

1 SOUTHCENTRAL FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6 VOLUME I

7
8 Cordova, Alaska
9 March 12, 2008
10 1:00 o'clock p.m.

11
12
13 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- 14
15 Ralph Lohse, Chairman
16 Doug Blossom
17 Tom Carpenter
18 Greg Encelewski
19 Ricky Gease
20 Robert Henrichs
21 James Showalter
22 Gloria Stickwan
23 Willard Stockwell
24 Tricia Waggoner
25
26
27 Regional Council Coordinator, Donald Mike

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Cordova, Alaska - 3/12/2008)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, if everybody's ready and in their places, we'll give them a couple seconds more. I'd like to call this spring meeting of the Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council in order.

And at this point in time I'd like to have roll call called and establish a quorum, Donald, please.

MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My name is Donald Mike. I'm the Regional Advisory Council coordinator. I just wanted to remind Council members to please turn your mic on for the court recorder and the public to hear.

Mr. Chair. Roll call.

Mr. Robert Henrichs.

MR. HENRICHS: Here.

MR. MIKE: Mr. Doug Blossom.

MR. BLOSSOM: Here.

MR. MIKE: Mr. Greg Encelewski.

MR. ENCELEWSKI: Here.

MR. MIKE: Ms. Tricia Waggoner.

MS. WAGGONER: Here.

MR. MIKE: Mr. Ricky Gease.

(No comments)

MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. Mr. Gease is on his way from Juneau so he should be here this afternoon.

Mr. John Lamb.

1 (No comments)
2
3 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. Mr. Lamb
4 contacted me. He lives in Hiland Lake, which is out in
5 the sticks, and the lake he lives in is pretty flooded
6 with water, so there's no way for ski planes to land in
7 and out and so excuse him for this meeting.
8
9 Ms. Gloria Stickwan.
10
11 MS. STICKWAN: Here.
12
13 MR. MIKE: Mr. Dean Wilson.
14
15 (No comments)
16
17 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. Mr. Wilson
18 contacted me yesterday morning and he stated that his
19 wife was ill and he couldn't leave the house so there
20 was no one to take care of his family, so he's the only
21 one, so I gave him the excused absence.
22
23 Mr. James Showalter.
24
25 MR. SHOWALTER: Here.
26
27 MR. MIKE: Mr. Ralph Lohse.
28
29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Here.
30
31 MR. MIKE: Mr. Tom Carpenter.
32
33 MR. CARPENTER: Here.
34
35 MR. MIKE: Mr. Fred Elvsaas.
36
37 (No comments)
38
39 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. Mr. Elvsaas
40 contacted me also and he said he had a corporation
41 meeting that was conflicting with the meeting we had
42 this week and he was in a board meeting and I gave him
43 an excused absence.
44
45 Mr. Chair. You have nine members
46 present, and Mr. Gease he will be here this afternoon,
47 which will make 10 and you have a quorum, Mr. Chair.
48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Donald. At
50 this time I'd like to welcome all.....

1 REPORTER: Ralph.
2
3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Donald. At
4 this time I'd like to welcome all of our visitors and
5 our guests and welcome all of you to sunny Cordova,
6 almost sunny Cordova, it's not raining right at the
7 moment so that's about as good as we get.
8
9 I'd like to recognize an honored elder
10 from up in the AHTNA country, Nicholas Jackson. A
11 member of the AHTNA board, been on the Board of Game.
12 A person who's got a real good knowledge of the country
13 up there, by a long shot, more than most of the rest of
14 us have, that's for sure.
15
16 So with that, I'd like to have all of
17 the Board introduce themselves just for the sake of
18 everybody out there. And then when we're done with the
19 Board, we'll just go through everybody and we'll just
20 go back and forth and let everybody introduce
21 themselves.
22
23 Bill, do you want to start.
24
25 MR. STOCKWELL: My name's Bill
26 Stockwell. I'm from Cooper Landing.
27
28 MS. WAGGONER: Tricia Waggoner. I'm
29 from Palmer.
30
31 MR. HENRICHS: Bob Henrichs. I'm a
32 lifetime resident of Cordova. I'm president of the
33 Native Village of Eyak and on the Cordova City Council.
34
35 MR. SHOWALTER: James Showalter.
36 Sterling.
37
38 MS. STICKWAN: Gloria Stickwan.
39 Tazlina.
40
41 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Ralph Lohse. Cordova
42 and McCarthy.
43
44 MR. CARPENTER: Tom Carpenter.
45 Cordova.
46
47 MR. BLOSSOM: Doug Blossom. Clam
48 Gulch.
49
50 MR. ENCELEWSKI: I'm Greg Encelewski.

1 I'm from Ninilchik.
2
3 MR. MIKE: Donald Mike. OSM,
4 Anchorage.
5
6 MR. LORD: My name is Ken Lord with the
7 Solicitor's Office, Department of Interior.
8
9 MR. HAYNES: Terry Haynes. Department
10 of Fish and Game, Fairbanks.
11
12 MR. CAIN: Bruce Cain. Executive
13 Director for the Native Village of Eyak.
14
15 MR. JACKSON: Nick Jackson. Board
16 member for AHTNA, Inc., Subsistence Committee.
17
18 MS. CELLARIUS: Barb Cellarius.
19 Wrangell-St. Elias National Park subsistence
20 coordinator.
21
22 REPORTER: What's your name, go ahead.
23
24 MR. VAN DEN BROEK: Keith van den
25 Broek, Native Village of Eyak. Late.
26
27 (Laughter)
28
29 MS. WILLIAMS: Liz Williams.
30 Anthropologist. Office of Subsistence Management.
31
32 MR. RISDAHL: Greg Risdahl. Wildlife
33 biologist. Subsistence Management Office.
34
35 MR. BURCHAM: Milo Burcham. Forest
36 Service wildlife biologist from here in Cordova.
37
38 MR. MOEGLEIN: Ed Moeglein.
39 Kenai/Soldotna AC.
40
41 MR. BUKLIS: Larry Buklis. Office of
42 Subsistence Management in Anchorage.
43
44 MR. ZEMKE: Steve Zemke. Chugach
45 National Forest headquartered in Anchorage.
46
47 MR. JOYCE: Tim Joyce. Fisheries
48 subsistence biologist, Cordova Forest Service.
49
50 MS. ARMSTRONG: Helen Armstrong.

1 Anthropologist. Office of Subsistence Management.

2

3 MR. EASTLAND: Warren Eastland.
4 Wildlife biologist with the BIA. Member of the BIA
5 Staff Committee. And happy to be here, thank you.

6

7 MS. BRYSON: Autumn Bryson.
8 Environmental coordinator for the Native Village of
9 Eyak.

10

11 MR. CHAN: Mark Chan. Forest Service,
12 Juneau.

13

14 MR. BRYDEN: Jeff Bryden. Forest
15 Service Law Enforcement, subsistence.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Tina.

18

19 REPORTER: Turn your microphone on,
20 thanks.

21

22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you for the
23 introductions, but I want you to introduce yourself.

24

25 (Laughter)

26

27 REPORTER: Tina. Court reporter.

28

29 (Laughter)

30

31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And as you see I have
32 problems with the microphone just as much as anybody
33 else so that's why mine end's up staying on a lot of
34 time and Tina has to keep track of it for me, on and
35 off. Like Tina said, we need to speak to the mic, turn
36 your mic's on and off and speak loud and clear enough
37 so she can get it on record.

38

39 At this point in time the next order of
40 business is election of the officers, and we need to
41 have election of the Chair first and I guess I can take
42 the nominations.

43

44 MR. CARPENTER: Mr. Chair. I move
45 Ralph Lohse Chair.

46

47 MR. BLOSSOM: Second.

48

49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do you have any other
50 nominations.

1 MR. CARPENTER: Question.
2
3 (Laughter)
4
5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Are there any other
6 nominations?
7
8 (Laughter)
9
10 (No comments)
11
12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been
13 called. All in favor signify by saying aye.
14
15 IN UNISON: Aye.
16
17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Opposed signify by
18 saying nay.
19
20 (No opposing votes)
21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries. At
23 this time we need a nomination for Vice Chair. Doug.
24
25 MR. BLOSSOM: I nominate Tom Carpenter.
26
27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gloria.
28
29 MS. STICKWAN: I nominate Bob Henrichs.
30
31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Bob Henrichs. We have
32 two nominations, do we have a second for either one of
33 them.
34
35 MR. ENCELEWSKI: I'll second Bob.
36
37 MR. SHOWALTER: I'll second Tom.
38
39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: We have a second for
40 Bob and a second for Tom. Do we have any other
41 nominations.
42
43 (No comments)
44
45 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hearing none, the
46 question's in order.
47
48 MR. CARPENTER: Question.
49
50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been

1 called. Let's see how do we do this, everybody grab a
2 piece of paper, write it on a piece of paper and hand
3 it in, either Tom or Bob, and we'll hand it to Donald
4 and Donald and Tina can tally.

5

6 (Pause)

7

8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. And we'll wait
9 until these are tallied before we vote on the
10 secretary.

11

12 (Pause)

13

14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do we have a tally you
15 two. Donald.

16

17 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. We have a tally,
18 the tally was 6 casted for Tom Carpenter and three for
19 Bob Henrichs.

20

21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So Tom
22 Carpenter is Vice Chair. Okay, now we need a
23 nomination for secretary.

24

25 MR. CARPENTER: Mr. Chairman. I move
26 Gloria Stickwan.

27

28 MS. WAGGONER: Second.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gloria Stickwan's
31 nominated and seconded. Do we have any other
32 nominations.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 MR. BLOSSOM: Question.

37

38 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been
39 called. All in favor signify by saying aye.

40

41 IN UNISON: Aye.

42

43 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All opposed signify by
44 saying nay.

45

46 (No opposing votes)

47

48 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries.
49 Gloria is the secretary.

50

1 Okay, with that, we need to review and
2 adopt the agenda. Do I have a motion to accept the
3 agenda.

4
5 MR. CARPENTER: Mr. Chairman. I move
6 the agenda for the March 12-15, '08 meeting.

7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do I have a second.

9
10 MR. HENRICHS: Second.

11
12 MR. BLOSSOM: Second.

13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been moved and
15 seconded that we adopt the agenda for the March 12
16 through March 15th meeting. Are there any changes or
17 corrections that anybody would like to make.

18
19 MR. CARPENTER: Mr. Chairman. Just a
20 suggestion, as you said earlier Proposal 08-11, which
21 is moose Unit 6C, I recommend we move that to the first
22 order of business tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m., so
23 that the most people that want to testify will know
24 exactly when it's going to be. Other than that I have
25 no changes.

26
27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Is there a second for
28 that suggestion.

29
30 MR. BLOSSOM: I'll second.

31
32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, moved and
33 seconded, how does the rest of the Council feel on
34 that, question's in order.

35
36 MS. WAGGONER: Question.

37
38 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All in favor of the
39 agenda change to place the Unit 6 moose first thing
40 order of business tomorrow morning, signify by saying
41 aye.

42
43 IN UNISON: Aye.

44
45 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Opposed signify by
46 saying nay.

