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NORTH SLOPE FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE  
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING

Inupiat Heritage Center  
Barrow Alaska  
March 24, 2005  
9:00 o'clock a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Harry K. Brower, Jr., Chairman
  - Paul S. Bodfish, Sr.
  - Gordon R. Brower, Sr.
  - David A. Gunderson
  - Baxter Bailey Hopson
  - Ray Koonuk
  - Julius M. Rexford, Sr.
  - Terry Tagarook
- Regional Council Coordinator, Michelle Chivers

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Barrow, Alaska - 3/24/2005)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good morning everyone. I'll call the meeting of the North Slope Subsistence Regional Advisory Council to order this morning. It's a little bit after nine. I don't have a watch with me, but anyway I'll call the meeting to order. Good morning everyone.

We have our agenda before us, and we'll follow that until we get down to if we need to do any amendments or changes to the agenda this morning. I haven't noted anything. So just follow, the item is the roll call and establishment of quorum, please.

MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
Baxter Hopson.

MR. HOPSON: Here.

MS. CHIVERS: Julius Rexford.

MR. REXFORD: Here.

MS. CHIVERS: Paul Bodfish.

MR. BODFISH: Here.

MS. CHIVERS: Ray Koonuk.

MR. KOONUK: Here.

MS. CHIVERS: Harry Brower.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Here.

MS. CHIVERS: Raymond Paneak. Terry Tagarook.

MR. TAGAROOK: Terry Tagarook.

MS. CHIVERS: I'm sorry.

MR. TAGAROOK: Here.

MS. CHIVERS: David Gunderson.

1 MR. GUNDERSON: Here.  
2  
3 MS. CHIVERS: Rosemary, I'm not going to  
4 attempt that one. I think she already canceled for the  
5 meeting according to Barb. Gordon Brower.  
6  
7 MR. G. BROWER: Here.  
8  
9 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We  
10 have quorum.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Michelle.  
13 The next item we have on the agenda is a moment of  
14 silence, please. We've -- it's part of our customs in  
15 the North Slope to hold an invocation, but we have a  
16 moment of silence written in our agenda, and with all the  
17 issues that we have to deal with with travel and ailments  
18 and deaths in the families, we -- I think it would be  
19 appropriate at this time to just have a moment of silence  
20 at this time, please.  
21  
22 (Pause - moment of silence)  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Thank you  
25 everyone. Moving along on down to Item 4 in agenda,  
26 welcome and introductions.  
27  
28 As you know, my name is Harry Brower. I  
29 haven't changed very much I don't think.  
30  
31 Anyway, we'll go ahead and start with  
32 Terry.  
33  
34 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah. Good morning, I'm  
35 Terry Tagarook from Wainwright.  
36  
37 MR. REXFORD: Good morning, I'm Julius  
38 Rexford from Port Lay.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Harry Brower from  
41 Barrow.  
42  
43 MR. HOPSON: Baxter Hopson from Barrow.  
44  
45 MR. G. BROWER: Gordon Brower from  
46 Barrow, and good morning.  
47  
48 MR. KOONUK: Ray Koonuk from Port Hope.  
49  
50 MR. BODFISH: Paul Bodfish from Atqasuk.

1 MR. GUNDERSON: David Gunderson from  
2 Wainwright.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We'll continue on with  
5 the Staff I suppose. I'm not sure what -- you name  
6 again?

7  
8 MR. BERG: My name's Jerry Berg. I'm a  
9 fisheries biologist out of the Office of Subsistence  
10 Management. And I'm glad to be here with you guys this  
11 morning.

12  
13 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Dave  
14 Fisher, Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence  
15 Management. I'm a wildlife biologist there. Thank you.

16  
17 MR. YOKEL: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,  
18 Council. I'm Dave Yokel with the Bureau of Land  
19 Management.

20  
21 MS. PETRIVELLI: Good morning, Mr. Chair  
22 and Council. I'm Pat Petrivelli, and I'm an  
23 anthropologist with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and I'm  
24 in their subsistence branch, and I work with Glenn Chen  
25 who some of you may know already.

26  
27 MS. CRAVER: Good morning, Mr. Chair and  
28 Council. My name is Amy Craver, and I'm an  
29 anthropologist with Office of Subsistence Management in  
30 the Fisheries Information Service. And I'm happy to be  
31 here. Thanks.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you everyone, and  
34 welcome. I again welcome you all to Barrow. Sorry.  
35 We'll go ahead and continue with our introductions.

36  
37 MS. CHIVERS: Michelle Chivers, acting  
38 coordinator. Thank you.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Michelle, thank you.  
41 And we also have our court reporter's wandering around.

42  
43 REPORTER: My name is Tina, and I'm your  
44 court reporter, and I'm from Anchorage.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I didn't hear your  
47 name.

48  
49 REPORTER: Oh, Tina.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Tina?  
2  
3 REPORTER: Yes.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, welcome. I  
6 guess that's everyone.  
7  
8 The next item we have on our agenda is  
9 election of officers. We'll go ahead and start with that  
10 and see what the Council deliberate on this. Michelle.  
11  
12 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'll  
13 just briefly read what the responsibilities are of the  
14 office of the Chair. The Chair serves a one-year term  
15 and may serve more than one year. The Chair conducts the  
16 Regional Council meetings, attends and represents the  
17 Regional Councils at the meetings of the Board. Is a  
18 voting member of the Council, and he also signs reports,  
19 correspondence, meeting minutes and other documents for  
20 external distribution.  
21  
22 And at this time, Mr. Chair, I'd like to  
23 open the floor for nominations for the Chair.  
24  
25 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Ray.  
28  
29 MR. G. BROWER: Gordon.  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm sorry, you guys are  
32 so close together over there. Gordon.  
33  
34 MR. G. BROWER: I would like to nominate  
35 Harry for Chair.  
36  
37 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair, I'll make a  
38 motion to close the nomination.  
39  
40 MR. BODFISH: I'll second it.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: She's running the  
43 elections.  
44  
45 MS. CHIVERS: Did Ray do a second?  
46  
47 REPORTER: No, he moved to close.  
48  
49 MS. CHIVERS: For who?  
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon made a.....  
2  
3 REPORTER: Gordon made the motion.....  
4  
5 MS. CHIVERS: Oh, for Gordon, okay.  
6  
7 REPORTER: .....for Harry, and then Ray  
8 moved to close nominations.  
9  
10 MS. CHIVERS: Okay. All right. Since we  
11 have two, I think what I'll do is I'll grab some paper  
12 and hand it out and you guys can do a ballot.  
13  
14 REPORTER: No, no.....  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: No, that's not.....  
17  
18 MS. CHIVERS: No?  
19  
20 REPORTER: No, Gordon made a motion to  
21 nominate Harry, and Ray moved to close the nominations.  
22  
23 MS. CHIVERS: Oh, close the nominations.  
24 I'm sorry. Okay. All right. Sorry.  
25  
26 MR. BODFISH: And I seconded the motion.  
27  
28 (Laughter)  
29  
30 MS. CHIVERS: All right. I'm sorry.  
31 Okay.  
32  
33 REPORTER: To move to close.  
34  
35 (Laughter)  
36  
37 MS. CHIVERS: Okay. All right. So Harry  
38 is now the Chair. So I'll let Harry continue with the  
39 nominations for the Vice Chair and the Secretary.  
40  
41 Thank you.  
42  
43 MR. BODFISH: Mr. Chair.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Paul.  
46  
47 MR. BODFISH: Yeah, I nominate Ray for  
48 Vice Chair.  
49  
50 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: The nominations --

1 point of order, the -- oh, I'm sorry. We're going for  
2 Vice Chair?  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.  
5  
6 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay. I'm sorry.  
7 Go ahead.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's a nomination  
10 for Ray as Vice Chair.  
11  
12 MR. BODFISH: Yes, sir. Any other  
13 nominations or.....  
14  
15 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.  
18  
19 MR. TAGAROOK: I move to close the  
20 nominations.  
21  
22 MR. GUNDERSON: Second.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's a motion to  
25 close the nominations and seconded. Ray is selected as  
26 Vice Chair.  
27  
28 Then we have the Secretary. I don't have  
29 a list of what we're supposed to follow. We have another  
30 nomination to consider for the Secretary's seat.  
31  
32 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.  
35  
36 MR. KOONUK: I nominate Paul Bodfish.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: A nomination for Paul.  
39  
40 MR. BODFISH: I nominate Gordon.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: A nomination for  
43 Gordon.  
44  
45 MR. REXFORD: Motion to close nomination.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: And a motion.....  
48  
49 MR. TAGAROOK: Second.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: A motion to close the  
2 nominations, and it's been seconded. We have two  
3 nominees to consider, so we'll move forward with that.  
4  
5 MR. KOONUK: Last man standing.  
6  
7 (Laughter)  
8  
9 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, would you like  
10 to do a ballot vote for that?  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think that would be  
13 proper, Michelle, to hold a ballot.  
14  
15 (Pause)  
16  
17 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.  
20  
21 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, could the coordinator  
22 read the names, please?  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: We'll ask Michelle,  
25 could you please read out the names of the nominees?  
26  
27 MS. CHIVERS: I'm sorry. Okay. We have  
28 a nomination for Gordon, nomination for Paul, nomination  
29 for Paul. A nomination for Ray. Nomination for Paul.  
30 Gordon. Gordon. And Gordon. We have four votes for  
31 Gordon, one for Ray, three for Paul. So it looks like  
32 Gordon is the new Secretary.  
33  
34 Thank you.  
35  
36 (Applause)  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Michelle.  
39 Gordon, congratulations, and Ray.  
40  
41 MR. G. BROWER: (In Inupiat)  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Then we have the review  
44 and adoption of the agenda. There's an added new item  
45 under 14, and that's indicated on the information here  
46 that we have in our agenda as sent.  
47  
48 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.



1 MR. KOONUK: So move to approve the  
2 agenda set for March 24th, 2005.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: A motion on the floor  
5 to approve the agenda for March 24, 2005.  
6  
7 MR. BODFISH: Second.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded. Any further  
10 discussion.  
11  
12 MR. TAGAROOK: Question.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question's been  
15 called on the motion. All in favor of the motion signify  
16 by saying aye.  
17  
18 IN UNISON: Aye.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed, same sign.  
21  
22 (No opposing votes)  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Hearing none, the  
25 motion carried. We have our agenda before us, and we'll  
26 follow it through with the next item.  
27  
28 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair, so move to  
29 approve the minutes.  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray Koonuk motions to  
32 approve the minutes. We need to identify the minutes.  
33 September 8 and 9, 2004. Motion on the floor.  
34  
35 MR. BODFISH: Second.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Paul.  
38 Maybe we'll take a couple minute to review the minutes  
39 while we're under the discussion, and they start on Page  
40 1. Excuse me.  
41  
42 (Pause)  
43  
44 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair, call the  
45 question.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.  
48  
49 MR. TAGAROOK: Well, when Ray.....  
50

1 MR. KOONUK: Question.

2

3 MR. TAGAROOK: Did we have a joint  
4 meeting with the North Slope Borough Fish and Game  
5 Advisory Committee. There have to have been a day set  
6 for the combined meeting.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: From what I've  
9 understood from communicating, writing back to -- or  
10 talking with Fenton, he was communicating with Barb and  
11 wanting to find out what the justification of the meeting  
12 would be, and that's where we had left it. He was asking  
13 what was the reasoning to hold a joint meeting. And I  
14 haven't heard the response back. Michelle, is there any  
15 other further information from Barb on this?

16

17 MS. CHIVERS: No, sir, Mr. Chair, there  
18 is not.

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh. Just for your  
21 information, Fenton had just asked me what the  
22 justification was, and I had just read out from the  
23 minutes, and that's where I left it with him. He needed  
24 to decide and communicate back with Barb on whether to  
25 hold a meeting or not, so I haven't heard back from  
26 Fenton at all. Or from Barb. So that's where we are,  
27 Terry.

28

29 MR. TAGAROOK: Thanks, Harry.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I will need to ask  
32 probably to the Staff, there was some questions we had  
33 raised in terms of a proposal that we had discussed  
34 before, whether -- to get some reasoning why there was a  
35 proposal for changes in Unit 24, and there was a list of  
36 questions that were identified in our minutes. I think  
37 that's what we needed to hear back on in terms of that  
38 moose proposal. I think Ray Paneak had asked some  
39 questions in terms of what the reason for the change of  
40 that proposal was in the regulations. I think that's  
41 what we needed to address. But I was -- their answers  
42 couldn't be provided for the questions that were raised  
43 from the last meeting. And when we get to that proposal,  
44 maybe that might be a proper time to bring it out. Yes.  
45 Go ahead, Jerry.

46

47 MR. BERG: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.  
48 Jerry Berg with Office of Subsistence Management. Yes,  
49 thank you very much. I did want to point out that under  
50 that Proposal 12 and 13, if the Council would like, we do

1 have the lead biologist from our office is willing to  
2 teleconference in, and I think he would be the best one  
3 to help answer those questions. So if the Council would  
4 like, I can go make a call and try to arrange to have him  
5 on line when we get close to that proposal, and I'm sure  
6 he could help answer those exact questions for the  
7 Council.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think that would be  
10 appropriate, Jerry. Thank you.

11

12 And just for the Council to get up to  
13 speed on what we had discussed before on that proposal,  
14 and then it later got pulled out, and there was no action  
15 on it. And now there's another proposal in there to  
16 change again. I think it will be appropriate to hear  
17 from the biologist on the -- to help answer the questions  
18 at that time.

19

20 MR. BERG: Yeah, I think Pete is the best  
21 person in our office that could help answer that, so  
22 we'll make sure and have him on line to present the  
23 information on the proposal and then he'll be able to  
24 answer any questions the Council may have. Thank you,  
25 Mr. Chair.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Jerry.

28

29 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

32

33 MR. G. BROWER: Just observation. You  
34 know, during our minutes when you read them, there's been  
35 some other questions asked. I think we need to have some  
36 kind of a procedure where there is answers to some of our  
37 questions in the upcoming meetings that we can read and  
38 then be ready to respond, instead of having to, you know,  
39 wait upon people, because there's substantial enough time  
40 from meeting to meeting to where responses can be drafted  
41 and that we can read upon the responses of our questions.  
42 And then be able to move on in a better way. Just an  
43 observation.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right. Thank you,  
46 Gordon. I'd have the Staff note that. Jerry.

47

48 MR. BERG: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.  
49 Yeah, I wasn't at your last meeting, of course, but I  
50 know at other Council meetings that we go to, some of the

1 other Councils actually put some of their questions in  
2 the form of a formal letter. They ask the Staff to write  
3 a letter with that question in there, to get a more  
4 formal response, because sometimes people raise questions  
5 and they just kind of get, you know, I wasn't sure what  
6 the questions were, but they can just kind of get lost or  
7 whatever for whatever reasons. And sometimes, you know,  
8 if you make the question in form of, you know, well we  
9 request the Council to write a letter to whatever agency  
10 it was, asking that question, to get a response,  
11 sometimes that gets a little it quicker response and a  
12 more direct answer to your question, if that helps with  
13 some of your issues. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any further discussions  
16 on the minutes.

17

18 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair, call for question  
19 on the minutes.

20

21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question has been  
22 called. All in favor of adopting the minutes of  
23 September 8 and 9, 2004, signify by saying aye.

24

25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any opposed, same sign.

28

29 (No opposing votes)

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank you.

32

33 Council, we'll take this time to  
34 congratulate our new members. I think we should have  
35 done that in the beginning while we were doing our  
36 introductions, but I kind of got sidetracked here a  
37 little bit. And we have some new members. Julius  
38 Rexford and Mr. Gunderson, Baxter Hopson. I think it  
39 would be formal to welcome you all to the Regional  
40 Advisory Council as new members to this Regional Advisory  
41 Council. We welcome you all.

42

43 MR. HOPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Baxter.

46

47 MR. REXFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

48

49 MR. GUNDERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, we welcome you  
2 all.  
3  
4 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Raymond.  
7  
8 MR. KOONUK: Speech. Speech.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Speech from each?  
11  
12 (Laughter)  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Oh, I think they'll get  
15 to open up when we start deliberating on issues in here.  
16 Gordon, did you have a comment?  
17  
18 MR. G. BROWER: I'd just like to say  
19 welcome aboard in the group of people that were here and  
20 the people that we represent on the North Slope, we do a  
21 pretty good service, and welcome aboard.  
22  
23 MR. GUNDERSON: Thank you again.  
24  
25 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.  
28  
29 MR. TAGAROOK: I would feel more  
30 comfortable if we had a representative from Kaktovik, and  
31 I know those people are busy with ANWR and everything. I  
32 think we need a representative from there. Otherwise  
33 they'll be making proposals that will affect them, and we  
34 don't know what's happening there.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think there's going  
37 to be ample opportunity as the years go on to, well,  
38 continue talking with Fenton. I know he's been trying to  
39 get people to send in letter of nominations, you know,  
40 from Kaktovik, but it just hasn't worked out all that  
41 well. But we'll continue to voice the concern to the  
42 Community of Kaktovik. I think that this is an ongoing  
43 process on a yearly basis, so we'll -- I'll be sure to  
44 pass that message on to him again.  
45  
46 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Michelle.  
49  
50 MS. CHIVERS: You will be receiving

1 applications at the next meeting, so you can also  
2 nominate people. If you know of somebody in that area  
3 that you'd like to nominate, you can also send an  
4 application in for them as well.

5  
6 Thank you.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Michelle.  
9 Moving on, we have the No. 8, Council members reports and  
10 ethic disclosures. That information was just handed out  
11 this morning as we were talking about, and it has Terry's  
12 name on every one of them, but -- I'm not sure if it's  
13 every one of them, but on most of them, but it's  
14 something that we need to discuss, and it's the next item  
15 that we should be talking about. That one one-page  
16 sheet. Maybe, Michelle, have you read it out for us,  
17 please.

18  
19 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, I'll give a  
20 little background on that ethics disclosure. In 2003 the  
21 Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture added an  
22 ethics disclosure paragraph to the Council charters, so  
23 now it's required that each member at the beginning of  
24 the meeting state what their ethics -- state their ethics  
25 disclosure.

26  
27 What it is, is they're required to make a  
28 disclosure of potential conflicts of interest on any of  
29 the items that will be brought forth to the Council.

30  
31 And the purpose of the new requirement is  
32 to maintain the integrity of the FACA advisory committees  
33 before the public, so there is not a question from the  
34 public in terms of, say, a monetary value.

35  
36 And Tina did hand out this one-page  
37 sheet. It's just suggested language. So you can alter  
38 it. You pick a paragraph and just alter it to whatever  
39 fits you best. You just need to state your name, where  
40 you're from, and just if you have any business activities  
41 that that may conflict with any of the proposals,  
42 upcoming proposals.

43  
44 Thank you.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Michelle.  
47 Any questions or comments.

48  
49 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.  
2  
3 MR. KOONUK: Yeah. Do we just fill one  
4 area of this?  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Mr. Chair.  
7  
8 MS. CHIVERS: If you would have -- I  
9 would suggest starting with an existing member who may  
10 have already gone through this ethics disclosure at the  
11 last meeting, and just state your name, where you're  
12 from, and then read whichever suggest -- whichever  
13 paragraph fits you the best. Or just use your own  
14 language, whatever fits you the best.  
15  
16 Thank you. Each member will be required  
17 to do so.  
18  
19 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.  
22  
23 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, I guess I can go  
24 first. My name is Gordon Brower. I live in Barrow,  
25 Alaska. I hunt -- about 95 percent of my hunting area is  
26 in the NPR-A, which is lands here that the Federal  
27 Government, BLM, has jurisdiction over. I do not hold  
28 any commercial fishing licenses or any other commercial  
29 ventures towards or anything like that that may be  
30 considered at this meeting.  
31  
32 So -- as far a hunting, I've been helping  
33 my father throughout the season. He's been trapping.  
34 Sometimes we follow him to his trap lines. He's been  
35 pretty successful.  
36  
37 My brother Barrow has been running  
38 around, too. I'm glad to say he was pretty successful,  
39 too, this year. He's got two Kuviks (ph) for his --  
40 under his belt, and real proud of that. And he's always  
41 rubbing it in to me.  
42  
43 Besides tutu's (ph) been here close  
44 around town as you know. Everybody's been looking at  
45 them here and there. When I talk to my dad, he's been  
46 running around with his trip lines up to -- I don't know  
47 what the English name for it is, but it's (In Inupiat),  
48 and this side of that, and a little bit to the east of  
49 Chip River. And he had stated there was no caribou  
50 further up inland. But he said you had to pass at least

1 Iyahaks to be a little bit more successful.

2

3 Besides that, he's been getting a lot of  
4 trapped foxes and just being busy.

5

6 We're currently making trails for our  
7 whaling activities, so we're busy doing that. And that  
8 would be my report.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. I  
11 guess each of the Council members need to follow through  
12 on this, on which selection they choose. Ray.

13

14 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Do we need  
15 to read this for the record or.....

16

17 MS. CHIVERS: Yes.

18

19 MR. KOONUK: Yeah. Okay. My name is Ray  
20 Koonuk. I live in Point Hope. I subsistence hunt, not  
21 just the fish, but also caribou and seals, polar bears,  
22 whales, belugas, walrus, the whole nine yards out there.  
23 Whatever we have out there. And I had worked -- not  
24 worked, but I had lived with my grandparents, and they  
25 had raised me up ever since I was born, and we had travel  
26 inland with dog teams before snow machines and four  
27 wheelers came in. And we went out -- you know, go out  
28 camping for about maybe three months every year, you  
29 know, and just travel and just go by dog team hunting.  
30 And I miss that. It was a good, you know, get out of  
31 town and just stay out there and camp.

32

33 And also my father was a whaling captain,  
34 and he was successful, and so I'm taking over his whaling  
35 crew.

36

37 And, you know, back then they didn't  
38 worry about what they had to purchase. You know, it was  
39 always -- you know, no bills or anything, but now today  
40 it's different.

41

42 We just reorganized our whaling  
43 association last week, and we have just one new officer,  
44 and the rest are all the same.

45

46 They've been getting quite a few polar  
47 bears, some seals, caribou. Tom cods, they finally came  
48 in after two years, all these tom cods finally came back.

49

50



1                   And everybody's happy as far as what we  
2 have, except for the weather. Man, we've been having  
3 these storms and snow about maybe almost like ice piling  
4 up, you know, on the ocean. And we call them, just like  
5 what we call them, it's like (In Inupiat), you know. And  
6 they're way, way high, you know. Man, that's -- it's  
7 been a while since we had that, you know, kind of weather.

8  
9                   The ice condition is still the same.  
10 It's still not forming like what it used to do in the  
11 past. It's a lot thinner, and it's dangerous. And I  
12 don't know, whatever -- if there was any studies done as  
13 far as the ice conditions out there. And it's very  
14 risky, you know, when we're going to go out whaling or  
15 hunting. So we have to watch as far as -- especially  
16 when the wind turn northeast, that's the time we have to  
17 look and make sure that, you know, the ice don't break  
18 up behind us.

19  
20                   But otherwise everything is good, and  
21 hopefully we'll have a good successful year, whaling  
22 season, and, you know, everybody's getting anxious to  
23 head out from Point Hope.

24  
25                   Thank you.

26  
27                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Ray. Terry.

28  
29                   MR. TAGAROOK: My name is Terry Tagarook,  
30 and I live in Wainwright. I subsistence hunt and fish on  
31 Federal lands and waters under consideration at this. I  
32 do not hold any commercial permits or conduct any  
33 business directly affected by any agenda items before the  
34 Council. And maybe we could come up with a better  
35 scenario for that, too.

36  
37                   And we do our hunting, when the seasons  
38 are here, seasons for wolves, wolverines, caribou, and we  
39 just get what we need in our village, and just store it  
40 for the winter. And right now we're preparing for  
41 whaling. And the caribou has been around our area for  
42 real close to the village, too. And some are coming  
43 right into the village and feeding off near the houses.  
44 And everybody's doing okay. And some people have been  
45 catching wolverines near the DEW line, and they've been  
46 pretty lucky. But in the meantime everybody's getting  
47 ready for whaling in Wainwright. And that's all we have  
48 from Wainwright.

49  
50                   Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry.  
2 Julius.

3  
4 MR. REXFORD: Good morning. My name is  
5 Julius Rexford. I'm from Point Lay. I subsistence hunt,  
6 fish in the fall, fish in the summer. I don't know about  
7 whether I do it on Federal lands, we're east of the --  
8 west of the NPR-A, under consideration at this meeting.  
9 I do not hold any commercial permits or conduct any  
10 business activities directly affected by any agenda items  
11 before the Council.

12  
13 And there's been some successful hunters  
14 in Point Lay. There have been three hunters caught three  
15 wolverines in the same area, Amalik (ph) Lagoon. It's  
16 west of Point Lay.

17  
18 And we've been seeing some dead caribou  
19 in our area, Kokalik, Kuparuk region, in a fetal --  
20 they're just froze up in fetal position, curled up  
21 around, and they look like mostly females with short  
22 antlers. And there's a high number of dead caribou in  
23 that area, Kokalik and the Kuparuk area. And then  
24 there's some close near the village.

25  
26 We just started looking for the smelt  
27 fish. We haven't found them in a couple years.

28  
29 Other than that, that's all I have from  
30 Point Lay.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Julius.  
33 David.

34  
35 MR. GUNDERSON: Good morning. My name is  
36 David Gunderson. I'm currently living in Wainwright. I  
37 subsistence hunt and fish on federal lands under  
38 consideration at this meeting. I do not hold any  
39 commercial permits or conduct any business activities  
40 directly affected by agenda items before the Council. I  
41 do tend to head to my home village, which is in Atqasuk,  
42 and I do fish over there, and I do hunting, mainly for my  
43 mom, and whoever she hands the fish to, or gives the fish  
44 or meet, whatever I catch.

45  
46 I'm just glad to be a part of the  
47 Council, you know. I'm learning as we go on. This is my  
48 first meeting. I'm kind of nervous, tense, you know,  
49 anxiety. I'm just trying to fit in I guess. This is  
50 very exciting though. I'm learning a lot. I'm glad to

1 be here. And I hope to be a good part of your Council.

2

3

Thank you.

4

5

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, David.

6

Maybe I'll go ahead and start.

7

8

My name is Harry Brower, and I live here  
9 in Barrow, Alaska. I subsistence hunt and fish on  
10 Federal lands within the NPR-A, and some years go beyond  
11 and return, on Federal lands, waters under consideration  
12 at this meeting. I do not hold any commercial permits or  
13 conduct any business activities directly affected by any  
14 agenda item before the Council.

15

16

I've been subsistence hunting since I was  
17 a little kid. I can remember like what Ray was  
18 mentioning earlier, waking up in a sleeping bag and moving  
19 in a dog team sled and looking upward and wondering where  
20 I was going. That was my father taking me out as a young  
21 child, and those are some of the early times I can  
22 remember heading out, going out to the areas that I  
23 currently use. So that's some of my earliest  
24 recollections of going out hunting. And I still use  
25 those areas. I'm teaching my son, traversing out there,  
26 getting out there into those areas and learning how to  
27 identify when we get those locations as, you know, as  
28 taught to me by my father. So that's some of the  
29 activities that I'm teaching my son. And we just  
30 recently came back from a hunt. We were up pretty near  
31 200 miles. 250 miles out of Barrow, and just under the  
32 Colville River, just following the banks, and just off  
33 the Colville, can back to Barrow just a few days ago.  
34 And that was a pretty exciting time for my son and  
35 myself.

36

37

We harvested one wolverine. Well, I had  
38 my son catch it. It was just right outside our tent. We  
39 couldn't complain about that. We had been looking for,  
40 you know, fur bearers for several days, and we had just  
41 happened to get tired of snow machines, so we pitched up  
42 our tent and sat for a day and one morning we heard  
43 something moving around outside our tent, and it was the  
44 animal that we had been looking for for several days. It  
45 just happened to come right to us while we were sitting  
46 around. So we were pretty thankful for that. It was one  
47 wolverine that came right up to our camp, so I had my son  
48 harvest it, so that was pretty exciting.

49

50

We ended up -- we got a couple of red

1 foxes and one wolverine before we got back. We did see  
2 some other animals, but it was quite a travel.

3  
4                   It's like Gordon said, the caribou are a  
5 lot further east. We've seen some dead caribou up around  
6 the Price River, and up in the other creeks. There's a  
7 lot of icing that occurred over the course of winter I  
8 suppose. That's what we observed as we were out there,  
9 and it was taking a toll on our sleds, all that ice that  
10 had accumulated over the winter. I'm not sure exactly  
11 what time it had rained during the winter time, but it  
12 was just over an inch thick in areas, and I could see why  
13 there's a lot -- caribou had moved further east. And  
14 there was a lot of dead caribou up near the Fright Creek,  
15 and the Alice Creek, and in the area where we do our  
16 normal fur bearer hunting. And there was a few dead  
17 caribou that we observed there, and moving along the  
18 Price River and crossing over from one side to the other,  
19 traveling up and down them creeks. That's what we  
20 observed.

21  
22                   Anyway, we've -- I do a lot of my hunting  
23 out in the ocean, too. I'm a registered whaling captain.  
24 We go beyond the State lands and go into Federal waters  
25 out there, so we have that issue of State waters and  
26 Federal waters out there.

27  
28                   So we do go out, we observe changes out  
29 as we do our hunting, weather, climate changes affecting  
30 our hunt in areas, and erosion here and there is  
31 noticeable. At least my family -- when I take my family  
32 out, they're able to notice the changes that they see  
33 from the previous time we were out there, the beach  
34 erosion, and that sort of stuff.

35  
36                   The other thing that we noticed last fall  
37 was a lot of spotted seals in the river that were  
38 abnormal from previous times, yeah.

39  
40                   Anyway those are some of the issues that  
41 we noticed traveling, hunting, gathering game or  
42 different animals. And I think that's pretty much it for  
43 me. Baxter.

44  
45                   MR. HOPSON: Good morning. My name is  
46 Baxter Hopson. I live in Barrow, Alaska. I subsistence  
47 hunt and fish in the Federal lands and waters under  
48 consideration at this meeting. I do not hold any  
49 commercial permits or conduct any business activities  
50 directly affected by the agenda items before the Council.

1  
2                   And I ain't got really much to add to  
3 Harry and Gordon, except there's been a lot of caribou  
4 around. People have been harvesting a lot of caribou. A  
5 lot of sick ones out other, too. We've been hearing  
6 reports at my office at Native Village of Barrow about  
7 wounded caribou or sick ones walking around.  
8  
9                   And my uncle just got two wolves. He was  
10 pretty successful up there somewhere, probably past  
11 Folarg (ph).  
12  
13                   Yeah, hunting's been pretty good. And  
14 last fall fishing. I heard a lot of people catching a  
15 lot of fish, so hunting's been pretty good.  
16  
17                   And I'm happy to be part of the Council.  
18 I'm learning a lot. Just hope to help the community.  
19  
20                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Baxter. I  
21 guess that -- Paul.  
22  
23                   MR. BODFISH: (In Inupiat) Yeah, my name  
24 is Paul Bodfish and I live in Atqasuk. I subsistence  
25 hunt, fish in the Federal lands and waters under  
26 consideration at this meeting. I do not hold any  
27 commercial permits or conduct any business activities  
28 directly affected by any agenda items before the Council.  
29  
30                   The hunting's been pretty good.  
31 Fishing's been good. All the fall season. But we had to  
32 go quite a ways out just to get our caribou. The  
33 caribou's been pretty far from our village during the  
34 fall. So we had to sort of travel twice the distance  
35 that we usually travel. And we finally had caribou  
36 around the village in January, and they came from the  
37 west. And they have been mostly to the north of us, and  
38 nothing to the south from the village. Nothing to the  
39 east, the south. And everything's been on the west and  
40 the north side. Now they're finally heading south. They  
41 started heading up inland last month in February, the  
42 early part of February they started heading up inland,  
43 hitting Mead River. And I guess maybe that's part of the  
44 reason there's hardly been any caribou around there.  
45 Maybe after that rainy season, because those -- just like  
46 Harry said, that it's been crusted, the snow up there  
47 which is causing caribou to migrate to different areas  
48 than where they usually are.  
49  
50                   And there's been quite a few people that

1 were successful in getting fur bearer animals like  
2 wolverine. No wolves reported yet.

3

4 And I do hunt whales. I do come here to  
5 hunt whales, and some years I go to Wainwright to hunt  
6 whales. And I live off the ocean here, do my summer  
7 hunts out on the ocean to get my seal meat, my walrus  
8 meat, polar bear at times. But I haven't got a polar  
9 bear in several years.

10

11 That's about all I've got, but hunting's  
12 been good. Everybody's been doing well in their hunting.  
13 So that's all I've got from Atqasuk.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Paul.  
16 Gordon.

17

18 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, is  
19 there somebody here that could define a little bit better  
20 on some of our statement we have to read, like conduct  
21 any business activities directly affected by any agenda  
22 item before the Council? If our jobs that we do on a  
23 daily basis is -- if that's an issue? Is there anybody  
24 that can do that?

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Well, we have Staff  
27 here. Jerry.

28

29 MR. BERG: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.  
30 Gordon, yeah, that was just -- those ethic disclosures  
31 was a requirement that we were told that we needed to  
32 have the councils just disclose that they're not going to  
33 have any financial gain from any of their private  
34 licenses or any business that they conduct outside of the  
35 meeting, so that they weren't voting on something that  
36 was going to directly impact their financial gains or  
37 losses.

38

39 And so that was about a year ago that we  
40 were told that we needed -- and that was according to the  
41 FACA, the Federal Advisory Committee Act. They told us  
42 that we needed to abide by that.

43

44 But now we're getting a different  
45 indication so this all may go away within the next year  
46 or so, so we might not have to do that. Because I know a  
47 lot of Council members that have been on since the  
48 beginning, this is a new thing. And so we're trying to  
49 comply with it as best we can. But it sounds like we're  
50 getting indications that since you guys are just making

1 recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board, you're  
2 not actually making the final decision, that we won't  
3 need to make these ethic disclosures in the future. So  
4 it's still kind of in limbo right now, but that's kind of  
5 where it's heading at this point, that it's probably  
6 going to go away in the future more than likely. Thank  
7 you, Mr. Chair.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Jerry.  
10 Michelle.

11

12 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, I was informed  
13 that when the new what they call the charter comes out,  
14 it will be removed from all 10 regions. So the financial  
15 disclosure will only need to be taken care of at this  
16 meeting, and at your fall meeting. And after that it  
17 will no longer be on the charter.

18

19 Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Michelle.  
22 Gordon, does that answer your question?

23

24 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, it did, because,  
25 you know, I do have a lot of business in NPR-A through my  
26 job, and I just want to make sure that's -- if we needed  
27 to disclose those. You know, I wear two hats. I do  
28 subsist for a whaling captain on Federal public lands  
29 without any commercial licenses whatsoever, but I do hold  
30 job which is a land manager for the North Slope Borough.

31

32 MR. YOKEL: Mr. Chairman.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Dr. Yokel.

35

36 MR. YOKEL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

37 Dave Yokel.

38

39 I'm not directly involved in this, but I  
40 suspect that this might have come out of the change in  
41 the make up of Councils that came a couple years or so  
42 ago where there were positions added for commercial  
43 interests like hunting guides to be on the Councils. And  
44 when anybody is nominated for Council membership, they  
45 have to declare whether they are a subsistence hunter or  
46 a commercial entity, and so far we've never had anybody  
47 nominated for this Council to represent that commercial  
48 interest, which is not too surprising, because there's  
49 not a great deal of commercial hunting or fishing that  
50 goes on in your region. But this probably fell out of

1 that, and, of course, none of you are here representing a  
2 commercial interest, so it's not too big a deal to you.

