5

6 MR. EDWARDSON: Okay. My name is George Edwardson.  
7 I'm the president of Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope.  
8 We're a regional IRA. Our boundaries are 66 degrees all the  
9 way across.

10

11 And under -- are you or any of you into studying the  
12 animals to see if they're safe for human consumption or  
13 something like that, or in that perspective? Or are you just  
14 into the regulation?

15

16 MR. KOVACH: Well, our office is strictly involved with  
17 regulations themselves, but we have other offices within Fish &  
18 Wildlife Service that is currently working in conjunction with  
19 the EPA and Fish & Game in doing what they call contaminants  
20 analysis.

21

22 MR. EDWARDSON: Uh-huh.

23

24 MR. KOVACH: And there's work in a wide variety of  
25 areas. I don't -- I'm not aware of any being done in caribou  
26 the moment, but I know there's been some past work done on  
27 caribou, but there's quite a bit of work being done on birds  
28 banned for this summer in fact in various parts of the North  
29 Slope.

30

31 MR. EDWARDSON: Because there would be two areas we'd  
32 be real concerned in. One would be around the abandoned DEW  
33 line sites for PCB.

34

35 MR. KOVACH: Uh-huh.

36

37 MR. EDWARDSON: Because back there when the DEW lines  
38 were built, the military brought 1,554 transformers, and when  
39 they done their clean up, they took out 332 of them. That was  
40 all they took out. And these are every 50 miles apart on the  
41 whole coast of Alaska.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ITTA: George, if I may add, the -- Helen and  
44 Steve and Bill are from the U.S. ....

45

46 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Fish & Wildlife Service.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Fish & Wildlife Service.

49

50

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1 MR. EDWARDSON: Okay.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN ITTA: And they act as staff .....

4  
5 MR. EDWARDSON: Oh, the .....

6  
7 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... with the Regional Councils. And  
8 our Regional Councils, you weren't here earlier, but we work  
9 with BLM, we work with .....

10  
11 MR. EDWARDSON: Right.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... all different land use agencies  
14 that encompass Region Ten, and I don't know which agency in  
15 particular would be responsible. I know BLM has some say on  
16 some DEW line sites. Some are scattered like within NPRA,  
17 those old DEW line sites. But again, we as a Federal -- the  
18 Advisory Council for Region Ten, which is the same boundaries  
19 .....  
20

21 MR. EDWARDSON: Right.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... ICAS, certainly can bring those  
24 inquiries up, and we can bring them up as agenda items and  
25 appropriate agencies. But largely we deal with the subsistence  
26 issues .....

27  
28 MR. EDWARDSON: Okay.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... related to wildlife here. And,  
31 as you know, that includes part of the land and .....

32  
33 MR. EDWARDSON: Right.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... the whole chain, so it's .....

36  
37 MR. EDWARDSON: And .....

38  
39 CHAIRMAN ITTA: ..... somewhat related. It gets kind  
40 of a little murky here, but .....

41  
42 MR. EDWARDSON: It would be pretty -- it would be  
43 related, because .....

44  
45 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Sure.

46  
47 MR. EDWARDSON: ..... subsistence -- the subsisting  
48 we're doing, and the animal we're using, you know, from at  
49 least this perspective right here, you need to take a  
50

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1 look .....

2

3 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

4

5 MR. EDWARDSON: ..... for two types. One for, you  
~~know~~, around the DEW line sites, the animals that might exist  
~~around there~~, the fish around there. And the other one would  
~~be~~ the caribou and their relationship with radioactive fallout,  
~~lichen~~, caribou and then going to man. From that perspective.  
~~And that's~~ -- I just had to ask that, .....

11

12 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay.

13

14 MR. EDWARDSON: ..... to see if there was, you know,  
~~somebody~~ that could aim me toward the right direction.

16

17 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman?

18

19 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Gordon?

20

21 MR. UPICKSON: Your concerns of the high incidence of  
~~cancer~~ as .....

23

24 MR. EDWARDSON: Right.

25

26 MR. UPICKSON: ..... related to those areas that  
~~consume~~ a lot of caribou?

28

29 MR. EDWARDSON: Right.

30

31 MR. UPICKSON: I see where your point is,  
~~Mr.~~ Edwardson.

33

34 MR. EDWARDSON: And we're all heavy consumers of  
~~caribou~~ in the whole North Slope.

36

37 MR. UPICKSON: Yes.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Thank you, George.

40

41 MR. LONG: Mr. Chair?

42

43 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Frank?