47
48 (No opposing votes)

49
50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Amendment carries. Do

1 we have any other changes that would like to be made.
2
3 MR. STOCKWELL: I'd like to -- there's
4 some people from Cooper's Landing who would like.....
5
6 REPORTER: Bill. Bill.
7
8 MR. STOCKWELL:to testify -- I
9 thought it came on, excuse me. There's people in
10 Cooper's Landing who would like to testify on a
11 conference call on Proposal 22 and I'd request that we
12 pick some time so that they could be notified when to
13 be available.
14
15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Have you got
16 any suggestions on that Bill.
17
18 MR. STOCKWELL: I don't know, tomorrow.
19 We've got that other one, maybe is 10:00 o'clock or
20 something, if they're not ready -- sometime 10:00
21 o'clock or a little after.
22
23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do you think we'll be
24 done with the one on Cordova at 10:00 o'clock.
25
26 (Laughter)
27
28 MR. STOCKWELL: I don't know, that's a
29 question, I'm asking you.
30
31 (Laughter)
32
33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: How about doing it at
34 1:00 o'clock.
35
36 (Laughter)
37
38 MR. STOCKWELL: Okay.
39
40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Let's set a time for
41 1:00 o'clock for that, and even if we're not done with
42 the proposal, we'll take time for them to testify.
43
44 MR. STOCKWELL: Okay. Proposal 22
45 will be at 1:00 p.m.
46
47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Proposal 22,
48 testifying on Proposal 22 at 1:00 o'clock in the
49 afternoon.
50

1 MR. STOCKWELL: Thank you, Mr.
2 Chairman.
3
4 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other suggestions.
5
6 (No comments)
7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I believe we had a
9 conference call also going to come in from Chenega Bay.
10 Do we need to set a time for that Donald, or can we
11 call them when the time comes.
12
13 MR. MIKE: I contacted Chenega Bay,
14 Pete Kompkoff. He's, I think, the executive director
15 or president here, they're having a meeting at 1:00
16 o'clock but they will be done at 3:00 so I told him if
17 it's okay to call him at 3:00 o'clock and he agreed to
18 that.
19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: This afternoon?
21
22 MR. MIKE: This afternoon.
23
24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.
25
26 MR. MIKE: For Unit 6 deer.
27
28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So we don't have to
29 take up the proposal, but we can have a conference call
30 and get their input on it at 3:00 o'clock this
31 afternoon.
32
33 MR. MIKE: That's correct, Mr. Chair.
34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And if we come to that
36 proposal before that time, we'll put off acting on that
37 proposal until after we get their testimony.
38
39 Okay.
40
41 Any other suggestions or amendments.
42
43 Greg.
44
45 MR. ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I
46 got a similar request that -- and I'm not sure but we
47 do have some people in Ninilchik that may want to
48 testify to a couple proposals by phone and as long as
49 we could do it during the day time, business hours,
50 between now and Friday would be good.

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. We'll
2 definitely accommodate, if we start running out of
3 time, we'll make a phone call and get them on the
4 phone.
5
6 Okay.
7
8 If there are no further changes or
9 amendments, the question on the review and adoption of
10 the agenda is in order.
11
12 MR. CARPENTER: Question.
13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been
15 called. All in favor of the agenda as amended, signify
16 by saying aye.
17
18 IN UNISON: Aye.
19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All opposed signify by
21 saying nay.
22
23 (No opposing votes)
24
25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries. Now,
26 we have the review and the adoption of the minutes.
27
28 MR. CARPENTER: Mr. Chair. I move to
29 adopt the minutes from October 16th/17th, 2007.
30
31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do I hear a second.
32
33 MR. BLOSSOM: Second.
34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been moved and
36 seconded.
37
38 MS. STICKWAN: I have something.
39
40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gloria you have a
41 change you'd like to suggest in there.
42
43 MS. STICKWAN: Under review and
44 adoption of the minutes.....
45
46 REPORTER: Gloria. Gloria, please.
47
48 MS. STICKWAN: Under review and
49 adoption.....
50

1 REPORTER: Thank you.
2
3 MS. STICKWAN:of agenda I had
4 State Refuge.
5
6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Could you give us a
7 page number.
8
9 MS. STICKWAN: Page No. 7.
10
11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Page No. 7. Under
12 review and adoption of.....
13
14 MS. STICKWAN: Of the agenda.
15
16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:of the agenda.
17
18 MS. STICKWAN: I had said State Refuge,
19 not sanctuary.
20
21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So what was the
22 addition?
23
24 MS. STICKWAN: I said State Refuge, not
25 sanctuary.
26
27 MR. CARPENTER: Right here. She wants
28 to make that Refuge.
29
30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Oh, instead of
31 sanctuary, okay. I think that's a good one.
32
33 MR. HENRICHS: Mr. Chair. I'm going to
34 abstain from voting on these minutes because I wasn't
35 there and I have no idea what happened.
36
37 But just looking at them, don't you
38 normally put the person who made the motion and who
39 seconded it in there, that seems like that would be
40 kind of the normal thing to do with minutes, but I just
41 thought I'd throw that in there.
42
43 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: We have in the past,
44 we don't have it in here, you're right, we can note
45 that for future. If we felt like it we could say that
46 that could be an amendment to this, that that's needed
47 to be done but it's up to the rest of the Council on
48 that.
49
50 MS. STICKWAN: I think we should make

1 sure that it's in there in the future.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You feel we should do
4 it in the future.

5

6 MR. CARPENTER: Yep.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do we need to go back
9 and put it in this one here, or should we just have
10 that as a future recommendation.

11

12 MS. STICKWAN: It could have been left
13 out because they didn't hear who made the motion.

14

15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Donald.

16

17 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. Thank you, for
18 your comments. What I try to do on these minutes is
19 just basically a summary of action taken, but I
20 understand the importance of the mover making the
21 motion and for future minutes, as far as the summary of
22 action taken I will put the person that makes the
23 motion and who seconds it. It's in the transcripts.

24

25 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Duly noted. Any other
28 changes to the minutes that anybody sees needs done.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: There's a motion on
33 the table to accept the minutes as amended.

34

35 MR. CARPENTER: Question.

36

37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been
38 called. All in favor signify by saying aye.

39

40 IN UNISON: Aye.

41

42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All opposed signify by
43 saying nay.

44

45 (No opposing votes)

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries.

48

49 MR. HENRICHS: I will abstain.

50

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You will abstain.

2

3 MR. STOCKWELL: I will abstain.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. With that we go
6 on to the Chair's report, which is on Page 13 and
7 everybody's talking about how long this meeting is
8 going to be, and so I'm just going to request, just
9 like we're requesting from a lot of the agency Staff's,
10 that they give their reports in summary form and in
11 writing, and basically what we have are the report of
12 the actions that were taken by the Board, and you can
13 all read them on Page 13 of this right here. And if
14 you have any questions you can ask me.

15

16 The meeting went good. I thought we
17 had excellent participation at it. That was for the
18 Board meeting.

19

20 As you can see we don't always get
21 everything we want but we get quite a bit of it.

22

23 Do we have any Council members who have
24 anything they'd like to report at this time before we
25 go on to business.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hearing none, we'll go
30 on to administrative business.

31

32 Donald.

33

34 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. This morning I
35 briefly introduced the Council on the pink folder that
36 has all the comment that we received after the book was
37 published, and in addition to that there was additional
38 comments from the State and I inserted the State's
39 comments, and it's a white document, and at the top it
40 says Alaska Department of Fish and Game preliminary
41 comments. So that's the only addition to date right
42 now.

43

44 And as far as public testimony. If we
45 have public testimony, for the public, please fill out
46 a green sheet, put your name down and which proposal or
47 topic or issue you're wishing to testify on, and I
48 believe that's it, Mr. Chair.

49

50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Donald.

1 One of the things on public testimony we've always done
2 in this Council is we have a public testimony period at
3 this point in time, if anybody wants to testify just in
4 general, but if you have a specific proposal you'd like
5 to testify to and you'd like to wait with that
6 testimony until that proposal's on the table we allow
7 public testimony on each proposal as it comes up.

8

9 So if somebody has, at this point in
10 time, do we have any requests for public testimony.

11

12 MR. MIKE: (Shakes head negatively)

13

14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So if we have no
15 request at public testimony at this time, we have no
16 general public testimony, but the opportunity for
17 public testimony exists all through the meeting and it
18 exists for every proposal that comes on the table
19 before this Council. So at any time you can fill out a
20 green slip, like Donald said, and you can request to
21 testify on specific proposal.

22

23 So with that, Donald.

24

25 MR. MIKE: One more item Mr. Chair.
26 There's comments from the Cooper Landing Fish and Game
27 Advisory Committee I forgot to mention. But I will
28 have copies available for the Council members by first
29 thing in the morning or this afternoon.

30

31 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. With that
34 we have the ability to go on to our wildlife proposals
35 for Council review and recommendation to the Federal
36 Subsistence Board. And, again, we do the same thing
37 with those that the Board does.

38

39 We'll have an introduction of the
40 proposal and an analysis by the Staff.

41

42 We'll all the Fish and Game Department
43 to make comments on the proposal.

44

45 We'll have Federal, State and tribal
46 agency comments on the proposal.

47

48 We'll have the InterAgency Staff
49 comments on the proposal if we have any.

50

1 Fish and Game Advisory Committee
2 comments on the proposal.

3
4 Summary of written public testimony on
5 the proposal.

6
7 Public testimony on the proposal, and
8 that's the opportunity that everybody has to testify on
9 each specific proposal.

10
11 And Regional Council deliberations,
12 recommendations, and justification for our action.

13
14 So, with that, we're going to go on to
15 Southcentral Regional Wildlife Proposals 2008-2010, and
16 you'll find a list of them on Page 2 of your book and
17 it will tell you on what page you can find the
18 individual proposal.

19
20 Our first proposal is WP08-02. It's
21 muskrat, basically it's to lengthen the season and you
22 can find it on Page 22.

23
24 Ready, go ahead.

25
26 MR. RISDAHL: Thank you, Chairman
27 Lohse. Members of the Council. For the record, my
28 name is Greg Risdahl. I'm the wildlife biologist with
29 the Subsistence Management Office.

30
31 Wildlife Proposal WP08-02 begins on
32 Page 23 of your book.

33
34 This proposal was submitted by Dean
35 Wilson, Jr., and requests an expansion of the muskrat
36 trapping season in Unit 11 that currently goes from
37 November 10th through June 10th, and he would like that
38 changed to September 20th through June 10th.

39
40 The proponent's intent is to provide an
41 additional 51 days of opportunity for Federally-
42 qualified users to harvest muskrat for human
43 consumption and for pelts. The proposed regulatory
44 change would provide Federally-qualified users an
45 opportunity to trap on Federal public lands before
46 freeze up occurs as well.

47
48 Federal public lands compromise
49 approximately 81 percent of Unit 11 of which 79 percent
50 are managed by the National Park Service and two

1 percent are managed by the U.S. Forest Service. All
2 rural residents are eligible to harvest muskrat in Unit
3 11, however, only qualified residents who possess a
4 subsistence eligibility permit under Section 13.440
5 under Park Service regulations that grant resident zone
6 community status are eligible to harvest in Wrangell-
7 St. Elias National Park proper. All Federally-
8 qualified users are eligible to harvest muskrats in the
9 Wrangell-St. Elias National Preserve as well as on the
10 Chugach National Forest in Unit 11.

11
12 Federal muskrat trapping regulations in
13 Unit 11 were originally adopted by the Federal
14 Subsistence Board in July 1990 when the Board adopted
15 the State season and harvest limits for the area.
16 Federal trapping regulations in Unit 11 or muskrat have
17 remained on unchanged since the establishment of the
18 Federal Subsistence Program. The State muskrat
19 trapping regulations have also remained unchanged since
20 the 1990/91 regulatory year. Currently there are no
21 Federal or State muskrat hunting regulations in Unit
22 11.

23
24 Subsequent to the publication of the
25 proposal in the 2008/2010 Federal Subsistence Wildlife
26 Proposal Booklet, the proponent contacted OSM,
27 Subsistence Management Office with additional comments
28 on this proposal. The proponent stated that the
29 establishment of a September 20 through June 10 hunting
30 muskrat rather than a trapping season would better
31 address the intent of his original proposal. The
32 proponent stated that because Park Service regulations
33 do not allow for the harvest of furbearers with a
34 firearm on Park Service lands during the trapping
35 season, he felt it necessary to provide additional
36 information to better address the intent of his
37 proposal.

38
39 The Alaska Department of Fish and Game
40 management objectives for muskrat in Unit 11 are simply
41 to develop measurable objectives for management of
42 furbearer populations in the area and to manage the
43 populations for healthy populations. Currently
44 muskrats are considered generally comment in Unit 11
45 and populations are among the highest level that
46 they've been in recent history. In fact, in the winter
47 of 2002 and 2003 the highest muskrat population was
48 observed in more than 20 years based on the number of
49 houses and pushup's counted in lakes and marshes.

50

1 As far as harvest history goes, the
2 estimates of trapping pressure in Unit 11 comes from
3 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's State trapper
4 questionnaire, sealing data and Staff contact with
5 trappers. Results from 2001 through 2005
6 questionnaires reveal that trapping pressure has been
7 variable from year to year, primarily as a result of
8 winter conditions. In general, however, fewer trappers
9 are trapping today than in recent past decades and that
10 trappers, as a group are getting older though they have
11 a substantial number of years trapping experience.