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Than you, Dr. Yokel,  
5 and I think you hit the topic that I was just going to  
6 bring out, and it's when the changes were made to the  
7 formation of the Councils in the different regions, that  
8 was one of the issues that brought this language out,  
9 that, you know, there was a request for sport hunters and  
10 commercial hunters, commercial license hunters to be on  
11 the Regional Advisory Councils in the different areas.  
12 And we've been fortunate not to have any of that type of  
13 activity here. Although it occurs in our area, it's just  
14 that it's not really notable. It's in areas way off.  
15 But they are getting closer to Barrow, I can tell you  
16 that. I think they're going to use my cabin as a shelter  
17 at times, but -- and there's some people hunting from  
18 Fairbanks coming in and flying in. I guess that was the  
19 reasoning for that, Gordon. If that helped answer your  
20 question.

21

22 Any other comments regarding finances and  
23 ethics disclosure.

24

25 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

28

29 MR. TAGAROOK: It's in the charter, it's  
30 number 10, and I think that's what Dave Yokel just said  
31 was about these commercial people that always come up.  
32 And from the start, we've had this charter and it hasn't  
33 changed much, and it's time that we look at the charter  
34 and make some changes. And that's my comment.

35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Are you stating that we  
37 need to make changes to our charter, Terry? Is that my  
38 understanding?

39

40 MR. TAGAROOK: Well, in the past we've  
41 been talking about compensation, too, and nothing's been  
42 done to increase our per diems and everything, and that  
43 should, you know -- all over the Sate, all the Regional  
44 Councils have been addressing that issue, too.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry. Any  
47 more comments or questions regarding the ethics  
48 disclosure.

49

50 (No comments)



1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Hearing none, I think  
2 we'll move on to Item No. 9, Chairman's report.

3  
4 We have draft 2004 annual report issues.  
5 I think that should be reflected in our minutes from the  
6 2004 meetings, and we as a Council have not had any  
7 proposals to change in the regulations affecting the  
8 North Slope. There's been some proposals that are cross  
9 overs that affect different portions of our region.

10  
11 For instance, the one we're going to be  
12 faced with later on in this meeting is the moose  
13 proposal, which is a proposal that was submitted from the  
14 Western Interior. Is it the Western Interior? Yes,  
15 Western Interior, which affects our Anaktuvuk hunters  
16 since they're right on the boundary line. They're within  
17 the North Slope and then the Western Interior. They have  
18 access to both sides of the border in these regions, so  
19 they're the ones that will be mostly affected in terms of  
20 how we address this proposal.

21  
22 In terms of the Chairman's report, I  
23 don't have really anything else to add. We had our  
24 issues that we identified last years in terms of the  
25 compensation and that was addressed during our fall  
26 meeting. We haven't had any fisheries proposals to  
27 change any fisheries research from our Council.

28  
29 It's not that we don't have any issues  
30 within each of our respective areas. It's that, you  
31 know, we've been fortunate that we've had fish available.  
32 And the cycles go up and down. There's some years we  
33 don't have the fish and some years we do. And that's a  
34 known fact that the cycles do occur, and we continue to  
35 experience them and observe them over time.

36  
37 I'm not sure what else to add besides.  
38 And I did not attend the Federal Subsistence Board  
39 meeting, the fall meeting. I had other activities that I  
40 was -- that were pressing at the time, as had Ray. He  
41 was also busy with other meetings that he had to attend  
42 to, so both Ray and I were not able to attend the  
43 Federal Subsistence Board meetings in the fall, and then  
44 the winter meetings.

45  
46 I don't have too much more to add.  
47 Michelle, maybe if you might have something that Barb  
48 brought out or identified?

49  
50 MS. CHIVERS: (Shakes head negative)

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Nothing. She's nodding  
2 no anyway.

3  
4 The only other issues that we needed to  
5 address we'll probably hear today with the report  
6 regarding the activity within the Arctic National  
7 Wildlife Refuge. Fenton had requested that information  
8 be provided at one of our meetings in regards to the  
9 activity that's happening within the Arctic National  
10 Wildlife Refuge, and we had stated that we would try to  
11 address that at some point in time, and I think it might  
12 come out today. I'm not sure.

13  
14 So I don't have anything else to add in  
15 terms of the Chair's report, unless you have any  
16 questions or comments you'd like to make. Ray.

17  
18 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, Mr. Chair, I kind of  
19 hesitated to come to this meeting, because of preparing  
20 for whaling. And I would like to see this time change as  
21 far as our spring meeting, because March, April and May  
22 is the time -- especially in March, we have to prepare.  
23 And there's a lot of work that has to get done before we  
24 go out whaling. And I hesitated to come, but, you know,  
25 I made my choice to come, although, you know, being the  
26 president for the Whaling Association, there's a lot of  
27 preparations that need to get done, especially with our  
28 equipment that we use. And I'd like to see the -- or  
29 hopefully this can be changed. Instead of March or  
30 April, maybe we can have it later, you know, maybe May or  
31 June. That's when everything starts slowing down. And I  
32 know everybody goes out whaling here, and they have to  
33 prepare, too, and apparently we have all these people  
34 that, you know, they don't to out, and they're not  
35 worried about. But we are. And I'd just like to see the  
36 dates changed, if that's possible.

37  
38 Thank you.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for your  
41 comments, Ray. Any other comments from the Council.  
42 Question? Gordon.

43  
44 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, along  
45 the same line, you know, once we get successful,  
46 especially when we catch a whale, we're starting to  
47 prepare for festival, too. And June is a very critical  
48 period for that time of event.

49  
50 In the past I think we've had meetings in

1 the dead of winter, in February. And I'd like to see us  
2 continue that, because that is, you know, a much better  
3 time than March. March is very busy. It's people  
4 putting skins on their boats, people making trails and  
5 preparing to have access to the ocean, and it's a  
6 critical time. Like tonight I think is the Barrow  
7 Whaling Captains Association meeting. So there's a lot  
8 of things happening. So my proposal would be that we  
9 need to seriously look at maybe earlier in the season.  
10 Maybe mid February to the third week of February. Or  
11 when things are just starting to roll, and things are  
12 starting to die down a little bit.

13

14                   Between probably November and February  
15 it's very high point in subsistence activities for fur  
16 bearing. I know during that time from November through  
17 January, you know, we're hauling our fall catch from our  
18 camp so that we can utilize it in Barrow. And that's how  
19 our captain does his hunting, so -- and he stores it all  
20 at camp. So those periods, it's a very busy time for  
21 subsistence activities.

22

23                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.

24

25                   MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

26

27                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.

28

29                   MR. KOONUK: I just want to add on one  
30 thing. As far as when we gave our reports, as far as the  
31 climate change, you know, the ice is a lot thinner and  
32 dangerous and, you know, it would be good for us to go  
33 out early now, you know, like maybe end of March or first  
34 part of April. But, you know, the climate is changing,  
35 and, you know, we have to be there as far as preparing.

36

37                   Thank you.

38

39                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

40

41                   MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.

42

43                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

44

45                   MR. TAGAROOK: I was just looking at the  
46 meeting windows for fall, and we have our meeting windows  
47 for the 19th and 20th of October. And when you look at  
48 the back, then we have the meeting window starting  
49 February 20. Is that too late? Could we up that for  
50 February? The window from the winter 2006, meeting

1 closes March 24. That's kind of late and that's when  
2 everybody's busy getting ready for whaling. And is there  
3 a way that we could start the meeting date prior to  
4 February 20, or is this it?

5  
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Well, I think just that  
7 we'd -- Michelle and the Staff, I'm not sure why we've  
8 got the date set from the mid February section into  
9 March. And what the Council members are asking, if we  
10 could set the date earlier than what's indicated on the  
11 calendar, winter 2006 calendar. Michelle.

12  
13 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, they've always  
14 tried to make kind of a meeting widow that will coincide  
15 with, we have a Staff Committee meeting, and then, of  
16 course, the Board meeting upcoming, and then, of course,  
17 have time to prepare the analyses to get them to the  
18 Council.

19  
20 We can bring back that you guys would  
21 like to meet earlier, and see if they're willing to open  
22 the meeting window a little earlier in the year. What  
23 dates were you thinking of, like just the previous week?

24  
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I need to ask the  
26 Council members what dates do you want to identify to  
27 hold the meeting. Maybe Ray was saying later, but again  
28 we need to ask you, Council members, to see when, what  
29 time frame would be preferable for you.

30  
31 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, Mr. Chair, are we  
32 talking about both fall and spring meeting, or are we  
33 talking about just the spring?

34  
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think we were  
36 basically trying to address the spring meetings, and then  
37 the fall meetings, Terry mentioned the fall meeting, but  
38 what we're trying to address was the spring meeting.  
39 Terry?

40  
41 MR. TAGAROOK: Yes, and that would give  
42 us enough time to get ready for whaling and we don't have  
43 to worry about meeting during the busy season for whaling  
44 activities.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So it's the spring  
47 time, and the Council needs to identify what time, what  
48 date would be preferable to the Council. Would it be,  
49 you know, February 16, February 18, February 4? What  
50 date do you wish to identify?

1 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.  
4  
5 MR. TAGAROOK: I think we could discuss  
6 this since we have it on the agenda for winter meeting.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: That's another option.  
9 You know, we're under the Chair's report and we could  
10 bring that up under that agenda item if the Council  
11 wishes. Gordon.  
12  
13 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, yeah,  
14 if it's on the agenda, I think we could take it up  
15 appropriately at that time. But it is certainly an issue  
16 that we really need to seriously consider.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, we have that  
19 option, and there's next meeting date on the agenda.  
20 It's Item 15, next meeting is October 19 and 20, 2005 in  
21 Barrow. Establish time and place for next winter meeting  
22 is on the next agenda item under that, so we'll have the  
23 opportunity to do that to discuss the time that we would  
24 like to see indicated on our -- for our next winter  
25 meeting date.  
26  
27 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, are you  
28 proposing that we'll take this up in the fall meeting, or  
29 is it on the agenda for.....  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Under agenda item  
32 number 15, establish time and place for winter 2006  
33 meeting. Yes, we have that opportunity to address that  
34 time frame again.  
35  
36 MR. G. BROWER: Okay.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other questions in  
39 regards to the Chair's report.  
40  
41 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.  
44  
45 MR. G. BROWER: The issue about per diem.  
46 Is that an issue under your report? It seems to me, you  
47 know, a lot of our members travel to get here, and that  
48 they're not doing any commercial activity, they're just  
49 here, and to take it upon themselves to be out of town,  
50 and feeding themselves. It seems to me that there should

1 be some, you know, adequately addressed on the per diem  
2 issue. But I'm not really appraised of how that's been  
3 doing.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon, it's been --  
6 we've had it as a concern and an issue brought out from  
7 the Council several times. It's not the first time.  
8 It's been ongoing for several meetings since we  
9 identified when Fenton was here as the chairman. And  
10 we've been trying to get it addressed, but the laws that  
11 we have, that we've been following through, and there's  
12 some information that was provided at the last meeting  
13 that we're -- the concern was to try and get the per diem  
14 at 100 percent, but we couldn't do that because of the  
15 written information that was provided to us, it only  
16 states that 80 percent be provided of the amount. So  
17 again we need to -- it's reflected what we had discussed  
18 in terms of the recommendations that we had tried to  
19 address and the issues that were brought out by the  
20 Council members. And it's been ongoing, and I thought we  
21 had basically covered it at the winter meeting. We were  
22 trying to get the issue, to bring it out at 100 percent,  
23 but we couldn't do that, because it was already written  
24 into the procedures that only 80 percent be provided.  
25 There's some tax withheld information that was discussed  
26 at that fall meeting. Michelle.

27  
28 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, another reason  
29 why it is set at I believe it's 80 percent, I'm not -- I  
30 don't remember exactly what the per diem rate is, but  
31 sometimes, if the meetings, if they end early, like for  
32 instance your last meeting was scheduled for two days.  
33 This time it's only scheduled for one. And they set a  
34 lower limit just so the Council members if they end up  
35 going in fact home early, they won't be owing a lot of  
36 money. So -- and what they -- so that's why you receive  
37 this paperwork, and if you fill it out, if there's money  
38 due to you, they will actually send you a check. But  
39 then, you know, if the meeting were to end early, then  
40 the Council members end up owing money, and then we have  
41 to make a request for them to pay the Government back.

42  
43 Thank you.

44  
45 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.

48  
49 MR. KOONUK: Yeah. I've got a question  
50 on the per diem. I seen your list there, and there was a

1 couple of them got higher per diems than some of us.  
2 What's the reason for that? I mean, you know, all here  
3 for the meeting, and I can't understand why there's only  
4 a couple guys that got higher per diems than the rest of  
5 us.

6  
7 And also you talk about only receiving 80  
8 percent, and when do we receive that 20 percent? I  
9 haven't seen anything as far as, you know, getting my  
10 whole 100 percent. If they're just giving us 80 percent,  
11 then where's the other 20 percent going?

12  
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Jerry.

14  
15 MR. BERG: Yeah, Mr. Chair, thank you,  
16 maybe I can help try to answer some of these questions.  
17 It is an issue not only with your Council, but other  
18 Councils around the State, and it has been brought up  
19 numerous times, and it's been forwarded all the way to  
20 the offices in Washington, D.C. and we've certainly been  
21 told that, you know, we have to abide by these certain  
22 laws.

23  
24 I think for the reason some people may be  
25 getting more per diem than others, such as I would guess  
26 like Ray may have had a check issued for a little bit  
27 more, because he has an extra day of travel in there.  
28 I'm not sure if there's Council members that have the  
29 same travel days in there, why -- you shouldn't be  
30 getting any more, so I'm not sure of those details. But  
31 you should be getting 80 percent of what they project  
32 your travel to be. And then for the remainder, as long  
33 as you fill out your voucher at the end, and either mail  
34 it in to us, or you can give it to Michelle at the end of  
35 the day, for any other taxis that you have around town or  
36 whatnot, you know that gets mailed in.

37  
38 And then the extra 20 percent should be  
39 sent into your bank account directly. It's an electronic  
40 transfer. And if you're not seeing that, you certainly  
41 need to let Michelle know or let Barb know and we'll  
42 certainly follow up on that, but you should be getting  
43 your additional remainder of whatever you're due, but  
44 they do do just an electronic transfer directly into your  
45 bank account. So you won't be seeing a check in the  
46 mail. It will just be directly sent into your bank  
47 account. Mr. Chair.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Jerry. Does  
50 that help with the question, Ray?

1 MR. KOONUK: (Nods affirmative)  
2  
3 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry, go ahead.  
6  
7 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah. If they do that,  
8 could they send us a statement stating that they  
9 deposited into our account? Otherwise, I don't see any  
10 paper saying that they did.  
11  
12 MR. BERG: Yes, Mr. Chair, Terry, I will  
13 certainly check into that, because, you know, the Staff,  
14 we're bound by the same laws, and they do send us an e-  
15 mail telling us that this amount is being deposited in  
16 your account. And I know it is nice to be notified that  
17 it is being put in there, so I will certainly check into  
18 that when we get back, and we'll let you know if there's  
19 some way that we can at least get a notification that  
20 that's being -- that that's occurring. Thank you, Mr.  
21 Chair.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon, did you have a  
24 comment, a question?  
25  
26 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, but it's probably  
27 something else. This is about location of meeting. I  
28 had a concern about some of the North Slope not being  
29 represented such as Kaktovik, and we touched on that a  
30 little bit earlier. And I think we should seriously  
31 consider locations to meet other than Barrow, especially  
32 for areas that are not having a representative maybe,  
33 such as Kaktovik, that would maybe encourage somebody to  
34 be nominated from the floor during a meeting in those  
35 villages.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think we did have  
38 some discussion about that, and there were issues that  
39 came out in terms of the lodging and meeting places where  
40 a problem identified in Barrow being the regional hub for  
41 the North Slope was identified as a meeting place. But  
42 your concern is valid, Gordon, that, you know, we need to  
43 hold meetings elsewhere other than Barrow when we're  
44 addressing issues related to their area. It would be  
45 most helpful in getting more comments in in regards to  
46 the specific area that we're trying to address, like for  
47 Kaktovik.  
48  
49 I know we haven't had a representative  
50 from there for several years since Fenton stepped down.



1 And trying to get that seat filled has been a challenge.  
2 I know personally I've tried getting people to submit  
3 letters of nominations or interest to the Federal  
4 Subsistence Board to show interest to fill that position,  
5 and it hasn't happened. Gordon.

6  
7 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, it's just a  
8 concern. I mean, it may be, you know, there may be a  
9 special, you know, warning that we need to include -- be  
10 inclusive. And they're having a hard time, I think we  
11 should -- you know, Staff should make an effort to  
12 seriously look at that. I mean, other agencies do make  
13 special provisions when an area that's being affected.  
14 An example, North Slope Borough's Planning Commission  
15 will meet periodically in a village that's being affected  
16 by some proposals. And when there's not adequate  
17 representation during a meeting, it should be considered  
18 some times.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.  
21 Jerry.

22  
23 MR. BERG: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair.  
24 Yeah, I think those are all valid concerns, and certainly  
25 our program tried to do the best to include communities.  
26 I know Barb makes an extra effort to try to send posters  
27 out to communities to try to have representation on the  
28 Council. But if we can't get somebody nominated to be  
29 represented on the Council, if there are issues out in --  
30 that you're going to be dealing with on your agenda that  
31 directly involve certain villages, you know, our program  
32 certainly has had numerous meetings out in small  
33 communities, and certainly want to encourage that. And  
34 certainly we'd be listening for those kind of indications  
35 from the Council if you think there's an issue coming up  
36 for your fall meeting or your winter meeting that you  
37 think there's going to be an issue that you'd like to  
38 meet in a certain community, then I think, you know, we  
39 would appreciate hearing that from the Council, and try  
40 to move that forward if at all possible.

41  
42 Of course, we are having budget cuts at  
43 the same time, so that we have to kind of watch our  
44 travel budget these days, but certainly if there's issues  
45 out in some of the smaller villages, we want to be able  
46 to include them as much as we can. So we'll certainly  
47 take that under consideration. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

48  
49 MR. REXFORD: Mr. Chair.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Julius.

2

3 MR. REXFORD: Yeah. When I filled out my  
4 interest of getting into the Council, it took a whole  
5 year after my interview to be accepted on the Council.  
6 And I think that time line is so long, you kind of forget  
7 to, you know -- you think to yourself, oh, I probably  
8 didn't get on the Council, but it took a whole year for  
9 BLM to get a hold of me and said I was accepted on the  
10 Council. So I think maybe Kaktovik has people  
11 interested, but maybe they have filled out the paperwork,  
12 but BLM isn't following up on it. That's my comment.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Julius.  
15 Jerry.

16

17 MR. BERG: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chair,  
18 Julius, yeah, it is a very lengthy process, and part of  
19 the reason for that is that the appointments are made by  
20 the Secretary of Interior. So once we do our internal  
21 panel work, and I know Dave Yokel is one of the panel  
22 members for this region.

23

24 and I'm not sure how many applicants we've  
25 had from Kaktovik recently, but I assure you if there  
26 were applications, they were followed up on and they were  
27 interviewed.

28

29 But it is a very lengthy process, and the  
30 reason for that is that we have to put our packet  
31 together and then send it back to Washington, D.C. And  
32 there's a whole bunch of levels of review that occur back  
33 there. And so it does -- it is a very lengthy process  
34 and it takes a long time. And I don't really see that  
35 changing.

36

37 But just, you know, we do try to  
38 encourage people to be involved and apply, and certainly  
39 try to have the best representation we can on the  
40 Council. And I know Barb makes an extra effort to try to  
41 get posters and the announcements out to all the villages  
42 to make sure to have -- and especially if there's a  
43 community that's not represented, she makes an extra  
44 effort to make phone calls there. And I'm not aware if  
45 we've had applicants from Kaktovik, but I'll certainly  
46 take that back and let Barb know that so that maybe we  
47 can make some extra efforts there for the next round of  
48 nominations. Mr. Chair.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you again, Jerry.

1 Any other comments. Terry.

2

3 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair, this is Terry.  
4 I like the suggestion that Gordon made about having the  
5 meeting in Kaktovik. Maybe that way we can get a  
6 representative from there. And if we need, I think we  
7 could meet there, and get a representative from Kaktovik.  
8 And if we're going to have maybe public here who could do  
9 it by the teleconference.

10

11 And looking at the agenda, I think most  
12 of the time we've been having our meetings during the  
13 day, and all the people that want to say something are at  
14 work. And we talked about having the meetings in the  
15 evening so that people will give their testimonies when  
16 we have our public hearings.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry.  
19 That's sort of -- we were trying to do it during the  
20 first meeting date, to hold an evening session, but we  
21 didn't have a quorum at the time, and that got taken out,  
22 and now we're holding a one-day meeting today.

23

24 If there are any other comments in  
25 regards to the Chair's report. Gordon.

26

27 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, just,  
28 you know, how important it is for regional  
29 representatives. You know, we hear a lot about thing in  
30 ANWR, and I am sure that Kaktovik needs adequate  
31 representation for subsistence-related issues from that  
32 area, because I do speak with Kaktovik residents almost  
33 on a daily basis about hunting and I'm not -- you know,  
34 I'm kind of surprised we don't have -- when Fenton  
35 retired or whatnot, that we still don't have a  
36 representative from an area where even Congressional  
37 action is being taken place in that wildlife refuge.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.  
40 Again, you know, my position with the North Slope Borough  
41 Wildlife Department, I do hear a lot of issues in regards  
42 to wildlife activity and hunting, and the different  
43 activity that are occurring within the Arctic National  
44 Wildlife Refuge. And there's some complaints of, you  
45 know, people trespassing into private allotments and  
46 cabins usage and some being damaged, and trying to get  
47 access into the cabin. Those are some of the issues that  
48 we hear.

49

50 And I agree with you, the concerns that

1 have been voiced, that we need to have representative of  
2 hold a meeting in the community to better hear the  
3 concerns of the community that is being widely affected  
4 from different users of the area. You know, I think that  
5 we need to address that at some point in time. Maybe  
6 when we get to this agenda Item 15, maybe we could  
7 suggest the holding of winter meeting then.

8

9 MR. TAGAROOK: Or fall.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Or our fall meeting,  
12 you know. But this meeting dates for No. 15, agenda Item  
13 15, it's set for Barrow, but we may want just to change  
14 when we get to that topic. Ray.

15

16 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, Mr. Chair, I  
17 understand and feel for Kaktovik. I'm further south, and  
18 we have -- also we have activities such as Red Dog Mine,  
19 and we share the hunting grounds with NANA, Northwest  
20 area. And I would like to attend their meetings, and  
21 also get -- or get some kind of a report as far as what,  
22 you know, they're talking about. And I made this request  
23 years back. And when I first made that request, I was  
24 going to their meetings, but all of a sudden, you know,  
25 it just stopped. Because, you know, Red Dog Mine has  
26 been an issue for quite some time as far as, you know, if  
27 it having any effects on our animals, caribou and fish  
28 and all that stuff. So I'd like to know what they are  
29 talking about, too. And I'd like -- you know, if there  
30 are some serious issues, I'd like to bring them out here.  
31 But I wouldn't know how that would work between Northwest  
32 and me, because, you know, I am concerned, too, as far as  
33 what Red Dog is.

34

35 And I know there are some other meetings  
36 that are going to happen here as far as Hope Basin.  
37 There's a lease proposal that's going, and I think  
38 they're going to hold some hearings, and that's going to  
39 affect our area, and also there's another one right  
40 around Point Lay, Wainwright, another lease sale, and I  
41 think there's going to be a hearing on there.

42

43 But, you know, I'd like to know what NANA  
44 is saying, and I want to, you know, be part of them, too,  
45 as far as what they talk about, because I'm from that  
46 area, close, you know. We hunt around that area. And  
47 once again I want to make that request to go to their  
48 meetings.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So that would be Unit

1 23, identified as Unit 23 in the Federal Management  
2 regulation booklet. It's another neighboring unit that  
3 we have -- that our Regional Advisory Council is, you  
4 know, right in the border line again, moving back and  
5 forth between just like Anaktuvuk. The use areas crosses  
6 over from one side to the other, the identified boundary  
7 line in Unit 26. So that's another one, another area as  
8 Ray indicated that we need to be closely monitoring, and  
9 probably to -- we'll try to address that with Barb. I'll  
10 bring that up with Barb again, maybe trying to get, and  
11 working, and just have her provide us with the scheduling  
12 of their meetings and see if it would be not be able to  
13 coincide with the time frame that would be, you know,  
14 appropriate for you to travel, if it's not conflicting  
15 with another meeting, with maybe that suggestion to here  
16 to provide that information before their meeting date  
17 would be appropriate. Yeah, I'll bring that up with her  
18 again, Ray, and see if we could continue that.

19

20 Any other comments or questions.

21

22 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chairman?

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

25

26 MR. TAGAROOK: Is there a chance of  
27 getting copies of their meetings or minutes to see what's  
28 happening with them in their area and what's the issues  
29 they're discussing.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think that we could  
32 work with our coordinator in getting that information  
33 disseminated to the Council members that are interested  
34 in reviewing that information, or their meeting minutes  
35 in terms of what's being discussed.

36

37 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah, that would be good  
38 information, but if there's something that will affect  
39 Ray in his hunting, that he should be able to attend  
40 their meetings and get his input.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I agree with both of  
43 you, Ray and Terry, that, you know, it's just a similar  
44 issue as what we're faced with Anaktuvuk and dealing with  
45 proposals that are being submitted from another region,  
46 but are affecting our region participants in that area.  
47 So I agree with.

48

49 Again, I'll touch base with Barb and try  
50 to get that issue resolved. Michelle.

1 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, I just wanted to  
2 state that the meeting minutes, once they are completed  
3 by the coordinators, they are posted on our web site. If  
4 you do not have access to that, we can send you copies.  
5 You can make a request and we can get copies to you, but  
6 they are posted on our website. It's actually on the  
7 cover of your fish regulation booklet and hunting book,  
8 so if you make note of that, you can actually go in  
9 there, look under Councils and then find the meeting  
10 minutes for each of the regions.

11  
12 Thank you.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Michelle.  
15 Ray.

16  
17 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair. I move to  
18 approve the Chair's report.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor to  
21 approve the Chair's report.

22  
23 MR. TAGAROOK: Second.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Terry. Any  
26 further discussion.

27  
28 MR. BODFISH: Question.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The question's been  
31 called. All in favor signify by saying aye.

32  
33 IN UNISON: Aye.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All opposed same sign.

36  
37 (No opposing votes)

38  
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: (In Inupiat) Thank  
40 you. Jerry.

41  
42 MR. BERG: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chair. I  
43 just wanted to point out that Barb did send up a draft  
44 annual report that's one of the yellow sheets that's in  
45 front of you. And that was draft -- she drafted that up  
46 based on information you provided at your fall meeting,  
47 and it looked to me like there was just one informational  
48 issue that she put in there on your annual report. So  
49 it's just draft at this point for the Council to review.  
50 If there's other issues you'd like to add, you can still

1 do that. And then, of course Barb will follow up and  
2 work with the Chair following this meeting to finalize  
3 the annual report and then have it signed by the Chair  
4 once it's in final form. And basically the annual report  
5 is for the Council to add any issues that they would like  
6 the Federal Subsistence Board to review that are  
7 subsistence related issues outside of the normal  
8 regulatory process. So you have other issues, questions  
9 you'd like the Federal Subsistence Board to respond to,  
10 you can put them in your annual report and the Federal  
11 Board will meet and discuss those issues and provide a  
12 response to the Council. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Jerry.  
15 Again, we'll reflect the issues that were identified  
16 within our -- through the minutes that are provided for  
17 each of meetings.

18

19 We'll take a 10 minute break before we  
20 get into the next agenda item. How does that sound with  
21 the Council. So ordered, a 10 minute break.

22

23 (Off record)

24

25 (On record)

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Can we call the meeting  
28 back to order. We're the North Slope Regional Advisory  
29 Council. We're under Agenda Item 10, wildlife proposal  
30 review and regional Council recommendations. And it's  
31 stated in the booklets the presentation procedures for  
32 proposals.

33

34 Introduction of proposal and analysis.

35

36 Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
37 comments.

38

39 Other Federal, State and tribal agency  
40 comments.

41

42 InterAgency Staff Committee comments.

43

44 Fish and Game Advisory Committee  
45 comments.

46

47 Summary of written public comments.

48

49 Public testimony.

50

1 Regional Council deliberation,  
2 recommendation and justification.

3  
4 And we have three proposals that we'll be  
5 addressing this morning, unless there's another one that  
6 comes up while we're under this topic of wildlife  
7 proposals. So Dave Fisher will provide us the  
8 information for all three of the proposals that we'll be  
9 addressing.

10  
11 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.

14  
15 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, we have two or three  
16 guys that just came in, could they introduce themselves  
17 and who they work for.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, I think they're  
20 talking about you Geoff and Sverre.

21  
22 MR. CARROLL: Hi, I'm Geoff Carroll. I'm  
23 the are Fish and Game biologist for the Alaska Department  
24 of Fish and Game.

25  
26 MR. MILLS: I'm Dave Mills,  
27 Superintendent for Gates of the Arctic National Park.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think the third  
30 person just went out and it was Sverre.

31  
32 So is it okay to continue?

33  
34 MR. KOONUK: Yes, thank you.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Fisher, you have  
37 the floor for the proposals.

38  
39 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We  
40 have three wildlife proposals here before us this  
41 morning. The first one is a statewide proposal to  
42 clarify the definition of handicrafts and prevent  
43 commercialization of bear handicrafts.

44  
45 The second one is a statewide proposal to  
46 reduce the season length for wolf harvest.

47  
48 And the third one deals with moose in  
49 part of Unit 24. When we get to that one we're going to  
50 go via teleconference and have another biologist from our



1 office who is more familiar with those issues than I am.  
2 He has lived in Galena for a number of years and actually  
3 has been on the ground so he hopefully will be able to  
4 answer some of those questions that you people have.  
5

6                   What I'd like to do is start out with  
7 Proposal No. 1. This was submitted by the Fish and  
8 Wildlife Service. And what it would do is it would  
9 provide clear definitions in regulatory language  
10 regarding the sale of handicrafts made from bear fur.  
11 And if you'll notice, I did put to handouts on your desk  
12 here this morning. The first one is an errata sheet.  
13 This proposal was modified by our Staff and the  
14 modification is in the shaded area on that errata sheet.  
15 The second handout is purely informational. It does  
16 answer a lot of questions that have arisen from the sale  
17 of handicrafts made from bear fur to include claws so it  
18 should answer just about any question that you have and  
19 it's for your information.  
20

21                   Actually, this proposal probably doesn't  
22 really affect you people very much. I understand there's  
23 not a lot of black bear activities, there are possibly a  
24 few that are taken but not many and there is only three  
25 regions in the state where they're allowed to use brown  
26 bear fur to include claws for handicrafts.  
27

28                   But anyway, I'll go ahead and present  
29 this and then answer any questions that you have.  
30

31                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Fisher, before you  
32 continue, just to -- for the Council, the page numbers  
33 are on the side of the booklet as to where you'll find  
34 copies of the proposal, Page 17 is the first one.  
35

36                   MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.  
37

38                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.  
39

40                   MR. G. BROWER: Just for clarification  
41 purposes, if you could rephrase from you people to maybe  
42 the North Slope.  
43

44                   MR. FISHER: Yes, I can do that.  
45

46                   Proposal 01 was submitted by the Fish and  
47 Wildlife Service and what it would do is provide clearer  
48 definitions and clearer regulatory language regarding the  
49 sale of handicrafts made from brown bear fur. As I  
50 previously stated this proposal was modified and the

1 modification is on the errata sheet, the shaded portion.  
2 These changes are not intended to result in any new  
3 harvest, any new harvest opportunities, or opportunities  
4 to sell handicrafts.

5  
6 In 2002 the Federal Subsistence Board  
7 approved the sale of handicrafts made from black bear  
8 fur. In 2004, the Federal Subsistence Board approved the  
9 sale of handicrafts made from brown bear fur in only  
10 three regions in the state; Southeast Alaska, Bristol Bay  
11 and Eastern Interior. Also in 2004, the Federal  
12 Subsistence Board clarified the previous regulation that  
13 they had made and they included claws. Claws can be used  
14 in the sale of handicrafts.

15  
16 These regulations are different from  
17 current State regulations. The State does not allow the  
18 sale of handicrafts that contain claws so we have a  
19 difference there.

20  
21 Throughout this process, once the Board  
22 did approve the sale of handicrafts made from black bear  
23 fur and also handicrafts made from the sale of brown bear  
24 fur in those three regions, there were several or  
25 numerous questions that did come up, and that is the  
26 reason for the informational sheet.

27  
28 This proposal, as modified by the Staff  
29 intends to address these questions and provide a clearer  
30 definition for what a handicraft is. Better definition  
31 for what skin is, hide, pelt and fur. And it also states  
32 in regulatory language that claws can be used in the sale  
33 of handicrafts.

34  
35 It also clarifies that handicrafts. It  
36 also clarifies that handicrafts must be made by rural  
37 Alaskans in Alaska. And it also states that these sales  
38 are not allowed by anyone operating a business.

39  
40 The proposal is primarily a  
41 clarification. It does not allow for any change in the  
42 subsistence harvest opportunities.

43  
44 Our recommendation would be to support  
45 the proposal as modified.

46  
47 That's basically all I have, Mr.  
48 Chairman. Thank you, very much.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Fisher.

1 Following the procedures as indicated on the booklet for  
2 discussion on each of these proposals, next we have  
3 Alaska Department of Fish and Game comments.

4  
5 (No comments)

6  
7 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Michelle.

10  
11 MS. CHIVERS: I'm not sure if Geoff  
12 Carroll was here to represent the ADF&G comments.

13  
14 MR. CARROLL: (Shakes head negatively)

15  
16 MS. CHIVERS: There are comments in the  
17 book on Page 55 and I will go ahead and read those.

18  
19 ADF&G does not support this proposal.  
20 They feel the proposal does not address concerns raised  
21 by the Department in a request for reconsideration  
22 submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board in 2004  
23 regarding the Federal regulation authorizing the sale of  
24 handicrafts items made from the skin and claws of brown  
25 and black bears. It is unclear how the proposed changes  
26 would address conservation concerns associated with the  
27 sale of handicrafts made from bear fur and claws in the  
28 absence of a tracking system that documents how many  
29 bears are being harvested for the purpose of making  
30 handicrafts items for sale.

31  
32 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Other  
35 agency comments.

36  
37 (No comments)

38  
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. I'm not  
40 sure what the abbreviation for ISC stands for, comments.  
41 Is that InterAgency Staff Committee, I think that's what  
42 I've heard before, but I'm not sure of this.

43  
44 (No comments)

45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Does anybody know if  
47 that's it?