44

45 MR. LONG: In relation to that question, would it be  
~~possible~~ to have information, addresses or such as contaminant  
~~department~~?

48

49 MR. KOVACH: Yes. What I'll -- what I'll do is when we

50

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break, I'll plan to get together with George and get his full address, and what I'll do is I will forward his query to an office we have in Fairbanks. It's called Ecological Services. They have specialists on staff there that do nothing but contaminants work, and I will forward this query on to them, and they're the appropriate people to respond to this.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. We appreciate that, and, George, if you can, make sure you get your address and where they can contact you.

11  
12 Geoff, if you'd come up?

13  
14 MR. CARROLL: I'd just like to mention to George in particular is that the North Slope Borough, Department of Wildlife Management, collected several caribou last year, which are being analyzed at this point, and they just yesterday hired a contaminant specialist, a Ph. -- you know, a veterinary, Ph.D. guy like Dr. Albert. They hired a new staff guy who is a specialist in doing contaminant work, and that's going to be a lot of what he does is look at that question very carefully. So that is something that the Borough is concerned about, and they're going to make a real effort.

24  
25 MR. EDWARDSON: And also under the Arctic policy researchers, they had gone into that type of research, too.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Thank you.

29  
30 MR. EDWARDSON: And I think it would be good for this group right here to look at that. It would be real useful for all of you really to .....

33  
34 MR. UPICKSON: Mr. Chairman?

35  
36 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Go ahead.

37  
38 MR. UPICKSON: Maybe we ought to allocate a couple of hours to George. George can give them all the information. He'd better have two hours. Our president of Inupiat Community of Arctic Slope has lots of information, verbatim. He's got it up here, and you better allocate a couple hours just for him.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Yeah. I agree. And I was just going to say that we have all these agencies, we also work closely with the North Slope Borough Wildlife Management Committee, and, of course, they have their department, and Harry, I know they're all involved in trying to do the same thing that we're doing, and I think you have the right idea. We've got to kind

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of focus all this information and make sure we deal with this  
 issue kind of cohesively, as best as we can.

3

4 MR. R. KOONUK: Mr. Chairman?

5

6 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Ray?

7

8 MR. R. KOONUK: Yeah. You guys probably all heard what  
 we've been dealing with this contaminants on radiation that had  
 affected our village, our animals, and it's still an on-going  
 problem, and we're still trying to get cooperation from  
 Department of Energy, the State itself, DEC. The State itself  
 have been hiding information, and not releasing any kind of  
 classified material. Not just the State, but the Federal  
 agency itself. And if -- we ought to get concerned and get  
 involved in this -- in this project. It's real hard trying to  
 get information declassified, and that's a problem we're  
 facing, because, you know, the Federal Government itself  
 doesn't want to release, you know, that information, of what  
 kind of experiments they were doing around our State.

21

22 We have information stating that -- well, you know, let  
 me give you a sample here where the State Health and Social  
 Service had denied of any involvement, but now we have  
 documents stating they were involved with our caribou. With  
 people's -- Inupiat's teeth, you know. The dentists  
 themselves. So, you know, doing this. If you are real  
 concerned here, we have to work together and get -- and try to  
 resolve these problems, or start some sampling programs and get  
 these animals analyzed like George said. So we've been  
 involved with this for the last three years, and it's pretty  
 tough. But, you know, if we work together, support each other,  
 I think we'd go a long ways.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ITTA: Okay. Thank you, Ray. How did you get  
 into this area?

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 CHAIRMAN ITTA: It's a long ways. Well, it's a concern  
 about customary and traditional use, of course, natural and  
 direct link in there, and this is a subject that's really been  
 on-going for a long time.

44

45 I'm ahead of you. You got ahead of me just by a  
 second. I was just going to say at this time I was going to  
 recess this meeting to continue at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning.  
 So at this time we'll call a recess of the North Slope  
 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council. Be back in your seats

50

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1- I guess we'll still meet here?

2

3 MR. BROWER: Uh-huh.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ITTA: At 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning. So  
6 thank you. Good evening.

7

8 (Off record)

9

10 (PROCEEDINGS RECESSED UNTIL 2/17/1995)

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I, Meredith L. Downing, Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska and Reporter for R & R Court Reporters, Inc., do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 70 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council, Volume I, meeting taken electronically by me on the 16th day of February, 1995, beginning at the hour of 7:00 o'clock p.m. at the North Slope Borough Assembly Room, Barrow, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by me to the best of my knowledge and ability;

THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 20th day of February, 1995.

\_\_\_\_\_  
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