12
13 Because muskrat pelts are not required
14 to be sealed in Unit 11, the total harvest is likely
15 higher than the reported harvest in some of the areas.
16 In fact, only a total of 17 muskrat were reported
17 harvested in Unit 11 during the 2004/2005 State trapper
18 questionnaire which is the one we have the most recent
19 information on. The average price paid in Alaska for
20 muskrat pelt during that year was about \$2.84.
21 Interestingly enough the following year, in 2003/2004
22 muskrat prices peaked at around \$7, which the last time
23 that occurred was back in the late '70s and early '80s.

24
25 As far as the effects of this proposal
26 go, adopting the original proposal as submitted to
27 increase the trapping season would create a September
28 20 through November 9 season providing an additional 51
29 days of opportunity. Federally-qualified subsistence
30 users would be required to identify Federal and State
31 jurisdictional boundaries during the period when only
32 the Federal trapping season was open, potentially
33 causing some confusion to trappers. In addition,
34 Proposal WP08-02 as written would not accomplish the
35 proponent's desired intent, because as noted before
36 Park Service regulations do not allow for the harvest of
37 furbearers with firearms when using a trapping license
38 on Park Service managed lands and waters.

39
40 An amended proposals to establish a
41 muskrat hunting season from September 20 through June
42 10 with no harvest limit would better meet the
43 proponent's primary intent. Adopting a muskrat hunting
44 season would also provide the opportunity to harvest
45 muskrat using a firearm during spring thaw and break
46 up. The proposal would likely have minimal effects on
47 the muskrat population in Unit 11, and thus not create
48 any conservation concerns.

49
50 Adopting the proposed season and

1 harvest limit should have no adverse effects on users
2 who trap muskrats under the State regulations in Unit
3 11 as well.

4
5 Therefore, the OSM preliminary
6 conclusion is to support Proposal WP08-02 with
7 modification to establish a muskrat hunting season to
8 run from September 20 to June 10 with no harvest limit
9 which is consistent with the intent of the proponent's
10 original proposal.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. I notice
15 that you have a -- how the regulations should read and
16 a justification still following where you stopped right
17 now, would you care to read that in at this point in
18 time.

19
20 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chairman, to read the
21 justification, is that what you're asking?

22
23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: For the change in the
24 regulation to hunting, not trapping. Where it says the
25 regulation should read.....

26
27 MR. RISDAHL: Oh, I see what you're
28 saying.

29
30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:Unit 11 muskrat
31 hunting, no limit, September 20th to June 10th and
32 there's a justification following that to explain why
33 the proposal should read hunting and not trapping.

34
35 MR. RISDAHL: Yes, I will go ahead and
36 do that. Basically in my effects section that I just
37 read to you, I essentially gave the justification.

38
39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Right.

40
41 MR. RISDAHL: But I will go ahead and
42 read how the regulation should read based on what you
43 see in your book on Page 25.

44
45 Instead of changing the muskrat
46 trapping season, we would be changing the muskrat
47 hunting season to last from September 20th through June
48 10th in Unit 11 with no limit.

49
50 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Any
2 questions. Tom.

3
4 MR. CARPENTER: Just for the record, I
5 assume Dean Wilson who put this proposal in, who is
6 also a member of this Council, this was okay, that the
7 intent of his proposal, that this change was fine with
8 him?

9
10 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
11 Carpenter. Actually it was Mr. Wilson that contacted
12 OSM on December 10th and suggested this change once he
13 found out that the Park Service regulations did not
14 allow harvesting muskrat with a rifle on Park Service
15 lands.

16
17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions.

18
19 (No comments)

20
21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. I'd like
22 to recognize Ricky Gease and welcome him to the meeting
23 and we're on the first proposal right now, Ricky, Page
24 26, I guess is where we were.

25
26 MR. GEASE: Thank you.

27
28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do you want to go on
29 then with our Alaska Department of Fish and Game
30 comments.

31
32 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, thank you.
33 My name's Terry Haynes, I'm the Federal subsistence
34 wildlife coordinator for the Department of Fish and
35 Game. I'd like to request that our written comments be
36 included in the transcripts for this meeting, that will
37 allow me just to summarize high key points in our
38 comments and the more detailed information will be on
39 the record. We apologize for not getting our comments
40 in the Council meeting books, there was a glitch and I
41 know you probably haven't had much of a chance to
42 review those comments yet.

43
44 As in the past some of our comments do
45 not support expansion of Federal regulations in the
46 absence of compelling evidence supporting the need for
47 such an expansion. This is a position we've taken
48 before on some proposals and I'll just point this out
49 so that I don't have to repeat it on specific
50 proposals.

1 The Department hasn't taken a position
2 on all the proposals on the agenda for this meeting as
3 we want to consider the comments and concerns that will
4 be discussed at this meeting. And then we will make a
5 decision as to whether we should support or not support
6 particular proposals.

7
8 Finally, Mr. Chairman, we always
9 appreciate the opportunity to participate in your
10 meetings. Two of our area wildlife biologists will be
11 here for parts of the meeting to assist with
12 deliberation of proposals in their area.

13
14 Dave Crowley is the area biologist here
15 in Cordova and he'll be here to provide information and
16 answer questions you might have for proposals in this
17 area, and Tom McDonough who is the assistant area
18 biologist on the Kenai Peninsula will be arriving
19 tonight and he'll be here for deliberation of the Kenai
20 Peninsula proposals.

21
22 So moving on to our specific comments
23 on Proposal WP08-02.

24
25 We don't have a position on this
26 proposal. The amendment to change it from an expansion
27 of the trapping season to an expansion of the hunting
28 season certainly will better accommodate what the
29 proponent wants because of the provision that does not
30 allow furbearers to be taken with a trapping license on
31 Park Service lands in Unit 11.

32
33 One concern that we do have is that
34 adoption of this proposal could create some
35 complications for users in distinguishing land
36 ownership so that as was pointed out in the discussion
37 of the Staff analysis, that there could be potential
38 enforcement issues in some areas with land ownership.
39 We haven't developed a position on this proposal at
40 this point in time and we'll do that after we hear more
41 about the Council's position and any questions the
42 Council might have.

43
44 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

45
46 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
47 Preliminary comments to the Regional Advisory Council.

48
49 Wildlife Proposal WP08-02, as amended:

50

1 Establish a muskrat hunting season in
2 Unit 11.

3
4 Introduction:

5
6 This amended proposal would establish a
7 September 20 to June 10 muskrat hunting season in Unit
8 11. This authorizes harvest by Federally-qualified
9 subsistence users on Federal lands to open 51 days
10 before the State's trapping season opening date of
11 November 10. The closure date of June 10 would be the
12 same for both the Federal hunting season and the State
13 trapping season.

14
15 Impact on Subsistence Users:

16
17 The proponent is seeing to provide
18 additional time for muskrats to be harvested before
19 freeze up. The proposal was amended from seeking to
20 expand the Federal trapping season to creation of a
21 hunting season, because National Park Service lands
22 comprise most of the Federal public lands in Unit 11
23 and are not open to the harvest of furbearers with
24 firearms under a trapping license.

25
26 Opportunity Provided by the State:

27
28 State trapping regulations authorize
29 the taking of muskrats from November 10 to June 10 and
30 do not limit the number of muskrats that can be
31 harvested. The State does not have an open hunting
32 season for muskrat in Unit 11.

33
34 Conservation Issues:

35
36 None.

37
38 Enforcement Issues: Differences in
39 Federal and State regulations resulting from adoption
40 of this proposal create enforcement issues in areas
41 with mixed land ownership.

42
43 Recommendation:

44
45 None as of this date. The Department
46 will consider public comments and RAC deliberations on
47 this amended proposal. No supporting evidence has been
48 provided to date that indicates this proposed expansion
49 of Federal season beyond the opportunity provided by
50 the State is needed for continuation of subsistence

1 uses of muskrat on Federal lands by Federally-qualified
2 subsistence users. Unless such evidence is presented,
3 the Department opposes unnecessary divergence of State
4 and Federal regulations and unnecessary expansion of a
5 Federal priority.

6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Terry. Any
8 questions for Terry. Doug.

9
10 MR. BLOSSOM: Mr. Chair. Terry, what
11 about the hunting part, you don't hunt them on State
12 land, is there a problem with the State going along
13 with this?

14
15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No, they do hunt in
16 State land.

17
18 MR. BLOSSOM: Hunting, besides
19 trapping.

20
21 MR. HAYNES: Through the Chair.
22 There's not a State hunting season open for muskrats
23 and, therefore, if a Federal season provides hunting
24 opportunity that's outside the State's trapping season
25 when firearms can be used on State lands, then any
26 season that exists outside of established State seasons
27 must occur on Federal lands. That's the point we're
28 making.

29
30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Terry, for Doug's
31 information under State trapping regulations during a
32 State trapping season you can take a muskrat with a
33 firearm, in other words, you can hunt a muskrat with a
34 firearm during a State trapping season, I'm correct on
35 that, am I not?

36
37 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, as long as
38 you're not on National Park Service lands, yes.

39
40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Right. And so the
41 intent on this is to allow the taking of a muskrat with
42 a firearm on National Park Service land where it's
43 currently not allowed and to extend the season.
44 There's actually two intents in this proposal that I
45 can see.

46
47 MR. HAYNES: And our only point is
48 there are a small amount of other Federal lands in the
49 unit that may or may not be an area where people would
50 hunt muskrats.

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Right. Do you
2 understand that, Doug, see.....
3
4 MR. BLOSSOM: Yes.
5
6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Bill.
7
8 MR. STOCKWELL: Mr. Chairman. Or Greg,
9 did Mr. Wilson give any reason why he wanted the season
10 opened earlier than what the State season was, or the
11 present season is when he talked to you recently?
12
13 MR. RISDAHL: Yes, Mr. Stockwell,
14 through the Chair. They were interested in being able
15 to harvest muskrat at a time of year that hadn't been
16 previously allowed in other regulations, in other words
17 as I stated in here, before freeze up for example or
18 prior to spring break up so there's some other
19 opportunities that would be allowed for hunting for
20 subsistence purposes in this type of a regulation.
21
22 MR. STOCKWELL: Well spring break up,
23 the closing is still the same as it was, so the spring
24 break up, I can understand the hunting part there, but
25 the reason for going from November 10th to September
26 20th is to allow for greater hunting opportunity before
27 freeze up when you could trap easily? I'm trying to
28 find out what the intent was, if anybody's got a good
29 answer.
30
31 MR. RISDAHL: Yes, that is part of the
32 intent to be able to harvest those with a firearm prior
33 to freeze up.
34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gloria.
36
37 MS. STICKWAN: I know that Dean
38 Wilson's family is from Northway and they do eat a lot
39 of muskrat in that area, his family, his mother is from
40 Northway and so it's probably a -- I'm sure it's a
41 reason why, so they'd be able to eat muskrat.
42
43 MR. STOCKWELL: Thank you.
44
45 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Gloria. I
46 talked to Dean on this proposal too, and basically the
47 idea for the September to November open season prior to
48 the regular trapping season is basically for food and
49 for bait for trapping -- for food for personal use and
50 bait for trapping. The same as what we've done on

1 beaver in other parts of the state. And I know that
2 not only Dean Wilson's family but a bunch of the local
3 people do like muskrat for eating and the idea was that
4 this would be actually more of a food season than it
5 would be a fur season. The pelts are not real prime
6 yet at that time of the year, as anybody that's done
7 any trapping knows. But they are accessible.

8
9 The only problem that I can see is most
10 of what's accessible is along the road accessible and
11 most of what's along the road system is not on Federal
12 land. The Federal Park Service land that will be
13 opened up is pretty inaccessible to the average person.
14 But if you are out at moose camp or something like
15 that, there'd be another food source while you were out
16 there.

17
18 Any other questions to the State.

19
20 (No comments)

21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, thank you,
23 Terry.

24
25 MR. HAYNES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

26
27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Let's go on to
28 Federal, State and tribal agency comments. Are there
29 any Federal comments. Gloria -- or Barbara, my fault.

30
31 MS. CELLARIUS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
32 For the record my name is Barbara Cellarius and I'm the
33 subsistence coordinator for Wrangell-St. Elias National
34 Park and Preserve. I would let you know that our SRC
35 has not met yet this season so I won't be presenting
36 any SRC comments at this meeting, we're meeting at the
37 end of March.

38
39 I did just want to make a couple of
40 comments about the proposal -- well, one about the
41 analysis and one about the proposal. There is one
42 other group of people who are eligible to hunt or trap
43 or fish in the Park and that is people who live in
44 resident zone communities, that was just omitted from
45 the analysis and I didn't want there to be any
46 confusion to think that you had to have a permit to
47 hunt in the Park.