48  
49 (No comments)

50

1 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, thank you, yes,  
4 InterAgency Staff Committee.  
5  
6 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Michelle.  
9  
10 MS. CHIVERS: At some of the meetings we  
11 did have an InterAgency  
12  
13 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, at some of the  
14 meetings we did have an InterAgency Staff Committee  
15 representative to read their comments from each proposal.  
16 I don't really see anybody here and I don't have anything  
17 in front of me.  
18  
19 Thank you.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Michelle.  
22 Continuing with number 5, it's Fish and Game Advisory  
23 Committee comments.  
24  
25 (No comments)  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Number 6  
28 is summary of written public comments.  
29  
30 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'll  
31 go ahead and read those.  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Michelle.  
34  
35 MS. CHIVERS: We did receive three  
36 written public comments on this proposal.  
37  
38 The first one they wanted to either  
39 oppose or modify to exclude the claws and this comment  
40 came from Don Quarberg of Delta Junction. Including  
41 claws is only encouraging poaching in which the claws are  
42 quickly removed and the carcass left in the field to rot.  
43 The claws are the most economically desirable part for  
44 handicraft.  
45  
46 The AHTNA Subsistence Committee, they  
47 were in support of this proposal to clarify the  
48 definition of handicrafts and prevent the  
49 commercialization of bear handicrafts We support rural  
50 subsistence users being able to make handicrafts out of

1 the skin, hide, pelt, including the claws, for black and  
2 brown bears. We support efforts to prohibit  
3 commercialization of the skin, hide, pelt or fur of a  
4 black or brown bear, including claws.

5  
6 And there was one in opposition The  
7 Department of Public Safety. We believe that allowing  
8 the sale of bear parts will increase illegal take and  
9 waste of bears, will exacerbate the black market issues,  
10 will go against a North American trend that is more  
11 restrictive concerning sale and is not consistent with  
12 customary and traditional practices.

13  
14 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Michelle.  
17 Number 7 is public testimony.

18  
19 (No comments)

20  
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I don't think we're  
22 having any public testimony, we haven't had any cards  
23 come in. Number 8 is Regional Council deliberation,  
24 recommendation and justification.

25  
26 What is the wish of the Council on this  
27 proposal.

28  
29 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

32  
33 MR. G. BROWER: In listening to ADF&G's  
34 comments, is there anybody from ADF&G to respond to if  
35 this would increase the take of the bear parts just for  
36 that purpose only. It seems to me that there's already,  
37 you know, harvest of black bear and brown bear and this  
38 was excluded even by the rural residents to use these  
39 certain parts, and I just want to get a clarification on  
40 that.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon, Geoff and  
43 Sverre are both with the State of Alaska, and I'm not  
44 sure if they're here to represent them or maybe we could  
45 get one of the Staff people to have them come in so we  
46 could address your question.

47  
48 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, the other part is  
49 if it's just conflicting with the State regulation and  
50 that's their concern, that they're thinking that it needs

1 to be aligned for best management practices.

2

3

(Pause)

4

5

(No comments)

6

7

CHAIRMAN BROWER: For discussion, Gordon,  
8 there it states that they did submit a request for  
9 reconsideration to the Federal Subsistence Board in 2004.

10

11

MS. PETRIVELLI: Excuse me, Mr. Chair.

12

13

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

14

15

MS. PETRIVELLI: My name is Pat  
16 Petrivelli. But I guess because -- the only thing that I  
17 think that the State might object to is just the idea is  
18 the State does allow the sale of handicrafts made from  
19 black bear fur and brown bear fur, but the difference  
20 between the State and Federal regulations is we define  
21 fur, and the way we define fur says the external covering  
22 of the bear. And then our Board clarified it to say  
23 including claws, because there was a question about  
24 whether claws are part of the external covering or not,  
25 and the Board clarified for bears that claws are  
26 considered part of the external covering because of the  
27 three regions who wanted to have the brown bear fur  
28 handicrafts allowed, Eastern Interior, Southeast and  
29 Bristol Bay. They assumed that the claws were part of  
30 it, and so the Board said, yes, put claws with it. So  
31 that's the difference between the State and the Federal  
32 regulations is just having the claws attached.

33

34

And I guess just from their written  
35 comments it just seems like because there was a lot of  
36 publicized arrest in the Prince William Sound, where  
37 people were harvesting black bear and just taking certain  
38 parts and leaving the rest, and of course those are  
39 wanton waste issues, and they were illegally harvested  
40 them. But usually subsistence users say, because the  
41 primary intent is to harvest for food, and then use the  
42 other pieces later for the handicrafts. But the State is  
43 just concerned about the over commercialization.

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

So I don't know if that helps answer the

question.

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Pat.

Gordon.

1 MR. G. BROWER: It's a little complicated  
2 but, you know, that's what I was trying to understand, is  
3 the difference. And if that is the primary reason ADF&G  
4 would be non-supportive.

5  
6 MR. FISHER: I might add a little bit  
7 more.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Fisher.

10  
11 MR. FISHER: The State did appeal this  
12 decision by the Federal Subsistence Board, and they  
13 issued a request for reconsideration, and that was denied  
14 by the Board. The Board maintained to allow the sale of  
15 handicrafts to include claws statewide for black bear and  
16 then in those three regions for brown bears.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

19  
20 MR. G. BROWER: One more thing, Mr.  
21 Chairman.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

24  
25 MR. G. BROWER: Being it's a statewide  
26 proposal, that would also affect the brown bears on the  
27 North Slope?

28  
29 MR. FISHER: Well, it would affect brown  
30 bears on the North Slope to that they wouldn't be allowed  
31 to sell any brown bear parts for handicrafts. It would  
32 only apply to those three regions, Southeast, Eastern  
33 Interior and Bristol Bay.

34  
35 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

38  
39 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah, would those three  
40 regions, would they be able to sell handicrafts made out  
41 of the fur and the claws and it would be illegal for us  
42 to do that since we don't have a proposal like that for  
43 the North Slope?

44  
45 MR. FISHER: That's correct.

46  
47 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

50

1 MR. G. BROWER: Is this an action item  
2 before the North Slope to support or is this something  
3 that we should be considering probably deferring it to  
4 the region?

5  
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Those would be our  
7 options, either to support or oppose or to defer to take  
8 any action. Those would be our three options.

9  
10 MR. G. BROWER: And, Mr. Chairman, one  
11 more question.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

14  
15 MR. G. BROWER: Is the regions that are  
16 proposing this change seeking support from other regions  
17 to support them or is this something that the Staff has  
18 just provided the information to us here?

19  
20 MR. FISHER: Well, it's both. What we  
21 did here with this proposal is we've provided clearer  
22 definitions to what these terms mean and basically just  
23 kind of a clarification. So like Harry said you could  
24 oppose the proposal, favor the proposal or take no  
25 action.

26  
27 Like I stated earlier, it really doesn't  
28 affect, other than black bears in your area and you don't  
29 have a lot of black bears in your area so you may want to  
30 just take no action at this time.

31  
32 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Gordon.

35  
36 MR. G. BROWER: I'd like to hear some of  
37 the Council members on this. I think maybe this item is  
38 an issue that should be dealt with, the regions that are  
39 proposing it. It seems to me it's a region issue and  
40 that we did not make such -- this type of proposal on the  
41 North Slope. And I think in the past we've deferred such  
42 type of requests that are made by a region so there is  
43 not interfering in their management in their region.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You are right, Gordon,  
46 that we do not take any action on the proposals that are  
47 not affecting our region and not wanting to interfere  
48 with the management plans of those other regions.

49  
50 Ray.



1 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, Mr. Chair, I would  
2 defer it. Because in our area we don't have any black  
3 bears and I would just pass it on to that region because  
4 they -- you know, we have nothing to do with it here.

5  
6 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

9  
10 MR. TAGAROOK: Looking at the wording of  
11 AHTNA, they would support it and it states that it's  
12 either black or brown bear, and I think we need to come  
13 up with a proposal for the North Slope so that way our  
14 people won't get arrested if they are caught with selling  
15 brown bear handicrafts or claws.

16  
17 I think we need to come up with a  
18 proposal for the North Slope.

19  
20 MR. FISHER: Mr. Chair.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Fisher.

23  
24 MR. FISHER: I could maybe add a little  
25 bit of history to this. This original proposal, I  
26 believe came out of the Eastern Interior, and I think it  
27 was maybe a couple years ago or a year ago. And we went  
28 out and presented the proposal and that was to allow the  
29 sale of brown bear fur, bear fur to include claws. There  
30 were there regions that supported that, Eastern Interior,  
31 Bristol Bay and Southeast. The other regions opposed to  
32 allow any sale of handicrafts to include claws. And I  
33 believe at that time the North Slope opposed that  
34 proposal. And actually all this proposal is is to kind  
35 of clarify those definitions.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Any other  
38 comments.

39  
40 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

43  
44 MR. G. BROWER: If it's to clarify the  
45 definition, and is that a definition that would be used  
46 on the North Slope or would it be excluded until we  
47 adopted that definition on the North Slope?

48  
49 MR. FISHER: Well, the definitions are  
50 for statewide. Being that you don't have really any

1 black bears here, it would affect, if you did have some  
2 black bears that were taken and used for handicrafts, you  
3 would be allowed to, but you don't have that many black  
4 bears.

5  
6 As far as brown bears go, it only affects  
7 those three regions that approved the sale of handicrafts  
8 to include claws.

9  
10 MR. G. BROWER: Okay, then, Mr. Chairman.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

13  
14 MR. G. BROWER: To my understanding then  
15 this is a -- the three regions, it's a regional  
16 definition is now my understanding it's not a statewide  
17 definition, so if that region is understanding that they  
18 can use the claws for handicrafts because you have  
19 determined that the fur is external along with the claws,  
20 and if we do not make such a proposal on the North Slope  
21 to protect our subsistence up here, which includes brown  
22 bear take on the North Slope, that the North Slope hunter  
23 would be in violation of that if he's taking the claws  
24 home; is that to my understanding?

25  
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Fisher.

27  
28 MR. FISHER: A person who harvests a  
29 brown bear on the North Slope can take the claws home,  
30 they can't use those to make handicrafts and sell those.  
31 The only place you can do that is in those three regions.

32  
33 You can with black bears, however, you  
34 don't have that many black bears in your area.

35  
36 All this proposal does is it just  
37 provides clearer definitions for the regulations.

38  
39 MR. G. BROWER: Thank you.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Any  
42 other comments.

43  
44 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

47  
48 MR. G. BROWER: After some deliberation I  
49 would ask the Council, that we defer this to the regions  
50 that are supportive of it and possibly I would think to

1 revisit our own for the North Slope because of the issue  
2 around handicrafts, because there is considerable  
3 handicrafts on the North Slope and I would just not want  
4 to put any subsistence user in any type of perilous  
5 position.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.  
8 Ray.

9  
10 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair, was that a  
11 motion?

12  
13 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

16  
17 MR. G. BROWER: I would make that into a  
18 motion.

19  
20 MR. KOONUK: I second that motion.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion to defer to the  
23 Regional Advisory Councils that are affected; was that  
24 the motion, Gordon?

25  
26 MR. G. BROWER: Yes, the motion is to  
27 defer to the Regional Councils that are being affected  
28 and to support a similar type of provision that the North  
29 Slope should consider for the brown bear.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The motion has been  
32 seconded, any further discussion.

33  
34 (No comments)

35  
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Paul.

37  
38 MR. BODFISH: Question.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question has been  
41 called. All in favor of the motion signify by saying  
42 aye.

43  
44 IN UNISON: Aye.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any opposed.

47  
48 (No opposing votes)

49  
50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank you,

1 Mr. Fisher, we'll move on to the next proposal.

2

3 MR. FISHER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, this is  
4 another statewide proposal. It was submitted by Karen  
5 Deatherage from the Defender's of Wildlife. The analysis  
6 for this proposal starts on Page 60 of your Council book.

7

8 And what they're proposing here is to  
9 change the starting dates for wolf hunting to September  
10 15th in all units of the state except there's four units  
11 that it won't apply. Unit 2, Unit 8, Unit 22 and Unit  
12 23. But it would affect your area here on the North  
13 Slope, Unit 26. Wolf hunting seasons would still end on  
14 April 30th.

15

16 The proponent is claiming that during  
17 early August, all of August and early September wolf  
18 pelts hold on value and they want to eliminate the  
19 harvest during those times on Federal public lands.  
20 They're also claiming that wolf hunting on Federal public  
21 lands during this time conflicts with non-consumptive  
22 uses of these Federal public lands such as wildlife  
23 observation, photography, hiking and so on. They're also  
24 claiming that Section .802 of ANILCA mandates that the  
25 non-wasteful subsistence uses of fish and wildlife  
26 resources be the priority consumptive use on those  
27 Federal public lands. Therefore, they want all seasons  
28 in these units to start on September 15th.

29

30 The Federal regulations for this were  
31 adopted from State regulations in 1990, and since then  
32 the State has made several changes for seasons and  
33 harvest limits for the harvest of wolves statewide, and  
34 in 1994 the Federal Subsistence Board made changes to  
35 align Federal seasons and Federal harvest limits with  
36 State regulations. And since that time the Federal  
37 Subsistence Board has made minor changes for seasons and  
38 harvest limits. So what we currently have right now is  
39 Federal seasons and State seasons pretty much aligned.

40

41 Wolf range in the state comprises of  
42 about 85 percent of the state and wolf densities range as  
43 high one wolf per 25 square miles in favorable habitat  
44 to as low as one wolf per 150 square miles in marginal  
45 habitat. Wolf densities are primarily dependent, as we  
46 know, on the availability of prey species, disease,  
47 impact from harvest and control programs. The current  
48 population in the state is considered to be healthy in  
49 most parts and numbers somewhere between 7,000 and 10,000  
50 wolves.

1                   As we know most wolves are harvested  
2 during the winter when the pelts are prime and travel  
3 conditions are suitable. Wolves are also harvested  
4 traditionally during the early fall on an opportunistic  
5 basis before the pelts are prime. This fur for the most  
6 part is not used for sale but is used on a personal basis  
7 for hats, gloves, parkas and so on. This fur is not  
8 considered prime but it is still considered quite  
9 functional for these clothing articles.

10  
11                   Table 1 on Page 61 shows the reported  
12 statewide hunting harvest records. This is only the  
13 reported harvest, it doesn't consider the unreported  
14 harvest.

15  
16                   Table 2 on Page 62 shows the reported  
17 statewide hunting harvest on a monthly basis. If you'll  
18 look at Table 2, you can see there, there are not a lot  
19 of wolves that have been reported to have been harvested  
20 in August or September.

21  
22                   The Staff conclusion on this proposal is  
23 to oppose it. Current Federal subsistence regulations  
24 are designed to allow for the opportunistic take of  
25 wolves while hunting for other ungulates such as moose,  
26 caribou and deer. This allows for an opportunistic take  
27 during the early fall season before the pelts are prime.  
28 Moving the season to September 15th would eliminate this  
29 subsistence opportunity.

30  
31                   Current Federal seasons and State seasons  
32 are pretty much aligned and this provides a regulatory  
33 consistency. Any change in this could cause confusion  
34 throughout the state especially when the land patterns  
35 are not definitely defined. Sometimes it's really hard  
36 to really know where you are, whether you're on Federal  
37 lands or State lands. So a change like this would cause  
38 confusion. This proposal would also reduce the season by  
39 45 days in four units and 36 days in 18 units, and this  
40 also could cause confusion for all users.

41  
42                   There's really no evidence presented that  
43 there's any biological problem with wolves in the state  
44 so hence no reason to reduce the current harvest season.

45  
46                   Another thing, if the season was closed,  
47 hunters could still hunt under State regulations on  
48 Federal public lands, unless it was restricted by the  
49 Federal Subsistence Board or the State changed their  
50 seasons. So our conclusion is to oppose the proposal.

1                               That's all I have, Mr. Chairman. Thank  
2 you.

3  
4                               CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Fisher.  
5 And following the procedures again, next we have Alaska  
6 Department of Fish and Game comments.

7  
8                               MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, would you like  
9 me to go ahead and read what's in the book.

10  
11                              CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, please, Michelle.

12  
13                              MS. CHIVERS: ADF&G does not support this  
14 proposal. They say adoption of this proposal would  
15 reduce the opportunity for Federally-qualified  
16 subsistence users and eliminate their opportunity to  
17 harvest wolves opportunistically during moose and caribou  
18 seasons that begin before September 15th in many areas of  
19 the state. Consistency with State regulations also is  
20 important in areas with mixed land ownership patterns.  
21 Finally, adoption of this proposal would not have the  
22 effect sought by the proponent unless Federal public  
23 lands were also closed to wolf hunting by non-Federally-  
24 qualified subsistence users. No evidence of a  
25 conservation issue is indicated that would support  
26 implementation of such closures.

27  
28                              Thank you, Mr. Chair.

29  
30                              CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Michelle.  
31 Number 3, other agency comments.

32  
33                              (No comments)

34  
35                              CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Number 4  
36 is ISC comments.

37  
38                              (No comments)

39  
40                              CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, none noted.  
41 Number 5, Fish and Game Advisory Committee comments.

42  
43                              (No comments)

44  
45                              CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Summary of  
46 written public comments.

47  
48                              MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

49  
50                              CHAIRMAN BROWER: Michelle.

1 MS. CHIVERS: We did receive three  
2 comments in opposition of this proposal.

3  
4 We received one from Don Quarberg of  
5 Delta Junction. He stated that there is no biological  
6 reason for this proposal and that the value is in the  
7 eyes of the beholder.

8  
9 Robert Jahnke of Ward Cove also opposed  
10 this proposal and just asked that it not be passed.

11  
12 The AHTNA Subsistence Committee, they  
13 oppose the proposal. They do not support the proposal to  
14 reduce wolf hunting seasons from August 1st to April 30th  
15 to September 15th to April 30th. We do not support  
16 aligning State of Alaska and Federal seasons for hunting  
17 wolves just for the sake of aligning hunting seasons  
18 under the two management systems. We support the more  
19 liberal hunting season so that more wolves can be taken  
20 to reduce the wolf population. Reducing the numbers of  
21 wolves will prevent them from killing calves of caribou  
22 and moose in Units 11-13.

23  
24 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Number 7 is  
27 public testimony.

28  
29 (No comments)

30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Number 8  
32 is Regional Council deliberation, recommendation and  
33 justification.

34  
35 What is the wish of the Council.

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

38  
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

40  
41 MR. G. BROWER: Just some history on  
42 harvesting wolves. The seasons kind of depict when the  
43 fur gets into prime. Sometimes you get an earlier  
44 winter, sometimes you get a later winter. And I think  
45 it's kind of geared the way it is because there's a  
46 variability in our seasons where the fur can come into  
47 prime and it's not just a means, like some of the  
48 comments I just heard, just an opportunistic event to  
49 where you're trying to limit a predator from calves and  
50 stuff like that. The furs do come into prime when the

1 weather is cooperating with you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

4

5 MR. G. BROWER: I mean that's just -- in  
6 the past, you know, weather has been variable. So some  
7 years you'll have an early winter, sometimes you have a  
8 later winter.

9

10 But routinely we do not really hunt them  
11 for any other means to make (In Inupiat), you know, the  
12 fur around your parka or pelts. And that's just my  
13 comment.

14

15 I think it should be opposed because of  
16 this is Alaska and the weather, it changes. And when  
17 there's opportunistic for harvesting wolves that are  
18 prime the weather kind of dictates that, too.

19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Any  
21 other Council comments.

22

23 (No comments)

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Recommendations.

26 Terry.

27

28 MR. TAGAROOK: Yes. Being on the Slope  
29 and, I think our people have taught us, our elders have  
30 taught us to get the wolf pelts when they're prime  
31 because in the summertime they have their young and  
32 they're providing them with food by hunting caribou or  
33 other animals to raise their young and we don't bother  
34 with their cycle because they're raising their young  
35 during that time.

36

37 And it's always been the practice of our  
38 people to trap or get some when the pelt is prime and  
39 that's a practice that we have been doing all these  
40 years. We don't try to get them out of season because  
41 their pelt is not good for the fur around the parkas.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry. Any  
44 other comments from the Council.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Recommendations.

49

50 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.



1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

2

3 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, I completely agree  
4 with Terry, you know, we try to get them when they're  
5 prime but the variability when they get prime, you know,  
6 we're taught to respect animals and that is the time when  
7 we harvest them, when they're capable of being used for  
8 subsistence purposes to make your parkas and, you know, I  
9 -- I think that even if it was September 15, that  
10 timeframe there, there's still transitional going on from  
11 winter to summer pelts going on in that time, so there's  
12 some variability there. It's not an exact science when  
13 the fur comes into prime but it does happen when the  
14 colder weather comes around and the animal feels that.  
15 It's a seasonal situation.

16

17 I'd like to hear more of the Council  
18 members. I wouldn't think it wouldn't very much matter  
19 because when it's more opportunistic is when we can get  
20 at them and that's more like in October and November and  
21 December, at least on the North Slope.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Any  
24 further comments. Terry.

25

26 MR. TAGAROOK: Yes. And then depending on  
27 how fast the river freezes is when we go up to the cabins  
28 and hunt caribou and the wolves will follow the migration  
29 of the caribou.

30

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

33

34 MR. G. BROWER: Just one more indication,  
35 you know.

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

38

39 MR. G. BROWER: When we're fishing, fall  
40 fishing about September 27 used to be the correct time  
41 when we were able to put nets under the ice, and that's  
42 been variable. Just to give you an indication of how  
43 weather patterns have been affecting some of our harvest.  
44 When we're fishing under the ice for whitefish, that's  
45 been very variable and sometimes we're struggling even  
46 through the first week of October putting nets under the  
47 ice. But in the past history we've had nets under the  
48 ice as early as like September 20, September 25 and where  
49 there's snow cover, so there is considerable variability  
50 in what animals see in the weather patterns and how they

1 react to it.

2

3 I mean I can't say either way. I mean I  
4 think to oppose it just because of variability in weather  
5 and when they come into prime. It's just like to hear  
6 more about this from, you know, I wish Anaktuvuk was  
7 here, and Atqasuk has got considerable history.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Any  
10 other comments from the Council.

11

12 MR. REXFORD: Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Julius.

15

16 MR. REXFORD: You read a lot about the  
17 Delta Junction area, about wolves taking so much wolves  
18 in that area and I don't know where AHTNA is but I think  
19 the Interior is dealing with a lot of wolves, you know,  
20 taking so many animals that they'd prefer to people that  
21 feed on, you know, which is the moose and the caribou and  
22 in those Interior areas they're subsistence lifestyle  
23 gets, you know, interrupted by too many wolves taking too  
24 much of their animals.

25

26 And I think I would oppose this WP05-02  
27 for that reason.

28

29 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for your  
32 comments, Julius. Any further comments or deliberations.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Recommendations from  
37 the Council.

38

39 MR. BODFISH: Mr. Chair.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Paul.

42

43 MR. BODFISH: Yeah, I would move that we  
44 oppose this proposal, and that's a motion.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor to  
47 oppose Proposal WP05-02.

48

49 MR. G. BROWER: Second.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded. Any further  
2 discussions.  
3  
4 (No comments)  
5  
6 MR. REXFORD: Question.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question's been called  
9 on the motion. All in favor of opposing this proposal  
10 signify as indicated signify by saying aye.  
11  
12 IN UNISON: Aye.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed, same sign.  
15  
16 (No opposing votes)  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank you.  
19 Mr. Fisher, we'll continue with our next proposal.  
20  
21 MR. FISHER: Yes, Mr. Chair, if we could  
22 take perhaps a minute break here to get Mr. DeMatteo on  
23 the line we'll go ahead with Proposals 12 and 13.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. We can take a  
26 minute to get one of our Staff on line.  
27  
28 MR. BODFISH: Looking at the clock.....  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm not looking at a  
31 clock.  
32  
33 (Laughter)  
34  
35 MR. BODFISH: It's 12 noon.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Could we take care of  
38 this after lunch.  
39  
40 MR. TAGAROOK: He must be hungry too.  
41  
42 (Laughter)  
43  
44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: It might be more  
45 appropriate to do so, to continue with our next proposal  
46 after lunch, that way we don't try squeezing people's  
47 timeframe for lunch, so should we be back by 1:00.  
48  
49 The recommendation of the Council is be  
50 back by 1:00.

1 (Laughter)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, every one.  
4  
5 (Off record)  
6  
7 (On record)  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good afternoon  
10 everyone. We'll call the North Slope Regional Advisory  
11 Council back to order after lunch. We're on wildlife  
12 proposal review and Regional Council recommendations.  
13 We're on Proposal WP05-12/13. Shorten the moose season  
14 in part of 24 and provide announcement authority of  
15 winter antlerless season. These are crossover proposals  
16 from Western Interior submitted by National Wildlife  
17 Refuge and Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource  
18 Commission.  
19  
20 Dave, you'll continue.  
21  
22 MR. FISHER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, we have  
23 our wildlife biologist, Pete DeMatteo on line, and Pete  
24 will address the analysis for this proposal.  
25  
26 Pete, are you there?  
27  
28 MR. DEMATTEO: I am. Are we good to go?  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.  
31  
32 MR. FISHER: Go ahead, Pete.  
33  
34 MR. DEMATTEO: All right. Mr. Chair and  
35 members of the North Slope Council. This analysis will  
36 cover Proposal 12 and Proposal 13. And the analysis  
37 begins in your book on Page 70 in your Council book.  
38  
39 The Proposal 12 was submitted by the  
40 Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission while  
41 Proposal 13 was submitted by the Kanuti National Wildlife  
42 Refuge. And both of the proponents request that the  
43 Board make several adjustments to the Unit 24 moose  
44 season, the harvest limits and the hunt area  
45 descriptions.  
46  
47 Proposal 12 would essentially change the  
48 existing August 25 to December 31st and the spring March  
49 1 through 10 seasons for the Alatna River drainage within  
50 the National Park, and it would change those existing

1 dates to August 25 to September 25 and March 1 through 5.  
2 Essentially what it does is it reduces the fall and the  
3 earl winter season, it cuts it down by 129 days and  
4 reduces it to a 32 day fall season. And the March 10  
5 season would be reduced to five days. And that five day  
6 season would be a to be announced season.

7  
8                   The proposed change to the affected area  
9 would include the following language after the September  
10 21 through 25 and March 1 through 5 antlerless moose  
11 seasons and the language to be added as proposed would  
12 read, if authorized by the appropriate Federal land  
13 manager. Harvest of cow moose accompanied by calves is  
14 prohibited and authorization of the March season and  
15 September cow moose season will be made after  
16 consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
17 area biologist and the Chair of the Western Interior  
18 Regional Advisory Council.

19  
20                   And this is what the proposed language to  
21 be added to the existing language would read:

22  
23                   The proponent states that the current  
24 regulations are complex and they rely on hard to find  
25 political boundaries for the hunt area descriptions.  
26 Both proponents requests would simplify the affected  
27 regulations by changing to drainage descriptions that are  
28 labeled on maps and are identifiable in the field.

29  
30                   The proposed regulatory changes would  
31 facilitate more uniform regulations for the affected and  
32 also the adjacent areas. These changes are also intended  
33 to be responsive to the declining health of the herd by  
34 reducing seasons and limited cow harvest to protect this  
35 component of the population until such time as the herd  
36 recovers.

37  
38                   That's for Proposal 12.

39  
40                   Now, Proposal 13 requests similar  
41 regulatory changes to all drainages north of the Koyukuk  
42 River drainage upstream and including the Alatna River,  
43 to and including the North Fork of the Koyukuk River  
44 except those portions of the John River and the Alatna  
45 River drainages within the National Park.

46  
47                   The proposed change to the affected area  
48 would shorten, again the March 1 through 10 season to 1  
49 through 5, and would include similar language as I read  
50 before into the existing regulation.

1                   And if you wish to see the changes and  
2 additions that are made, on Page 71 of your Council book,  
3 Map 1, Section D, Section D essentially would eliminate  
4 the language for Unit 24, the Alatna River drainage  
5 within Gates of the Arctic National Park, it would  
6 eliminate that language. And then on Map 2, Section E,  
7 Page 72 of your book, would modify that so it would  
8 delete from existing language except those portions of  
9 the John River and the Alatna River drainage within the  
10 Park. So therefore it would be all drainages to the  
11 north of the Koyukuk River upstream from the Alatna clear  
12 to the North Fork, except for the John River.

13  
14                   And the reason why this is being  
15 presented to you today, as was mentioned before, is  
16 because it directly affects the residents of Anaktuvuk  
17 Pass, who are eligible to hunt moose within Unit 24.

18  
19                   Mr. Chair, due to the decline in the  
20 moose abundance in this area, conservative management is  
21 now required. These proposed regulation changes are  
22 consistent with action 131 of the Koyukuk River Moose  
23 Management Plan which outlined the approach for reducing  
24 antlerless moose hunting opportunities. Reduction of the  
25 fall antlerless moose season is necessary to conserve cow  
26 moose, the productive component of the population. Also  
27 stabilization of the productive component of the  
28 population would ultimately enhance recruitment.

29  
30                   At the March 2004 meeting of the Alaska  
31 Board of Game, the Board of Game made changes to State  
32 regulations similar to what was proposed in a proposal  
33 submitted last year by the National Park Service to the  
34 Federal Board, which was Proposal 67. That proposal  
35 ultimately was withdrawn with the intent to go back to  
36 the drawing board and also to see how a proposal could be  
37 drafted that would address conservation and at the same  
38 time try to meet subsistence needs. And that was the  
39 basis for Proposal 12 which was submitted by the Gates of  
40 the Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission. That  
41 proposal definitely addresses conservation by cutting  
42 back on the cow harvest, but at the same time it does  
43 allow for five days of opportunity during the March  
44 season, March 1 through 5.

45  
46                   Because of the documented declines in  
47 near and also the adjacent moose populations, additional  
48 regulatory restrictions are necessary for the affected  
49 population as mentioned previously. A reduction in cow  
50 moose harvest would help to stabilize the cow population

1 and would favor calf production and also recruitment  
2 within the population and would hopefully help to  
3 stabilize the herd or even better would help to increase  
4 the herd down the road.

5  
6                   The proposed action would allow for a  
7 limited cow moose hunt during the fall and also the  
8 spring seasons and as I mentioned would also help to  
9 ensure continued subsistence opportunity for the future.

10  
11                   Based on harvest data collected by the  
12 Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of  
13 Subsistence, there is support for the conclusion that  
14 moose harvest in Unit 24 have remained consistent for  
15 local residents. However, there is some documentation  
16 that shows for the villages of Alatna and Allakaket up in  
17 the Koyukuk River, that, while they're maintaining their  
18 subsistence needs, there is evidence and some cases that  
19 they have to go further and also have to spend more time  
20 to find a moose so they can harvest it.

21  
22                   If the Federal Board were to adopt  
23 Proposal 12, this proposal, Proposal 12 would reduce the  
24 moose season in the Alatna River drainage within the Park  
25 from the current 129 fall/winter season and also the 10  
26 day March season, as I mentioned before to the 32 day  
27 fall season and a five day March season. This, again,  
28 addresses conservation and also it still provides for  
29 opportunity.

30  
31                   The proposed action returns the fall  
32 winter regulation in this area to what it was prior to  
33 1996. This section not only addresses the need for a  
34 reduction in cow harvest, but it will significantly  
35 reduce the bull harvest opportunity as well. These long  
36 season dates that we see in the fall and December up  
37 there currently have been important to allow hunters to  
38 choose when windows of weather allow for travel,  
39 elimination of the extended Alatna River area season  
40 would not impact many hunters because what we've been  
41 told not much hunting, if any activity takes place during  
42 the late September through December period for that area  
43 that is proposed to be eliminated.

44  
45                   Generally local hunters do not harvest  
46 bull moose during the post-rut period as we all know  
47 unless it can be avoided, therefore the 97 day reduction  
48 for that area would not eliminate a significant amount of  
49 real opportunity for hunters.

50

1                   The season has allowed for flexibility to  
2 ensure that subsistence hunters can harvest the moose, in  
3 case of harsh weather or poor availability of caribou in  
4 the area, two events that are unpredictable and also  
5 occur regularly. Some local residents, however, favor a  
6 more uniform regulations to avoid tainted meat that may  
7 be harvested during the late September through December  
8 season. And this, of course, is a period that does not  
9 consistently allow for boat or snowmachine travel. Local  
10 residents also favor more uniform regulations to avoid  
11 confusion that political boundaries can cause.

12  
13                   Both Proposals 12 and 13 would reduce the  
14 March season in that portion north of the Koyukuk River  
15 drainage. The proposals also request that the antlerless  
16 moose seasons be opened by announcement. And what that  
17 does is favor conservation measures that would ensure  
18 that if recent surveys show that the cow population is  
19 further declined, it would not be prudent to open up that  
20 season. So this would allow managers to open that season  
21 during the years when the population could sustain some  
22 cow harvest.

23  
24                   The five day reduction in the to be  
25 announced season restriction would have to reduce  
26 antlerless moose harvest and would allow managers to open  
27 a moose season when the population could provide for a  
28 surplus of cow moose. The proposed reduction in seasons  
29 and antlerless harvest opportunities would provide  
30 greater long-term subsistence opportunity in Unit 24 if  
31 this proposal were to be adopted.

32  
33                   Based on analysis of results from trend  
34 surveys conducted in adjacent areas in Unit 24, ongoing  
35 population declines are somewhat uniform throughout the  
36 Northern Koyukuk River drainage. Based on results from  
37 trend surveys conducted in portions of Unit 24 between  
38 1985 and 1999, there have been significant declines in  
39 productivity and also in yearling bull recruitment.  
40 These declines continue and have been documented through  
41 results from surveys conducted from 2000 through 2004.

42  
43                   These regulatory changes should decrease  
44 the total cow harvest somewhat and help to maintain  
45 productivity and recruitment consistent with the current  
46 management objectives which call for more conservative  
47 yields under these conditions than are currently allowed.

48  
49                   Mr. Chair. There is a couple of  
50 additional points that are worth mentioning and they are



1 that adoption of Proposal 12 with some modifications  
2 would address the concerns stated by the proponents of  
3 both 12 and 13. Both proponents have expressed  
4 conservation concerns that require a reduction in the  
5 antlerless moose harvest within the affected areas. The  
6 proponent of Proposal 12 has also expressed the need for  
7 more uniform regulations that would allow for less public  
8 confusion in the affected areas. The proponent also  
9 stated that Alatna and Allakaket residents generally do  
10 not hunt moose after the rut within the Alatna and  
11 Koyukuk River drainages. Adoption of Proposal 12 with  
12 modifications would more uniformly address both  
13 proponent's concerns. The expanded consultation, respect  
14 the jurisdiction of other Advisory Groups that have a  
15 direct tie or an extensive working relationship with the  
16 respective resource management.

17  
18 And with that, Mr. Chair, the preliminary  
19 conclusion is to support with modification Proposal 12,  
20 to simplify the language that describes the John River  
21 area and include the appropriate Federal agencies and  
22 also include the language that would require, and then  
23 when the decision is to be made to open a season the  
24 appropriate land manager would have to consult with the  
25 Chairs of the Gates of the Arctic Subsistence Resource  
26 Commission and the affected river Fish and Game Advisory  
27 Committee as well. And if you care to see the proposed  
28 regulation with the modification, it's in your book on  
29 Page 78 and 79.

30  
31 (Pause)

32  
33 MR. DEMATTEO: And essentially halfway  
34 down the page there, that portion includes the John River  
35 drainage, it would be for the entire John River drainage  
36 and it would delete the portion of the language that  
37 mentions the Gates of the Arctic National Park. And then  
38 for Unit 24, it totally deletes the Alatna River drainage  
39 within the Gates and then for the next parcel of language  
40 there where it mentions Unit 24, all drainages north of  
41 the Koyukuk River upstream from and including the Alatna  
42 River, to and including the North Fork of the Koyukuk  
43 River it totally deletes the portions that say except  
44 those portions of the John River and Alatna River  
45 drainage within Gates of the Arctic National Park.