48
49 And then the second thing is that I did
50 ask Mason if he felt if there were any conservation

1 concerns about the hunting season and he said that he
2 didn't -- Mason's our wildlife biologist.

3

4 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Barbara.
5 Any questions for Barbara. Tricia.

6

7 MS. WAGGONER: I was just curious,
8 Barbara, would it be easier to adjust Park Service
9 regulations to allow for hunting under trapping regs
10 like they do on the State side.

11

12 (Laughter)

13

14 MS. CELLARIUS: To the best of my
15 knowledge, this is a nationwide regulation, and it was
16 discussed before I got here, but I'm sure that was
17 something that was considered and it's easier to create
18 a hunting season than it is to change that regulation
19 as far as I can tell.

20

21 MS. WAGGONER: Thank you.

22

23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Barbara on
24 that. Any other questions for Barbara -- don't run
25 off.

26

27 (Laughter)

28

29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions
30 for her.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So Mason felt there
35 was no conservation concern.

36

37 MS. CELLARIUS: Yes, I specifically
38 asked him that question about this proposal.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, thank you.

41

42 MS. STICKWAN: I got a question.

43

44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Oh, Gloria's got a
45 question.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 MS. STICKWAN: Did you.....

50

1 MS. CELLARIUS: Next time I'll just
2 stay here until you tell me I can go.

3
4 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gloria.

5
6 MS. STICKWAN: Did anybody from your
7 office talk to Dean Wilson, too?

8
9 MS. CELLARIUS: We didn't specifically
10 talk to Dean about the proposal.

11
12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Barbara, I
13 think it was worthwhile adding that this also allows
14 people from the resident zone communities in the area
15 to also take muskrat for fall food too if they'd like
16 to, and that's why that goes along with the written
17 comments that we'll have later on then, for people who
18 aren't residents in the Park, but who are in the
19 resident zone communities in the area.

20
21 Thank you.

22
23 Okay, any other Federal or tribal or
24 State agency people who wish to speak to this proposal.

25
26 (No comments)

27
28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hearing none, we'll go
29 on to InterAgency Staff Committee comments, do we have
30 any.

31
32 (No comments)

33
34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: We have no InterAgency
35 Staff Committee comments. Fish and Game Advisory
36 Committee comments at this point in time on this
37 proposal.

38
39 (No comments)

40
41 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hearing none, we go on
42 to summary of written public comments. I see we have a
43 couple written public comments, do we have any more.

44
45 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just
46 on Page 27 in your Council books there's two written
47 public comments from the Copper River Native
48 Association and AHTNA, Inc., they both supported the
49 proposal.

50

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
2
3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And most of those
4 people live in the resident zone communities.
5
6 MR. MIKE: That's correct.
7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Do we have any
9 public comments at this point in time, public
10 testimony, at this point on this proposal.
11
12 MR. MIKE: I haven't received any
13 requests for public comment, Mr. Chair.
14
15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: In that case, a motion
16 to accept this proposal is in order.
17
18 MR. CARPENTER: Mr. Chairman. I move
19 Proposal 08-02.
20
21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do I hear a second.
22
23 MR. HENRICHS: Second.
24
25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been moved and
26 seconded. Discussion. Comments. Questions.
27
28 MR. STOCKWELL: Question.
29
30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You have a question.
31
32 MR. STOCKWELL: No.
33
34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I'll make a comment
35 since I live in that country, or have lived in that
36 country or partially live in that country now I guess
37 you might say. There's very few people that actually
38 reside in Unit 11. I think this year at
39 Thanksgiving there was 27 people in the McCarthy area,
40 and that included the whole area from Young Creek to
41 Long Lake. There's a few people down in Silver Lake,
42 down in that area there's muskrats in that area down
43 there but that's mostly private property, not Park
44 Service property. And there's people along the Slana
45 Road, or Nabesna Road but not very many there so you
46 don't have a lot of people living out there. Muskrats
47 have never been a real big part of the trapper's income
48 in that area, they've been more of a secondary thing,
49 something to do in spring. And traditionally in that
50 area there and up by Northway, like Gloria was saying,

1 muskrats were hunted in spring with a .22 which is now
2 not allowed on Park Service land. And like I've
3 pointed out before we've opened up beaver seasons in
4 fall for a meat season. We've recognized that muskrat
5 and beaver are both meat animals to local people, and
6 basically what this proposal does is extends a meat
7 season, not a fur season for muskrats into fall and
8 would allow the taking of muskrats in the Park and the
9 Preserve with firearms rather than just with traps.

10

11 Having lived up there I see no problem
12 with the proposal. I see a problem with enforcing it
13 because most of the muskrats that are accessible are
14 along the road system and most of the road system is
15 private property, mostly Native property or private
16 individual property and we're probably going to have
17 some violation and enforcement problems because the
18 people who are going to see the muskrats in the ponds
19 are going to be along the road and they'll probably be
20 shooting on State land instead of Federal land.

21

22 But other than that, as far as a
23 conservation issue there's definitely no conservation
24 issue up there on them.

25

26 And that's my personal observations on
27 it, so any other discussion.

28

29 Gloria.

30

31 MS. STICKWAN: I just want to say that
32 I know that some people do go out muskrat hunting.

33

34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah.

35

36 MS. STICKWAN: And they do eat it. Not
37 a lot of people do but there are, especially elders
38 that go out and do that.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah. Tom.

41

42 MR. CARPENTER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I'd
43 just like to second the fact that there's obviously no
44 biological or conservation concern. This is going to
45 give the people who live in that area more subsistence
46 opportunity. It's been publicly supported by CRNA and
47 AHTNA and I call the question.

48

49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been
50 called. All in favor signify by saying aye.

1 IN UNISON: Aye.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All opposed, signify
4 by saying nay.

5

6 (No opposing votes)

7

8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries
9 unanimously. With that we go on to Proposal WP08-03/04
10 also submitted by Dean Wilson and Keith Rowland.

11

12 MR. RISDAHL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13

14 Wildlife Proposal WP08-03/04 -- by the
15 way this is Greg Risdahl, Subsistence Management Office
16 again -- was submitted by Mr. Dean Wilson, Jr., and
17 Wildlife Proposal WP08-04 was submitted by Mr. Keith
18 Rowland. Both proposals request changing the Unit 11
19 Federal subsistence wolverine trapping season dates
20 from November 10 through January 31, to November 10 to
21 February 28.

22

23 The proponent for WP08-03 states that
24 extending the wolverine trapping season to February 28
25 and aligning it with the lynx season would eliminate
26 wolverines caught incidentally in traps set for lynx.
27 Wolverines caught out of the season must be surrounded
28 to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game or to the
29 Park Service, who then passes them on to the Alaska
30 Department of Fish and Game. Because few trappers are
31 pursuing wolverines in Unit 11 there will be little to
32 no impact on the population. Likewise the proponent
33 for Wildlife Proposal WP08-04 believes that traps set
34 for lynx are all potential wolverine sets. Lengthening
35 the wolverine season to coincide with the lynx season
36 would allow trappers to keep wolverines caught
37 accidentally in lynx sets. The wolverine population is
38 considered healthy in Unit 11, according to the
39 proponent, and that wolverines are killing dall sheep
40 lambs at an unacceptably high rate. Because of the
41 lack of roads, remoteness and prohibition against using
42 aircraft to trap in the Wrangell-St. Elias National
43 Park proper, there is very little trapping going on.
44 In addition, most of the traplines, he states, are not
45 accessible until late December after rivers freeze
46 solid enough to travel upon.

47

48 As mentioned in the previous proposal,
49 the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve
50 manages approximately 79 percent of the land in Unit

1 11, two percent of the lands are administered by the
2 U.S. Forest Service.

3

4 There is no customary and traditional
5 use determination for wolverine trapping in Unit 11,
6 therefore, all rural residents are eligible to trap
7 wolverines under Federal subsistence regulations in the
8 area. However, Park Service regulations restrict who's
9 eligible to engage in subsistence activities on lands
10 in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park proper to
11 individuals living in resident zone communities or
12 those who have a 13.440 subsistence permit issued by
13 the Park superintendent.

14

15 As far as biological information goes,
16 the wolverine population data is limited to the Alaska
17 Department of Fish and Game sealing data as well as
18 anecdotal information from trappers. Sealing
19 wolverines became mandatory in the State in 1977.
20 Populations in Unit 11 are considered healthy and the
21 more remote mountainous areas but are relatively scarce
22 at lower elevations.

23

24 I guess I can skip over the wolverine
25 reproductive part.

26

27 (Laughter)

28

29 MR. RISDAHL: Going on to harvest
30 history the wolverine harvest in Unit 11 has averaged
31 about nine animals per year from 1985 to 2006.
32 Trappers, as individuals, typically capture one to two
33 wolverines per season each. An additional one to two
34 total are caught incidentally in lynx sets that are
35 then turned over to the Alaska Department of Fish and
36 Game. The State tried to increase wolverine numbers in
37 the lowlands in the early 1990s by shortening the
38 season and reducing the bag limit to two wolverines;
39 this experiment was unsuccessful. Ultimately the
40 Alaska Department of Fish and Game determined that
41 winter food was the primary limiting factor in keeping
42 wolverine numbers low in forested valleys.
43 Consequently the State dropped the two wolverine bag
44 limit in 1997 and made it unlimited. But at that time
45 they neglected to lengthen the season.

46

47 Wolverine pelts stayed prime much
48 longer than the current season lasts in Unit 11. In
49 fact there are 31 State wolverine trapping seasons and
50 approximately the same number in Federal regulations

1 that run later than the current Unit 11 wolverine
2 season. The longest lasting wolverine seasons go
3 through the end of April, and there's a little table in
4 your book that shows some of those seasons on Page 31.

5
6 In terms of the effects of the
7 proposal. If adopted, the proposal would increase
8 opportunity for Federally-qualified trappers by adding
9 one month to the season returning it to what it was in
10 the early 1990s. The proposal would eliminate the
11 necessity for trappers to surrender wolverines
12 accidentally caught in lynx sets during the month of
13 February. Changing the Federal subsistence wolverine
14 trapping season would align it with both the Federal
15 subsistence and State lynx trapping seasons. However,
16 it would take the Federal wolverine trapping season out
17 of alignment with the current State wolverine trapping
18 season. Nevertheless, because there is so little
19 trapping pressure for wolverines in Unit 11 and because
20 few trappers are successful at catching them, a
21 noticeable increase in the wolverine harvest is not
22 expected. Consequently, the proposed season extension
23 is not likely to affect the overall wolverine
24 population or cause any conservation concerns.

25
26 Therefore, the OSM preliminary
27 conclusion is to support Wildlife Proposals WP08-03 and
28 Wildlife Proposal WP08-04.

29
30 Thank you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Greg. Any
33 questions.

34
35 MR. CARPENTER: I got one.

36
37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Tom.

38
39 MR. CARPENTER: Yeah, just one. I was
40 reading through the State 's comments and we try to
41 align the trapping seasons, you know, generally the
42 best we can to make it easier for the public to
43 understand the regulations. Understanding what Dean
44 wants here, the lynx season, the way I understand it,
45 closes on February 15th.

46
47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: 28th.

48
49 MR. CARPENTER: 28th. Okay, I must
50 have read that wrong. I thought for sure it was.....

1 MR. RISDAHL: Mr. Chairman. Pardon me,
2 Mr. Chairman, yes, in the regulation booklet it does
3 say February 15, but what happened was by special
4 action that was changed to February 28th and that was
5 done in coordination with what the State had done, they
6 extended their lynx trapping season there, we just
7 didn't get it in our Federal regulation booklet soon
8 enough, and that's why you see the discrepancy.

9
10 But in reality the Federal season does
11 go until the end of February as well.

12
13 MR. CARPENTER: Okay. Well, that
14 answers my question. My only concern was trying to
15 keep the seasons aligned, but if that's just an
16 omission, then that's fine.

17
18 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Bill.

19
20 MR. STOCKWELL: I have a comment on
21 seasons, I noticed in Unit 12, the State season goes
22 through March 15th which is the unit next door, and
23 then in 16B it's through February 28th, so I'm
24 wondering why we have the -- I can understand in 16,
25 but I was wondering why they requested February 28th
26 and not March 15th, which would be the same as the
27 number -- the same as Unit 12.