46  
47 And if you look on the map on Page 72,  
48 Section E, essentially that's what it whittles it down  
49 to, is the two Section E's on the map there are basically  
50 areas that that regulation would be talking about. The

1 areas north of the Koyukuk River including the Alatna  
2 River, up to and including the North Fork of the river  
3 except the John River. Would be August 25 through  
4 September 25 and a five day March season to be announced.  
5

6 And with that there I'll stop and answer  
7 any questions. Thank you.  
8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I was just going to say  
10 thank you for the analysis and I think we'll follow  
11 through on the procedures as we've been doing before  
12 starting the questions. We have the presentation  
13 procedures for the proposals that we've been following.  
14

15 Next item would be Alaska Department of  
16 Fish and Game comments.  
17

18 MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
19

20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Michelle.  
21

22 MS. CHIVERS: Those comments are listed  
23 on Page 82, and I'm not quite sure if this is a typo  
24 because they have Proposal 13 listed twice. So I'm  
25 assuming that the first one should be Proposal 12.  
26

27 ADF&G supported the proposed changes.  
28 They're consistent with the Department's intent to manage  
29 moose more conservatively in Unit 24 and to reduce the  
30 level of cow moose harvest. Consultation with the  
31 Department's area biologist before authorizing cow  
32 harvest is essential for ensuring that all the relevant  
33 data and concerns are fully evaluated. We agree that the  
34 rationale presented in the "Reason for changing the  
35 regulation" for proposals 12 and 13 provides sufficient  
36 justification for adopting the changes sought in this  
37 proposal.  
38

39 For Proposal 13, the Department decided  
40 to take no action. They said this proposal is similar to  
41 Proposal 12, except that it would not reduce the season  
42 in the Alatna River drainage within Gates of the Arctic  
43 National Park portion of Unit 24. The proponents of  
44 Proposal 12, members of the Gates of the Arctic  
45 Subsistence Resource Commission, represent the eligible  
46 subsistence users of lands within the Park; consequently,  
47 the Department supports their intent to address the needs  
48 for conservative moose management as specified in  
49 Proposal 12.  
50

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2  
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Michelle.

4  
5 MR. DEMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Pete DeMatteo.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.

8  
9 MR. DEMATTEO: Sorry to interrupt, Mr.  
10 Chair, but I made one slight error.

11  
12 The preliminary conclusion that I read to  
13 you before was referring to Proposal 12 only, to support  
14 that proposal with modification. What I forgot to  
15 mention was that when it comes to Proposal 13, the  
16 preliminary conclusion for Proposal 13 is to take no  
17 action because the concerns and the recommendations that  
18 are mentioned in 13 are already covered in 12, so the  
19 logical thing to do is take no action on it.

20  
21 Thank you.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Pete. And  
24 next item is three, other agency comments. Mr. Mills.

25  
26 MR. MILLS: Mr. Chairman, my name is Dave  
27 Mills and I'm the Superintendent for Gates of the Arctic  
28 National Park. I think Pete did an excellent job  
29 summarizing the issues here so I'm not going to go over  
30 those again.

31  
32 I just wanted to add to the record and  
33 for your information that we did, the Gates of the Arctic  
34 Subsistence Commission did have a meeting in November,  
35 your representative, Raymond Paneak is an active member  
36 and helped guide the Commission on developing Proposal  
37 No. 12. And from my perspective they worked very hard at  
38 this proposal, spent a lot of time on it and we certainly  
39 support their recommendation. I think it accomplishes a  
40 number of things.

41  
42 Just in summary, they wanted to preserve  
43 the opportunities for both a cow season and a fall  
44 season. I think they've done that. And they wanted to  
45 also contribute to the entire efforts of the Koyukuk Plan  
46 in conservation, I think they've done that. And third,  
47 they've helped to simplify and standardize regulations  
48 that were -- are still very complicated but this helps to  
49 make them less complicated and more in line with the  
50 effort of the whole region, trying to do that. And so I

1 commend the group and the work of Raymond Paneak on  
2 helping in that effort and certainly support their  
3 recommendation.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Mr. Mills.  
6 Any other agency comments.

7  
8 (No comments)

9  
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. We'll move  
11 on to ISC comments, InterAgency Staff Committee, that's  
12 what it's supposed to be.

13  
14 (No comments)

15  
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If none, Fish and Game  
17 Advisory Committee comments.

18  
19 (No comments)

20  
21 MR. REXFORD: Mr. Chair.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I have one, the Kanuti  
24 people have Koyukon and Kanuti people have a long  
25 standing tradition in burying their family members in  
26 March, and they hunt moose for their ceremonies during  
27 the burial of their family members. Is that going to be  
28 affecting their potlatches; is there going to be any  
29 special provisions for them to go out and take moose when  
30 they need it for their potlatches?

31  
32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'm not sure who was  
33 that question being directed to, maybe.....

34  
35 MR. REXFORD: I just need a question  
36 for.....

37  
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: An answer for the  
39 question.

40  
41 MS. PETRIVELLI: According to the State  
42 regulations and the Federal regulations, people can take  
43 moose for a potlatch -- funeral, potlatches, irregardless  
44 of the season dates as long as they notice the proper --  
45 I don't know if the Koyukon have to notify them before or  
46 after because they have some taboos, but they just have  
47 to tell them at a certain point but it doesn't -- and it  
48 doesn't matter the season. It's just a special permit  
49 that just recognizes for the funeral potlatches.

50

1                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Could you please state  
2 your name.  
3  
4                   MS. PETRIVELLI: My name is Pat  
5 Petrivelli, the BIA anthropologist.  
6  
7                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.  
8  
9                   MS. PETRIVELLI: Pete, is that how you  
10 understand it too?  
11  
12                  MR. DEMATTEO: Mr. Chair.  
13  
14                  CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Pete.  
15  
16                  MR. DEMATTEO: Ms. Petrivelli is correct  
17 that the regulations that provide for funeral potlatch  
18 moose, these proposals do not affect them whatsoever.  
19 Communities that would still need potlatch moose would  
20 still have the ability to take them under the  
21 regulations. There are just regulations that say they  
22 have to inform the proper land managers, before and  
23 afterwards and it's not part of this regulation  
24 whatsoever.  
25  
26                  CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Pete.  
27  
28                  MR. REXFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. That  
29 answers my question.  
30  
31                  CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for the  
32 comment, Julius. If there's no other Advisory Committee  
33 comments.  
34  
35                  (No comments)  
36  
37                  CHAIRMAN BROWER: Summary of written  
38 public comments.  
39  
40                  MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair, there  
41 were no written public comments.  
42  
43                  CHAIRMAN BROWER: No written public  
44 comments. Number 7 is public testimony.  
45  
46                  (No comments)  
47  
48                  CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. We're down  
49 to number 8, Regional Council deliberation,  
50 recommendation and justification.

1                   What is the wish of the Council.  
2  
3                   MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.  
4  
5                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Gordon.  
6  
7                   MR. G. BROWER: You know, as always  
8 recognizing when you're making stricter proposals on  
9 subsistence to conserve the species on the moose, I like  
10 to ask that the sport ending of it, the sporthunting side  
11 of it, what is the details behind that? I mean has that,  
12 the sporthunting of moose in these units been curtailed  
13 enough or they are non-existent at this point to warrant  
14 more restrictive take for subsistence purposes?  
15  
16                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Fisher.  
17  
18                   MR. FISHER: Pete, did you hear that  
19 question.  
20  
21                   MR. DEMATTEO: Yeah, I did. I was  
22 sitting back and allowing the Alaska Department of Fish  
23 and Game to address that. But the gentleman's question  
24 is a good question. The current Koyukuk River Moose  
25 Management Plan is the product of a large group of  
26 Advisory Committee members from various parts of the  
27 state. That plan will sunset this June. And from what I  
28 understand is that the Department of Fish and Game is  
29 working very hard to dust off the Koyukuk River Moose  
30 Hunters Working Group and get that Advisory body together  
31 to look at the current plan to see what changes have to  
32 be made based on the existing population and also the  
33 harvest. When that process starts, I don't know. Maybe  
34 if someone from the Department is there they could better  
35 address this.  
36  
37                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Come up to the  
38 microphone, Geoff, please.  
39  
40                   MR. CARROLL: I know they are going to  
41 try to get that planning, that moose planning group back  
42 together but I don't know exactly where they are or at  
43 what stage they are with that.  
44  
45                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Geoff.  
46 Gordon, did that partially answer your question?  
47  
48                   MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I  
49 think that's -- you know that is not even an answer to  
50 try to find any detail on the type of limitation that's

1 being put on the sporting availability of this resource  
2 where it's so curtailed to subsistence activities where  
3 people, when they need to survive and feed their children  
4 and their families, that the sporting side of it be  
5 seriously dealt with when you're dealing with subsistence  
6 and the people's need to survive. And I think that  
7 that's going to happen, either that or there's no  
8 sporting end of it at this time.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Mr. Mills.

11

12 MR. MILLS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. And  
13 perhaps Pete knows -- well, I know he knows the history  
14 better than I do, but my limited understanding of this is  
15 that in terms of a cow season on State lands, of course,  
16 these regulations just affect Federal lands and  
17 subsistence, but it's my understanding, correct me if I'm  
18 wrong, Pete, that there is no cow season for sporthunting  
19 so that's been limited so within -- as we know within  
20 Gates of the Arctic National Park, the only hunting  
21 that's allowed, and this proposal is bigger than Gates of  
22 the Arctic, granted, but the only hunting that's allowed  
23 with the Park would be subsistence hunting.

24

25 But Pete is it correct that there's no  
26 cow season for general hunts on State land?

27

28 MR. DEMATTEO: Mr. Chair, what Dave Mills  
29 says is correct. Under the State regulations for the --  
30 all the cow harvest was done away with under State  
31 regulation and these regulations that I mentioned that  
32 this proposal would cover are strictly for Federal  
33 jurisdictions.

34

35 The State has taken significant measures  
36 in past years, more recent years to cut back harvest, I  
37 think, from all the user groups, I think that does need  
38 to be mentioned.

39

40 And I mentioned the working group,  
41 because if your communities have concerns that deal with  
42 the Upper Koyukuk River, then now's the time to maybe  
43 formulate those concerns and pass them on through the  
44 working group when they do meet.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Gordon.

47

48 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, my concern, and  
49 that's part of it and I'm glad that there should be  
50 formal review of that, just what we're doing with

1 subsistence on cow, the pressure on cow could be  
2 surmounted when competing users of bulls, the trophy type  
3 ones are being harvested to the level where the  
4 population could be affected because of the rate of  
5 recruitment, the availability of the bulls for the cows  
6 to be helping produce. So those are definitely, I think,  
7 issues that need to be dealt with and dealt with  
8 severely, if this much severity is put on, what I think,  
9 even subsistence would try not to take cows, they'd  
10 rather take prime bulls. So I think the hunting pressure  
11 would be on the bulls and there's not very much pressure  
12 on the cow, I would think, because of the need of  
13 subsistence users.

14  
15 I mean usually when I am hunting I do  
16 take, on caribou, females when they're in prime, the cow,  
17 but we try not to take them when they're with fawns or  
18 with calf. And the primary target has always been bull  
19 caribou where I hunt, provides the most meat, the most  
20 prime, and I think the pressure is on the bull. And I  
21 would hate to see the subsistence needs suffer over the  
22 needs of sporting events.

23  
24 Thank you.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Any  
27 other comments form the Council.

28  
29 (No comments)

30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I had mentioned earlier  
32 as we were reviewing the agenda, that we had some  
33 questions from the first proposal that was withdrawn that  
34 were of a concern to us when we were discussing the moose  
35 issue in Unit 24, but I'm not sure if that is relevant to  
36 discuss at this time. Because that proposal was  
37 withdrawn and there was no action on that proposal, but  
38 now there's a similar proposal from the same region in  
39 regards to moose. There was some questions in regards to  
40 predation and what efforts are being taken to see if  
41 there's -- to manage any of that predator control in  
42 terms of the managing of the moose population. It's  
43 written up in our minutes and that's what I'm referring  
44 to. And I'm not sure how or even if we should raise any  
45 of the questions that were presented at that time.

46  
47 It's the same issue, it's similar to what  
48 we were discussing during our fall meeting.

49  
50 Gordon.



1 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, I do recall the  
2 issues coming up and this was on the docket back in our  
3 last meeting, and I think it's in the minutes somewhere  
4 that they look at all aspects of management of the moose  
5 including; we mentioned predator control, if wolves are a  
6 problem and it's irony that we were just talking about  
7 the wolf season earlier.

8  
9 But that is one cause that could be  
10 because maybe five of six years ago we met on the  
11 Fortymile Caribou Herd situation and transplanted wolves  
12 to the North Slope where wolves were seeming to be the  
13 single overwhelming cause of mortality on calves on  
14 caribou on the Fortymile Caribou Herd and transporting  
15 wolves to the North Slope had begun. And I don't even  
16 know if we ever got a report back from the Fortymile  
17 Caribou people, if that was an effective method of  
18 managing the population and to control predation.

19  
20 I haven't heard anything, Gordon, to  
21 know, in terms of the questions that were raised during  
22 our discussions at that time.

23  
24 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

27  
28 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah, I remember that. And  
29 I think when we met again we asked about that and they  
30 said they transplanted the wolves on the Slope and one  
31 was caught and the rest returned to where they were  
32 transferred from. I think that is what I remember from  
33 that meeting.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Terry.

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

38  
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

40  
41 MR. G. BROWER: I mean I'd just like to  
42 pose the question because we did ask, I don't know which  
43 appropriate land managers were here from the last  
44 meeting.....

45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

47  
48 MR. G. BROWER: .....Fish and Wildlife,  
49 ADF&G were here or Gates of the Arctic to take in the  
50 deliberations at that time to discuss the issues. And I

1 specifically remember to look at predation mainly by  
2 wolves.

3

4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

5

6 MR. G. BROWER: And I don't know if the  
7 land managers followed up on these things or if this plan  
8 is a culmination of part of that or if it's just outright  
9 to start limiting subsistence take and really not  
10 focusing on a multitude of issues surrounding  
11 recruitment. If sport hunts have to do with it, the  
12 predation of wolves, and those were talked upon, touched  
13 upon last meeting.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, I think I just  
16 located the area where we were discussing this as a  
17 special action which was introduced by Sandy Rabinowitch  
18 from the National Park Service and dealing with Western  
19 Interior regarding the proposal and then there was a  
20 discussion about the moose and then there were the  
21 questions concerning the biology and other issues. Is it  
22 habitat, overharvest? Is it predation or other causes?  
23 And those needed to be answered in terms of how we wanted  
24 to structure our position on the proposal at that time.  
25 And not having all that information on hand we were not  
26 able to make a justification to support or oppose the  
27 proposal.

28

29 Mr. Fisher.

30

31 MR. FISHER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Pete,  
32 maybe you could add to that a little bit. I'm not sure,  
33 does the working group, they would probably take that  
34 into consideration when they're working on that  
35 management plan; do you want to add a little bit to this,  
36 if you can.

37

38 Thank you.

39

40 MR. DEMATTEO: Yes, Mr. Chair. What Mr.  
41 Fisher says is correct. The management plan, the working  
42 group who also includes the Department of Fish and Game,  
43 of course, would look at the situation with the  
44 populations up in that part of the area -- of the State  
45 from all angles, including predation, of course. We  
46 respect that predation is important but looking at it  
47 from a regulatory standpoint, the Board, through  
48 regulations, cannot address the predation situation.  
49 Even though they know that the predators are going after  
50 calves, they're going after yearling bulls, they go after

1 cows and that affects the population directly.

2

3 But I would urge you as a Council to  
4 gather your concerns as far as predation and document and  
5 the cite it. What you want to do is put that in your  
6 annual report or if you want to send a delegation to the  
7 working group when the appropriate time comes.

8

9 But the matter at hand today is to  
10 discuss this proposal. I'm not trying to sandbag your  
11 concerns about predation by no means, but keep in mind  
12 that your action you have to take today involves this  
13 proposal, supports this proposal that would cut back  
14 subsistence opportunity for taking moose in the fall and  
15 early winter and also in the springtime. Keep in mind  
16 that there was some opposition to keep on the book  
17 because of conservation concerns, but this proposal,  
18 since it's very well thought out serves as a good  
19 compromise between conservation of moose and also  
20 allowing subsistence users who need a late winter or  
21 spring moose, give them five days opportunity to take  
22 that.

23

24 As Staff I urge you to deal with two  
25 things here separately. Predation on one hand, and the  
26 action we need to take on this proposal first, and then  
27 maybe after you take that action, maybe you decide what  
28 you want to do about predation as far as sending it  
29 forward as an annual report issue or if you want to  
30 forward it through the working group when the time comes.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.

35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

37

38 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah, we all know there's  
39 predation by the bears or the wolves, what about the  
40 wildfires that occur every summer, won't that affect  
41 their grazing areas and would that be a factor in the low  
42 rate of producing?

43

44 MR DEMATTEO: Mr. Chair. To answer the  
45 gentleman's question, sure, wild land fires certainly  
46 have an affect on large animals, particularly large  
47 animal grazers in the Interior.

48

49 Fortunately what it does is redistribute  
50 the population to other areas. And to what affect that

1 has on those adjacent areas, does it add to the pressure  
2 on the habitat, I'm sure it does to some extent, but  
3 fortunately we're talking about vast areas that have very  
4 lush standing browse for the moose. I don't think it  
5 affects it to the point where it's devastating to the  
6 herd or it knocks the herd back. So I think fortunately  
7 the herd has that going for it.

8

9 So, yes, habitat is a factor, but if  
10 anything it's a factor that's helping the herd, helping  
11 the population, if anything.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Pete. Any  
14 further comments.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any recommendations  
19 from the Council.

20

21 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

22

23 MR. TAGAROOK: Yes, I have just one more,  
24 this is Terry.

25

26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

27

28 MR. TAGAROOK: Are you going to be  
29 prohibiting the use of aircrafts where people cannot go  
30 to certain areas but it's available and accessible by  
31 plane, and that's something that should be considered,  
32 too, the prohibiting of planes of going into different  
33 units.

34

35 MR. FISHER: Pete, did you hear that  
36 question. The fellow wanted to know about airplane  
37 access in 24 for moose hunting.

38

39 MR. DEMATTEO: I'm sorry, is the gentleman  
40 asking is there any restricted areas or -- I'm not quite  
41 sure what his question was, can you help me out, Dave.

42

43 MR. FISHER: Could you repeat the  
44 question.

45

46 MR. TAGAROOK: Yes. I was just asking if  
47 the use of aircrafts is prohibited by sports hunters or  
48 anybody?

49

50 MR. DEMATTEO: Oh, yes, thank you. I

1 understand your question now. If you look on the map on  
2 Page 72 of your Council book, and if you look at the  
3 upper Koyukuk River, you'll see that there's certain  
4 portions of the map that have dash lines going across the  
5 map. Those are Controlled Use Areas, and in those  
6 Controlled Use Areas, which is the Kanuti Controlled Use  
7 Area and also the Dalton Highway Corridor, both of those  
8 areas are Controlled Use Areas, meaning that -- one of  
9 the things it means is you cannot access the area with an  
10 airplane with the intent to harvest moose.

11

12 MR. FISHER: Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Mr. Fisher.

15

16 MR. FISHER: Mr. Chair, what Pete is  
17 referring to is located on Page 104 of our Federal  
18 subsistence regulatory book, it spells it out there in  
19 the Controlled Use Areas.

20

21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry, does that help  
22 answer your question?

23

24 MR. TAGAROOK: Yes, that clarified it. But  
25 there's other areas, too, where we've noticed in the  
26 summertime one year there was -- in the Colville we saw  
27 the telltale marks of the airplanes landing on the river  
28 and taking the moose in the summertime.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Gordon, did  
31 you have a comment or recommendation.

32

33 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman. After  
34 listening to Council members and Staff, and I've thought  
35 about it, I'd like to make a motion that we support WP05-  
36 12 with the Staff recommendations.

37

38 And also from the North Slope Regional  
39 Council to write up some literature concerning predation  
40 to identify more closely the recruitment rate that's  
41 being affected and to look at the limitation of  
42 sporthunting in these areas where subsistence is being  
43 affected.

44

45 CHAIRMAN BROWER: There's a motion on the  
46 floor to support the Proposal WP05-12 with -- did you  
47 state the modifications Gordon, with the modification  
48 language?

49

50 MR. G. BROWER: Yes, with the Staff

1 recommendation that has a modification there.

2

3

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

4

5

MR. G. BROWER: But to include also what I mentioned, was to look at other factors. The predation issue caused probably maybe by wolves, and also look at the sporthunting side of this. If we're having a severe limitation on subsistence, a corresponding limitation to sporthunting of these animals should be brought forward, or either altogether eliminate the sporthunting in this unit if that is causing the effect of subsistence take, because subsistence take is for people that are surviving, they're not going to put this on the wall to show off to a millionaire somewhere versus you're going to feed your children.

17

18

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is there a second to the motion.

20

21

MR. BODFISH: Second.

22

23

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Paul. I didn't note down all the discussion points on this motion but I think they've been recorded to where they'll be written out, Gordon.

27

28

Any further discussions on the motion.

29

30

(No comments)

31

32

MR. REXFORD: Question, Mr. Chair.

33

34

CHAIRMAN BROWER: Julius.

35

36

MR. REXFORD: Did I hear it correctly earlier that 13 was taken out or was that with No. 12; is that correct?

39

40

CHAIRMAN BROWER: There is no action taken on 13.

42

43

MR. REXFORD: Just no action taken.

44

45

CHAIRMAN BROWER: That's all that's stated, no action taken on Proposal 13.

47

48

MR. REXFORD: So we're.....

49

50

CHAIRMAN BROWER: We're only acting on

1 No. 12.  
2  
3 MR. REXFORD: Okay, thank you Mr. Chair.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any further questions  
6 or comments. Discussion.  
7  
8 (No comments)  
9  
10 MR. TAGAROOK: Question.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question has been  
13 called on the motion. All in favor of the motion signify  
14 by saying aye.  
15  
16 IN UNISON: Aye.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any opposed, same sign.  
19  
20 (No opposing votes)  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank you.  
23  
24  
25 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Pete. We're  
26 going to go ahead and sign off here now, appreciate your  
27 input. Thank you, very much.  
28  
29 MR DEMATTEO: Thank you.  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I didn't get Pete's  
32 last name.  
33  
34 MR. FISHER: Pete DeMatteo.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: DeMatteo. Thank you,  
37 Mr. DeMatteo.  
38  
39 MR DEMATTEO: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes. Do we have any  
42 other proposals that we need to act on Mr. Fisher.  
43  
44 MR. FISHER: No, Mr. Chairman. I believe  
45 that concludes the three wildlife proposals that we were  
46 to discuss today.  
47  
48 Thank you.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Our next

1 agenda item is No. 11, Fisheries Information Program,  
2 Richard Cannon. I think we have a new person.

3

4 (Laughter)

5

6 MS. CRAVER: Good afternoon, Mr. Chair.

7 No, I'm not Richard Cannon, I'm instead Amy Craver.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Amy.

10

11 MS. CRAVER: And I'm here with Office of

12 Subsistence Management, Fisheries Information Service.

13

14 Today I'll be providing the Council an

15 overview of the monitoring projects funded by the

16 Fisheries Information Program. A summary of these

17 projects are for the Council's information and do not

18 require any Council action at this time.

19

20 Additionally, I'd like to ask the Council

21 to identify and update any new issues and information

22 needs in your area. I also plan to discuss Fisheries

23 Information Service statewide strategic planning efforts

24 that have already occurred in Southcentral Alaska and in

25 Bristol Bay.

26

27 And finally, after, I think what we'll

28 do, if it's okay with you, Mr. Chair, is after my

29 presentation, it's fairly brief, maybe if we could take a

30 quick break and then Sverre Pedersen from Fish and Game

31 is going to provide the Council two presentations that

32 were funded by Fisheries Information Service in Kaktovik

33 and Anaktuvuk Pass, and I think you'll enjoy them.

34

35 Okay. Council members should refer to

36 the handout which is the status report which is the 2004

37 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Plan for the Northern

38 Region, and I think that Jerry just passed that out to

39 you. The report provides you with an update of the

40 status and accomplishments of projects funded under the

41 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program for the North

42 Slope, Northwest Alaska and the Seward Peninsula.

43

44 One of the distinctions that Fisheries

45 Information Service, we're not, shouldn't be considered

46 like the regulatory side of Office of Subsistence

47 Management, rather than focusing on regulations, we are

48 focused on funding and overseeing multi-disciplinary

49 projects to blend sort of biological and the social

50 sciences together with traditional ecological knowledge,



1 and we do that blending to better manage and conserve  
2 fishery resources.

3  
4 The monitoring program is now entering  
5 its six year of funding for fisheries projects. The  
6 program started with a total of \$6 million in 2000 which  
7 included funds to operate some studies for three years.

8  
9 From 2001 through 2005, the statewide  
10 program has funded 70 to 80 projects annually at a cost  
11 of \$7.2 million. In 2004 most prior year funding  
12 commitments have now ended and approximately \$5 million  
13 was available for new projects. For 2005 available  
14 funding statewide for new projects was only about \$1.9  
15 million because of funding commitments made in 2004.

16  
17 The Federal Subsistence Board approved  
18 funding for 24 projects for all regions in 2005. During  
19 most years the northern region receives about 13.2  
20 percent or \$811,000 of available funds that are allocated  
21 in the northern region, and that's Arctic, Kotzebue and  
22 the Norton Sound region. The status report that I handed  
23 out includes a list of the summaries of projects that  
24 have been completed thus far, ongoing projects that were  
25 started during the past years and will continue in 2005,  
26 as well as a list of the new projects that the Federal  
27 Board approved for funding in January 2005.

28  
29 For example, if you turn to Page 2 in the  
30 status report, you will find a listing of the 29 studies  
31 that are either complete or close to completion since  
32 2000.

33  
34 The next list found on Page 3 includes a  
35 list of summaries of all the 12 projects that are  
36 currently active.

37  
38 And since your time is short, I'll just  
39 give you just a few highlights from the report. Since  
40 its inception in 2000, the Fisheries Resource Monitoring  
41 Program has funded a total of 29 studies for the northern  
42 region, and that includes seven inter-regional studies  
43 that involve this region. And then I'm just going to  
44 refer you to that report if you want to take a look at  
45 some of the summaries rather than going in depth on all  
46 the studies that are being conducted right now.

47  
48 One of the foundations of our program is  
49 capacity building. Capacity building efforts include  
50 rural and tribal organizations serving as principle or co-

1 investigators. The program is supporting the hiring and  
2 training of local residents as research assistants and  
3 technicians and provides information through  
4 consultations, meetings and written reports. Of the 31  
5 studies, 10 have tribal or rural organizations as co-  
6 investigators, and these organizations include Alaska  
7 Intertribal Council, Kaktovik Inupiat Corporation,  
8 Kawerak, Stebbins Village Association, Maniilaq, City of  
9 Anaktuvuk Pass, and North Slope Borough. And I think  
10 that what you'll see when Sverre gives his presentations,  
11 you'll see that there really is a lot of active local  
12 involvement based on research and just in the  
13 presentation and results in these projects.  
14

15                   The Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program  
16 plays an important role in providing data for fisheries  
17 management in the northern regions. Although this  
18 program's focus is supporting the collection of  
19 technically sound fisheries data, supporting Federal  
20 subsistence management, we all recognize that fish don't  
21 necessarily recognize their jurisdictions and boundaries,  
22 therefore, we must look at the whole eco-system and work  
23 with the State and other organizations to support data  
24 collections for fisheries management in the northern  
25 region.  
26

27                   I'd like to refer you to the last page --  
28 well, actually I don't think it is there so I'm not going  
29 to refer you to the last page of the report, but I just  
30 wanted to go through real quickly the information needs  
31 that were previously identified by all three Councils for  
32 the northern region.  
33

34                   And in terms of the stock, status and  
35 trends, these are the issues that you've identified. And  
36 what I'd like to encourage each of you to think about is  
37 right now, are there any other additional information  
38 needs or topics that you think from your community's  
39 perspective that you would like to see more research done  
40 in these areas.  
41

42                   Okay, so currently this is what we craft  
43 our request for proposals around these topics, and of  
44 course that always get revised as more information needs  
45 come up. So in terms of the stock, status and trends  
46 projects, what's been identified as high priority is  
47 research dealing with Arctic cisco, broad whitefish,  
48 Arctic grayling on the North Slope, char on the North  
49 Slope and in the Kotzebue area and whitefish in the  
50 Selawik River, salmon in the Unalakleet River, and the

1 Pikmiktalik River complex, as well as on the North Slope.  
2 Effects of sportfishing activities, and that's mostly  
3 just in Kotzebue and Norton Sound. And then fish  
4 tagging, that's in the Kotzebue area, and that deals with  
5 sheefish. And then beaver dams and that's an issue  
6 that's come up with, I guess, in the Pikmiktalik River.

7  
8 And then in terms of the harvest  
9 monitoring projects, subsistence fisheries for char,  
10 Arctic grayling and other fish on the North Slope has  
11 been identified as an information need and then  
12 evaluation of subsistence harvest survey and project  
13 designs.

14  
15 And then in terms of the category of  
16 traditional ecological knowledge, the three information  
17 needs there are documentation of traditional fishing and  
18 resource information. Documentation of subsistence use  
19 and practices and determination of customary and  
20 traditional uses.

21  
22 So those are sort of the information  
23 needs for the northern region that have been identified  
24 thus far, and certainly can be revised.

25  
26 Now, I just wanted to briefly tell you  
27 about our strategic planning efforts that are going on  
28 statewide. Like I said before, we've already had a  
29 strategic planning meeting, two workshops in Southcentral  
30 Alaska and in Bristol Bay, and basically what those  
31 workshops, we developed an inventory of all the current  
32 projects that are being done by State and Federal and all  
33 the agencies that we know about that are dealing with  
34 projects dealing with subsistence fisheries, and then we  
35 invited a group of people, members from the RAC, local  
36 people, social scientists and biologists, and that's both  
37 Federal and State and non-profit and brought them  
38 together to really identify, to fully flesh out the  
39 inventory and then to identify the gaps in information  
40 and then to come up with a priority of information needs  
41 that we could then kind of craft our call for proposals  
42 to. So that's a pretty rigorous process and it's been  
43 quite successful. We've got a final draft from the  
44 Southcentral meeting and we're developing our draft from  
45 the Bristol Bay meeting. And we just had a meeting last  
46 week and our plan is to either deal with the northern  
47 region next or the Kodiak/Aleutians and I think we're  
48 sort of up in the air about how to deal with the northern  
49 region because we're finding that, of course, to lump it  
50 all together in one meeting really isn't adequate because

1 the needs are kind of very different from the Seward  
2 Penn, Northwest Alaska and up here. And I think that  
3 we're sort of considering maybe waiting for the North  
4 Slope just because there's so much going on right now and  
5 there may be other planning efforts that we might want to  
6 see where they go before we jump in. So I think the plan  
7 might be to start with Kotzebue and Seward Penn, and then  
8 just sort of see what goes on up here. But, you know, of  
9 course your input's welcome too.

10

11 So that's pretty much all I have.

12

13 And one thing I did want to show you is  
14 I've got three copies of this report, it was just  
15 completed by Susan Georgette and Enoch Shiedt, who's one  
16 of the Regional Advisory Council members for the  
17 Northwest Arctic, and they've done an excellent job  
18 interviewing subsistence fishers all over the Seward Penn  
19 -- no, sorry, actually the Kotzebue Sound area and  
20 there's color pictures and the lay out's really nice and  
21 I've got three copies and you might want to take a look  
22 at them. And since I've got three you're welcome --  
23 three lucky people can take them home with them, I don't  
24 want to bring them back.

25

26 Okay, thank you.

27

28 MR. GUNDERSON: Can I say something.

29

30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

31

32 MR. GUNDERSON: When I was doing some  
33 fishing, in my home town Atqasuk, there was some new fish  
34 that they caught in the nets and they were some pike,  
35 they've never seen pike around that area in a while, and  
36 they've noticed that they've been catching, you know,  
37 different kinds of fish that aren't usually around in  
38 that area. And they're wondering, you know, what's the  
39 migration patterns of these fish and why are they coming  
40 around, you know, to the area. Is it due to the fish  
41 that are so abundant there or is it due to the new  
42 migration of the current or is it the temperature of the  
43 water?

44

45 Because my uncle caught a pike on his net  
46 and he didn't know what it was I had to go to the school  
47 and ask the teacher and they said it was a pike, so  
48 they've never seen one before and they were just totally  
49 amazed -- they didn't even want to eat it but they gave  
50 it to somebody who did.

1 (Laughter)  
2  
3 MR. GUNDERSON: So actually -- they said  
4 it was pretty nice, though to catch them, I guess. It's  
5 unusual that they do catch them with a hook, but they  
6 caught it with a net so I don't know how it got in our  
7 area, we've never caught them before, or they've just  
8 slipped by or we never noticed them. But they caught a  
9 pike just this last fall.  
10  
11 Thank you.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, David. Any  
14 other comments.  
15  
16 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.  
19  
20 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah, the studies being  
21 done in Kaktovik and Anaktuvuk Pass, it's ongoing and  
22 near completion, are they almost done with those two  
23 studies? Because when I went through that handout you  
24 gave us it said they were -- it mentioned that they were  
25 near completion, are they completed by now?  
26  
27 MS. CRAVER: Well, Sverre, when he talks  
28 about the projects he can tell you more about where they  
29 are with regard to completion. Right now, both projects,  
30 I've got a draft report and, of course, there's such a  
31 local component to these projects they're going to both  
32 go under a lot of community review before they become  
33 finalized, so I know I was talking with Sverre during  
34 lunch and he was saying that they've got several  
35 community meetings, like for example in Anaktuvuk Pass,  
36 where people are going to be seeing what the results are  
37 to make sure that they go along with what's being  
38 presented.  
39  
40 So Sverre can give you more update on how  
41 far along they are in terms of the community review  
42 process.  
43  
44 MR. TAGAROOK: Thank you.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other comments.  
47 Questions.  
48  
49 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

2

3 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, observations, and  
4 some question -- basic questions. You said that we can  
5 recommend to look into fisheries research. And as you  
6 know the NPR-A is on its transformation with lease sales  
7 and proposed development already on the docket. You're  
8 looking at ANWR with the Congress making some actions.  
9 And the need to perhaps do a resource inventory in the  
10 impacted areas.

11

12 Some other things that I have concerns  
13 about that probably have not been studied is like in the  
14 Dease Inlet areas, like the Dease Inlet areas of NPR-A,  
15 it's similar to Wainwright, supposed to be home to its  
16 own resident smelts. I mean what type of, you know, I  
17 don't see too much of that in any type of literature and  
18 to be able to adequately survey that and perhaps if some  
19 development were to occur, you know, there's different  
20 types of impacts of different types of fish. Fish in the  
21 Teshekpuk Lake and that's just above -- between Alaktak  
22 and Chip River, and there's some land-locked lakes in  
23 there. There's fish called (In Inupiat) old timers call  
24 it (In Inupiat) but it's sort of like a rainbow type of a  
25 little trout, it probably gets about 15 or 16 inches.  
26 And my dad had said this only had occurred in those  
27 inter-connected lakes between Chip River and Alaktak in  
28 there, and those lakes have little channels that may be  
29 only a foot wide connecting some of them, even -- I think  
30 those kind of studies are going to be important to  
31 identify.

32

33 And our new member talking about pike.  
34 You know, we have lakes full of pike up at the Ikpikpuk,  
35 and when they overflow from spring, and we witnessed  
36 that, the fish get blown out because the land gets marshy  
37 and the little fish can come out, and sometimes  
38 altogether the lake busts through because of erosion and  
39 permafrost not being able to hold the lake in tact  
40 anymore and the entire contents gets thrown into the  
41 river.

42

43 So those are some of the things that can  
44 be indicators why you see different types of fish in  
45 rivers that you haven't seen in a while. Some of them  
46 are land-locked that got escaped through spring overflows  
47 and erosion.

48

49 There are lots of potential areas to  
50 study that are subsistence resources, which have the

1 potential to be impacted. So there's a lot of stuff to  
2 do on the North Slope that haven't been yet done.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other comments from  
7 the Council. Paul.

8

9 MR. BODFISH: Yeah, I would like to see  
10 adding to what Gordon has just said, to see studies being  
11 done even before the industry steps all over our grounds  
12 there because actually that's the migratory route and our  
13 wintering areas from the fish that we catch on the Meade.  
14 I know they go up in the Chip Rivers and Kuparuk areas  
15 and go winter in those areas when they come out of our  
16 rivers.

17

18 Just to add on, I'd like to see some  
19 studies being done in our areas, in our rivers of all the  
20 fish species that we have in our rivers, the grayling,  
21 the whitefish, the trout, salmon species, all the fish  
22 species that we have in our rivers.

23

24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You mean the Meade  
25 River?

26

27 MR. BODFISH: Yeah, Meade River, all  
28 includes Chip, Kuparuk and all those, the Alaktak River,  
29 they're all inter-connected, all that fish, they do  
30 migrate in that area. The fish that we do have go up  
31 into the Chip also.

32

33 I know that in the studies they've done  
34 in the past, they have note the tagged fish that were  
35 tagged in Atqasuk have been caught in the Ikpikpuk.

36

37 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

40

41 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, that is one of the  
42 things I think we need to help. I know there have been  
43 ongoing studies about spawning of whitefish and tagging  
44 them and Ikpikpuk, Chip River seems to be a primary  
45 spawning area. And I've heard it more than once from  
46 some of our elders, the whitefish that even come out and  
47 go in Tusigaruk (ph), that's a lake about 25 miles out of  
48 Barrow, has a little (In Inupiat) stream, those fish,  
49 much like maybe a scenario like what happens with the  
50 Arctic cisco in Colville. There is a central spawning

1 area in the McKenzie Delta for the Arctic cisco and they  
2 come out and disperse over the summer and grow up in the  
3 various overwintering and oversummering areas. I think  
4 that's something that's been kind of studied but not very  
5 -- I think not very much verification, but maybe through  
6 traditional knowledge, yeah.

7  
8 But it is something that we're concerned  
9 about because a lot of the studies that happen are  
10 induced by oil developers and may somewhat be biased so  
11 that the industry has an upper hand in the information  
12 that's gathered, and may leave out certain aspects of the  
13 studies to get only the information they need. So these  
14 are some of the things that we worry about that I think  
15 appropriate land managers should seriously consider, you  
16 know, of studies. It's just our concern.

17  
18 I think reading your report makes us want  
19 to divulge concerns and if we're able to convey to you  
20 serious concerns about studies, especially areas of  
21 anadromous fish, those are very concerns that we have.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.  
24 Ray.

25  
26 MR. KOONUK: Yeah, I'm glad there are  
27 going to be some studies too also at Wulik River, is that  
28 near Kivalina? The reason, you know, is that Red Dog is  
29 just right next door and they dump a lot of -- I don't  
30 know what they dump out there, but I know it's going into  
31 Wulik River. And we get a lot of fish from Kivalina, you  
32 know, they send some and I'm glad you guys are going to  
33 do some studies.

34  
35 Also I made a request about two years ago  
36 about trying to get some studies done too in Kuukpuk  
37 River for the grayling and I haven't seen anything yet.  
38 I'd like to see that, you know, be put back on the table  
39 as far as studies on grayling.

40  
41 And this guy here talking about seeing a  
42 pike. We also have had one fish that was caught, bass,  
43 bass, that's the first time we ever see one and I think  
44 they sent that out to Jim, in Kotzebue.

45  
46 MS. CRAVER: Jim Dau.

47  
48 MR. KOONUK: Jim Dau, yeah. So that was  
49 strange.

50



1 Thank you.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Julius.  
4  
5 MR. REXFORD: Good evening. Good  
6 morning.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good afternoon.  
9  
10 MR. REXFORD: Good afternoon.  
11  
12 MR. TAGAROOK: Wake up.  
13  
14 (Laughter)  
15  
16 MR. REXFORD: But anyway, I've been  
17 fishing in the Point Lay area for a good 10 years and I  
18 fish for least cisco in the mouth of Kokalik River, and  
19 they usually come around in August and in July -- June  
20 and July a lot of salmon go through, fish in the lagoon  
21 for those with gillnets. And we've been catching quite a  
22 bit of coho in August and king salmon in August. And  
23 there's quite a bit of humpback salmons, and pinks.  
24  
25 My uncle talks about catching whitefish  
26 in the southern part of the lagoon in Naro Pass (ph),  
27 which I think is least cisco, which one he's talking  
28 about, the whitefish.  
29  
30 And we haven't done any -- I know there  
31 was fish studies done in the early '80s and that was the  
32 last time fish studies was done in the Point Lay area.  
33 And the Aotokak area needs to be studied for fish, too.  
34 I understand there's (In Inupiat) that go into Aotokak  
35 but I'm not sure, I've just heard from stories which is  
36 white broadhead whitefish.  
37  
38 And that's all I have from Point Lay  
39 area.  
40  
41 Thank you.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: David, did you have a  
44 comment you wanted to make?  
45  
46 MR. GUNDERSON: Yeah, is there something,  
47 a study going on to say why these fish are migrating in  
48 these different parts of the, you know, the unknown or  
49 should we say the North Slope, because we've never seen  
50 them or they've never talked about them and it's just

1 something that's not happened very often and it's a very  
2 big concern, I'm sure, you know, the fish and the animals  
3 are trying to tell us something and if we don't listen to  
4 them, you'll see it doesn't take it long for the  
5 migrations of other stuff, too, like the mosquitoes to  
6 bees to anything. You know, it could be something that  
7 just can kill off anything that's been around here and  
8 we'll never know unless it's too late.

9  
10 There's only now that we can act on it  
11 then the future. So whatever we decide is for our future  
12 generations.

13  
14 I'm a young man, I'm 30 years old. I  
15 have seven children so I'm trying to keep up my heritage  
16 too and it's something that we need to do now if we want  
17 to -- at least recognize it. So it's a big concern, I'm  
18 sure. There's a lot of people that don't know about  
19 stuff and we got to get it out there.

20  
21 Thank you.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, David. Any  
24 other comments. We need to get back on your question  
25 earlier about what happened to that request you made in  
26 terms of that one river. We asked for a report back on  
27 that and it was on State lands and these projects that  
28 are being conducted on, on Federal lands, and they  
29 requested that we try and submit it under the State, what  
30 was it, Board of Game or the Board of Fisheries to do the  
31 research on your concern. And that was the feedback we  
32 had gotten on that, that's what I remember on that  
33 grayling study?

34  
35 MR. KOONUK: Yeah.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yeah, I can't remember  
38 which river it was, it was the Kuukpuk.....

39  
40 MR. KOONUK: Kuukpuk.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: .....there you go, and  
43 that was what they had given back to us, that this, the  
44 Fisheries Research Monitoring is under the Federal  
45 management program and it needs to be addressed on  
46 Federal lands, and the area you had identified was right  
47 near Point Hope and it was on State lands.

48  
49 MR. KOONUK: We had it on the.....

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, we had put it on  
2 the information needs material that we submitted some  
3 time ago when we first started discussing fisheries  
4 information needs, that was one of them that we  
5 identified and we later found out that it got turned down  
6 because it was pertaining to State lands near the  
7 community and we needed to approach the Board of  
8 Fisheries to see if this request could be accommodated.  
9 And I'm not sure if we ever did -- made any progress  
10 after hearing back from them.

11  
12 That's all the recommendation I remember  
13 in terms of the grayling that he was requesting, the  
14 information that he had requested for.

15  
16 I wrote something else down, I'm not sure  
17 if you had a list of the information needs that we had  
18 provided earlier and you're suggesting to review it and  
19 maybe provide some new information needs that need to be  
20 considered, Amy?

21  
22 MS. CRAVER: Well, I went ahead and read  
23 out the information needs, but, you know, and  
24 unfortunately I forgot to bring a hard copy of that, but  
25 I can try to get something together and pass it out to  
26 you by the end of the meeting.

27  
28 I'm sorry.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I just can't remember  
31 what they were right off the top of my head, I know Ray  
32 brought out one of them and that was the grayling. I  
33 think the other two have been addressed in the report  
34 that Sverre is going to be presenting in terms of the  
35 Kaktovik, Arctic char, and Anaktuvuk Pass study that was  
36 conducted, that was within the North Slope on NPR-A, the  
37 fish harvest assessment completion. The eastern North  
38 Slope Kaktovik subsistence fall fish harvest assessment  
39 and then the Dolly varden genetic stock identification  
40 assessment. Those are the ones that we identified before  
41 and working with Sverre and the North Slope Borough  
42 Department of Wildlife Management and with the Regional  
43 Advisory Council's recommendations, those were some of  
44 the ones that we identified before.

45  
46 But I think it might, like you suggested,  
47 we need to identify new information needs that -- studies  
48 that we could recommend to the Fisheries Resource  
49 Monitoring Program.

50

1                   Gordon and Paul have identified studies,  
2 the inlet there in the river, adjacent rivers around that  
3 Admiralty Bay that are emptying into the Admiralty Bay,  
4 Meade River, Ikpikpuk River, Chip River. Those are the  
5 ones that we are currently dealing with and fishing off  
6 of, those are the areas that we do a lot of fishing.

7  
8                   I wanted to ask Ray how far back, you  
9 know, I guess we need to look at a map to identify where  
10 Federal lands start and where State land begins on a map  
11 to try to bring up and identify an area where the study  
12 should begin on Federal lands near Point Hope to try to  
13 address your grayling concern.

14  
15                   MR. G. BROWER: Maybe that map would show  
16 some indication of Federal lands.

17  
18                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think that's what  
19 needs to happen. If we could identify where the Federal  
20 lands are and starting that research from that area and  
21 trying to address his concern might be one way of  
22 identifying to see if it could continue that -- continue  
23 to pick up on that request.

24  
25                   Jerry.

26  
27                   MR. BERG: Yes, Mr. Chair, I do remember  
28 talking to Barb about that issue, about grayling in that  
29 area and I know she was in contact with the State, Fred  
30 DiCicco is a fish biologist out of Nome and he works in  
31 that northern area on that species. And I know Fred  
32 DiCicco expressed to Barb that he would be willing to go  
33 out to some of those communities and talk to people about  
34 those populations, so I know she's been working on that  
35 issue and maybe when we get back we'll get together with  
36 Barb and have her continue along those same lines and try  
37 to get Fred DiCicco out there to talk to some of the  
38 people in those communities because I know he's  
39 interested in going out there also and talking to the  
40 people about some of those grayling populations as well.

41  
42                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: I guess that would be  
43 another approach that we could take to maybe try to  
44 address the concern of Point Hope in terms of that  
45 grayling concern, you know, the population is continuing  
46 to decline near the area and they're not harvesting the  
47 fish, it's a legitimate concern. Something needs to be  
48 looked into there. And the report that was given back to  
49 the Council is that it was identified as being on State  
50 lands and we needed to work with the State area biologist

1 and try and get that issue fixed or addressed.  
2  
3 Amy, did we need to cover anything else,  
4 you mentioned something about Sverre giving a  
5 presentation or.....  
6  
7 MS. CRAVER: Yes, Sverre, he's got to get  
8 his projector ready so maybe you might want to take a  
9 quick break before he gives his presentation.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, we could do that.  
12 Julius, did you have question.  
13  
14 MR. REXFORD: Yeah, Mr. Chair, I had a  
15 question for Ray. I just want to ask him if they still  
16 fish at Windy Lake, anyone from Point Hope go to Windy  
17 Lake, go fish over there? Do they still do that?  
18  
19 MR. KOONUK: No, not that I heard, it's  
20 mostly up the river that they -- during the falltime, you  
21 know, around the coast during the summertime, that's  
22 about it.  
23  
24 MR. REXFORD: Thank you.  
25  
26 MR. CARROLL: I just want to say real  
27 quick before you break.....  
28  
29 REPORTER: Geoff. Geoff, could you.....  
30  
31 MR. CARROLL: .....is if you wanted a  
32 hunting license.....  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Geoff, could you.....  
35  
36 MR. CARROLL: .....so I brought my --  
37 this doesn't have anything to do with the meeting. I  
38 brought my hunting license material over here if anybody  
39 needs a hunting, trapping or fishing license I could make  
40 one out for you real quick during the break.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Is that for free?  
43  
44 MR. CARROLL: No.  
45  
46 (Laughter)  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, let's take a  
49 break.  
50

1 MS. CRAVER: Before we break, I just want  
2 to thank everybody for their input, this has been really  
3 helpful to me and our program. So thank you very much.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Amy. We'll  
6 probably have a little more questions or comments after  
7 the quick presentation.

8  
9 MR. BODFISH: Mr. Chair.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Paul.

12  
13 MR. BODFISH: About David's concern about  
14 finally seeing pike in our fish, there was always pike up  
15 the Nulikatokovik River (ph), which is five miles north  
16 of the village, they do come down and then go up our  
17 river at times, and they also come from the (In Inupiat)  
18 River coming out of the lakes. So pike was always there  
19 but not never numerous, just a few here in there. I  
20 guess when they're traveling between lakes or following  
21 the fish. Pike was always there.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Paul. I  
24 guess we'll take a five minute break, is that long  
25 enough?

26  
27 (Council nods affirmatively)

28  
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right, thank you.

30  
31 (Off record)

32  
33 (On record)

34  
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'll call our meeting  
36 back to order after a short break. We're ready to hear  
37 from Sverre on this Fisheries Resource Monitoring  
38 Program, a status report. Sverre, you have the floor.

39  
40 MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
41 I'm going to talk to you about two projects that this  
42 body actually suggested be done, and so there was a list  
43 a few years ago and I looked at that list and wrote up a  
44 couple of proposals and came back to the Fish and Game  
45 management committee and also to you guys and talked to  
46 you as well as the communities where I was planning to do  
47 this work and received approval. And then the FIS, Fish  
48 and Wildlife Service Program funded those two projects.  
49 I'm going to do this pretty quickly.

50

1                   There are two pieces that I have done  
2 here, and then there is a third piece that's a companion  
3 piece to my work in Anaktuvuk so this report is on  
4 Kaktovik and there's a report on Anaktuvuk and there's a  
5 companion piece to the Anaktuvuk one that I think you'll  
6 be really interested in. This other stuff is okay but  
7 what you'll see from my cooperator, the guy that's  
8 working with me, Grant Spearman, who is the curator at  
9 the Paneak Memorial Museum in Anaktuvuk, he has  
10 contributed a section on the importance and the history  
11 and use of fish in the Anaktuvuk area. You'll look like  
12 that. So I'll try to go fast through this stuff so we  
13 can get to the good stuff.

14  
15                   These two projects that I did, they were  
16 basically harvest assessments and so it was basically a  
17 matter of in each community it was a two year study to  
18 look at what fish are being caught, where are they being  
19 caught, what time of the year are they being caught, how  
20 many, things like that. And so that was really sort of  
21 one goal that we had in the work.

22  
23                   There was another goal, and that was to  
24 hire someone locally to work with us and, in fact, train  
25 the person to do most of the work. And in Kaktovik I  
26 worked with the Kaktovik Inupiat Corporation and they  
27 contracted with Alfred Linn, Jr., to work with me on this  
28 project.

29  
30                   It's a survey project so that means that  
31 we had a survey form and we go to every household in the  
32 community and talk to them about their fishing in the  
33 last year, so the previous year. And in Kaktovik we  
34 spent quite a bit of time actually trying to figure out  
35 when is the best time to go and talk to people about  
36 their fishing and we discovered that really there are two  
37 times of the year you should go and one is in sort of the  
38 late spring and early summer and then the other one is in  
39 the falltime. And that way you catch what people did in  
40 the winter and you catch what people did in the summer.  
41 And so people don't have to walk around and try to  
42 remember what they did for a whole year, you know, this  
43 is a little easier.

44  
45                   So roughly that's what we're going to be  
46 talking about.

47  
48                   So I told you about two components here,  
49 basically the harvest assessment part, the part of  
50 involving someone in the community, which is called, you

1 know, capacity building, is what the word is that we use  
2 here on that. Then we wanted to collect some  
3 information, some local information, some natural history  
4 information about Dolly varden, in particular, and  
5 particularly having to do with overwintering areas and  
6 spawning areas in, the fishing areas of these two  
7 communities.

8  
9 Then the final component in this work was  
10 to collect samples from harvested fish, a small part of  
11 the back fin here was clipped off and it was sent out to  
12 a Lab in the Lower 48 to look at how these fish, that  
13 people are catching in these communities, are related to  
14 the same sort of fish maybe in other areas. So it's  
15 genetic work that's being done.

16  
17 I'm going to report to you on three of  
18 the components here because the genetic stuff is not  
19 completed yet, it takes a long time to do the genetic  
20 work and when I get the results from that work back,  
21 either I or someone else will come and talk to you about  
22 it.

23  
24 So in Kaktovik the work was, like I said  
25 to look at all fish, but specifically look at Dolly  
26 Varden, because in Kaktovik they catch a lot of Dolly  
27 varden, not much work had been on the fishery for a long  
28 time in that community and they wanted to have good  
29 background information on their own fishery and, you  
30 know, what was going on with the fish in case something  
31 happened in their area.

32  
33 So we spent two years working together  
34 developing this information. We had a goal of sort of  
35 doing eight interviews with elders in the community to  
36 develop some of this natural history information and we  
37 were going to do these surveys, actually four surveys,  
38 two the first year and two the second year. And this is  
39 in case you don't remember where Kaktovik is, I just  
40 thought I'd show you. And my pointer on the map, that I  
41 got the magic pointer doesn't work so I'm going to have  
42 to use my unmagic pointer, so in case you don't remember,  
43 that's where Kaktovik is.

44  
45 And for a lot of people they don't  
46 realize that, you know, this is really -- you know, who  
47 may be reading this material that this is way north of  
48 the Arctic Circle, it's on the Arctic Ocean, it's closer  
49 to Canada really than it is to any other community on the  
50 North Slope, and so there's lots of relations between the



1 people who live in Alavik and Anuvik (ph).

2

3

4 Back in the 1970s, I actually worked for  
5 the North Slope Borough, for the planning department no  
6 less, for the North Slope Borough on a contract with BLM  
7 and part of the work that I was hired to do was to look  
8 at, what areas are people on the North Slope using for  
9 hunting and fishing. And so here is some information  
10 that we developed actually back in 1979 on what area the  
11 community of Kaktovik, since people started living in  
12 Kaktovik, that they use for hunting and fishing. And  
13 this map only shows the area on the U.S. side, there's  
14 actually quite a bit of information that goes into Canada  
15 as well but people here -- you know, we're not interested  
16 in that here and so there is no sense in showing that  
17 information today.

17

18

So that was for all resources.

19

20

21 This is the area that since they became  
22 settled in Kaktovik, that they used for fishing, so  
23 delineated those areas just to give ourselves some  
24 orientation here of what we can expect to see in terms of  
25 where people fish. I've left out a bunch of information  
26 here because of time, obviously. But there is another  
27 map here that shows where the most common fishing sites  
28 are in Kaktovik and which ones are the most productive  
29 but actually some of the -- you will see in the results  
30 here and the findings that there's a strong  
31 correspondence between those sites and what people are  
32 using today so there is no real sense in going through  
33 that map.

33

34

35 So here is some basic background on the  
36 survey, for the winter 2000/2001, you know, we surveyed  
37 76 households and five households reported harvesting  
38 that winter. And summer 2001 77 households in the  
39 community and 25 households reporting harvesting. Winter  
40 2001/2002 there were 80 households in the community when  
41 we did the survey and three households reported  
42 harvesting fish. And in the summer of 2002 there were 80  
43 households and 19 reported harvesting fish.

43

44

45 So right there you can see something  
46 pretty interesting and that is there are not a lot of  
47 people in Kaktovik at this point in time who fish in the  
48 winter. And that was sort of surprising to us to begin  
49 with. But what we discovered as part of this is the two  
50 years that we were doing our work the weather was really  
51 nasty on the coastal plain, and people in Kaktovik, in

1 order to get to their fishing areas inland -- these are  
2 inland fishing areas in the winter, they have to go  
3 through basically a very, very windy area and the two  
4 years that we did our work it was particularly windy so  
5 not a lot of households went fishing because of, you  
6 know, really nasty weather conditions.

7  
8                                   And in fact, the weather wasn't very good  
9 in the summer either. In both years when we did our work  
10 there was a lot of ice along the coast and there was a  
11 lot of northeasterly wind, cold, nasty wind, so people  
12 didn't go as far north, you know, east as they would have  
13 wished to go.

14  
15                                   MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chair, I got a  
16 question.

17  
18                                   MR. PEDERSEN: Yeah.

19  
20                                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

21  
22                                   MR. G. BROWER: You mentioned you did  
23 some study when you worked with the planning department  
24 for BLM in the past, did that study include surveying the  
25 households of who was participating and if there was a  
26 correlation back then and today.

27  
28                                   MR. PEDERSEN: Yeah, Gordon,  
29 unfortunately there -- you know, the households that we  
30 talked to we recorded and I know exactly who it is we  
31 talked to, but we didn't ask a lot of, you know,  
32 secondary information. What we wanted to know in order  
33 to develop those maps was where people had hunted in  
34 their lifetime, so they drew maps for us showing us  
35 basically where they had been.

36  
37                                   But it's a good question. And Steve  
38 Braund, you probably know who that is, he's a consultant  
39 who does a lot of environmental work, he was up here and  
40 did some work in Barrow in the late '80s and early '90s,  
41 and he decided that he was going to remap some of the  
42 areas that we had mapped with the planning department  
43 back in the late '70s and I was really interested in  
44 seeing what he would come up with, you know, and he  
45 mapped Barrow in particular, and Barrow is really a  
46 complex community. And after he was done doing his  
47 interviews, et cetera, and produced his map you could lay  
48 his map on top of the map that we did for the planning  
49 department and they matched very nicely. So that means  
50 that either we both were very wrong in what we came up

1 with or we both did a good job of portraying the areas  
2 that were being used.

3  
4                   So there have been some correlations like  
5 that. And in this work, you know, we had fishing sites  
6 -- well, I'm sort of getting ahead of myself here. There  
7 were fishing sites that had been traditionally used and  
8 they were continuing to be used by fishers, and they were  
9 the most productive fishing sites, there's no question  
10 about it, still today.

11  
12                   So here you see the result of the sort of  
13 measuring how large the harvest was in 2000/2001, winter  
14 of 2000/2001 and the summer of 2001. And you can see  
15 there was not a lot of fish caught there in the winter,  
16 there was 174 pounds of fish caught and those are mainly  
17 lake trout, and people were only fishing at two harvest  
18 sites.

19  
20                   And in the summer of 2001, nearly 6,000  
21 pounds of fish were caught as we estimate and the main  
22 harvested was Dolly varden, and then some Arctic cisco  
23 and Oaaqtaq and very little else, and they fished at four  
24 harvest sites at that time.

25  
26                   And there are -- this is a compilation of  
27 the winter and summer harvest. So these are the two  
28 winter sites that were used and here are the summer  
29 fishing sites.

30  
31                   So in Kaktovik there was no fishing  
32 inland in the summer and there was no fishing on the  
33 coast in the winter.

34  
35                   So the next year winter of 2001/2002  
36 about 1,300 pounds of fish were caught, Dolly varden was,  
37 you know, 511 pounds and lake trout 800 pounds and very  
38 little else was caught. And there were four harvest  
39 locations reported at that time.

40  
41                   In 2002 in the summer, a little over of  
42 8,000 pounds of fish were caught. And the main harvest  
43 there was Dolly varden and some Oaaqtaq and very little  
44 else, and they were caught in basically six distinct  
45 harvest locations.

46  
47                   So here is a summary of the winter and  
48 the summer fishery and all the inland sites there, the  
49 four sites there are the winter sites and the coastal  
50 sites are the summer sites.

1 All of the winter fishing was basically  
2 (In Inupiat) or jigging through the ice in places where  
3 there were known fish concentrations on the rivers and  
4 they were in two lakes that people fished in, and  
5 basically they were catching lake trout, and then in the  
6 rivers they were catching Dolly varden or char as they  
7 call them over there, or Iqaluqpiq. And all of the  
8 summer fishing was done on the coast and most of the  
9 fishing was net fishing in both years. There was a  
10 little bit of rod and reel fishing, particularly for  
11 Dolly varden but not much.

12

13 Yes.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Sverre, that name  
16 confusion, what you're going through right now, that  
17 Arctic char and Dolly varden are the two different  
18 species so we had worked on trying to identify which was  
19 the accurate one and it came to be the Dolly varden and  
20 the true Arctic char are in the lakes, so I think let's  
21 continue with that and try to keep people from getting  
22 confused, once we start using that mix naming of the  
23 species it confuses people more. So if we maybe could  
24 just stick to that one, which is indicated here, which is  
25 the Dolly varden.

26

27 MR. PEDERSEN: I agree 100 percent and I  
28 will stick to that from now on.

29

30 So in summary, basically then, here you  
31 can see what the two years produced in terms of fisheries  
32 harvest in Kaktovik. When we compared this information,  
33 you know, basically 6,000 pounds in the first year and a  
34 little over 9,000 pounds in the second year, it falls  
35 inside what other people have found in the past and there  
36 are records as far as back as sort of late '70s, early  
37 '80s when people were estimating what the harvest was in  
38 this community. And it also, you know, falls inside the  
39 estimates that the North Slope Borough harvest program  
40 has estimated as well in Kaktovik. I think you've done  
41 one or two years there and the harvest estimates there  
42 are, you know, similar to ours here.

43

44 So, although, we had some problems when  
45 we were doing this work, the second year when we were  
46 doing our surveys, we weren't able to survey exactly the  
47 way we wanted to so we were a little concerned about the  
48 information we'd get there but it came out just fine.

49

50 So you can see anyway that fish, the per

1 capita -- what per capita means is how much fish does  
2 each person in this community -- how much fish does each  
3 person in this community eat per year. So, you know,  
4 it's a pretty health amount of fish that people are  
5 eating in Kaktovik, 27 to 40 pounds or 30 to 40 pounds of  
6 fish a year, that's a pretty good amount of fish.

7  
8                   And the fishing sites that you saw on the  
9 maps, they're basically fishing sites that when we go to  
10 elders and talk to them about where did you used to fish  
11 and what are some of the good fishing areas, they say the  
12 same areas, there's been no real change in where people  
13 go fishing.

14  
15                   So, you know, fishing continues to be an  
16 important and social economic component to the local  
17 economy and it's an important social activity, not just  
18 the fishing but the sharing of the fish that goes on.  
19 Because there's a lot of fish being shared. I'm not  
20 showing numbers here but we asked people, you know,  
21 whether or not they shared and most of the time when we  
22 put the estimates together it's like, you know, people --  
23 80 percent of the people who caught fish would give fish  
24 away and it's about the same number of people who didn't  
25 fish received fish, you know, so there's a lot of sharing  
26 of fish, so there's no one who's hording fish. They're  
27 all being distributed very well in the community.

28  
29                   The number of households that typically  
30 fish in the winter has always been low from what we can  
31 tell. Not as low as it was during our study. But in the  
32 summer is when people really do a lot of fishing because  
33 they can be more effective on the coast and catch more  
34 fish with their nets.

35  
36                   In terms of the sort of natural history  
37 interviews that we did, what we found was that, you know,  
38 we asked people about, you know, has the harvest always  
39 been this way, what we're seeing in our data now and they  
40 say, yeah, pretty much. There's a lot of variation from  
41 year to year because, you know, there are no two years  
42 really the same, there are always some differences  
43 between each year. And weather is one of the major  
44 factors there. And very high wind is what people in  
45 Kaktovik have to contend with and makes summer fishing  
46 sometimes really hard, and makes the winter fishing  
47 really, really cold for traveling to the winter fishing  
48 sites.

49  
50                   We asked people about if there had been

1 any change in the fish that they were catching,  
2 particularly in the Dolly varden, and they said, no,  
3 there's always been some small ones and some big ones and  
4 there's no trend either way here. Some years we might  
5 catch more large ones and then the next year we might  
6 catch more small ones. So there's no -- really in the  
7 two years that we did our work we couldn't see that there  
8 was any kind of trend.

9

10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any observations in  
11 parasites in the fish that they're catching, any increase  
12 in parasites or was that question even asked?

13

14 MR. PEDERSEN: You know, I'm sorry, but  
15 that's not a question we asked. It would have been a  
16 good question. But we handled a lot of fish because when  
17 we were doing the genetic sampling, which I'll talk about  
18 in a second here, people just didn't want to give us fish  
19 to sample. They said, you know, if you're going to take  
20 one of our fish we're not sure what you do with it and so  
21 we're not sure we want it back from you. And so we got  
22 fish and what we did with those fish, after we took our  
23 sample, we cleaned them out and then we gave them to,  
24 basically elders in the community if they wanted to. So  
25 we cut up not a lot of fish in Kaktovik but I didn't  
26 note, you know, personally, and with Alfred Linn, he  
27 didn't mention that he felt that there was an unusually  
28 large number of -- or different set of parasites or  
29 anything different about the parasites.

30

31 Let's see here, yeah, I should probably  
32 talk about genetic sampling a little bit. We were  
33 supposed to get -- we were aiming for 200 samples from  
34 Kaktovik and because we were sampling in the summer  
35 mainly for Dolly varden and we were not able to get the  
36 first year as many samples as we wanted because people  
37 who got fish, because they didn't get a lot of fish, they  
38 were not real happy to give up any fish so we didn't get  
39 a lot of fish that year.

40

41 The next year they got some more fish and  
42 we got, I think the first year we got, you know, 20  
43 samples or something like that, and then the next year I  
44 think we were up to 60 or 70 samples. So we do have --  
45 you know, we've talked to the geneticists, or the people  
46 who are using this information and we have enough  
47 information for them to use it to help understand the  
48 fish, and the Dolly varden and the genetic association  
49 of Dolly varden in the Kaktovik area.

50

1                   So here's some recommendations we have  
2 come up with. One of them is people who do this kind of  
3 work in the future should try to do it using the same  
4 sort of annual survey system that we use, that is  
5 surveying in the winter -- or begin in the winter for  
6 what happened last summer or late spring or early summer  
7 for what happened during the winter.

8  
9                   We think there's quite a bit of  
10 information among elders in the community about rivers  
11 that were not fished at the time when we did our survey.  
12 And particularly for Dolly varden in three major  
13 drainages, one of them is the Kongakut, over almost by  
14 the Canadian Border, the other is the Canning River,  
15 which is sort of the boundary between ANWR and State  
16 lands, and then also the Shaviovik River which is over by  
17 sort of the Sag River, Sagnaoviktuk River. Those three  
18 rivers have been fished pretty heavily in the past by  
19 people in Kaktovik and there's quite a bit of knowledge  
20 about those rivers and we didn't pursue that information  
21 very well. So that, you know, there are lots of experts  
22 there -- not a lot of experts, there's a shrinking number  
23 of experts in the Kaktovik, and so in order to capture  
24 that information, it should probably be done pretty soon  
25 because the elders are thinning out in the community.

26  
27                   We also think that the work that we did  
28 should probably be done on a regularly basis,  
29 particularly in light of potential oil and gas  
30 development in that part of the world, and so that  
31 there's some monitoring going on -- monitoring of the  
32 fishery, see if there are any changes and, at least,  
33 develop a good baseline of the fishery there so that if  
34 something happens, you know, in the fishery it can have  
35 some idea what the cause may have been.

36  
37                   And then we think that it would be really  
38 good to collect some more sort of traditional ecological  
39 knowledge or natural history information from people  
40 along the coast, not just in Kaktovik but from sort of  
41 Tigvariak, maybe over to Demarcation Point and inland,  
42 because a lot of use has taken place of that area over  
43 time and a lot of knowledge about fish in the area and  
44 some very interesting information surely from that area.

45  
46                   And as you'll see when I show you this  
47 stuff from Anaktuvuk, we believe that, you know, similar  
48 information is what we collected in Anaktuvuk probably is  
49 available from this area here.

50

1                   And so the last one is this capacity  
2 development. And, you know, we worked with Alfred Linn,  
3 or I should say Alfred Linn did most of the work and I  
4 stood by and sort of observed and helped every now and  
5 then. And we developed, I mean Alfred Linn also hired a  
6 couple of people in the community to work with him,  
7 again, and so there is now, you know, people in the  
8 community who can do this kind of work and it would be  
9 good if there was some way of continuing -- you know,  
10 providing continuing opportunity for people to do this  
11 type of work, and not to just train them and then sort of  
12 go away from the community and say, okay, well, now,  
13 we've trained you to do this but sorry now there's no  
14 more of this work being done. So it would be good to  
15 have some continuity in the capacity building and  
16 maintaining the capacity, really, that we have developed  
17 in the community.

18  
19                   So that, in a nutshell, is the  
20 information from Kaktovik. Do you have any questions  
21 that we haven't already went over.

22  
23                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

24  
25                   MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman. You said  
26 the capacity building using local people. I think that's  
27 a very good way of utilizing the local resources,  
28 especially when you're dwindling down over the course of  
29 time, the elders, who would normally pass these down, it  
30 would help to reestablish especially if an impacted area  
31 was suddenly incapacitated, especially to do a resource  
32 inventory of different areas that have the same kind of  
33 supportable harvestable fish. And, again, you also  
34 mentioned you had some limited study, did you just  
35 mention the Shaviovik River. And I know the area is just  
36 a little ways up has those (In Inupiat), those geo-  
37 thermal activity and if you conducted any overwintering  
38 studies in these geo-thermal areas, if those were  
39 harboring fish just because of the nature of what there  
40 are, there are geo-thermal activities there.

41  
42                   MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Gordon. Yeah,  
43 those (In Inupiat) are important. And really all the  
44 places where people are doing river fishing in the  
45 Kaktovik area, those were (In Inupiat), you know, those  
46 are places where the water bubbling out of the ground and  
47 the water is always moving there, and Dolly varden like  
48 to be in those areas. They spawn there and they  
49 overwinter in those areas.

50



1                   So sort of in our natural history work  
2 that we did, we found, you know, a correspondence there  
3 between where fish overwinter and where people fish, you  
4 know, a pretty logical one, but that's pretty clear.

5  
6                   So with respect to the Shaviiovik, you  
7 know, we didn't do any specific work there. I know that  
8 there has been work done in the upper part of that river  
9 by Sportfish Division in Department of Fish and Game, and  
10 maybe others as well because there are very large  
11 upwellings there or whatever it's called, springs in  
12 those areas, so a lot of Dollys up in, particularly the  
13 Shaviiovik, yep.

14  
15                   Shall, I go on?