28
29 Thank you.

30
31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Bill. Greg
32 can answer that otherwise I can answer it since I
33 talked to both people on this proposal.

34
35 MR. RISDAHL: Okay, go ahead, Mr.
36 Chairman.

37
38 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Both the ideas with
39 these proposals was that they didn't want -- now, if
40 you extend the wolverine season past the end of lynx
41 season then you're going to catch lynx as an additional
42 animal in your wolverine sets. The idea was that you
43 were going to have your lynx season and your wolverine
44 season close at the same time.

45
46 I talked to -- when I was up country I
47 talked to Keith Rowland and Keith Rowland and his sons,
48 which are between, I think at this point, between 10
49 and 16, they're the big trappers in the McCarthy area
50 at this time. He's got some real young go-getter sons

1 and he refuses to let them set a lynx trap after the
2 1st of February because he does not want to tempt them
3 into keeping a wolverine that they catch in a lynx
4 trap. And so he is putting this proposal in because he
5 feels that this will be a way to teach his sons to be
6 more honest and to abide by the regulations but he
7 thinks the regulations don't make sense the way they
8 are right now, and I agree with him, having trapped in
9 that area for years. There's no way you can trap lynx
10 without catching wolverine but there's now way you can
11 trap wolverine without catching lynx.

12

13 And so the idea for Dean and him, both,
14 was to align the lynx and the wolverine season so that
15 somebody's not tempted to keep a wolverine after the
16 lynx season is closed, or to keep lynx after the
17 wolverine season's closed.

18

19 And it's interesting that you pointed
20 it out, Unit 12, which borders Unit 11, has got a later
21 season, Unit 6, which borders Unit 11 has got a later
22 season. The reason that Unit 11 is lined up the way it
23 is is they lined up Unit 11 with Unit 13. And Unit 13
24 is very road accessible, plus it's a big playground for
25 people on snowmachines.

26

27 MR. STOCKWELL: Yeah.

28

29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And the idea was that
30 the wolverine are extremely vulnerable in February in
31 that area there, it's all a lot of open country and a
32 lot of snowmachines. Unit 11 is not good snowmachine
33 country. Unit 11 does not have a population and it's
34 got two dead end roads that are 40 and 60 miles long
35 and that's it. So there really is no reason for Unit
36 11 to be lined up with Unit 13, it should be lined up
37 with 6 and 12.

38

39 Tricia.

40

41 MS. WAGGONER: This actually is from a
42 Unit 13 issue but is there any issue in Unit 11 with
43 wolverines and wolf sets and, you know, the.....

44

45 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Wolverine and wolf
46 sets?

47

48 MS. WAGGONER:and the incidental
49 catch there?

50

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yes. But I can only
2 speak for the trappers on the Chitina Road area. And
3 the trappers on the Chitina Road area pretty much do
4 not trap wolves after lynx season is over. We don't
5 have that kind of a wolf population. I know my
6 brother, Rowlands, Jack Smith, all of those guys,
7 they've all pulled their traps by the end of February.
8 When lynx season is closed, their traps are closed, you
9 know, they don't stay trapping wolves after lynx season
10 is over, which they do in Unit 13.

11
12 Okay, any other questions for Greg.

13
14 (No comments)

15
16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Alaska
17 Department of Fish and Game.

18
19 MR. HAYNES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
20 Our primary concern with this proposal is to increasing
21 harvest seasons by 28 days in February certainly
22 provides additional opportunity on Federal public
23 lands, but it also could affect productivity of
24 wolverines and reduce opportunity for subsistence
25 harvest in the long-term.

26
27 February is a time of year when the
28 female wolverine begin denning and we think it is not
29 wise to disrupt denning females and we're not convinced
30 that providing this additional opportunity is necessary
31 to provide for opportunities for subsistence uses on
32 Federal public lands. So at this point we have
33 concerns about the potential implications over time of
34 having this longer season at a time of year when female
35 wolverines are vulnerable.

36
37 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

38
39 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
40 Preliminary Comments to the Regional Advisory Council.

41
42 Wildlife Proposals WP08-03 and WP08-04:

43
44 Liberalize wolverine trapping season in
45 Unit 11.

46
47 Introduction:

48
49 These proposals seek to extend the
50 wolverine trapping season in Unit 11, which currently

1 opens November 10 and closes January 31, so that it
2 closes 28 days later on February 28.

3

4 Impact on Subsistence Users:

5

6 The reported wolverine harvest in Unit
7 11 during the past 10 years ranged from three to 27
8 annually and averaged 10 per year. These are
9 relatively low harvest figures in an area of about
10 12,800 square miles. Only a few local residents
11 currently participate in trapping in Unit 11, and
12 extending the season would not be expected to
13 significantly increase trapping effort. Increasing the
14 season by 28 days and increasing harvests during
15 February could provide additional opportunity for
16 Federally-qualified subsistence users on Federal lands,
17 but increasing harvests during February could also
18 affect productivity and, thus, reduce opportunity for
19 subsistence harvests in the long-term.

20

21 Opportunity Provided by State:

22

23 State regulations authorize wolverine
24 trapping from November 10 to January 21 and do not
25 limit the number of wolverine that can be harvested.

26

27 Conservation Issues:

28

29 Trapping wolverine during the denning
30 season in February would subject females to harvest
31 when they are most vulnerable. Wolverines already
32 occur at low densities in Unit 11 and seasons and bag
33 limits were reduced in the recent past to stabilize the
34 population.

35

36 Enforcement Issues:

37

38 Differences in Federal and State
39 regulations resulting from adoption of this proposal
40 create enforcement issues in areas with mixed land
41 ownership. Adoption of this proposal would require
42 Federally-qualified subsistence users to verify that
43 wolverines harvested in February were taken on Federal
44 public lands in Unit 11.

45

46 Part of the proponent's justification
47 for the extension is that the lynx season is open
48 through February 15, and wolverine caught incidentally
49 in lynx traps between February 1 and February 15 must
50 be turned over to the Alaska Department of Fish and

1 Game. This would conceivably justify an extension of
2 the season until February 15, no February 28 which
3 would then leave wolverine traps open while lynx
4 trapping season is closed.

5

6 Other Comments:

7

8 No evidence is presented indicating
9 that the proposed change (adding 28 days) is needed to
10 provide for the continuation of subsistence uses of
11 wolverine on Federal lands by Federally-qualified
12 subsistence users. Furthermore, the lynx seasons
13 fluctuate over time according to their natural cycle.
14 Lynx populations in Units 11 and 13 are currently at
15 their peak and season reductions may be needed next
16 year. If this proposal is adopted to lengthen the
17 Federal wolverine trapping season and if the State
18 shortens the lynx season, then the reverse situation
19 will occur with lynx taken incidentally in wolverine
20 traps unless the Federal Subsistence Board makes
21 parallel season adjustments at that time.

22

23 Proposal WP08-04 justifies the expanded
24 season as a predator control measure to protect dall
25 sheep lambs, which would be inconsistent with the
26 Federal Subsistence Board's predator policy adopted in
27 2004.

28

29 Recommendation: This expanded Federal
30 season unnecessarily complicates State and Federal
31 trapping regulations, potentially increases harvest of
32 vulnerable denning females, and is not necessary to
33 provide continued subsistence users by Federally-
34 qualified subsistence users on Federal lands.

35

36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Terry.
37 Tom.

38

39 MR. CARPENTER: Yeah, Terry, do you
40 have any idea how many wolverines are sealed in Unit 11
41 every year?

42

43 MR. HAYNES: The number is pretty
44 small. I don't have the numbers right at my
45 fingertips. I think the Staff analysis did reference
46 something about harvest. But the fact is that the
47 wolverine population also is small, so low harvest, I'm
48 not sure should be looked at outside the context of the
49 population numbers. We know that, you know, wolverines
50 are not abundant anywhere in the state, and are

1 vulnerable to being overharvested if the seasons are
2 too liberal.

3

4 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Bill.

5

6 MR. STOCKWELL: Thank you. Do you have
7 any idea how many wolverines were taken during the lynx
8 harvest after the wolverine season closed and the pelts
9 turned into Fish and Game?

10

11 MR. HAYNES: Through the Chair. I
12 don't have specific numbers but I understand it's very
13 small, not very many.

14

15 MR. STOCKWELL: Two or three.

16

17 MR. HAYNES: I think that's about all
18 I'm aware of, it's very low numbers.

19

20 MR. STOCKWELL: Thank you.

21

22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Bill.

23 Terry I'm going to ask you a couple questions then in
24 response to -- and I'm not trying to put you on the
25 spot. But if you've already got traps set during that
26 time period don't you feel that you probably take just
27 as many of them as if you -- I mean the wolverine --
28 the increase in take in the wolverines is not going to
29 go up because you've increased the season if you've
30 already got traps set during that time period, the
31 other thing is you said it's a small population. The
32 Wrangell-St. Elias has got some of the most rugged
33 mountains around and if anybody's done any flying
34 around and looking around there, the wolverine
35 population up on the mountains is not bad at all. You
36 can find tracks up in the ptarmigan fields any time
37 that you want to go up there. Most of it's
38 inaccessible, very little of it is accessible. And it
39 probably has one of the more stable populations of
40 wolverine and if disturbing them during the denning
41 season is so important and I know for a fact that you
42 don't catch many females in February, they're all up in
43 the mountains some place, then how can the State
44 justify longer seasons in places where they're more
45 accessible, and that's the part that I would have
46 difficulty buying into is that we have -- all of a
47 sudden it's detrimental to take wolverines in February
48 in Unit 11 where they're up in the mountains where
49 people can't get to them, but it's acceptable to take
50 wolverines in Unit 6 and it's acceptable to take

1 wolverines in Unit 12, where they're down more in the
2 lowlands where you can get at them, you know, it's just
3 hard for me to see.

4

5 And that's what I was wondering, where
6 does that standpoint come that Unit 11 has a small
7 population?

8

9 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman. I'm not the
10 area biologist for Unit 11, 12 or 6 so I won't attempt
11 to answer those questions. I can tell you that there
12 isn't always agreement about the best management regime
13 in particular areas by area biologists. Decisions that
14 are made by the Board of Game may not always appear to
15 be logical or consistent when reviewed by people
16 reviewing other kinds of proposals.

17

18 I do know there is concern about the
19 seasons in Unit 12, for example, being as liberal as
20 they are, relative to some other areas. And that
21 ultimately could spill over into other areas. And that
22 when you have more liberal seasons you certainly have
23 more effort and that when you have more effort, over
24 time, you have the potential for biological concerns.
25 And so our Staff in Glennallen just have some concern
26 about the potential for notable increases in the
27 harvest of wolverine when females are denning and we
28 don't know at the end of the day what might happen if
29 this proposal is adopted. We'd certainly be wanting to
30 watch that pretty closely and if there was a dramatic
31 increase in the harvest of wolverine then I think it
32 would be important to reevaluate whether longer seasons
33 are appropriate.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Terry.
36 There's one other thing, Unit 11, most of the rugged
37 country that wolverines are in is in National Park
38 Service land and has a limited population to people who
39 have access to that land, a very small population, if
40 you want to put it that way, compared to a lot of the
41 other places, so it would be pretty easy to keep track
42 of what's going on as far as an increased take.
43 Because not everybody in the state can go trap on the
44 Wrangell-St. Elias Park Service land.

45

46 So if there's any place where you'd
47 have a low impact of trappers, comparatively speaking,
48 it would be someplace like that. So I was just
49 wondering what is going to be the overall Fish and Game
50 management strategy for wolverine. I know there's a

1 lot of -- oh, I won't say, flack, there's a lot of
2 concern about wolverine worldwide and wolverines are
3 becoming more on the -- more visible, let's put it that
4 way, more concern involving wolverines because they are
5 a limited population, they are circumpolar and they
6 have been eradicated in places, and they aren't a large
7 population anyplace in their range, and, yet, I just
8 was wondering why someplace like the Wrangells, which
9 is the ruggedness country and least accessible country
10 and least people, would be of more concern than some of
11 the areas that have a lot more access and a lot more
12 people.

13

14 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman. I don't
15 have an answer for that. I would just point out that
16 there are substantial Park Preserve lands also in Unit
17 11, which are not limited to harvest activities by
18 residents, resident zone communities or other
19 Federally-qualified subsistence users for the Park.
20 And in terms of some of these broader questions about
21 wolverines, I don't have answers to those concerns. I
22 don't know if Dave Crowley would have any additional
23 insights about wolverine management in more general
24 terms and if there's some type of strategy that the
25 Department might be looking at given that there may be
26 more attention given to wolverine on a national or
27 world wide basis.

28

29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Terry.
30 Tricia.

31

32 MS. WAGGONER: In looking at the table
33 on Page 31. Out of 26 game management units in the
34 State of Alaska, four units don't have the extended
35 wolverine seasons, you know, but 22 do have wolverine
36 season in February. So I guess my question is, is if
37 females are so vulnerable in February, why is it okay
38 in the rest of the state and just not in 11, 13, 14 and
39 17?

40

41 MR. HAYNES: Through the Chair. I
42 don't have an answer to that. I didn't talk to all of
43 our area biologists to see if there's something about
44 the dynamics of wolverine populations that differ in
45 different areas of the state, if the area biologist
46 supported longer seasons in their areas, if more
47 wolverines were being trapped in longer seasons, if the
48 longer season didn't make any difference.

49

50 There's obviously some questions I

1 should have asked our Staff regarding the fact that we
2 do have longer seasons in much of the state so I'm
3 sorry I don't have an answer to that question.

4
5 MS. WAGGONER: Thank you.

6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Terry.
8 Bill.

9
10 MR. STOCKWELL: Mr. Chairman. As I
11 understand it, the area biologist is going to be here
12 later today.

13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Not for that area.

15
16 MR. STOCKWELL: Not today, tomorrow?

17
18 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No, he's not going to
19 be here.

20
21 MR. STOCKWELL: Oh, he's not going to
22 be here at all.

23
24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Not for that area at
25 all.

26
27 MR. HAYNES: Through the Chair. No,
28 our Staff from Glennallen won't be here unfortunately.

29
30 MR. STOCKWELL: Okay, thank you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Bill.

33
34 MR. STOCKWELL: I just thought they'd
35 be here and we could find out from them. Thank you.

36
37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Ricky.

38
39 MR. GEASE: Yeah, I know in our area
40 for people who trap wolverine there seems to be more
41 activity, more tracks in February, it's better, kind of
42 success ratio, I think if we're allowing for
43 opportunity, it's probably good to extend the season --
44 I'm not familiar with Unit 11, but is there more
45 activity, more tracks seen in February for wolverine?

46
47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: There's just more
48 tracks seen for everything in February because the
49 weather warms up, the days get longer, you've got some
50 sunshine. I know as a lynx trapper, I would hate to be

1 like Keith Rowland and pull my lynx -- if lynx season
2 was open and it was a big -- I'd hate to pull my lynx
3 traps on the 1st of February because I didn't want to
4 catch wolverines with my kids because the odds are and
5 our lynx cycle is building, the odds are that you would
6 miss the best month of lynx trapping, and along with
7 the best month of lynx trapping, you would have an
8 increase in wolverine activity. But the best month for
9 trapping wolverine is November and March. I mean I
10 trapped wolverines up there for quite a few years and
11 had some pretty big seasons on them and if you wanted
12 to catch wolverines you caught them in March and you
13 caught them in November. And the rest of the winter
14 you caught an occasional wolverine but if you could
15 trap into March, the 31st of March would be about as
16 good a day as you could ask for.

17

18 Tom.

19

20 MR. CARPENTER: Terry, I mean I
21 understand the State's position and this has been kind
22 of an ongoing thing for several years at the Board of
23 Game in Unit 11 and Unit 13, and I mean there's
24 obviously none of us that want to, you know, do
25 anything to the wolverine populations because of
26 denning vulnerability and females and I guess -- I mean
27 I know the area biologist isn't here, but, Dave is
28 here, and Unit 6, which to me has a much more
29 accessible, probably a higher population of wolverines
30 and our season goes to February 28th, maybe if it's
31 okay if -- in my opinion I think that our wolverine
32 population is fairly stable in Unit 6 having the season
33 to the 28th of February, and I guess maybe if Dave has
34 the information, do you think, Dave, that our
35 population and the number of wolverine that are sealed
36 every year has been pretty table over, say, the past 10
37 years.

38

39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Dave.

40

41 MR. CROWLEY: Good afternoon, Mr.
42 Chair. Yeah, Mr. Carpenter, I'd say that our wolverine
43 population is stable. Our season extends until the end
44 of February. We do have pretty good access into some
45 of Unit 6 but there's a lot of refugia in Unit 6, you
46 know, we've got the same mountains and with our season
47 extending to the end of February, you know, I think
48 we're conserving enough of the breeding stock and the
49 harvest seems to be, you know, fairly stable. It
50 varies with weather conditions but, you know, for Unit

1 6 it works, and I can't speak for Unit 11.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Dave, can I ask you a
4 question.

5

6 MR. CROWLEY: Yes.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: In your experience, do
9 females have a tendency to den in areas that are
10 accessible or do they have a tendency to den in
11 basically the inaccessible higher mountain areas that
12 are way off the beaten track? In fact, I usually find
13 that in the lowlands mostly what you catch is males and
14 the females don't even come down there; is that kind of
15 what you would find?

16

17 MR. CROWLEY: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, if I
18 recall correctly the majority of our harvest in
19 February are males and I believe that's the reason, is
20 that, the females are basically inaccessible. The
21 males are still cruising around and they'll drop down
22 into the lowlands and become more vulnerable there.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yep. Females don't
25 seem to cover very much ground in February.

26

27 MR. CROWLEY: That's correct. The male
28 home ranges are much larger than the female home
29 ranges.

30

31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah. Any other
32 questions for Dave.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Donald.

37

38 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. If I could have
39 Mr. Crowley state his name for the record, please.

40

41 MR. CROWLEY: Yeah, my name is Dave
42 Crowley, I'm the Cordova area wildlife biologist for
43 Department of Fish and Game.

44

45 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions
46 for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Terry.

1 MR. HAYNES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2
3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. With that we
4 go on to InterAgency Staff Committee comments.
5
6 (No comments)
7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No InterAgency Staff
9 Committee. Other Federal, State or tribal committee
10 comments.
11
12 (No comments)
13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hearing no other
15 Federal, State or tribal committee comments, how about
16 at this point in time, let me find my page, Fish and
17 Game Advisory Committee comments. Do we have any Fish
18 and Game Advisory Committee comments at this point in
19 time.
20
21 (No comments)
22
23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hearing none, summary
24 of written public comments.
25
26 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chairman. You'll find a
27 summary of your written public comments on Page 33.
28 You received two written public comments from AHTNA and
29 Copper River Native Village Association. And they both
30 supported extending the wolverine season and there's no
31 conservation concern.
32
33 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Do we have
36 any public comments at this point in time.
37
38 (No comments)
39
40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No public testimony.
41
42 MR. MIKE: Nope.
43
44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No request for public
45 testimony. Okay, a motion to put this proposal on the
46 table is in order.
47
48 MR. CARPENTER: Mr. Chairman. I move
49 Proposal 03/04 -- or 08-03.
50

1 MR. BLOSSOM: Second.
2
3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been moved and
4 seconded to put WP08-03 and 04 -- 03 and 04 combined on
5 the table.
6
7 MR. CARPENTER: (Nods affirmatively)
8
9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been moved and
10 seconded. Discussion. Comments.
11
12 Bill.
13
14 MR. STOCKWELL: Mr. Chairman. I
15 understand the conservation concerns that the
16 Department's brought forward and I think we should make
17 sure that the record indicates that this committee has
18 those concerns but I'll be supporting the proposal.
19
20 Thank you.
21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Tom.
23
24 MR. CARPENTER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman,
25 understanding that there is some concern, I do tend to
26 agree with what Dave Crowley said in regards to, and
27 what you said about females kind of being in the far
28 off places and males being more vulnerable in the later
29 part of the year. Personally, myself, most of the
30 wolverine, if not all of them, that I can remember, I
31 was just trying to recall, say, in the last five or six
32 years that I have caught in the late season, I believe
33 only one of them has been a female and I think that
34 being consistent with Unit 12 and Unit 6 and the amount
35 of people that are actually going to be targeting or
36 harvesting wolverines in Unit 11 so small, and taking
37 into the consideration the individuals that put this
38 proposal in, are both very responsible people and I
39 think they have the best interest of the species in
40 mind, I don't foresee that the take is going to
41 increase in any large amount that there would be a
42 conservation concern in the long-run.
43
44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gloria.
45
46 MS. STICKWAN: I want to say, too, that
47 AHTNA has land in Unit 13, a lot of land and across the
48 river in Unit 11, too, and I don't know the exact
49 number of trappers that have permits on AHTNA land, but
50 I know that it isn't a substantial amount of people,

1 it's very little, trappers are there and there are
2 people that have trapped, you know, for 20 years, 15
3 years, they're experienced trappers and I believe they
4 would respect, you know, whatever they take and they
5 wouldn't overharvest wolverine or muskrat or any other
6 animal they catch and so I would support this proposal.

7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I'd like to echo what
9 Gloria said. I think I know probably 90 percent of the
10 trappers, anyhow, that trap that side of the Wrangells
11 and most of them have trapped for a long period of time
12 and they operate their lines as if they were going to
13 trap next year and the year after and the year after
14 and the year after and most of them are not into
15 overharvesting. But the one concern that they all
16 expressed is the fact that you can't trap one animal
17 without catching another one. And they would actually
18 prefer seasons that are lined up together, even if it
19 meant shorter seasons, simply because it's impossible
20 to set traps for a lynx and not catch a wolverine and
21 most of them, like I said, don't trap wolves after lynx
22 season is closed because they can't keep from catching
23 a wolverine or a cat when they're trapping wolves. A
24 few of them might set some wolf snares, but that might
25 be about all.

26
27 MR. CARPENTER: Question.

28
29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been
30 called. All in favor of WP08-03/04 signify by saying
31 aye.

32
33 IN UNISON: Aye.

34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All opposed, signify
36 by saying nay.

37
38 (No opposing votes)

39
40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries
41 unanimously. At this point in time we're going to
42 Proposal WP08-08, and this is a proposal that's
43 submitted by the Chenega IRA, and do we want to call
44 them on the phone to testify at this point in time.

45
46 MR. MIKE: Yes, if we can take a five
47 minute break I'll try contacting them.

48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Let's take a five
50 minute break and make our contact and then we'll

1 reconvene.

2

3 (Off record)

4

5 (On record)

6

7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I'd like to call this
8 spring meeting of the Southcentral Regional Subsistence
9 Advisory Council back into session. And it's been
10 brought to my attention that WP08-08 and 09 are
11 basically the same proposals, just dealing with two
12 different villages and the analysis are pretty much the
13 same, and I would like, at this point in time just to
14 request that we deal with WP08-08 and 09 as a package
15 because -- unless anybody has an objection to it
16 because what we're dealing with, we're dealing with the
17 same request for two of the different villages in
18 Prince William Sound. Do I have any objections.

19

20 (No objections)

21

22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hearing none, Helen,
23 does that fit into your analysis and everything.

24

25 MS. ARMSTRONG: (Nods affirmatively)

26

27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And what we're going
28 to do is we have a phone call coming so we're going to
29 go on with the analysis and Donald will tell us when
30 the phone call is available, the person was out of the
31 office at this point in time and we'll take a break for
32 the phone call when it comes.

33

34 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. I just spoke
35 with Chenega IRA and I let them know to have the
36 message passed along that when it comes to public
37 testimony, we'll probably call them up about 3:00
38 o'clock but they should be available by 3:00 o'clock,
39 but we can dial when -- when the public testimony comes
40 up we can dial their number and they can testify.

41

42 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

43

44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Donald.

45 Tom.

46

47 MR. CARPENTER: Mr. Chairman. I've
48 been asked by Donald to clarify for the record on the
49 last proposal 03/04, that I did move to adopt the
50 proposal just for the record.

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Okay, with
2 that, we're going to go on to our presentation and
3 analysis by Helen.

4
5 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
6 Helen Armstrong from the Office of Subsistence
7 Management. Proposals WP08-08 and it's on Page 35, and
8 WP08-09 is on Page 43. The analysis is essentially the
9 same. There's a slight difference in what they
10 requested but I'll go through that.