16  
17                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

18  
19                   MR. PEDERSEN: Okay. So this is now the  
20 same sort of work just in a different place, in  
21 Anaktuvuk. And in Anaktuvuk I worked with Cheryl Hugo  
22 and Grant Spearman. And Grant had a separate project,  
23 really, from this although we were tied together but  
24 Cheryl Hugo is the one that did the work that I was  
25 contracted to do with the Fish and Wildlife Service.

26  
27                   Again, you know, here's some particulars  
28 about the community, there's about 300 people there -- I  
29 guess I forgot to say the population in Kaktovik when we  
30 were talking about it. But in Anaktuvuk 90 percent of  
31 the population is Inupiat. There's some school teachers  
32 and things like that that are not there year-round and so  
33 when we do our surveys we don't include those people, you  
34 know, in the surveys, we try to get those that are year-  
35 round residents and have been there for some time.

36  
37                   Study goals are exactly the same as in  
38 Kaktovik with one difference, you know, in terms of the  
39 TEK, the traditional ecological knowledge, we asked Grant  
40 Spearman who is the curator at the museum there to sort  
41 of put together all of the information he had on, you  
42 know, the relationship between Nunamiut and fish over  
43 time because he had done a lot of work with elders like  
44 (In Inupiat) and Arctic John and others in the Anaktuvuk  
45 Pass area. So he did that, and he and I, we also, and  
46 Cheryl, did surveys to get -- not surveys, interviews  
47 together to get specific information and you'll see some  
48 of that in both my report here and in the one that Grant  
49 has put together.

50

1                   So that's really the difference.

2

3                   There's the capacity development, we're  
4 also doing -- collecting genetic samples from Dolly  
5 varden from the Anaktuvuk area just like we did in  
6 Kaktovik and we found that the same seasonal survey  
7 pattern as we were using in Kaktovik would work in  
8 Anaktuvuk, so just a little shift in timing, that's all.  
9 Spring comes a little earlier in Anaktuvuk than it does  
10 in Kaktovik. And so shifted slightly the time schedule  
11 around.

12

13                   We're trying to get eight interviews, TEK  
14 interviews and we were trying to get 200 samples from  
15 Dolly varden.

16

17                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: I have a question,  
18 Sverre. In terms of the Anaktuvuk people harvesting  
19 Dolly varden, are they traveling up north into one of the  
20 rivers near Anaktuvuk to harvest the Dolly varden? Could  
21 you identify which river they're using to harvest the  
22 Dolly varden?

23

24                   MR. PEDERSEN: Well, I'll show you on the  
25 map here in just a second where they went. And the  
26 confusion, of course, just like you pointed out a few  
27 minutes ago, when we started working in Anaktuvuk we said  
28 we're really interested in Dolly varden and people said,  
29 what's that, what are they. So we did our best to  
30 straighten people out and say those are really not, what  
31 you call, you know, Arctic char, those are really not  
32 Arctic char except the ones you catch in the lakes and  
33 the ones that look like this, those are Arctic chars, all  
34 the others are Dolly varden and it went over like a lead  
35 balloon, people really didn't want to know about that.

36

37                   So if Raymond was here, he would say that  
38 it would be okay for me to use the term, char, but we  
39 won't use that, we'll stay with Dolly varden. So, okay,  
40 there we are, there's Anaktuvuk, you know where it is.  
41 Again, showing you from work that we did back in the late  
42 '70s, what the general harvest area for all resources in  
43 Anaktuvuk, this is what it basically has looked like,  
44 that area has changed apparently in the last year or two,  
45 as I understand, but we can talk about that later. And  
46 this is the central fishing area for Anaktuvuk as a  
47 community, this is not when people were living as nomads.  
48 And you will see that in some of the stuff from Grant  
49 that it's changed quite a bit.

50

1                                   And, okay, so here's what we did. We did  
2 four surveys, one for the winter 2001/2002, one for the  
3 summer 2002, one for the winter 2003 -- 2002/2003, and  
4 then for the summer of 2003. We had good participation.  
5 You could see that people were really interested in the  
6 work that we were doing and got very few -- well, I think  
7 we got one refusal, and others just weren't either home  
8 or they were too busy to participate but people were very  
9 eager to provide information here.

10  
11                                   So, you know, basically we looked at what  
12 information had been developed, made sure that we didn't  
13 repeat anything, you know, that people already worked on.  
14 We were able to do 12 interviews with people in  
15 Anaktuvuk. And we were pretty -- you know, to begin  
16 with, not very successful in getting our fin clips, but  
17 in the winter of 2002/2003 we really got a lot of samples  
18 and then people got the hang of what we were doing and  
19 actually fishing was pretty good then, too.

20  
21                                   So people were willing to share with us.  
22 Summer of 2002 -- well, what we discovered is this,  
23 you'll see the summer 2002 and the summer 2003, very few  
24 samples and that is because when people in Anaktuvuk go  
25 out fishing in the summer, they go to their fishing  
26 location and they catch about as many fish as they want  
27 to eat when they're there. They make a camp fire and  
28 they cook fish and then they come home and say, boy,  
29 those were really good fish, they tasted really good  
30 because they don't keep very well going all the way back  
31 to the community.

32  
33                                   So we tried to figure out a way to go out  
34 to some of the fishing areas and get fish from people to  
35 sample and that wasn't real popular either. People  
36 didn't really want us there sampling their fish when they  
37 were fishing. So therefore the main, you know, samples  
38 came from the winter fishing. Fishing then was very  
39 successful and fish were abundant so they didn't have any  
40 trouble sharing fish with us. So in the winter  
41 2001/2002, there was about 3,000 fish harvested and we  
42 were really surprised when we saw that because we  
43 compared it to Kaktovik where there was, you know, a  
44 quarter of that being harvested, so this is a lot of  
45 fish. And the thing that we had been under the  
46 impression of, all along was that fish are not really  
47 important in Anaktuvuk, people who live in Anaktuvuk,  
48 they're really interested in sheep or caribou and things  
49 like that. And then when we started talking to people  
50 about fish they said they are critical, fish are really

1 important. Not only do we eat a lot of fish still, but  
2 they've always been really important to us because it's  
3 survival food. You know, we can always find fish and  
4 when caribou don't show up and when sheep are not  
5 available, we can always get fish. And not only that but  
6 when we were using dogs, or when they were using dogs,  
7 that was one of the main fuels to get around, you had  
8 fish for your dogs.

9  
10 So in the literature people have sort of  
11 under estimated the importance of fish to the Nunamiut.  
12 But here it is, and really people didn't even think about  
13 talking about it in the past, they sort of assumed that  
14 everybody knew that fish was something that they used.  
15 So they were sort of laughing at me and others who were  
16 working with me when we said, whoa, you guys are actually  
17 catching a lot of fish and they said, well, yeah, we've  
18 always been doing that. So it's just news to you, it's  
19 not news to us.

20  
21 So in that year you can see they caught  
22 about five -- you know, if you add the summer and the  
23 winter fishing together it's about, you know, over 5,000  
24 pounds of fish, that's pretty close to what Kaktovik  
25 caught in one of their years.

26  
27 So fish are -- and the population in  
28 Anaktuvuk is a little lower than it is in Kaktovik so  
29 that's quite a bit of fish.

30  
31 And as you can see here in the winter  
32 2002 Dolly varden were pretty, you know, the major  
33 resources they were harvesting although they did get a  
34 lot of grayling. And then following -- in the summer,  
35 it, you know, Dolly varden was not that numerous but  
36 grayling was a more abundant resource.

37  
38 Next year they caught about, what is it,  
39 about 4,200 pounds of fish between the winter and summer  
40 and they got a lot of Dolly varden in the winter and not  
41 very many Dolly varden in the summer, and not very many  
42 grayling in the winter of 2002/2003. If you remember the  
43 last figure they were up to about 900 pounds or so of  
44 grayling that year. And so we tried to ask people why  
45 that was and they said, well, we just were fishing in  
46 places where this winter where we were more prone to get  
47 Dolly varden than grayling.

48  
49 So in response to your question, Harry,  
50 about where people fish, so in the figure that I have

1 here which says 2000/2001, is actually incorrect, this is  
2 actually a summary of all the years and so this area in  
3 here we've enlarged, so this is what it really looks  
4 like, those dots are a little too close together to put  
5 numbers on them. But the fishing is as far east as  
6 Itkillik Lake over here and the farthest west they went,  
7 while we were collecting this information was to Chandler  
8 Lake, although people did talk about going to the Killik  
9 and areas around the Killik and they had done so in the  
10 past, also going to other lakes up farther north and  
11 you'll see that somewhere -- there's some lakes up in  
12 here that they also fished at in the past. But for this  
13 year -- for these two years, this is where they fished.  
14 And, you know, you can't see it very clearly  
15 unfortunately on this slide but, you know, we have the  
16 place names that people use for these locations and we  
17 have, you know, at each one of these locations we could  
18 tell you how many fish were caught, what time of the year  
19 they were caught, how many households were fishing at  
20 these sites, but that is not important for us to look at  
21 here today.

22  
23                   The only difference I wanted to show is  
24 in this one and it may actually not show up as well as I  
25 hoped it would is that the triangles are places where  
26 they fish both summer and winter, and the circles are the  
27 summer and the squares are the winter fishing sites. So  
28 you get an idea of where the winter fishing sites versus  
29 the summer fishing sites are.

30  
31                   It seemed like winter fishing sites were  
32 often lakes and some of these areas that you mentioned  
33 Gordon where there's -- for Dolly varden, at least, where  
34 there's upwell or springs, are often fishing in those  
35 locations.

36  
37                   So when we looked at the harvest  
38 estimates that we came up with here, they compared to  
39 what others had found who had made estimates but they had  
40 not done the work the same way we had done and so they  
41 weren't really sure about what they had come up with. So  
42 now we've, you know, come a little closer to estimating  
43 to what people do in Anaktuvuk.

44  
45                   Previous fishery observations believe  
46 that a high percentage of the harvest in Anaktuvuk was  
47 Dolly varden and Arctic char, and we actually -- we  
48 didn't enumerate the Arctic char as well as we should,  
49 but there were probably not very many Arctic char being  
50 harvested, mainly -- you know, mainly Dolly varden and

1 grayling, those were the two main fish. Yeah -- so we're  
2 not -- and, you know, some people have said Dolly varden  
3 are the most important -- are the most harvested resource  
4 and we're not real sure. Our information isn't real  
5 clear on this so far. In summer grayling was clearly the  
6 most commonly harvested fish and in winter Dolly varden  
7 was the, you know, the fish that they caught the most.

8

9                   People harvested much farther away from  
10 the community in the winter than they did in the summer  
11 which is the same as we saw in Kaktovik.

12

13                   Yeah, and this is also a no-brainer, that  
14 people shared winter harvested fish more than they shared  
15 the summer harvested fish because they didn't really  
16 bring any of their summer harvested fish home with them,  
17 they all ate them right at the harvest site. So not much  
18 sharing going on there other than at the fishing  
19 location.

20

21                   Okay, we continue to note that, you know,  
22 fishing is a really important cultural activity -- socio-  
23 cultural activity in the community and it's also a very  
24 important -- well, not very important, but an important  
25 economic activity as well.

26

27                   People who live in the Brooks Range and  
28 in Anaktuvuk are real concerned about the fishery  
29 resource there and they know that, particularly Dolly  
30 varden, occur only in certain places and, you know, it  
31 wouldn't take much to ruin some of those places if  
32 someone, you know, drove a vehicle across there or pulled  
33 a lot of water out of the areas where they live, you  
34 know, that that could easily damage the Dolly varden  
35 population.

36

37                   Yeah, we -- you know, we did only two  
38 years worth of work and so now we have, you know, the  
39 first really systematic information on the fishery in  
40 Anaktuvuk and we recommend, as we recommended in  
41 Kaktovik, that, you know, more effort be placed on  
42 regularly developing information on the fishery in  
43 Anaktuvuk to help build a baseline for the subsistence  
44 harvest there. And particularly now that Petro-Canada is  
45 very interested in exploring for gas right north of the  
46 communities in some of the areas where they go to to  
47 fish.

48

49                   Capacity development was very successful  
50 in this project and, you know, the local people that I

1 had working for us did really, really fabulous work.  
2 Cheryl is the principal and there are a couple other  
3 people we helped out. And we have the same observation  
4 here that, you know, now that this project is winding  
5 down they're saying, okay, we're ready to go on the next  
6 project, where is it and we're saying, well, we'll see  
7 what we can cook up here and see if we can continue to,  
8 you know, increase your knowledge and skill set.

9  
10 And here are just a couple of pictures  
11 from fishing in Chandler Lake west of Anaktuvuk, and this  
12 is some spring fishing through the ice.

13  
14 So that's Anaktuvuk, any questions.

15  
16 Yes, sir.

17  
18 MR. REXFORD: Like Harry was saying  
19 earlier, you're confusing me, which fish is the one that  
20 comes from the ocean and which is land-locked or is that  
21 you're talking -- I'm confused on what you're.....

22  
23 MR. PEDERSEN: Well, first of all I  
24 should tell you that Dolly varden is a very confused  
25 group of fish because they do lots of different things.  
26 Some of them stay in the river, some of them spend very  
27 little time in the ocean, others spend an equal amount of  
28 time in the ocean and in the rivers, some fish come up in  
29 the fall and overwinter and spawn in the fall and leave  
30 in the spring, some Dolly varden come up in the winter,  
31 stay all winter and spawn in the spring and then leave.

32  
33 So Dolly varden is kind of a peculiar  
34 fish. They do lots of different things. And there are  
35 resident Dolly varden as well. And, you know, those are  
36 those small -- those are small fish, small really dark  
37 fish. So many people who work on these fish are confused  
38 themselves about the fish. What you can do though is you  
39 can recognize Dolly varden from Arctic char by looking at  
40 a couple of different things. One of them is to look at  
41 the tail and I'm happy to explain to you how you do that.  
42 But, you know, where the body turns into the tail, by  
43 looking at the width of that area, you can tell whether  
44 it's a char or a Dolly varden.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Sverre, you didn't  
47 happen to take any pictures of the fish that you're doing  
48 all of the studies of, maybe that might help alleviate  
49 some of the confusion.

50

1 MR. PEDERSEN: We have a lot of pictures  
2 of fish that we processed, yep, we can share.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Do you have any that  
5 you could show.....  
6  
7 MR. PEDERSEN: Yes.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: .....just to show what  
10 the Dolly varden would look like in this presentation?  
11  
12 MR. PEDERSEN: Can we do.....  
13  
14 REPORTER: Sverre.  
15  
16 MR. PEDERSEN: .....that after this is  
17 done for those of you who.....  
18  
19 REPORTER: Sverre, your microphone.  
20  
21 MR. PEDERSEN: .....are interested in,  
22 I'm happy to do so?  
23  
24 MR. REXFORD: Yeah, that's fine.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I guess that will work,  
27 yes. Thank you.  
28  
29 MR. PEDERSEN: Because I have one more  
30 presentation to give, you know, and when we're done with  
31 that if we have time then maybe we should do it. So let  
32 me.....  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, Sverre, we've got  
35 to be considerate of the other presenters so maybe if you  
36 could continue with your last presentation.  
37  
38 MR. PEDERSEN: Yes, thank you. Okay,  
39 this is what Grant Spearman put together and this is the  
40 cultural information on fish from Anaktuvuk, and, you  
41 know, I can talk a little bit about it but it's pretty  
42 self-explanatory here. So let's just go along here and  
43 see.  
44  
45 This is a picture of a couple of people  
46 who have done work up in Anaktuvuk Pass area on fish  
47 since about 1949 and what they told Grant when he started  
48 talking them is, is that, oh, yeah, they had a really  
49 good time being in Anaktuvuk, they did a lot of fishing  
50 but not much is known about the fish in the area so they



1 thought it was good that Grant started working on it now,  
2 and they had had a lot of fun catching fish up there.  
3 And that is a Dolly varden there, but hard to tell.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You need a magnifying  
6 glass to see that.

7  
8 (Laughter)

9  
10 MR. PEDERSEN: Yeah. One of the guys  
11 that Grant worked with a lot was Etalook, but he also  
12 worked with several other people in Anaktuvuk to, you  
13 know, develop the information that -- you know, now is  
14 available or will become available in a report form here  
15 shortly.

16  
17 Because Grant is an archeologist, he was  
18 really very interested in tools that people used and how  
19 they camped and where they went and et cetera, more than  
20 what they did with the fish that they caught. So this is  
21 more about, you know, catching fish and how people lived  
22 around fish.

23  
24 He did a lot of interviews, had people  
25 helping him do interviews, he and I did a bunch of  
26 interviews together as well with elders in Anaktuvuk and  
27 they're all recorded.

28  
29 When we're beginning to look at fish, one  
30 of the things that you look at is what sort of  
31 environment is it that people are living in, and then  
32 that affects, what kind of species of fish you're going  
33 to have in the area or you can expect in the area. So we  
34 did the work that I have just presented to you about what  
35 sort of fish people were catching and how many and what  
36 their relative importance in the economy is and where  
37 they carry out that activity.

38  
39 And here is some fishing going on. And  
40 this is niksik (ph) fishing it looks like, this is a  
41 river -- this is probably down river on the Anaktuvuk  
42 River at a place called a char hole. So people talked  
43 about processing, preservation of fish and here's an  
44 example of preservation of fish in Anaktuvuk area. These  
45 are Dolly varden that have been caught, this is Chandler  
46 Lake and they're on a drying rack there (In Inupiat).

47  
48 Here is another way to deal with fish is  
49 to cook them, boil them.

50

1                   This is some of the other work we -- some  
2 -- we -- no -- some interviews that we did resulted in,  
3 you know, plotting fishing locations and this is just in  
4 the Anaktuvuk drainage. There are far more fishing  
5 locations here than what we saw in the survey that we  
6 did. And if you could read it on the right-hand side are  
7 the names, the local names of all those sites.

8  
9                   We made some forms to collect information  
10 about the fish when people told us about them and we, you  
11 know, looked at the season when these fish were caught  
12 and what kind of conditions they were catching those fish  
13 in.

14  
15                   We talked about the fish behavior and how  
16 that would affect where fish would be, like in this  
17 picture here, there's a grassy area where there are pike.  
18 There are pike up in the Anaktuvuk area, people catch  
19 pike and they catch them in these grassy areas in the  
20 lakes.

21  
22                   Nunamiut have gone through a lot of  
23 changes in the last, you know, 150 years, and individuals  
24 who have studied them have broken these areas -- this  
25 time period up into segments according to where people  
26 were during certain times. And there is a time when the  
27 Nunamiut moved on to the coast and basically spent a lot  
28 of time fishing on the coast in the late 1800s, early  
29 1900s.

30  
31                   And here you can see what the area looked  
32 like that -- this was the Taxiluk area, an area that he  
33 used and his family used back in the turn of the century.

34  
35                   Then in early 20th century here they  
36 started moving into -- the 19th century they started  
37 moving into the foothills again and started fishing, you  
38 know, catching the fish that are the most common up in  
39 that part of the world, including burbot and lake trout,  
40 that is not common on the coast.

41  
42                   From 1934 to 1950 people really began to  
43 reestablish themselves in the Brooks Range.

44  
45                   And '50 to '59 is sort of the period when  
46 people began to settle in the Anaktuvuk area.

47  
48                   And today, you know, people basically are  
49 living in Anaktuvuk and they are fishing -- Grant  
50 believes that the fishing there is within about a 40 mile

1 radius of the community at this time.

2

3 He collected information about  
4 spirituality of fish and their stories, about their  
5 behavior, about taboos that you're -- you need to observe  
6 when you're catching fish, the fish behavior that you  
7 need to know about, their warnings about really big fish  
8 that could cause you harm. There's lots of fishermen's  
9 stories about the big fish that got away and other  
10 various stories.

11

12 And then the final message Grants wants  
13 to leave us with is that Nunamiut were a very -- pretty  
14 content people. They were happy with their fishing and  
15 enjoyed, you know, sort of kicking back after a good day  
16 fishing and enjoying good fishing stories.

17

18 So that's the basic contribution from  
19 Grant.

20

21 This is, you know, all going through this  
22 information very quickly. There is about pretty close to  
23 200 pages of really neat pictures, stories and  
24 information that Grant has collected from people in  
25 Anaktuvuk and we're probably going to publish that as a  
26 separate, in sort of book form, probably. Fish and  
27 Wildlife Service is thinking about doing that, yeah.

28

29 So that's my presentation to you for  
30 today so thanks very much. Do you guys have any  
31 questions, comments, observations.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sverre. Any  
34 questions, comments from the Council.

35

36 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

39

40 MR. G. BROWER: When do you expect the  
41 genetic aspect of your studies to be complete?

42

43 MR. PEDERSEN: I asked the fisheries  
44 biologist that is in charge of that and he thinks that  
45 within the next six to eight months we'll have some of  
46 that -- you know, have -- well, he said some of that  
47 information, but I believe he probably means all of this  
48 material that we collected. So, you know, either at your  
49 next meeting or the one following I should have that  
50 information available to you or someone will present it

1 to you.

2

3 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, thank you, that was  
4 very good, enlightening.

5

6 MR. PEDERSEN: Thank you, very much.

7

8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So Sverre, the  
9 recommendations from this research were -- could you  
10 restate what the recommendations were?

11

12 MR. PEDERSEN: Sure. Sure. Important  
13 one is, you know, this capacity building, I think is real  
14 important. And that is, you know, we've developed skills  
15 in these communities, the two communities to -- people  
16 who have technical skills to participate in the  
17 collecting, systematically collecting environmental  
18 information. And it would be really good for agencies  
19 and industry and others to take advantage of that. And  
20 in these two communities, you know, there's a lot of  
21 things that can happen in the next 10 years, so having  
22 local people who are trained to participate in  
23 environmental work is really good. Because you can get  
24 the inside view of what's important, and that's often  
25 what the problem is in a lot of things going on. And,  
26 Gordon, you've pointed it out many times and that is, you  
27 know, what people from the outside think about something.  
28 And, Harry, you've talked about it too, is okay, but what  
29 is really important is what people who are living with  
30 the changes who it affects. Those are the really  
31 important aspects to give serious consideration.

32

33 So the more we can involve local people  
34 in this kind of work the better.

35

36 And then in both of these communities  
37 there is not a lot of information on, in fact, any  
38 resources, you know, fish just being one of them. There  
39 is not a lot of long-term background information for EIS  
40 work, you know, for creating good environmental impact  
41 assessments having to do with subsistence because there  
42 isn't a lot of information available and so, therefore,  
43 the assessments end up being not good. Well, the way to  
44 deal with that is to collect systematically baseline  
45 information so that we can have that information  
46 available.

47

48 So, you know, those are sort of two major  
49 points that I guess that I would suggest here that there  
50 is still a lot of work to be done here and you've both

1 mentioned -- you know, you two have mentioned it and  
2 others on this Council have mentioned that there's a lot  
3 of work that still needs to be done on the North Slope.  
4 And in preparation for things happening, going to happen  
5 and are potentially going to take place here.

6  
7                   So those would be my -- you know, the two  
8 areas that I would emphasize.

9  
10                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Sverre.  
11 Okay, is there any comments or questions to Sverre.

12  
13                   (No comments)

14  
15                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, I thank you  
16 Sverre for your presentation. And let's move on to our  
17 next agenda item.

18  
19                   Call for proposals to change Federal  
20 subsistence fisheries regulations, that will be Michelle.

21  
22                   MS. CHIVERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. At  
23 the back table there is a form, this orange form here.  
24 The Office of Subsistence Management is accepting  
25 proposals to change the fish and shellfish subsistence  
26 harvest on public lands, proposed changes are for the  
27 2006/2007 regulatory year.

28  
29                   So I just wanted to give everybody an  
30 opportunity, the Council to submit a proposal if they  
31 would like at this time, however, the deadline is  
32 tomorrow. So if you want to submit a proposal, we do  
33 have Staff here to help put a proposal together if the  
34 Council so wishes.

35  
36                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

37  
38                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. What is the  
39 wish of the Council in regards to Agenda Item 12.

40  
41                   MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

42  
43                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

44  
45                   MR. G. BROWER: Are proposals for  
46 regulatory changes or are they also proposals to look at  
47 future studies or just changes to regulatory system?

48  
49                   MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Brower, that is just  
50 for the regulatory. Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think there is also a  
2 packet in your folders on the fisheries management  
3 regulations for the harvest of fish and shellfish in your  
4 packet if you want to review any of that information  
5 before we move on to our next agenda item. Maybe I'll  
6 give the Council a couple minutes to look it over to see  
7 if there's anything that might come up that would request  
8 a change in regulations.

9  
10 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

13  
14 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, earlier when we  
15 were making some deliberation and recommendation on the  
16 three regions on bear claws associated with the  
17 traditional crafts, and I kind of felt that there is  
18 traditional crafts on the North Slope, that, when they're  
19 hunting brown bear and that would be something that we  
20 would propose to -- or who was working with it earlier,  
21 in our recommendation to defer that to that region and to  
22 work somewhat of a similar proposal for the North Slope.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think we would need  
25 to address that under the wildlife regulation booklet, if  
26 I'm right, harvest of wildlife resources, I think that's  
27 where we need to address it. We're under the call for  
28 changes to the fisheries regulations, that's under Item  
29 12.

30  
31 Maybe we'll be able to address it under  
32 other business, Gordon, maybe we could do it at that  
33 point, when we get to that agenda item.

34  
35 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, I think -- as long  
36 as we, I think look at it, it's something that may be  
37 needed up here to be on the safe side.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. I'll make a note  
40 of that to make sure that we address that concern.

41  
42 Any comments from the Council members in  
43 regards to proposal changes for fisheries regulations  
44 pertaining to the North Slope.

45  
46 (Pause)

47  
48 (No comments)

49  
50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I don't see bowhead

1 whales on the fisheries issues so I don't think we have  
2 any big issues under the fisheries management program.

3

4 (Laughter)

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If there was bowhead  
7 whale on there I think we'd have a lot of concerns to  
8 raise but we don't at the moment so I don't think we have  
9 any big commercial operations that we need to try and  
10 address. Although we do have a real small commercial  
11 operation in terms of Arctic cisco near Nuiqsut,  
12 happening there, but it's very minimal so I don't think  
13 we have any big issues to address in terms of fisheries,  
14 unless someone wants to bring something up.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Hearing no action we'll  
19 go down to the next agenda item, 13, agency reports,  
20 Office of Subsistence Management. Council topics for May  
21 2005 Board meeting.

22

23 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Michelle.

26

27 MS. CHIVERS: Before each Board meeting  
28 we ask the Councils if they have any topics that they  
29 would like the Chair of the Council to bring forward to  
30 present to the Federal Subsistence Board and this is your  
31 opportunity, if you have any topics that you want to  
32 bring in front of the Board. During the Board meeting  
33 they have a session with each of the Council Chairs and  
34 give them the opportunity to bring their concerns  
35 forward, so if you have anything you would like to have  
36 your Chair bring forward, now would be the time for me to  
37 list them and he could bring them to the Federal  
38 Subsistence Board at our May meeting.

39

40 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

41

42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any comments from the  
43 Council.

44

45 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon, go ahead.

48

49 MR. G. BROWER: If this is an opportune  
50 time, we did discuss concerns about the moose for Unit 24

1 and the restrictions on cows and trying to identify the  
2 more -- in detail, the causes of the decline in the  
3 population. And I think it would be appropriate to  
4 express to the Board about sporthunting of the moose,  
5 which may, in turn, have some pressures on the cow by  
6 subsistence. And that there should be some corresponding  
7 limitation on sporthunting when you're starting to  
8 restrict the subsistence needs and also the issues  
9 surrounding the predation, to try to more, in detail  
10 identify the causes of decline and to try to help in  
11 other ways, other than just restricting subsistence, but  
12 to look at the sporting side of it, if it's already  
13 severely limited.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. I  
16 think that will be noted to bring to the Board at this  
17 spring's meeting. We could bring that up as one of the  
18 concerns or issues that we've identified. Not knowing  
19 what's been addressed and just with the limited  
20 information that we've been provided under this proposal,  
21 why there's a continuing restriction on the taking of  
22 moose in the winter season -- or in the fall season, that  
23 would be something that we could bring up, that's a  
24 concern.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Jeff [sic].

27  
28 MR. BERG: Yeah, Mr. Chair, I guess I just  
29 -- as you know at your May meeting with the Board, it's  
30 an opportunity for the Council Chairs to have an open  
31 dialogue with the Federal Subsistence Board on their  
32 concerns so you will get a response back from the Federal  
33 Subsistence Board and then you could report that back to  
34 the Council.

35  
36 Another option would be to put those  
37 issues in your annual report and then you'll get a  
38 written response back from the Board. So that's just a  
39 difference in if you bring it up at the May meeting  
40 you'll get a verbal response back from the Board members,  
41 versus putting it in your annual report, you'll get a  
42 written response back.

43  
44 So just to bring those up, those are  
45 probably your two best options to bring those issues  
46 before the Federal Subsistence Board.

47  
48 Mr. Chair.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Jeff. Maybe



1 taking that recommendation in terms of using it as a part  
2 of the annual report and getting a written response would  
3 be sufficient to address -- to see if they are being  
4 addressed in terms of restricting sporthunting during the  
5 fall or -- I don't think there is a sport hunt in the  
6 winter time, just there's just the hunt in the late or  
7 early fall. I think that could be noted through our  
8 minutes as part of a concern that we've raised as the  
9 North Slope Regional Advisory Council.

10

11 MR. G. BROWER: (Nods affirmatively)

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other Council  
14 topics.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: The other one is the  
19 rural determination opportunity for public and Council  
20 input. Helen's not here, Jeff, are you going to be  
21 covering that issue?

22

23 MR. BERG: Yes, Mr. Chair, I'm going to  
24 go ahead and cover that issue. I know Helen did send out  
25 a fairly lengthy email to all the Council members  
26 regarding this issue, some of you may have seen that and  
27 read through it.

28

29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

30

31 MR. BERG: There are some documents in  
32 your Council books starting on Page 83. There's also  
33 some flier handouts talking about question and answers  
34 and some talking points from the rural review that the  
35 Federal Subsistence Board is just now initiating.

36

37 The Federal Board does initiate this  
38 process every 10 years, to review the rural/non-rural  
39 status of Alaska communities, and they're inviting the  
40 public and the Councils, all 10 Councils were given this  
41 same presentation at all 10 Councils to comment. And  
42 it's not likely that any of the communities in the North  
43 Slope region will be reviewed, but this is an opportunity  
44 for the Council to comment if you so choose to do so.  
45 The comment period will close on April 1st.

46

47 And also as we move through this process  
48 over the next two years, there'll be additional  
49 opportunities for the Council to also weigh in on this  
50 same issue. This is just a preliminary step. They've

1 chosen basically a process that they're going to use to  
2 move through this rural/non-rural review process. And so  
3 that's basically what's on the table today, is just a  
4 process they've chosen if there's any comments that  
5 Council has, we'll certainly take those forward to the  
6 Federal Subsistence Board.

7  
8 As you know, the basic level of  
9 qualification for being a Federally-qualified user is  
10 outlined in ANILCA and it requires that rural residents  
11 be given a priority for subsistence uses of fish and  
12 wildlife on Federal public lands and determining which  
13 communities are rural determines the eligibility for  
14 subsistence priority of course, so that's really the  
15 basic level of eligibility for our program in the Federal  
16 Subsistence Program.

17  
18 The Board initially determined which  
19 Alaska communities were rural when the Federal  
20 Subsistence Program began in 1990. Regulations require  
21 that rural/non-rural status be reviewed every 10 years  
22 and so we're just now starting to get the final details,  
23 reports back from the 2000 census. We realize it's  
24 almost -- you know, we're already five years in past that  
25 but it takes awhile for that data to come in and so now  
26 this will initiate a focus review that will be on what  
27 really has changed since 1990. And so that's why there's  
28 likely going to be much change in the North Slope region  
29 because really -- you know, Barrow is probably really the  
30 largest community obviously, and, you know, unless it's  
31 significantly changed, you know, it won't be reviewed  
32 either.

33  
34 So I guess we'll come forward next fall,  
35 I believe is the next time we come to the Council,  
36 there'll be a list of communities that are identified for  
37 further review and we'll come to the Council and let you  
38 know at your next meeting and then you can comment on  
39 that list of communities at that time as well.

40  
41 As I said there's a news release in your  
42 book and there's also some handouts we put in your  
43 pamphlets and so I'll just leave that briefing there. If  
44 you have any questions I'd be happy to try to answer  
45 them.

46  
47 Mr. Chair.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Jeff. Any  
50 questions or comments from the Council.

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I have a question if  
4 there's none being raised by the Council members. I'm  
5 not sure if you're able to answer it or not, but in  
6 determining an industrial complex area, for Prudhoe Bay,  
7 for instance, how would that be determined if it is a  
8 rural -- ANILCA requires Alaskans be given priority for  
9 subsistence and if that is going to be determined as a  
10 rural community or not? There's been issues about people  
11 declaring residency in the Prudhoe Bay area and trying to  
12 change C&T determinations to be able to harvest resources  
13 from that area, within that Prudhoe Bay complex area.

14

15 MS. PETRIVELLI: Mr. Chairman, my name is  
16 Pat Petrivelli.

17

18 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Pat.

19

20 MS. PETRIVELLI: If I could I'd like to  
21 address that question.

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Pat.

24

25 MS. PETRIVELLI: And, of course, you're  
26 wondering is being the BIA anthropologist how I would  
27 know this, but I was working for OSM before then and I  
28 got to work a lot on the rural issue.

29

30 Our regulations, when we say people have  
31 to declare their primary place of residency and so then  
32 we use the census figures, and according to the 2000  
33 census, I think five people said their primary residence  
34 was in Prudhoe Bay and then we're working with our  
35 regulations and we look at communities in the numbers,  
36 when there's 2,500 and less and there presumed to be  
37 rural unless it's of a significant different nature. So  
38 if you wanted to nominate that community, if it's a  
39 significant nature -- or that it does not match a rural  
40 community then you could nominate that community to  
41 proposed to be on the list even though the population is  
42 five people. You know, numerically the threshold's  
43 wrong, but then the Board does have the leeway to look at  
44 if its characteristics are significantly non -- or rural  
45 -- it doesn't match the rural characteristics because we  
46 do go on farther and look at certain community  
47 characteristics and you could nominate that.

48

49 And then -- but we don't define  
50 industrial enclaves, but we do make determinations based

1 upon the community and currently the non -- we say the  
2 whole state's rural except for certain non-rural areas  
3 and those start on Page 8 and it's like Anchorage,  
4 Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan, and then there are some  
5 areas, like Kenai and the Mat-Su and then Adak and  
6 Valdez, so -- and I guess because Adak was Naval Base in  
7 1990 and had 7,000 Navy civilian people so they were  
8 kicked out, but, so you know you could ask the Board to  
9 look at the characteristics of the Prudhoe Bay area if  
10 that's what you wanted to do, either at this time or in  
11 the fall when we make our own list and if you think it's  
12 wrong -- so you could either include it now or you could  
13 do it in the fall.

14

Thank you.

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CHAIRMAN BROWER: I have a follow up  
question. In terms of the number of people that would  
constitute a rural community, what is the minimum number  
that would be indicated?

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MS. PETRIVELLI: The minimum, well, the  
2,500 or less is like we automatically consider them  
rural and then 7,000 or more we -- according to the  
regulations, the subsistence program automatically  
considers them non-rural. And then if they're in between  
then the Board has the discretion and they have to look  
at it. But in 1990 they ruled that Barrow, Nome,  
Kotzebue, Bethel -- and actually the ANILCA Legislation  
pointed out that those were of a rural character at that  
time so the Board had already determined Barrow to be  
rural because it's in that 2,600 and 7,000 population  
area and they said it had significant rural  
characteristics.

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CHAIRMAN BROWER: I guess I didn't make  
myself clear in phrasing that question. I was thinking  
of what was happening over there in the Prudhoe Bay area,  
there's a family of five indicating that they're  
residents of the industrial complex area, and would that  
constitute that community a rural area?

42

43

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MS. PETRIVELLI: Well, it is a rural area  
now and according to the little numbers it would be rural  
but the Board has the discretion to say that they could  
look at it if it's characteristics weren't of a rural --  
if they felt their characteristics weren't rural and then  
those -- it's in that little sheet about use of fish and  
wildlife resources, economic diversity, oh, the criter --  
well, there's criteria that they would review in trying

1 to consider what they are.

2

3 So it's on Page 2 of the talking points.  
4 So like diversity and development of local economy, use  
5 of fish and wildlife, community infrastructure,  
6 transportation and educational institutions, those -- but  
7 they could -- if you wanted to nominate the Board to look  
8 at its other characteristics, so even though it has less  
9 than 2,500 people, you could nominate the Board to -- you  
10 could ask the Board to -- request the Board to look at  
11 those other characteristics if you wanted them to review  
12 their rural status. There's no minimum number, I guess  
13 that was it.

14

15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right, thank you.  
16 Gordon, did you have a comment.

17

18 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, coming down to  
19 looking at an areas such as an industrial complex and  
20 trying to make, you know, assertions of a location, I  
21 mean what would constitute a community when it's an  
22 industrial complex when I think 90 to maybe 99 percent of  
23 the people are transit population just going there to do  
24 a service-based work. And no community infrastructure,  
25 it's all industrial oil service based complex. And in  
26 trying to fill out a criteria based on the population,  
27 but I think you have a criteria as well to determine if  
28 it is a community.

29

30 MR. BERG: And, Mr. Chair, Gordon.  
31 That's true, you know, probably 99 percent of the people  
32 are transient and so they do not qualify under the  
33 Federal Subsistence Program. They have to be residents  
34 of a rural community or a rural area to qualify in the  
35 program. So if these five people are saying that they  
36 permanently reside there then they do qualify for the  
37 Federal program but the 99 percent of the population that  
38 resides elsewhere, they do not qualify for the Federal  
39 Subsistence Program.

40

41 Mr. Chair.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Any other  
44 comments in regards to this rural determination  
45 opportunity for public and Council input.

46

47 MR. REXFORD: I have one.

48

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Julius, go ahead.

50

1 MR. REXFORD: Are these five people  
2 property tax people individuals? Do they pay property  
3 tax to the Borough?  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I don't have any idea,  
6 I would need to look into the matter.  
7  
8 MR. BERG: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Julius, we  
9 do not have that information at this time. We could try  
10 to get more information and if there was a review, then  
11 we'd certainly get more details on that type of  
12 information for the review, Mr. Chair.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you. Okay,  
15 Julius.  
16  
17 MR. REXFORD: Yeah.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Any other  
20 comments or questions.  
21  
22 (No comments)  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not we'll move on to  
25 Item No. 13.A.3. Subsistence use amounts protocol,  
26 information only. It's on Page 85, I guess, in the  
27 Council book. Was there any specific person that was  
28 supposed to address this or just for providing  
29 information only?  
30  
31 MR. BERG: Yes, Mr. Chair. It's  
32 basically just for an update for the Council. It's just  
33 a written briefing. I can certainly summarize the written  
34 information if the Council so chooses but it's basically  
35 just an update on the continuing progress of the  
36 subsistence use amounts protocol committee.  
37  
38 I'd be happy to summarize the information  
39 if the Council would like.  
40  
41 Mr. Chair.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: What is the wishes of  
44 the Council.  
45  
46 (No comments)  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If there's no  
49 indication maybe we'll just move on to the next topic if  
50 that's okay with you.

1                   Number 4 is marine waters jurisdiction,  
2 Council comments and recommendations to the Federal  
3 Subsistence Board. Jerry. And that's on Page 87.

4  
5                   MR. BERG: Yes, you can find that  
6 information on Page 87. We've also put some wall maps on  
7 the wall behind you pertaining to this information and  
8 sometimes it's easier to just look at the map and that  
9 really kind of indicates what this proposed rule is all  
10 about.

11  
12                   Our office has issued a proposed rule to  
13 revise and clarify the Federal jurisdiction in coastal  
14 waters. And this rule would amend the Federal  
15 Subsistence regulations to apply only to inland waters  
16 and prestatehood withdrawals. The Federal Subsistence  
17 Board wanted to make sure that we presented this  
18 information to all Councils so they had an opportunity to  
19 comment. It does not affect any marine waters in your  
20 area.

21  
22                   It primarily would impact coastal areas  
23 in the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta, Bristol Bay and the  
24 Kodiak/Aleutian region.

25  
26                   In response to the Katie John Decision  
27 regulations were published in 1999 that extended the  
28 Federal jurisdiction to all waters within the external  
29 boundaries of Federal reservations in Alaska such as  
30 National Parks, Refuges and NPR-A. As a result the  
31 Federal regulations now include marine bays within Refuge  
32 boundaries that were not withdrawn prior to statehood.  
33 The Federal Subsistence Board never intended to include  
34 marine waters other than the pre-statehood withdrawals  
35 and the proposed amendment would remove the saltwater  
36 embayments.

37  
38                   And you can see on the maps on the wall  
39 it lists all of those bays listed in the Yukon Kuskokwim  
40 Delta, Bristol Bay and the Kodiak/Aleutian areas where  
41 most of them are at. Those bays will be excluded from  
42 Federal jurisdiction as a result of this proposed rule.

43  
44                   It's mainly a legal issue that those bays  
45 were never intended to be -- we never intended to exert  
46 our jurisdiction over the marine waters in those bays,  
47 it's just the way the Refuge boundaries were originally  
48 drawn and the way that our regulations were published in  
49 1999. So this is just kind of a house cleaning effort to  
50 clean up those regulations and clarify where our

1 regulations do apply in those marine waters in those  
2 areas.

3

4                   That's all I have, Mr. Chair. If there's  
5 any questions I'd be more than happy to answer them. The  
6 Federal Subsistence Board would be more than happy to  
7 hear your comments. There's no action required. It's  
8 totally up to you as a Council if you wish to provide any  
9 comments to the Federal Subsistence Board.

10

11                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

12

13                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any comments from the  
14 Council.

15

16                   (No comments)

17

18                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, none are noted,  
19 we'll move on to the next item. It's 13.B. Agency  
20 reports from the National Park Service.

21

22                   MR. MILLS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My  
23 name is Dave Mills, Superintendent of the Gates of the  
24 Arctic. I just have a couple items that I'd like to pass  
25 on to you.

26

27                   I first wanted to thank the Chair as well  
28 as the entire Council for appointing Raymond Paneak to  
29 the Subsistence Commission, it's good to have him back on  
30 there. I know the other Commission members wanted me to  
31 pass this on to you. He's a very well respected leader  
32 for Anaktuvuk and a good spokesperson for the Council as  
33 well as the North Slope Borough and they enjoy working  
34 with him. So thank you for that.

35

36                   And passing out a sheet right now, this  
37 is a recommendation from the Subsistence Commission that  
38 they would like to get some input from you on in terms of  
39 a regulatory change that would allow -- expand and allow  
40 the addition of certain plant products and other things  
41 to be used from the Park, from Gates of the Arctic  
42 National Park that have traditionally been used for the  
43 making and selling of handicrafts.

44

45                   Now, this is a little different than the  
46 bigger issue that you've heard in terms of wildlife, this  
47 is a Park specific regulation that looks at handicrafts  
48 involving primary plant material but some animal parts,  
49 too.

50



1                   We have, since the establishment of the  
2 Park, we had a regulation that recognized the use of  
3 birch bark and other plant materials by communities in  
4 the Kobuk River Valley. And so what the Commission is  
5 interested in doing is expanding upon that regulation to  
6 include all the communities around the park and expand  
7 some of the items that are used. And as part of the  
8 process, before they do that, they contact the three  
9 Regional Councils, yours being one, that are around Gates  
10 of the Arctic and get some input on that. It's pretty  
11 brief. I'll just kind of hit the highlights on it.

12

13                   They're proposing that the gathering of  
14 -- this is at the bottom of the first page there.

15

16                   No. 1.

17

18                   Gathering plant materials for making and  
19 sewing handicrafts. These wild and  
20 renewable materials include but are not  
21 limited to roots, tree bark, wood and  
22 lichens. Uses include but are not  
23 limited to making snowshoes, dogsleds,  
24 baskets and various arts and crafts. The  
25 materials are harvested in very limited  
26 amounts and the practice is not  
27 detrimental to Park resources.

28

29                   So they're proposing to, as I said make  
30 sure that those plant materials are -- expand the  
31 existing regulation to make sure that all those plant  
32 materials are included, not just birch, bark and things  
33 like that.

34

35                   And they wanted to include all the  
36 communities, not just the Kobuk River communities,  
37 communities around the Park. So this, in your case,  
38 would include Anaktuvuk Pass and communities around other  
39 than the Kobuk.

40

41                   No. 2.

42

43                   Another practice that the regulations  
44 have overlooked is the small scale  
45 manufacture of handicraft articles from  
46 horn, antler and bone which are shed from  
47 animals or from animals that have died  
48 naturally or such parts discarded by  
49 other subsistence users.

50

1                   So they're interested in including horn,  
2 antler and bone material that are used for handicraft  
3 articles that are sold on a limited scale.

4  
5                   The intent, as it goes on, the large  
6 scale sale of these resources should not  
7 be allowed. The making of handicrafts is  
8 labor intensive, time consuming and  
9 inherently limits the amount of resources  
10 that's sought.

11  
12                   So they're looking, as I mentioned to  
13 expand that. We've discussed this at a number of  
14 meetings, and so now it's in the process of bouncing this  
15 idea off of groups like yours for comments so you can  
16 choose to comment any way you want, written comment to  
17 the Commission or if you choose to provide input any way  
18 you want through your Council here.

19  
20                   As I mentioned we have discussed this a  
21 lot. I certainly support their efforts to do this. I  
22 think it fits in line with traditional activities and we  
23 have no problem with their proposed change here in  
24 regulations.

25  
26                   That was the first thing. If you'd care  
27 to discuss that, I just had one other topic I wanted to  
28 bring up but it might be a good time to discuss that  
29 aspect if you'd like. If you have any concerns. You can  
30 pass them on to me or you can do it in writing or however  
31 you want.

32  
33                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any comments or  
34 questions from the Council. Gordon, did you have a  
35 comment or question.

36  
37                   MR. G. BROWER: I'd just like to comment,  
38 I think that's a good thing to, you know, they have had  
39 from time immemorial these locations been used for  
40 traditional activities and, you know, that's just my own  
41 comment. They should not limit the indigenous people's  
42 right to use the resources such as the ability to make  
43 their snowshoes or other crafts related to subsistence  
44 related activities. I think it makes it a more lively,  
45 more inclusive part of society.

46  
47                   And that's just my comment on this piece  
48 of paper here.

49  
50                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Any

1 other comments. David.

2

3 MR. GUNDERSON: Yes, I'd like to add on  
4 that. I've done some moose hunting in Fairbanks and we  
5 use the bark on some of the trees over there so we make  
6 some moose calls from the bark, so I'd like to say that I  
7 support.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Dave. Any  
10 other comments.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, continue, Mr.  
15 Mills.

16

17 MR. MILLS: Thank you for those comments.  
18 The only other item I had was to pass on from the  
19 Subsistence Commission, their concern over Senate Bill 85  
20 which is presently being discussed in the Senate  
21 Resources Committee. That's Senator Seekins Bill to open  
22 up the Dalton Highway to ORV vehicles. Presently the  
23 State law prohibits that. The Subsistence Commission has  
24 been and continues to be concerned about that Bill and I  
25 know this North Slope Borough and other folks from the  
26 North Slope have been concerned in the past when this has  
27 come up so they wanted me to pass on to you that that  
28 Bill is again working its way through the State  
29 Legislative process. They have provided testimony, as I  
30 know other people have, Anaktuvuk Pass and I think the  
31 North Slope has provided testimony on that. Continue to  
32 be concerned about that for a variety of reasons that are  
33 on the record. And they wanted me to pass that on to  
34 you.

35

36 It was discussed extensively again at our  
37 November meeting, however, the Bill continues now so  
38 we're being told that it's likely to pass the Senate or  
39 has a good chance to pass the Senate in the near future.  
40 And so I've received a number of calls from our members  
41 expressing additional concern of where this may be  
42 leading.

43

44 I think you know the issue as well as I  
45 do so I won't reiterate their concerns that they've  
46 written, but just wanted to bring that up as an issue.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

49

50 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

2

3 MR. G. BROWER: I know that Anaktuvuk  
4 Pass, I had listened in on some of the testimony given  
5 when they were having the hearing on it. Anaktuvuk Pass  
6 made a pretty good plea on basis for subsistence related  
7 impacts the migration issues. And Nuiqsut also made a  
8 pretty good statement in opposition to that. And I also,  
9 you know, was able to make comments on behalf of the  
10 North Slope Borough planning of many issues surrounding  
11 opening ORVs to this area. And there are really grave  
12 consequences that we've already seen that would most  
13 likely intensify and one of them is careless and callous  
14 use of ORVs in very sensitive permafrost prone areas.  
15 Because studies have shown over time, especially if you  
16 look at what the Arctic Naval Research Laboratory did a  
17 long time ago in plowing tundra to make a highway. You  
18 see the tundra scarring lasts even up to today.

19

20 So you have that kind of issue concern is  
21 the tundra impacts, not just related to subsistence but  
22 to the overall enjoyable view of the landscape.

23

24 There was testimonies given by people who  
25 were changed over a course of time, when they were young  
26 they had exploited the area using off road vehicles and  
27 being careless and destroying the tundra and seeing that  
28 they did wrong in the past and they would hope that the  
29 State looks at this not to continue, making themselves as  
30 an example.

31

32 The other parts, are you look at  
33 incidents such as Livengood where the Pipeline was shot  
34 and before they shut it down, the Pipeline, the pressure  
35 to try to depressurize it, by the time it was  
36 depressurized, they had something like 300,000 gallons of  
37 crude oil on the ground, and that's -- you know, you're  
38 going to increase the likelihood of contact of that kind  
39 of interaction when you open it to ORV.

40

41 And the enforcement, law enforcement  
42 provisions not being around, especially game management  
43 enforcement and another is law enforcement provision of  
44 wanton waste and discharging of firearms around that  
45 corridor.

46

47 The Borough also made comments that this  
48 may even open the door because you look at the domestic  
49 oil supply from the North Slope is 20 percent of the  
50 U.S., it's a major infrastructure that may be targeted

1 terrorism and opening doors -- opening doors like this  
2 could be used as a terrorism tools.

3  
4 And those are really legitimate concerns,  
5 not to mention the hunting pressure on caribou and  
6 migration issues that would put Anaktuvuk Pass and  
7 Nuiqsut competing for their primary caribou resources.

8  
9 So there's a lot of grave issues  
10 concerning around this and I would encourage this body,  
11 if we so choose to probably send, what we did in the  
12 past, because this issue came three or four years ago and  
13 we also made a concerted effort from this body to oppose  
14 this, a recommendation by the Subsistence Board that  
15 there are grave issues surrounding this, that we should  
16 forward that, that the North Slope Community Council is  
17 in opposition to opening something like this.

18  
19 So there are a lot of issues surrounding,  
20 you know, subsistence, there's going to be direct  
21 subsistence related impacts and the natural resources and  
22 the tundra issues themselves.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.  
25 Paul.

26  
27 MR. BODFISH: Are you putting that in as  
28 a proposal or a motion.

29  
30 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman, yeah, I  
31 would move that the Council make a formal objection or  
32 whatever in a motion to go against the opening of this  
33 corridor to ORVs.

34  
35 MR. BODFISH: I second that motion.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor and  
38 it's been seconded in regards to the opposition of Senate  
39 Bill 85, removal of the restriction of the off road  
40 vehicles along the James Dalton Highway.

41  
42 Any further discussions.

43  
44 (No comments)

45  
46 MR. KOONUK: Question.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question has been  
49 called. Were you asking a question or question called.

50

1 (Laughter)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Question has  
4 been called on the motion. All in favor signify by  
5 saying aye.  
6  
7 IN UNISON: Aye.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Opposed, same sign.  
10  
11 (No opposing votes)  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Thank you,  
14 Gordon. Thank you, Mr. Mills.  
15  
16 MR. MILLS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
17 That's all I had to present today, thank you.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Next item we need to  
20 cover is under Item C, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,  
21 Arctic Refuge.  
22  
23 (No comments)  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Pat.  
26  
27 MS. PETRIVELLI: Mr. Chair, I was just  
28 going to sneak in because I forgot to ask for an agenda  
29 change and I forgot to introduce myself properly as the  
30 BIA anthropologist. Besides dealing with some of these  
31 regulatory issues and providing input to the BIA  
32 subsistence branch about impact on proposals. The other  
33 part of my job is doing technical assistance to tribes  
34 that want to get involved in more traditional research.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.  
37  
38 MS. PETRIVELLI: So in particular, as  
39 Sverre pointed out with all the more input in -- besides  
40 developing capacity building, but if you do have ideas  
41 and you want BIA to give technical assistance you could  
42 contact me. And I guess Michelle or Barb would know how  
43 to get a hold of me. But if any village or tribal  
44 organizations want to develop proposals or get involved  
45 in research activities documenting traditional knowledge,  
46 or getting involved in traditional management relating to  
47 subsistence I'll be happy to help.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Would you spell your  
50 last name, please?

1 MS. PETRIVELLI: P-E-T-R-I-V-E-L-L-I,  
2 Petrivelli, and I work with Bureau of Indian Affairs.

3  
4 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you.

5  
6 MS. PETRIVELLI: So thank you for letting  
7 me jump in here.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Pat. I  
10 guess we don't have anybody from Arctic Refuge.

11  
12 (No comments)

13  
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Next item is Bureau of  
15 Land Management, Dr. Dave Yokel, you have the floor.

16  
17 MR. YOKEL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
18 Council members. My name is Dave Yokel. I work for the  
19 Bureau of Land Management in Fairbanks. I work primarily  
20 in the NPR-A.

21  
22 I would like to start by briefly  
23 answering some questions that were asked of me last  
24 September. There were several questions that were asked  
25 of me, I think I adequately answered most of them but  
26 there were a couple that Gordon asked that I did not know  
27 the answers at that time.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay.

30  
31 MR. YOKEL: First of all he asked if any  
32 consideration had been given in the Alpine Satellite  
33 Development Plan to construct dome shaped facilities that  
34 would mimic pingos, and I didn't know the answer to that  
35 and so I went back and I talked to the planning staff for  
36 that and they had never heard of this issue during the  
37 scoping or development of that plan. So the answer to  
38 that question is no.

39  
40 The second question was whether anything  
41 was included in the ANILCA .810 evaluation for the Alpine  
42 Satellite Development Plan about security concerns or  
43 terrorism. And I went back again and talked to planning  
44 staff, there was some discussion at a public meeting in  
45 Nuiqsut about security officers keeping private vehicles  
46 out of the oil fields, especially Prudhoe Bay oil fields  
47 when the national threat level was high, orange or  
48 whatever color they decided that was. But there was no  
49 decision relative to this in the environmental impact  
50 statement or Record of Decision for Alpine Satellite

1 Development Plan and therefore there was no evaluation  
2 relevant to that .810 analysis. So again the answer to  
3 that question is no.

4  
5 And time is short and I'd like to quickly  
6 give you an update on what the BLM is doing or it's  
7 permittees or lessees are doing in the NPR-A. Since your  
8 last meeting in September the BLM portion of the Record  
9 of Decision for the Alpine Satellite Development Plan was  
10 signed. It was signed on November 8th, 2004. As you may  
11 recall the Alpine Satellite Development Plan was for five  
12 new gravel pads for development drilling with associated  
13 roads and pipelines. Two of those pads were to be within  
14 the NPR-A, the BLM did sign a Record of Decision allowing  
15 the construction of those two pads but changing somewhat  
16 the road design that had been proposed by ConocoPhillips.

17  
18 Secondly, I told you last September that  
19 a Record of -- well, let me jump up here to my graphic  
20 aide -- I'll strangle this thing.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: That was his back just  
23 straightening up.

24  
25 (Laughter)

26  
27 MR. YOKEL: My back sounds worse than  
28 that.

29  
30 (Laughter)

31  
32 MR. YOKEL: You all know this but the  
33 Alpine Satellite Development Plan covered this area right  
34 in here around Nuiqsut. This shows a map of the NPR-A,  
35 we have divided it into three areas of -- is this too  
36 close to me?

37  
38 REPORTER: No, you're fine.

39  
40 MR. YOKEL: For planning purposes, the  
41 Northeast area, Northwest area, and the South area.  
42 Okay, I told you back in September that a Record of  
43 Decision had been signed for the Northwest area in  
44 January of '04 but that there was litigation that  
45 ensured. The judge allowed us to go ahead and hold a  
46 lease sale and in the grey here you see the results of  
47 that lease sale, but we were not to allow any surface  
48 disturbing activities until the judge decided on the  
49 merit of that case.

50



1 Well, the judge did make a decision in  
2 January of 2005. The judge decided entirely in favor of  
3 the Bureau of Land Management, so -- however, I think  
4 that decision was immediately appealed by the  
5 environmental groups that filed the original lawsuit.  
6 But, however, the BLM at this time does expect to see  
7 exploration in the Northwest NPR-A next winter because  
8 during the appeal process the judge did not include any  
9 further injunction.

10  
11 So I'll briefly -- and some of you have  
12 already heard this, like Paul just heard this a few days  
13 ago. But there are two exploration programs that have  
14 been proposed to BLM at this time for next winter.  
15 Fairweather Veritas which is a company that does seismic  
16 exploration is currently doing a 3D program in the  
17 Kuparuk Field. As soon as they finish that program they  
18 hope to bring their equipment and camp string to Barrow  
19 to stage over summer and they would do that along the sea  
20 ice. If they -- but their first priority is to finish in  
21 Kuparuk. If they finish too late to do that, they still  
22 want to get that thing west of the Colville River  
23 somewhere so that they don't have to wait for the  
24 Colville River to freeze next winter in order to start  
25 their programs so they may barge it and they don't know  
26 if they'll barge it to Lonely or Barrow or what, but they  
27 have been contracted by ConocoPhillips to have a 3D  
28 seismic program in this area next winter, just south of  
29 Barrow. And that's what ConocoPhillips thinks they want  
30 to do at this time. My experience is that their plans  
31 always change and they don't know exactly what they want  
32 to do until about December.

33  
34 But anyway, that's one potential  
35 exploration program in the Northwest NPR-A next winter.

36  
37 The other one is a company new to Alaska,  
38 Fortuna, which is an oil company that's, I think a  
39 subsidiary of Talisman of Canada. They want to barge an  
40 exploration drilling rig this summer to Cape Simpson and  
41 then they have some leases in this area here, between the  
42 Ikpikpuk and the Chip and they want to drill a couple of  
43 wells next winter on some of those leases and they're  
44 right in this area here. Their long term plans, two  
45 winters being long-term, is to drill a couple of wells  
46 next winter and then store the rig over the summer on an  
47 ice pad, probably near the area where they hope to drill  
48 the third well in the winter of '06/07.

49  
50 Okay, let's see, the next thing I wanted

1 to talk about is the Northeast Plan Amendment. We signed  
2 a Record of Decision for the Northeast NPR-A in October  
3 of 1998. After we got a new Presidential Administration  
4 we decided to amend that plan, we issued a final EIS on  
5 that plan amendment in January of 2005. The two main  
6 things that this amendment would do would be to open this  
7 area up to leasing for oil and gas, which was not allowed  
8 under the original Record of Decision, and also change  
9 the mitigation package that goes with that from what the  
10 BLM refers to as prescriptive stipulations to performance  
11 based stipulations. And I think most of you are familiar  
12 with what that means. But there's more flexibility in  
13 there that we described to the oil industry what  
14 environmental objections we wish to achieve, but don't,  
15 in all cases, tell them exactly how to achieve that. We  
16 leave some flexibility up to them to propose how to  
17 achieve it with our approval. No Record of Decision has  
18 been signed for that yet. Right now the State Director  
19 for Alaska of BLM is in discussions with the North Slope  
20 Borough and the Village of Nuiqsut about some of the  
21 issues there.

22  
23                   Once we do sign a Record of Decision on  
24 that which will probably come, I'm guessing maybe in a  
25 couple months or maybe a little sooner, based on our past  
26 history I would expect that we'll be sued right away,  
27 outcome of that to be seen.

28  
29                   Okay, currently in NPR-A we have no  
30 seismic operation in the NPR-A this winter. We do have  
31 one exploratory drilling operation, ConocoPhillips is  
32 drilling in this area right here, they call this their  
33 Kokoda Prospect. This drilling operation is supported by  
34 a 75 mile ice road which is the longest ice road ever  
35 built on Alaska's North Slope. They've finished one well  
36 here, they're doing the second and they may be about done  
37 with that by now, and if they think they have enough time  
38 they want to drill a third well in that area before they  
39 pull out of there at the end of the winter.

40  
41                   Next, I wanted to briefly talk about the  
42 South NPR-A. I think that we will be officially filing a  
43 Notice of Intent to begin a planning process in South  
44 NPR-A. When I wrote these notes up for the March 2nd  
45 meeting, which this was supposed to be, I said in three  
46 to six weeks, so three weeks would be now, once that  
47 Notice of Intent is filed then sometime after that there  
48 will be scoping meetings in many of the North Slope  
49 villages and also villages in the NANA region and even  
50 down into the Seward Peninsula probably because of the

1 importance of this area to the Western Arctic Caribou  
2 Herd which is used by people throughout Northwest Alaska.  
3

4 Just to wind this off, I'll drop some of  
5 these things off that I wanted to say. But we did just  
6 have our most recent Subsistence Advisory Panel meeting  
7 here in Barrow last week. Our next NPR-A Subsistence  
8 Advisory Panel meeting will probably be in June sometime  
9 and it's decided that it will be in Atkasuk in June.

10  
11 So I'm done, Mr. Chairman, unless you  
12 want to ask me questions. You can manage time from here  
13 on out.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think we've managed  
16 pretty well throughout the day.

17  
18 (Laughter)

19  
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any comments or  
21 questions to Mr. Yokel from the Council.

22  
23 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

26  
27 MR. G. BROWER: The Northeast amendment,  
28 are you guys going to be proposing any studies in that  
29 area concerning caribou, insect relief and migratory  
30 issues concerning that area?

31  
32 MR. YOKEL: Mr. Chairman. Gordon. I  
33 don't expect that the Record of Decision will  
34 specifically call for studies. The last thing I had in  
35 my notes to speak to you about but I tried to shorten my  
36 presentation was that the BLM's NPR-A research and  
37 monitoring team was asked, beginning last April to  
38 prepare a monitoring plan for the NPR-A. We've been  
39 working on that since last April, we've come up with 10  
40 issues out of a list of about 25 that we started with  
41 that we decided were the most important for the BLM to  
42 monitor in NPR-A.

43  
44 One of those 10 issues is generally a  
45 caribou issue, caribou population and caribou harvest by  
46 North Slope villages. And certainly there are components  
47 in that issue of what impacts, if any, oil exploration  
48 and development have on caribou numbers and caribou  
49 harvest.

50

1                   A couple of other issues that the RMT,  
2 research and monitoring team wants to include in that  
3 plan that are of most -- well, they all affect  
4 subsistence users up here, but some of the other issues  
5 are access to subsistence resources by local users, how  
6 may that be affected by development.

7  
8                   Also one of the issues is potential  
9 deflection of migrating bowhead whales in the autumn by  
10 barge traffic or seismic -- well, marine seismic is not a  
11 BLM issue but there could be barge traffic associated  
12 with BLM actions as -- in fact it was a BLM action that  
13 barge traffic that led to this as a major issue.

14  
15                   So the BLM is looking to increase funding  
16 for studies like this and it may some day become part of  
17 the North Slope Science Initiative if that really ever  
18 goes anywhere.

19  
20                   MR. G. BROWER: Just one more.

21  
22                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

23  
24                   MR. G. BROWER: Currently there's some  
25 new operators that are proposing development on State  
26 lands and State waters that seem to be reflecting  
27 alternative development, which is putting drill pads in  
28 fully contained systems, therefore, you know, almost  
29 eliminating the spill scenarios and being able to recover  
30 those inside of a fully contained system and also putting  
31 the pipes inside of the road. There's one project being  
32 proposed called Tube-Its, by either Kerr McGee or  
33 Armstrong or probably near one of those and it seems to  
34 me that BLM, you know, should be really interested in  
35 looking at alternative systems. Especially when you're  
36 looking at caribou that's been inundated by development  
37 like Southcentral Arctic where caribou monitoring -- the  
38 monitoring has been okay, the mortality, the rate's been  
39 okay but it's just the displacement factor. Core calving  
40 areas displaced up to 30 miles and also splitting east  
41 and west of the TransAlaska Pipeline in two locations.

42  
43                   And the possibility of a scenario  
44 developing like that in the NPR-A, especially south of  
45 the Teshekpuk Lake, if there were to be pipelines going  
46 east to west. And the need to look at this, I think I've  
47 not seen it in the EIS too much. And that they should be  
48 seriously talking with developers on these types of  
49 scenarios.

50

1 I think that east to west is a scary  
2 scenario. So alternatives may be looked upon to try to  
3 prevent such things as displacement, especially as on  
4 the calving area and we've already seen that through  
5 radio-collared satellite data of it happening, and it's a  
6 very real possibility for development on the NPR-A.

7  
8 MR. YOKEL: Mr. Chairman. Gordon. If I  
9 could respond briefly. The reason you don't see that  
10 kind of alternative construction in the EIS, is the EIS  
11 is for a general land use plan which is rather general in  
12 nature. And that would show up more in a plan for a  
13 specific development such as the Alpine Satellite  
14 Development Plan.

15  
16 It wasn't necessary in Alpine because the  
17 processing facilities already exist and the only thing  
18 planned for there was construction of new development  
19 drilling pads where there will be only the wells and  
20 nothing else.

21  
22 Now, pipelines under the roads are  
23 mentioned in some places in our Northeast Plan where the  
24 movement of caribou is really critical and somewhat  
25 bottlenecked by land form features. For long distances I  
26 suspect that it would not be economic to bury hot oil  
27 pipelines in roads. It wasn't proposed or examined in  
28 the Alpine Satellite Development Plan. In our Northeast  
29 Amendment, the direction we're heading right now I don't  
30 think there will be -- expected that there will be roads  
31 going from that Teshekpuk Lake area all the way back to  
32 where the oil has to go so there would be no roads to  
33 bury the pipelines in.

34  
35 I'll just stop there.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any other comments from  
38 the Council.

39  
40 (No comments)

41  
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, I'd like to ask  
43 one, Dave. You know, in terms of the Subsistence  
44 Advisory Panel, was there any recommendations provided at  
45 this last meeting?

46  
47 MR. YOKEL: Yes, Mr. Chairman. In  
48 reference to the exploration programs planned for next  
49 year, or actually this spring, and Paul could help me out  
50 here if I forget something.

1                   But in talking of moving that seismic  
2 train along the coastal ice and up to Barrow, there was a  
3 concern that that not be done during spring waterfowl  
4 hunting, goose hunting and, of course, as a wildlife  
5 biologist, I would think if there's any geese there to  
6 shoot we're not going to be letting them on the tundra  
7 anyway, the tundra will be closed by then. What date we  
8 actually close the tundra this spring remains to be seen,  
9 but if we do our job properly we will close it before  
10 there are any significant number of geese here.

11  
12                   They also got some good traditional  
13 knowledge on tides along the coast when the winds blow in  
14 certain directions it can cause high tides and water  
15 overflow up over the shore fast ice and that's obviously  
16 something the seismic company doesn't want to happen  
17 while they're out there dragging a camp along the ice.

18  
19                   As far as the drilling operation for next  
20 winter, of course, there was concern because there are a  
21 lot of cabins and camps in that area between the Ikpikpuk  
22 and the Chip. There was some concern that people were --  
23 Fortuna was originally planning to lease some land from  
24 the Borough there at Cape Simpson, I believe, and there  
25 was some concern that how could the Borough do that  
26 without asking permission or consulting with local Native  
27 allotment owners. That's not an issue for the BLM to  
28 address, so I won't get into it any further.

29  
30                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: I was wanting to hear  
31 on another topic in terms of that differences in the  
32 prescriptive versus the required operating procedures,  
33 you know, if there could be some kind of distinction made  
34 between the two and how they would be applied in the  
35 activity in one of the seasons, you know, just providing  
36 the scenario of an incident that occurs out there, an oil  
37 spill, and what would the prescriptive measures do and  
38 what would the required operation procedures do in just  
39 making comparisons as to which would be more applicable  
40 in the event of an oil spill? I mean, you know, which  
41 would be more restrictive? You know, I don't know if I'm  
42 getting my question clear or not but, you know, just to  
43 make a comparison in terms of how these things work,  
44 we're not really aware of how these required operating  
45 procedures work under BLM's authority and yet we've  
46 worked with these prescriptive measures for a long time  
47 and we need to see some kind of different comparison made  
48 so we're able to address the issues that are going to be  
49 brought forward, you know, in terms of extensions in  
50 areas in where drilling is allowed and where drilling is

1 not allowed.

2

3

4 I think those need to be addressed at  
5 some time, but I don't know if this would be the right  
6 place to be discussing those issues. But I think just  
7 for information sharing that would be something that the  
8 Regional Advisory Council should be made aware of, how  
9 the differences of those two work.

9

10

11 MR. YOKEL: I'll just address that really  
12 briefly. First, despite what we call them, there are  
13 still many prescriptive stipulations and required  
14 operating procedures in our newer mitigation package.  
15 And when it comes to oil spills there's one that's very  
16 prescriptive, and it's the same one as before. It says  
17 you will develop a spill contingency plan before you go  
18 out and do anything and that plan will say what you will  
19 do in the event of a spill and that plan will be approved  
20 by all of the proper authorities, not just the BLM but  
21 any other agency, government -- you know, Federal, State  
22 or local agency that has regulatory authority before you  
23 go out and do anything.

23

24

25 The one noticeable difference between our  
26 mitigation package now and before now, that we call it  
27 performance based, is that every mitigation starts with  
28 an objective. The BLM says here's what we want to  
29 achieve. And sometimes we say you will achieve it this  
30 way, which is prescriptive; or sometimes we say here's  
31 some suggestions on how to achieve it, but when the time  
32 comes you tell us how you think you want to achieve it  
33 and we'll see if we agree.

33

34

35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Dave. And,  
36 you know, those are just some of the issues that need to  
37 be learned in the processes. I know we're not all aware  
38 of -- or can't remember everything and like how it's  
39 written in the books, and just having just small examples  
40 would create an idea of what to expect in the event that  
41 these things come to realization, you know, that we're  
42 able to work with some of these issues that may happen  
43 and may not happen in the long-run, you know.

43

44

45 Is there any other comments from the  
46 Council to Dr. Yokel in regards to his presentation.

46

47

48 MR. TAGAROOK: I got one.

48

49

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Julius -- oh, Terry.