11
12 The 08 was submitted by the Chenega
13 Indian Reorganization Act Council, the IRA, and would
14 allow a harvest up to five deer by designated hunter
15 during the period of July 1 to March 31st in Unit 6D to
16 be used at a memorial event at the old Chenega Village
17 site. Permits would be issued by the Cordova District
18 Ranger and deer harvested with these permits would not
19 count towards individual harvest limits.

20
21 09 is quite similar. It has been
22 submitted by the Tatitlek IRA Council. It also asks
23 for up to five deer in Unit 6 to be used at their
24 Cultural Heritage Week that occurs annually in
25 Tatitlek. The permits would also be issued by the
26 Cordova District Ranger and the deer harvested with
27 these permits would not count toward individual harvest
28 limits. They did not have a designated harvest permit
29 part in there.

30
31 There also is an error which I need to
32 correct on the record. On Page 43, Proposal WP08-09
33 there is an error in the proposed Federal regulation.
34 What I read to you is under the issues, and that's
35 correct. But the proposed Federal regulation,
36 inadvertently the author, or someone put in the
37 proposed Federal regulation for 08, it says for the
38 Chenega IRA Council and the old Chenega Memorial, so
39 that's an error in the book that I wanted to correct.

40
41 There was also then a little bit of a
42 difference because the Tatitlek one did not request a
43 longer season, the Chenega one does request a longer
44 season, so it will be up to you to decide which one you
45 want to go with.

46
47 I'll just give a very brief analysis on
48 both of these. I'm not going to go into a lot of
49 detail, I know because you have a lot of proposal
50 analysis to go through.

1 08 asks for the memorial for the
2 commemoration of the destruction of the old village of
3 Chenega. The village was destroyed in the Tsunami in
4 1964. And the Cultural Heritage Week for Tatitlek is
5 to educate young people about their cultural traditions
6 and practices. It usually has around 200 people there.
7 People are invited from Whittier, Valdez, Cordova and
8 Chenega Bay. And they have an educational portion
9 where they harvest a seal or a sea lion and salmon and
10 that's part of their educational process, and they'd
11 like to have deer. So they're two different kinds of
12 events but they're both one, singular event, so they're
13 similar in that way.

14
15 The dates proposed for Proposal 08 are
16 three months longer than what's actually in current
17 regulation, current regulation is August 1st through
18 December 31st, and the dates proposed are July 1st
19 through March 31st, so it's three months longer.

20
21 The part of 08 that has the designated
22 hunter provision is, in discussions with Chenega, I
23 think they understand too that that wasn't something
24 that was appropriate to put in there because it's a
25 proxy for an older or disabled person and it doesn't
26 apply to cultural events, as described in either of
27 these proposals.

28
29 For both of these are no conservation
30 concerns. We're discussing deer, and from 1999 to 2003
31 in Unit 6 there were a low of 2,121 deer harvested in
32 the unit and a high of 3,759, so there are no
33 conservation concerns.

34
35 There are no effects anticipated on
36 deer, on subsistence users or on non-subsistence users.

37
38 The OSM preliminary conclusion for both
39 of these proposals is to add up to five permits can be
40 issued to harvest five deer annually rather than one
41 permit to harvest five deer. So it's just a little bit
42 different, you're still harvesting five but it's just
43 with five permits.

44
45 And then in 08 to remove the designated
46 hunter provision. And in 08 to add that permits will
47 be issued to the Native Village of Chenega rather than
48 the Chenega IRA Council.

49
50 And the justification is that issuance

1 of annual permits for ceremonies and potlatches is
2 authorized by Federal regulations and the requested
3 harvest would provide residents of Chenega Bay and
4 Tatitlek an opportunity to harvest these resources and
5 to share food as a part of these events. The events
6 have both occurred regularly, Chenega's has been
7 happening since 1984 and Tatitlek's has been occurring
8 for many years as well. Both Chenega and Tatitlek,
9 they can already harvest deer under Federal subsistence
10 regulations in Unit 6D and adoption of the proposals
11 would have minimal impacts on deer populations. The
12 permits for both would be issued by the Forest Service
13 Cordova District Ranger when there is no violation of
14 principles of fish and wildlife conservation.

15
16 Thank you, Mr. Chair. That concludes
17 my presentation.

18
19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Helen.
20 Could you explain something to me then. Would
21 Tatitlek's basically be an open permit at any time that
22 they wanted to get a permit from the District Ranger
23 for that event, I mean there's no seasons limited to
24 it, but there's no limitation on the season either.

25
26 MS. ARMSTRONG: The error that was in
27 the book was that it should have been the existing
28 season so it wouldn't have a change in the season.

29
30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You mean it would have
31 to be taken during the existing season.

32
33 MS. ARMSTRONG: During the existing
34 season.

35
36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: But isn't the Cultural
37 Week held in the summer.

38
39 MR. HENRICHS: It's held in May.

40
41 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: In May. And so if it
42 was taken during the existing season then it would
43 defeat the purpose of being able to take a deer that
44 you could use for educational purposes to teach a
45 younger generation how to handle one.

46
47 MS. ARMSTRONG: I'm wondering if Milo
48 Burcham might have an answer to that. I was not the
49 analyst for these proposals but I know he worked with
50 Pippa Kenner, who did, and I'm not sure if he would

1 know anything or not.

2

3 MR. BURCHAM: In talking with the
4 Tatitlek village, it sounded to me like they were more
5 interested in feeding people during this event, they
6 have over 200 people show up at the village so it's
7 having the meat available. I wasn't aware of the
8 educational part of it.

9

10 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

11

12 MR. BURCHAM: So from what I understood
13 harvesting the deer and freezing them could suffice. I
14 don't want to say that for fact but that was my
15 understanding in talking to them.

16

17 And for the record this is Milo
18 Burcham, wildlife biologist here in Cordova.

19

20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. But
21 Chenega requested actually a time period of March to
22 July because I think their annual event takes place in
23 the summertime, also, doesn't it?

24

25 MS. ARMSTRONG: They actually requested
26 July 1st through March 31st.

27

28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Oh.

29

30 MS. ARMSTRONG: The other way around.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: The other way around,
33 okay. So they actually asked for an extension of a
34 month at the beginning and three months at the end of
35 the season.

36

37 MR. BURCHAM: Again, I think just
38 allowing themselves plenty of time to harvest five
39 extra deer probably to be stored until, you know,
40 frozen or whatever, until the event.

41

42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

43

44 MR. BURCHAM: But available for food to
45 feed, like for a banquet.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Any other
48 questions for Milo while he's up there.

49

50 Robert.

1 MR. HENRICHS: I don't really have a
2 question for Milo, but we probably really ought to talk
3 to Tatitlek about that. They put that in, I think.
4 And because it's in the book for 08-09 for the
5 executive summary, they have Chenega for this one again
6 and Chenega on the draft Staff analysis, how do you --
7 do you have to change that to make it legal to
8 Tatitlek, or what?

9
10 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: They said that
11 that.....

12
13 REPORTER: Ralph.

14
15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:was mistake.

16
17 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, okay.

18
19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And that the
20 proposal.....

21
22 REPORTER: Ralph.

23
24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:itself is dealing
25 with -- it was explained that that was a typo right
26 there and that the proposal itself deals with Tatitlek
27 for 09.

28
29 Helen.

30
31 MS. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. I did call
32 the analyst about this when I discovered this last
33 night that the date, there's a book, I think you all
34 have seen the proposals that get put together and in
35 here it says the dates are to be determined so I called
36 her, she pulled up the original proposal analysis and
37 there were question marks on the dates, but she said
38 that they were called and they said, no, they didn't
39 want any change in the dates, that the dates for the
40 existing seasons were fine. So it would be up to you
41 if you wanted it to be the same as Chenega's and have
42 it be earlier or keep it the same is fine.

43
44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So Tatitlek
45 requested.....

46
47 MS. ARMSTRONG: No change in the
48 season.

49
50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:no change in the

1 date, but Chenega requested a change in the date.

2

3 MS. ARMSTRONG: That's correct.

4

5 MR. CARPENTER: Yeah, just one
6 question, your suggestion to amend -- or modify the
7 proposal because of designated hunter situation, you're
8 not allowed to use the designated hunter for cultural
9 event is that what you're telling me.

10

11 MR. BURCHAM: The term designated
12 hunter was used in the proposal loosely and we have a
13 specific definition of it, you know, designated someone
14 else, you know, in lieu of, you know, harvesting
15 something in lieu of somebody else that's eligible, I
16 don't think that was intended by the proposal. And
17 what this would be would be just like our potlatch,
18 Eyak -- Native Village of Eyak potlatch moose where a
19 person is put forward from the village to harvest the
20 animal for them or somebody, it could be up to five
21 people or one person to take the five would be, you
22 know, loosely, used the term designated to harvest the
23 deer.

24

25 MR. CARPENTER: The only reason I ask
26 that is, I mean, I didn't want five deer to have to be
27 harvested by five different people, and I think maybe I
28 misunderstood you when you said that, it could be up to
29 five people.....

30

31 MR. BURCHAM: Could be.

32

33 MR. CARPENTER:harvest five deer.

34

35 MR. BURCHAM: Yes.

36

37 MR. CARPENTER: Because probably what's
38 going to happen is one person's going to go get five
39 deer.

40

41 MR. BURCHAM: Probably.

42

43 MR. CARPENTER: And I just want to make
44 sure that this allows them to do that if they want.

45

46 MR. BURCHAM: We, internally, ran into
47 some confusion, you know, about five permits and then
48 people confused it with the State permit that has five
49 tickets on it and people thought we were talking about
50 25 deer.

1 MR. CARPENTER: Right.
2
3 MR. BURCHAM: The way it would have to
4 be is five individual permits is the way the Federal
5 permit works, and they could be issued to one person or
6 up to five.
7
8 MR. CARPENTER: Okay. Okay.
9
10 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Or couldn't they be
11 issued to the tribal council or the village and then
12 they could send out who they wanted to do it?
13
14 MR. BURCHAM: I think in the field a
15 name needs to be on the permit.
16
17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Ricky.
18
19 MR. GEASE: Question on the change from
20 IRA to the Native Village, why the change, if one put
21 in the proposal.
22
23 MR. BURCHAM: Is that for Chenega.
24
25 MR. GEASE: (Nods affirmatively)
26
27 MR. BURCHAM: I called them because
28 there was a question about how they were referenced
29 and Pete Kompkoff said how is it now -- he said however
30 it is now is the best way to address them.
31
32 MS. ARMSTRONG: It's the same
33 organization, just referred to differently.
34
35 MR. BURCHAM: Yeah.
36
37 MR. GEASE: Okay.
38
39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Helen.
40
41 MS. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. I think
42 just for the record, let me just read the way the
43 wording should be on Page 43 for the proposed
44 regulation. I just want this for the record what it
45 should say. So it says:
46
47 Unit 6 special provisions (g)
48
49 One permit will be issued by the
50 Cordova District Ranger to the Tatitlek

1 IRA Council to take five deer, and then
2 cross out five designated hunters,
3 there's no five designated hunters,
4 from Federal lands in Unit 6D for their
5 annual Cultural Heritage Week.

6
7 And then on the dates it should say:

8
9 August 1 to December 31st with no
10 change.

11
12 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

15
16 MR. BURCHAM: And one thing, Bob, you
17 might know or we should check, Cultural Heritage Days,
18 is that the official name of the ceremony or is it
19 Cultural Heritage Week?

20
21 MR. HENRICHS: It's Cultural Week and
22 it's usually in the first week of May.

23
24 MR. BURCHAM: Cultural Week, okay,
25 right.

26
27 MS. ARMSTRONG: Cultural Week, okay,
28 we'll change that in the analysis when it goes to the
29 Board.

30
31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Doug.

32
33 MR. BLOSSOM: Mr. Chair. I guess I'll
34 ask this of Helen, why, Helen, do we have to have it
35 during a season, why can't it be any time for them,
36 because this Heritage Week's in May, why wouldn't they
37 want to go out just ahead of the potlatch and take
38 their deer?

39
40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Milo, you have any
41 comments on that?

42
43 MR. BURCHAM: I don't have an answer
44 for that, that might be convenient for them. It might
45 not be the most desirable time to harvest deer to eat,
46 but I don't think there's a biological concern and we
47 could ask Dave Crowley about that if we wanted to.

48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Bill.