50

1 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah, when you present this  
2 map to us, you are showing different colors and the grey  
3 areas are what were proposed for winter drilling or  
4 exploration -- why can't we have a map of where all the  
5 subsistence hunters hunt and where they go and have it  
6 color-coded where all the subsistence hunters always go  
7 out to hunt and that way we could compare where the  
8 proposed lease sales are happening and where they want to  
9 do the exploratory wells? Do you have a map like that  
10 from our people here in the villages? I know people go  
11 way out, out of those boundaries sometimes to go out  
12 hunting.

13  
14 MR. YOKEL: Mr. Chairman. Terry. Every  
15 map is just a picture that is intended to show something  
16 but no map is a picture that's intended to show  
17 everything.

18  
19 This map is intended to show the land  
20 status in the NPR-A which, yellow, being BLM lands and  
21 the brown ones being Borough and mostly Native  
22 corporation lands. The grey is there to show where oil  
23 and gas lease sales have already been sold. And so  
24 that's the information that was intended to present on  
25 this map.

26  
27 The Final EIS and the Draft EIS have  
28 about 80 or 90 some maps in them and certainly some of  
29 those show subsistence use areas for all of the villages  
30 whose subsistence use areas overlap to whatever extent  
31 with the planning area.

32  
33 I hurried so much I didn't say anything  
34 about this other map down here in the corner, but that's  
35 the final preferred alternative for the Northeast  
36 Amendment Plan.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead, Terry.

39  
40 MR. TAGAROOK: (Shakes head negatively)

41  
42 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Julius.

43  
44 MR. REXFORD: Going back to an oil spill,  
45 we had a diesel oil spill last spring, 2,000 gallons and  
46 it was on the tundra in the snow, and it took about three  
47 weeks to clean it up and it ran into \$75,000 just for  
48 that diesel fuel to clean up on the tundra. Imagine what  
49 happens in the ocean. I mean this, it's going to be a  
50 catastrophic, you know, especially in the Arctic. I mean



1 when it happens it's going to eat everything up, kill  
2 everything. Every organism will be devoured by this, an  
3 oil spill, you know, kills, everything will die.

4  
5 Look at Prince William Sound, it's so sad  
6 up to today, you know, looking in that area after that  
7 oil spill. And people are still suffering from that  
8 tragedy.

9  
10 Thank you.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Julius. Any  
13 other comments.

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

16  
17 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

18  
19 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, just looking at the  
20 lease and Terry was kind of mentioning, because I work in  
21 the planning department for the Borough and if you  
22 overlaid cabins and camps and use areas, it would  
23 probably mirror that Northwest Planning Area Lease Sale,  
24 you know, right over about 80 to 90 percent of the use  
25 area. That's a heavy use and, you know, I look at the  
26 planning and the EIS that had taken place, it had some  
27 pretty good stipulations and told you no surface  
28 occupation, and no this and that kind of stuff; I think  
29 it is within purview of BLM to say if you're wanting to  
30 lease this area, this area has restriction of pipelines  
31 that should be -- no obstacle, designed not to be a  
32 barrier, such as in the road.

33  
34 If cost is the thing, the BLM or the  
35 Federal government should help them do it. The State of  
36 Alaska has industrial roads program where they provide  
37 the incentive for industrial economics to occur, to  
38 become economically viable. The Federal government  
39 should have the same type of obligation to have the  
40 industry develop in a fashion where the impacts could be  
41 minimized, such as help them put it in the road.  
42 TransAlaska Pipeline Road, the Corridor, is now a public  
43 road, it was an industrial road made with Federal funds.  
44 If you give it all, the burden to the oil developers to  
45 do it, they're not going to do it the right way, they're  
46 going to do it the least costly way of getting that oil  
47 to market. Maybe detrimental to migratory paths, to  
48 subsistence availability of the resources. I mean those  
49 are things I think the Federal government, land managers  
50 who own this land needs to consider and say we're leasing

1 it, we're getting \$250 million, let's use half of that  
2 and build them a road where they can put a pipe in it and  
3 put that pipeline in the ground and manage it that way  
4 instead of just giving it all out and develop it at your  
5 own cost and minimize your own effect.

6  
7 Just my observation.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon. Any  
10 other comments from the Council.

11  
12 (No comments)

13  
14 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If not, thank you, Dr.  
15 Yokel for your presentation.

16  
17 MR. YOKEL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I have another item  
20 here is Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Geoff  
21 Carroll.

22  
23 Geoff.

24  
25 MR. CARROLL: Yeah, if you -- I'm Geoff  
26 Carroll with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. You  
27 know, if you'd like this can wait until your next  
28 meeting. I was just going to give a head's up on items  
29 that are probably going to come up in the next regulatory  
30 cycle and we'll know a lot more about what the proposals  
31 are going to be after your next Fish and Game management  
32 committee meeting. So if you'd like we can postpone this  
33 until next meeting.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: What's the wishes of  
36 the Council, I'm not going to decide.

37  
38 (Laughter)

39  
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I'd like to have your  
41 input on this.

42  
43 MR. G. BROWER: That's fine, do it next  
44 meeting.

45  
46 MR. REXFORD: Yes, what?

47  
48 (Laughter)

49  
50 MR. BODFISH: No problem.

1 (Laughter)  
2  
3 MR. TAGAROOK: Mr. Chair.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.  
6  
7 MR. TAGAROOK: As long as you remember to  
8 put it on the agenda.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think it will be  
11 placed on.....  
12  
13 REPORTER: Wait, Harry, your.....  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: ..... the agenda. And  
16 Geoff.....  
17  
18 REPORTER: Harry.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN BROWER: .....I think that.....  
21  
22 REPORTER: Harry. Harry.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN BROWER: .....since you made  
25 that.....  
26  
27 REPORTER: Thank you.  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I was covering the  
30 light so I don't have to see it.  
31  
32 (Laughter)  
33  
34 REPORTER: Thank you.  
35  
36 (Laughter)  
37  
38 REPORTER: Thank you, Harry.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Anyway, Geoff, I was  
41 just going to say thank you for making that offer, you  
42 know, with the time that we're faced with now, I think  
43 that would be something that would be appreciated at this  
44 time, would be most helpful if we could do it at the next  
45 meeting.  
46  
47 MR. CARROLL: Okay, so be it.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Geoff. And  
50 I'll definitely tell Barb that we need to put this on the

1 next agenda on the top of the list.

2

3 (Laughter)

4

5 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, thank you, again,  
6 Geoff. And number 14 is other business. Item A, Council  
7 comments on recommendations regarding the Regional  
8 Council Operation Manual, content and format. Michelle,  
9 is that going to be you, again.

10

11 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

14

15 MS. CHIVERS: Each Council member has  
16 received the operations manual and in our office, the gal  
17 who puts the operations manual together, she has made a  
18 request that we ask the Councils whether they think the  
19 operations manual needs any edits or if the readability  
20 is fine or if they want to suggest a different format.  
21 And if the Council's fine with that, then we can just  
22 carry that back but if they want to make some suggestions  
23 on how the format should be changed, then we're willing  
24 to take those comments.

25

26 Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, thank you,  
29 Michelle. Any comments from the Council in regard to the  
30 operation manual content and format.

31

32 MR. GUNDERSON: Yes.

33

34 MR. TAGAROOK: Harry.

35

36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Go ahead.

37

38 MR. GUNDERSON: Terry, first.

39

40 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Terry.

41

42 MR. TAGAROOK: Yeah, were there any major  
43 changes from the one that they used to have?

44

45 MS. CHIVERS: No there were not.

46

47 MR. TAGAROOK: Thank you.

48

49 MR. GUNDERSON: Mr. Chairman.

50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: David.  
2  
3 MR. GUNDERSON: Yes, I thought, as a new  
4 member of your Fish and Wildlife Board, I found it very  
5 informational and straightforward and it was pretty easy  
6 to understand.  
7  
8 Thank you.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, David. Any  
11 other comments from the Council.  
12  
13 MR. BODFISH: Mr. Chairman.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Paul.  
16  
17 MR. BODFISH: Under agency reports before  
18 you moved on, quickly before I could even say anything  
19 about Council topics for May 2005, I wanted you to bring  
20 it up to the Board about starting up what Sverre had done  
21 with the fish studies with Kaktovik and Anaktuvuk, to  
22 start that up in the Admiralty Bay area, the water  
23 drainage and do a fish study, migratory routes and fish  
24 population. To start that up in that area.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN BROWER: That would be  
27 considered the stock, status and trends -- or was that  
28 the status monitoring program projects, information  
29 needs, monitoring program, and I think those covered the  
30 stock, status and trends on fish that were identified  
31 during another meeting, this one was with the Arctic -- I  
32 mean Dolly varden was the primary fish that was  
33 identified. But I think that if we have a key species  
34 that we need to identify to work with, I think that's  
35 what we need to identify to start the program.  
36  
37 MR. BODFISH: Broadhead whitefish.  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Say that again.  
40  
41 MR. BODFISH: Broadhead whitefish.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So Sverre, would you  
44 need to be involved in this discussion in terms of  
45 submitting another proposal to do research in the  
46 Admiralty Bay, in these rivers? Amy. Amy, he's pointing  
47 at you.  
48  
49 (Laughter)  
50

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Amy. Go ahead, Sverre.

2

3 MR. PEDERSEN: Yeah, this is Sverre  
4 Pedersen, Department of Fish and Game. You know, once  
5 you identify an issue, I can look at it and see if  
6 there's some -- if I have some capacity that can be  
7 applied to it.

8

9 I mean I'm happy to, at some point have  
10 -- if you'd like me to, participate in a discussion of  
11 what sort of project you could design here or consult  
12 with you on how to do a project, I'm happy to do that.  
13 It helps to, as you've pointed out, to have a key species  
14 or something that you're going to work with. Admiralty  
15 Bay is in NPR-A, so it's in on Federal lands so it is  
16 something that I'm sure the FIS Office would consider.

17

18 And, you know, in the past what you've  
19 done is you identified issues and then FIS usually  
20 broadcasts the fact that you've identified issues and  
21 they will try to find, you know, someone who might be  
22 interested in doing that work.

23

24 Now, I want to mention something to you  
25 that might be material in all of this, and, that is, that  
26 I think ICAS has submitted a proposal to FIS to do a  
27 whitefish project in four communities in NPR-A. And I  
28 don't know what the status is of that project, but it's  
29 basically a harvest monitoring and a traditional  
30 ecological project similar to what you saw me report on  
31 earlier.

32

33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: That would be similar  
34 to what you just presented this afternoon, yes?

35

36 MR. PEDERSEN: Mr. Chairman, yes, that  
37 would be similar to that.

38

39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So Paul, I guess it's  
40 just a matter of looking into what areas ICAS is wanting  
41 to cover or the four communities that they're interested  
42 in. Maybe we could look into that through -- I'm not  
43 sure, I might be able to just call James to see what  
44 communities have been identified and just call -- get a  
45 letter written back to you indicating what they're  
46 proposing to do. I haven't been made aware that, that  
47 they've submitted a proposal until now, Sverre.

48

49 Jerry.

50

1 MR. BERG: Yeah, Mr. Chair, we can  
2 certainly follow up on that when we go back to our office  
3 and find out if that -- certainly if a proposal was  
4 submitted to the FIS Program, we can certainly follow up  
5 and get that information right out to Paul. And, you  
6 know, certainly once those issues are identified, then  
7 the next step is to find somebody to do the study, you  
8 know, such as someone like Sverre so that will be the  
9 next step. If it's not already proposed or if it's not  
10 being forwarded -- some projects are proposed but they're  
11 not forwarded for funding for various reason and if  
12 that's the case then, you know, maybe we need to work on  
13 it again the next time, and that will be in the falltime  
14 is when people submit proposals to do studies.

15  
16 So it's certainly, you know, you've  
17 already identified it so, you know, it definitely will be  
18 on your issues list into the future.

19  
20 Mr. Chair.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Jerry. So  
23 Paul, that could help answer that question that you just  
24 raised, we'll just get them to do a little bit of  
25 research and forward that information to us so we could  
26 see what they're looking into.

27  
28 MR. BODFISH: Okay, thank you. And the  
29 reason being was if we know our fish stocks now on the  
30 broadhead whitefish in the future, you know, if anything  
31 happened, you know, we would have something to look back  
32 to if that was being done.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Paul. Any  
35 other comments.

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

38  
39 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

40  
41 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, just  
42 supporting that and I think we did convey pretty good  
43 information for, you know, possible research and studies  
44 on the North Slope.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

47  
48 MR. G. BROWER: And I sincerely hope  
49 that, you know, they're taken upon seriously. I mean  
50 there's a multitude of lease sales going on that has the

1 potential to impact many different subsistence species.  
2 I mean some of our elders that fish in these areas, Pete  
3 Tagalarook (ph), you know, talk about smelts, it's own  
4 population of smelts in those areas. Some other fish in  
5 the (In Inupiat) area, a little bit further up in  
6 there.....

7  
8 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

9  
10 MR. G. BROWER: .....that has its own  
11 resident population. I don't know what the (In Inupiat),  
12 the English name, but I do know my dad calls them a (In  
13 Inupiat), they're a form of a trout that get no more than  
14 maybe 15 inches, a very colorful little fish. And I  
15 think there needs to be a concerted effort to get real  
16 baseline data of these subsistence resources for  
17 potential mitigation work and potential impact related  
18 things should they come up if the communities were  
19 impacted.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay. Thank you,  
22 Gordon. Trying to get back to our topic here, was the  
23 Council comments on the recommendations regarding  
24 Regional Council operation manual contents and format.

25  
26 Michelle, maybe I have a quick question,  
27 does that include, does the contents of the manual, the  
28 stipends issue that we've discussed, would that be  
29 something to consider under this topic?

30  
31 MS. CHIVERS: That can certainly be an  
32 informational item added to the booklet if you would  
33 like.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think maybe, you  
36 know, over several years of meetings that we've tried to  
37 increase the stipends, maybe if that could be put down as  
38 an issue that we've identified, increasing the stipends  
39 provided to the Council members that travel to attend  
40 meetings. It's something that we, as a Council, would  
41 have it looked into.

42  
43 MR. BERG: Yeah, Mr. Chair, just to  
44 clarify a little bit. I know that issue has been a big  
45 issue for, not only your Council, but all 10 Councils  
46 regionwide, I know the Chairs of the Councils had a  
47 meeting with the Federal Subsistence Board and the level  
48 of stipend and compensation to Council members, since  
49 they are volunteers has been an issue for numerous years  
50 and that was elevated all the way back to Washington,



1 D.C., and we got a response back from the National  
2 Solicitor's Office stating that we could not go beyond  
3 what we're currently doing.

4  
5                   So, you know, we've basically pushed that  
6 issue as far as we can and the Federal Subsistence Board  
7 pushed it as far as they could and we've gotten that  
8 answer back. And so I don't think we're going to hear  
9 anything different on that issue, but we certainly could  
10 provide maybe a more clearer description of what is  
11 allowed and why it's allowed, why you're only allowed to  
12 get the 80 percent ahead of time and make that maybe a  
13 little bit more clear in the operations manual. And  
14 that's really what this issue is about, is just to make  
15 that manual more clear for Council members and future  
16 Council members.

17  
18                   So we'll certainly bring that to the  
19 attention of the FACA coordinator so that when she  
20 redrafts it we try to beef up that section of the manual.

21  
22                   Mr. Chair.

23  
24                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Jerry.  
25 Gordon.

26  
27                   MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, is there a  
28 difference between the amount of the stipend and the 80  
29 percent? I mean if you increase the amount and you still  
30 get 80 percent, then the 80 percent would be higher.

31  
32                   MR. BERG: Mr. Chair. Gordon. Yeah, I'm  
33 not quite sure I follow that. I mean there's just a set  
34 amount that any person traveling, we get the same -- we  
35 have the same restrictions as Staff as Council members do  
36 on what we're allowed for travel costs, and when we give  
37 the travel -- you get the travel advances, the checks  
38 that we give to the Council members, that's 80 percent of  
39 what we estimate that cost to be for your per diem. You  
40 will get the 100 percent, you'll get all of it, it's just  
41 that we have to -- you know, the advance that you get at  
42 these meetings is 80 percent and then they follow up with  
43 the paperwork afterwards. So there won't be any  
44 increases with that. You know, there won't be changes to  
45 that because we have to operate within what's the laws on  
46 the books for everybody that travels under Federal travel  
47 guidelines.

48  
49                   So that -- but maybe we can do a better  
50 job explaining exactly how it works and work with Council

1 members on that, but it won't change. Sorry.

2

3 Mr. Chair.

4

5 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

6

7 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

8

9 MR. G. BROWER: You know it is a  
10 volunteer thing and most like any other volunteer  
11 service, like planning commission, is all volunteer, you  
12 know, you submit and then you get selected, it's  
13 voluntary. But you still have the cost of being able to  
14 do things up here, you know, to feed yourself and run  
15 around and then get back, and, you know, you look at the  
16 travel and it's just the cost of what you would have to  
17 do in a different part of the world, in a different part  
18 of Alaska. I mean I don't get none -- I don't get any  
19 per diem, you know, I come here, maybe only when I travel  
20 somewhere I'll get a per diem but it's -- I get  
21 absolutely zero and I had to explain that to my boss in  
22 order for me to be doing a public service criteria for me  
23 to attend these meetings from the Borough.

24

25 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Jerry.

26

27 MR. BERG: Yeah, Mr. Chair, if I could  
28 just respond briefly. Yeah, and that is a good point  
29 that, you know, things are more expensive up here and the  
30 per diem rates do vary statewide and it varies by season.  
31 The per diem rates that you receive are different in the  
32 summer than they are in the winter because hotel rates go  
33 up and down and the rates in Anchorage are different than  
34 they are in Barrow. And they do try to take into account  
35 what the costs are in the area that you're traveling to  
36 and so they're based on what they figure, you know, the  
37 rates are in that area, so they do vary by area of the  
38 state. I don't know off the top of my head what the  
39 rates are for Barrow but we could certainly get that  
40 information to the Council if they'd like to see that.

41

42 They list them, you know, nationwide, and  
43 we can -- and they specifically say what the rates are  
44 for Barrow in that listing so we could certainly share  
45 that with the Council if they so choose, Mr. Chair.

46

47 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right, thank you,  
48 Jerry. Another business item that we needed to address  
49 was the concern that Gordon made earlier in regards to a  
50 letter -- regarding that Proposal WP05-12. I think we

1 need to discuss that a little bit further in getting a  
2 letter drafted to address the concerns that were  
3 identified in our minutes, I think, the biological  
4 information that we had requested for and see if that  
5 would cover some of that information that was needed --  
6 or the questions that needed to be answered by Staff in  
7 terms of how this proposal was drafted.

8

9 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

12

13 MR. G. BROWER: Is that the moose issue  
14 that we were.....

15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes, that's the moose  
17 proposal that we were addressing earlier when we were  
18 discussing proposals.

19

20 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, I think I included  
21 on the motion to include the need to -- you know to have  
22 more detail on the predation, what is the underlying  
23 factor of moose decline. If we need to move that away as  
24 maybe in a Chair's report or something, if that's the  
25 issue. I'm not exactly -- if we want to separate the  
26 two, is that what we're talking about or how we want to  
27 state it?

28

29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think it's how we  
30 want to state it, and then having the questions answered.  
31 There was some questions on Page 9 of our meeting packet  
32 and there's some issues that we discussed in terms of the  
33 moose. Declining, and why the proposal was submitted and  
34 then restricted the harvest of the moose for subsistence,  
35 and then we had the questions that were raised was it  
36 because of the moose habitat, was it overharvesting of  
37 the moose in the area, was it due to predation that the  
38 moose population is declining or other causes. Those  
39 needed to be answered by biologists that we did not get  
40 provided with answers for. So those are the ones I think  
41 we were referring to during the discussion in that  
42 proposal.

43

44 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon, go ahead.

47

48 MR. G. BROWER: You know, in deferring --  
49 no, I wasn't deferring, I mean I've got so many thing  
50 going through my mind now -- it was WP05-12, right?

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

2

3 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah. And to move that  
4 forward with Staff recommendation, but to include detail  
5 and to get questions answered pertaining to why the moose  
6 population is being more restricted and to try and get  
7 some other type of relief other than just cutting the  
8 subsistence take. And there should be some corresponding  
9 limitation to sport hunting of the bull moose. You know,  
10 a lot of times there's more pressure on the cows because  
11 the subsistence user can take that, but when there's  
12 available bull moose, which is the -- you know, which  
13 there's a lot more pressure on in hunting. And also to  
14 try to identify if predation is a -- you know, if there's  
15 some key factors associated with predation in the  
16 decline.

17

18 I don't know exactly how to put it into  
19 words, I think Staff should be able to understand what  
20 we're trying to -- where the point is going to help us  
21 draft.....

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

24

25 MR. G. BROWER: .....you know, this  
26 language so that maybe the Federal Game Board takes and  
27 gives us some reasonable answers, not just to take action  
28 to cut. I mean we're already saying, yeah, approve it and  
29 with Staff recommendations to give some leeway to the  
30 land managers to open and close this thing, but to also  
31 look at different plans, such as the sport hunting guide,  
32 if there might be areas to cut in there.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: All right, thank you  
35 Gordon. Jerry.

36

37

38 MR. BERG: Yeah, Mr. Chair, I would  
39 recommend the motion that you guys made was to support  
40 the proposal as modified by Staff. And then the second  
41 part of the motion was to get more information in regards  
42 to why there is a moose decline, is it predation, is it  
43 habitat, and I think you guys have discussed that in  
44 enough detail today that we, as Staff, can certainly  
45 respond to that and help you draft up that question. And  
46 I would recommend that you add that to your annual report  
47 issue as your second -- there's one already listed, it's  
48 on your yellow sheet that was handed out earlier that  
49 Barb drafted up, an annual report.

50

1                   There's one issue listed there, I would  
2 suggest that we add that as the second issue on your  
3 annual report. The Staff will draft that up based on  
4 your discussions today and then the Federal Subsistence  
5 Board will respond back to you in writing regarding that  
6 issue, and then you'll have a record of their response on  
7 that issue.

8  
9                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: I think that's the  
10 direction we'd like to take, that would seem appropriate  
11 for us to do that, to follow your recommendation to get  
12 that drafted by Staff.

13  
14                   If there's no other comments on that  
15 subject from the Council.

16                   (No comments)

17  
18  
19                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Our next agenda item is  
20 15, next meeting is October 19 and 20, 2005 in Barrow.  
21 And the other one is establish time and place of winter  
22 meeting of 2006 meeting.

23  
24                   There's a calendar and it's indicated  
25 also in the back of the booklet of when the window of  
26 opportunity to hold meetings for the winter meeting would  
27 be.

28  
29                   MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair.

30  
31                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: It starts February 20  
32 to March 24. And we did hear concerns about trying to  
33 hold the meeting earlier during the winter months than in  
34 March because we have our subsistence activities that  
35 occur during this time of the year.

36  
37                   MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair.

38  
39                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: Michelle.

40  
41                   MS. CHIVERS: I did provide a new  
42 calendar to each of the Council members, it's kind of in  
43 color but it shows the other meetings set by the other  
44 Councils. And it shows the meeting window that's  
45 available.

46  
47                   Thank you.

48  
49                   CHAIRMAN BROWER: So even if we meet on  
50 the weekends it will be okay.

1 (Laughter)

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, it basically  
4 indicates there's already been selections by different  
5 Regional Advisory Councils as to when they would like to  
6 hold their meetings, and North Slope Regional Advisory  
7 Council and we have yet to determine that date, but it's  
8 still within that timeframe. I'm not sure if we can  
9 overlap with another Regional Advisory Council meeting  
10 timeframe would be a problem for Staff or is there enough  
11 Staff to cover for two meetings.

12

13 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, I was just going  
14 to state that. The meetings that you would have to avoid  
15 overlapping with is Seward Penn, obviously Barb is the  
16 Council coordinator that region and there are also some  
17 agency Staff that travel to that meeting as well, as well  
18 as Bristol Bay. The one week that would be open is the  
19 week of February 27th through March 3rd. I don't believe  
20 Dave is on the Eastern Interior -- are you on the Eastern  
21 Interior Staff?

22

23 MR. FISHER: (Shakes head negatively)

24

25 MS. CHIVERS: Okay. There are no Staff  
26 overlaps within those two regions so that week would be  
27 available there.

28

29 And also you had expressed concern about  
30 maybe meeting earlier.

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

33

34 MS. CHIVERS: And I'm pretty sure the  
35 office would be fine with meeting one week prior to the  
36 meeting at the window opening, we have done it before in  
37 the past. So I would suggest, if you wanted to set a  
38 date sometime within that week, if you could do so, but  
39 also set a backup meeting date in case they were not  
40 willing to do that, maybe within that week of February  
41 26th through March 4th.

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I was just trying to  
45 write the dates and going backwards here for that week  
46 prior to February 19, Saturday is February 18th.

47

48 MR. BODFISH: 16th and 17th.

49

50 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Then the middle of the

1 week is.....

2

3 MR. BODFISH: That would be Thursday and  
4 Friday.

5

6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: .....from the 13th to  
7 the 17th. What was your suggestion Paul?

8

9 MR. BODFISH: 16th and 17th of February,  
10 that'd be the Thursday and Friday. So moved.

11

12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Motion on the floor to  
13 hold the North Slope Regional Advisory Council February  
14 16 and 17, 2006.

15

16 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, would the  
17 location be Barrow.

18

19 MR. TAGAROOK: Hawaii.

20

21 (Laughter)

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Paul, your motion. It  
24 hasn't been seconded yet, so it's still a motion, is that  
25 to hold the meeting here in Barrow.

26

27 MR. BODFISH: Well, would you guys like  
28 to have it here in Barrow?

29

30 (Laughter)

31

32 CHAIRMAN BROWER: If we could get a  
33 second we could bring this up under discussion.

34

35 MR. KOONUK: Mr. Chair.

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Ray.

38

39 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

40

41 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Oh, Gordon, sorry.

42

43 MR. G. BROWER: We had discussed a little  
44 bit about the need for representation from Kaktovik.

45

46 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

47

48 MR. G. BROWER: And if we could  
49 reconsider the fall meeting, if we can do something like  
50 that maybe we would get a nomination from the floor or if

1 Staff, you know.

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Maybe we could have  
4 Staff check into that because these dates were set a year  
5 ago and we try to follow this process about setting dates  
6 a year in advance to work up on these meeting dates. So  
7 I think we need to check with Barb to see what Gordon's  
8 asking?

9

10 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair. The current  
11 nomination cycle is already in motion.

12

13 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

14

15 MS. CHIVERS: And they have already  
16 conducted interviews. And, I, at this time do not know  
17 if anybody has applied from Kaktovik. But that would be  
18 something that would be considered in the next cycle  
19 which would begin -- we would bring applications to the  
20 fall meeting.

21

22 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

23

24 MS. CHIVERS: And so at that time if we  
25 get an application from Kaktovik they would be  
26 considered.

27

28 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Before we go any  
29 further with discussions, we had a motion on the floor to  
30 hold the meeting February 16 and 17.

31

32 MR. BODFISH: 16 and 17 in Barrow.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: In Barrow 2006.

35

36 MR. KOONUK: Second that motion.

37

38 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded by Ray.  
39 Further discussions.

40

41 MR. BODFISH: Question.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Question has been  
44 called to hold the meeting on February 16 and 17, 2006  
45 here in Barrow. All in favor, signify by saying aye.

46

47 IN UNISON: Aye.

48

49 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Any opposed.

50



1 (No opposing votes)

2

3 CHAIRMAN BROWER: None noted. Okay, the  
4 comment Gordon brought out we need to address in terms of  
5 holding the fall meeting in Kaktovik, I think that's what  
6 we were trying to get at. I didn't want to get confused.  
7 I know we've already indicated the date and place to hold  
8 the meeting here in Barrow October 19 and 20, he was  
9 asking if that could be changed to hold the meeting in  
10 Kaktovik.

11

12 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair. We just  
13 provided this calendar so that the Council can reconfirm  
14 those dates and locations.

15

16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

17

18 MS. CHIVERS: So if you wanted to  
19 consider a different location or a different date now  
20 would be the time to do so otherwise you could just  
21 reconfirm what you have listed here already.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

26

27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

28

29 MR. G. BROWER: So we can consider  
30 Kaktovik for fall?

31

32 MR. TAGAROOK: 2005.

33

34 CHAIRMAN BROWER: October 19 and 20, 2005  
35 in Kaktovik. Jerry.

36

37 MR. BERG: Yeah, Mr. Chair, I guess, you  
38 know, we just had a meeting with Pete Probasco who is a  
39 deputy at our office and he's asked us to -- we've  
40 already changed the location for three meetings for next  
41 fall based on they were meeting in very remote locations  
42 and because of the budget cuts this year, so I don't want  
43 to prevent you from recommending going to Kaktovik but as  
44 an alternative, sometimes we do try to invite Advisory  
45 Committee members to participate in our meetings from  
46 various communities and so that might be an option to try  
47 to get somebody from Kaktovik to come in for the meeting.

48

49 Or if you do want to go ahead and  
50 recommend that the Council go to Kaktovik for a meeting,

1 that maybe you just have an alternative site as a backup  
2 in case we have a request in our office that they want to  
3 have the Council consider a different location site, such  
4 as Barrow.

5  
6 But anyway, just some options for you to  
7 consider having somebody from Kaktovik come in or an  
8 alternative site as a backup.

9  
10 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

13  
14 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, I think that would  
15 be appropriate. And I think there was some underlying  
16 circumstances because -- to try to consider maybe the  
17 remote area for Kaktovik, they've been without  
18 representation for going on two years and you guys are  
19 land managers for ANWR and there's Legislation going on  
20 which is directly affecting Kaktovik and we may want to  
21 hear directly from citizens, not just committees, but  
22 from people concerned about subsistence activities right  
23 from the people who subsist on ANWR.

24  
25 I mean there's two things here. You've  
26 got a major thing that the Administration is doing, the  
27 Federal Administration, and a lack of a representative.  
28 Which, I think, at the fall there's going to be time, at  
29 that time where nominations can be put forth from the  
30 floor, that's what I'm understanding, for a  
31 representative from Kaktovik.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Gordon.  
34 Jerry, did you have a comment or response.

35  
36 MR. BERG: Yeah, we certainly do have the  
37 nomination period is open, but normally the nominations  
38 for people to be Council members comes from, you know,  
39 individuals or the people themselves, you know, you as  
40 members either nominated yourself or somebody probably  
41 from your community nominated you, and so that's normally  
42 where it comes from rather than the Council.

43  
44 But I think those are very good points,  
45 it is a good argument that maybe the Council does want to  
46 meet in Kaktovik because of the issues coming up, and so  
47 if that's the wishes of the Council then we'll certainly  
48 carry that forward to the office because I think those  
49 are very good reasons, that there might be some very  
50 significant issues to discuss with the residents over

1 there.

2

3 But I would just encourage you to, and I  
4 guess Barrow's always kind of the back up in case there's  
5 weather issues or whatever.

6

7 But anyway, that's all I have Mr. Chair.

8

9 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you, Jerry. I  
10 think we've heard the issues that need to be addressed in  
11 terms of meeting in Kaktovik. So I think, if we could,  
12 maybe check with Barb and see if we could change the  
13 meeting place to Kaktovik. If that's not possible maybe  
14 we could get a response back and hold the meeting back  
15 here in Barrow.

16

17 Could we please do that? Try that?

18

19 MS. CHIVERS: (Nods affirmatively)

20

21 MR. BERG: (Nods affirmatively)

22

23 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, thank you. And  
24 then we didn't make a motion for establish time and place  
25 for the winter 2006 meeting, there was a motion for the  
26 16th and 17th of February 2006, we did that, any further  
27 discussions on those issues?

28

29 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

30

31 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

32

33 MR. G. BROWER: Were Staff wanting a  
34 backup if 16 and 17 because it's not in the window, were  
35 you wanting within the window as a backup date?

36

37 CHAIRMAN BROWER: I don't think so. I  
38 think it would be just for the meeting place to discuss  
39 in Kaktovik.

40

41 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair.

42

43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Michelle.

44

45 MS. CHIVERS: When I suggested a meeting  
46 backup date, that was actually for the winter meeting.

47

48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.

49

50 MS. CHIVERS: And that was just in case

1 if the office would not allow the Council to meet prior  
2 to the meeting window opening, and the other thing I  
3 suggested for a backup would be the week of February 27th  
4 through March 3rd, it wasn't for the fall meeting.

5  
6 Thank you.

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

9  
10 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Gordon.

11  
12 MR. G. BROWER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I  
13 think we didn't suggest a backup date for the winter  
14 meeting.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, I'm getting  
17 confused with too many dates and things.

18  
19 MS. CHIVERS: Correct.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN BROWER: So if we do not have a  
22 date -- well, we did identify the dates for February  
23 2006, and if that does not get approved we'll just move  
24 right on down the -- it would be my recommendation to  
25 hold it on Monday and Tuesday, February 20 and 21.

26  
27 MR. G. BROWER: Mr. Chairman.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Just to try to keep it  
30 from going into March. Because it's when we get into  
31 March is when we're getting busier with our subsistence  
32 activities. I think sometime.....

33  
34 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: .....early or late  
37 February would be our preferred time.

38  
39 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair, I'm sorry I  
40 think there was a misunderstanding on dates. You said  
41 you were suggesting the 20th and 21st?

42  
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Yes.

44  
45 MS. CHIVERS: That actually overlaps with  
46 Bristol Bay and Dave is one of the Staff members and the  
47 week I was suggesting is February 27th through March 3rd,  
48 there are no Staff overlaps within those two regions.

49  
50 MR. BODFISH: 27th and 28th.

1 CHAIRMAN BROWER: You're getting it too  
2 close to March, we're talking about.....  
3  
4 MS. CHIVERS: Mr. Chair.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Michelle.  
7  
8 MS. CHIVERS: My other suggestion would  
9 be just go ahead and go with the dates that you have  
10 selected.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Uh-huh.  
13  
14 MS. CHIVERS: February 16th and 17th, and  
15 then we can check with Barb, and then if the office is  
16 fine with that then we'll just go with those dates, but  
17 she'll contact you if those dates will not work.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Okay, I guess we could  
20 go with that suggestion, just go ahead with our  
21 recommendation, and with the motion that we identified.  
22  
23 (In Inupiat)  
24  
25 (Council nods affirmatively)  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN BROWER: 16th and 17th February  
28 2006, okay. I was just confirming that we are in  
29 agreement with the suggested dates.  
30  
31 Item 16 adjournment. If there's no other  
32 business to conduct the Regional.....  
33  
34 MR. BODFISH: So moved, Mr. Chairman.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN BROWER: A motion on the floor  
37 to adjourn.  
38  
39 MR. G. BROWER: Second.  
40  
41 MR. HOPSON: Second.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Seconded two times.  
44 All in favor signify by saying aye, good bye.  
45  
46 IN UNISON: Aye.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN BROWER: Good bye, okay.  
49  
50 (Laughter)

1                           CHAIRMAN BROWER: Thank you for being  
2 here and taking time away from your families you all,  
3 Council members, the new Council members, thank you.

4  
5

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the state of Alaska and reporter of Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 2 through 166 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically by Computer Matrix Court Reporters on the 24th day of March 2005, in Barrow, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by under my direction and reduced to print to the best of our knowledge and ability;

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 1st day of April 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph P. Kolasinski  
Notary Public in and for Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 03/12/08