50

1 MR. STOCKWELL: Thank you. I was just
2 looking at the original proposal that was published in
3 the book and it says it's the first week in May. This
4 event is to pass on Native traditions to youth attracts
5 approximately 200 students, chaperons, et cetera,
6 allowing for subsistence deer harvest would allow
7 hunting heritage and subsistence values to be shared
8 and passed on, and my question is, how are you going to
9 do that if you're hauling them out of the freezer and
10 cooking them, you know, I mean I can do that at home,
11 but I'm not sure how you pass on -- you can teach them
12 how to cook it, I guess, but the other parts of it I
13 would think wouldn't be available if you're not
14 harvesting at the same time.

15
16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Bill. That
17 was my concern, too.

18
19 MR. STOCKWELL: Okay.

20
21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: That's why I,
22 personally, myself, I think the season should run
23 January 1st to December 31st and let them pick the time
24 that they want to get the deer.

25
26 MR. STOCKWELL: Yeah.

27
28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: But that would be my
29 opinion.

30
31 MR. STOCKWELL: Maybe we need to ask
32 the people who are requesting the hunt.

33
34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Bob.

35
36 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, well, that seems
37 like it would be the best thing because if you don't do
38 that all they're really asking for is to be able to
39 harvest five deer and not have it count as anybody's
40 quota or limit.

41
42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Uh-huh.

43
44 MR. HENRICHS: But, you know, I think
45 any time of the year would be better for them but
46 they're the ones that are supposed to come up with that
47 and they do get an educational fisheries permit from
48 the State just like our tribe does to catch fish for
49 that event.

50

1 MR. BURCHAM: Can I.....
2
3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Milo.
4
5 MR. BURCHAM:just speak to that a
6 little bit more. I did work with Dave Totemoff when we
7 were developing this and the purpose of the cultural
8 heritage ceremony is as you stated there and not
9 necessarily, you know, to go show them how to harvest
10 deer but the purpose of the whole week, I think, is to
11 show people to appreciate Native tradition and
12 subsistence lifestyles and such. And the main thought,
13 and I think it's better not to limit them in this way
14 either, but I think the main thought was to feed this
15 large number of people that shows up in town.
16
17 MR. STOCKWELL: My thought was that
18 maybe there's a way that we could allow them to harvest
19 the deer as they need for the ceremony and not be
20 restricted by a date so on.
21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Bill. Bob.
23
24 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, well, a little
25 history of what's going on in Tatitlek is Gary
26 Kompkoff's daughter was the tribal administrator and
27 she died and a few months later, Gary, the chief, long
28 time chief there, had a heart attack and passed on and
29 they've had three different leaders there since then so
30 they're trying to get stable and that's just the way
31 it's going right now.
32
33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Bob. Can I
34 ask, Jeff, I know you go out there, would you come up
35 and comment on this, or I mean would this be an
36 appropriate time or should I ask you later on with
37 other agency things.
38
39 MR. BRYDEN: Whatever you want.
40
41 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Jeff, what you mind
42 coming up and giving us a little bit of insight to -- I
43 know you've been out there and you've talked to the
44 people and what is your take on this.
45
46 MR. BRYDEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
47 For the record my name is Jeff Bryden, I'm the lead law
48 enforcement officer for subsistence for the Forest
49 Service in Alaska.
50

1 The question is as relating to season,
2 in talking with individuals at the villages, I didn't
3 hear anything at the time on the seasons and what they
4 were looking for. We went out and we met with the
5 folks, we helped them with some of the proposals to get
6 them in to try and make sure that if there's a harvest
7 going on that it becomes a legal harvest so that we
8 don't have a law enforcement issue going on for them,
9 taking a subsistence animal in a way that they've been
10 doing it for years.

11
12 Looking at the numbers, we're only
13 looking at five deer so it isn't an issue, more for a
14 law enforcement issue is I just want to know who's
15 going to have the permits and be out there so I don't
16 have 10 people out there all claiming they're doing it
17 under subsistence permits. So as long as the permits
18 are being issued in an orderly number that we can keep
19 track of, who has them and when they have them, it
20 doesn't really matter as far as the law enforcement end
21 of it. There is going to be some coordination needed
22 between different agencies that'll be out there working
23 so if somebody all of a sudden in May hears people
24 shooting deer on the beach, I'm sure there's going to
25 be people reporting that back in, to be able to
26 coincide with what we have going on, where regular --
27 you know if it occurred during the regular season it
28 wouldn't be a big issue but it might be if it occurred
29 at a different time.

30
31 The other issue that we're going to
32 have is as it is a Federal permit, is making sure that
33 the deer are harvested on Federal lands and not on
34 State, Park lands or Native corporation lands and such.

35
36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: From talking to the
37 people, you said that they didn't have any -- they
38 didn't say anything about dates, but did you have the
39 feeling that they were thinking that they would take
40 them for, you know, during or for or during the time
41 that they were going to be needing them, or did they
42 just take for granted that that would be when they
43 would take them or were they talking about taking them
44 during the regular season and storing them that long?

45
46 MR. BRYDEN: The Chenega, in
47 particular, the individual that we were talking with,
48 it is a -- that's not a correct word, would be a
49 celebration, but it's an observance of the Tsunami and
50 what was brought out was they don't want to on the date

1 of the Tsunami because that time of year is not
2 appropriate to go so they want to go later into the
3 season. And the issue was you have the deer, it's
4 going to come out of somebody's freezer, well, this
5 would give an opportunity for it to come out of the
6 freezer. The individual that we talked with was not a
7 hunter and he stated that, so he didn't really have a
8 lot of information on that part of it. He didn't do
9 any actual hunting at all but he was a resident of the
10 area so it would be up to the hunter folks that would
11 be going out on that.

12

13 In Tatitlek, when we were there, as was
14 stated, it's kind of hard to -- who's really in charge
15 and working with individuals there to find a person who
16 will actually be doing it until they get a little more
17 organization, get reestablished there and to have the
18 contacts and to have our points of contacts and who
19 we're actually dealing with so you can get try and get
20 something working.

21

22 Again, like I said, my big concern with
23 law enforcement issue is I don't want to find a
24 subsistence users that's doing something and have to do
25 a violation of notice on somebody that's trying to do
26 something in a subsistence way, we're out there to help
27 the subsistence user and to help protect the resources.

28

29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any questions for
30 Jeff. Bob.

31

32 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, one thing I'll add
33 is at Chenega, it's a memorial to the devastation of
34 the earthquake which killed 28 of their tribal members,
35 it's a memorial service.

36

37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any questions for
38 Jeff.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Jeff.

43

44 MR. BRYDEN: Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any questions for
47 Helen.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Helen.

2

3 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Alaska Department of
6 Fish and Game.

7

8 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman. The
9 Department provides cultural permits that were
10 referenced, there's an educational permit for fisheries
11 that issues -- that has been issued, in some cases.
12 Both of these proposals would fit well with the
13 cultural permits that the Department issues. And in
14 both cases, we believe that our cultural permit process
15 would provide more flexibility to both Chenega and
16 Tatitlek in this case. It would allow them to hunt
17 deer on both State managed and Federal lands.

18

19 Our process is very simple and straight
20 forward, it doesn't require submitting a proposal to
21 the Board of Game. Our area biologist here in Cordova
22 has issued cultural permits for other activities. And
23 our only concern about these proposals is that if the
24 Federal proposals are adopted, that it would be
25 appropriate for the Cordova District Ranger of whomever
26 is responsible for issuing those permits, just to let
27 our area biologist know and should there come a time
28 where there might be a need to minimize or avoid the
29 harvest of female deer, to ensure that that discussion
30 takes place, so that there are no conservation issues
31 created.

32

33 So we don't oppose these proposals, we
34 just think the State has a more efficient system that
35 can accommodate these requests and do it in a much
36 easier process than having to go through a formal
37 regulatory action to the Federal Board.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
42 Preliminary Comments to the Regional Advisory Council.

43

44 Wildlife Proposal WP08-08:

45

46 This proposal request that the Cordova
47 Ranger District be authorized to issue one permit to
48 the Chenega IRA Council to harvest five deer by
49 designated hunters in Unit 6D during July 1 through
50 March 31 for their annual Old Chenega Memorial potlatch

1 held at the original Chenega Village site.

2

3 Opportunity Provided by the State:

4

5 Under State of Alaska regulations 5 AAC
6 92.034, the Commissioner of the Department of Fish and
7 Game "may issue a permit for the taking of game for the
8 teaching and preservation of historic or traditional
9 Alaskan cultural practices, knowledgeable, and
10 values..." No requests for a permit for this memorial
11 event have ever been submitted to the Department and
12 likely would have been approved.

13

14 Other Comments:

15

16 First, the State's system of permitting
17 applies to all lands, so use of the State permits would
18 reduce land status issues for persons issued ceremonial
19 permits. Second, the proposal does not specify doe or
20 buck. Recent winter mortality caused the Department of
21 Fish and Game to close the doe season in Unit 6 on
22 December 4, 2007, so the sex of deer to be taken should
23 be determined in consultation with the Department's
24 area biologist.

25

26 Recommendation:

27

28 The State encourages the Regional
29 Advisory Councils and Federal Staff to forward such
30 request for ceremonial permits to the State for
31 consideration. Such requests may be more appropriate
32 for disposition by the State and because a State permit
33 is valid on both State and Federal land. If the
34 modified proposal is adopted, it should include
35 instruction to the Cordova District Ranger to consult
36 with the Department of Fish and Game area biologist in
37 Cordova to determine the sex of deer to be taken.

38

39 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
40 Preliminary Comments to the Regional Advisory Council.

41

42 Wildlife Proposal WP08-09:

43

44 Authorize harvest of five deer in Unit
45 6D for an annual Cultural Heritage Week in Tatitlek in
46 May.

47

48 Introduction:

49

50 The Tatitlek IRA Council requests that

1 the Cordova District Ranger, U.S. Forest Service be
2 authorized to issue a permit to the Tatitlek IRA
3 Council to harvest five deer on Federal public land in
4 Unit 6D for their Cultural Heritage Week held annually
5 in May.

6

7 Impact on Subsistence Users:

8

9 None.

10

11 Opportunity Provided by State:

12

13 Under State of Alaska regulations 5
14 AAC.92.034, the Commissioner of the Department of Fish
15 and Game "may issue a permit for the taking of game for
16 the teaching and preservation of historic or
17 traditional Alaskan cultural practices, knowledgeable,
18 and values..." No requests for a permit for this
19 cultural event have ever been submitted to the
20 Department and likely would have been approved.

21

22

23 Recommendation:

24

25 The State encourages the requests for
26 ceremonial permits be forwarded to the State for
27 consideration. Such requests may be more appropriate
28 for disposition by the State and because a State permit
29 is valid on all lands (State and Federal). If adopted,
30 the modified proposal should be amended to instruct the
31 Cordova District Ranger to consult with the Department
32 of Fish and Game area biologist in Cordova to determine
33 the sex of deer to be taken.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Terry. If
36 I understand correct, on the State cultural permit, or
37 potlatch permit or whatever, it can be requested at any
38 time, there is no dates tied to it, it's when it's
39 needed; am I correct on that?

40

41 MR. HAYNES: You're correct, Mr. Chair.
42 The individual could call, in this case, Dave Crowley's
43 office, and indicate we would like to harvest X number
44 of deer for this activity and we'd like to do it at
45 such and such time. And both of these requests would
46 meet the criteria and Dave would be able to agree to
47 that and it could be done in fairly short order.

48

49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Because it doesn't
50 have to go through any process except the local

1 biologist, right?

2

3 MR. HAYNES: Yes, that's primarily it.
4 There's certain criteria that have to be met but
5 neither of these would have any problem at all being
6 approved. The only time that there might ever be a
7 question is if there ever was a conservation issue with
8 deer in this area and we certainly don't see that
9 happening. And, you know, the Department's very
10 sensitive to these requests for these cultural permits.
11 We have a separate ceremonial harvest regulation that
12 would be different, that would not apply in these
13 cases, but the Department does issue a lot of cultural
14 permits throughout the state.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Robert.

17

18 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, I'm just curious,
19 the Fish and Game can actually give cultural permits
20 that are good on Federal lands?

21

22 MR. HAYNES: Through the Chair, our
23 permits would not be prevented from being used on
24 Federal lands unless there was a Federal closure of
25 those lands to certain people.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Tricia.

28

29 MS. WAGGONER: If Chenega went to the
30 State and requested a permit, would they have to do
31 this every year, whereas if it's in Federal regulation
32 it's kind of done and they wouldn't have to request it
33 again?

34

35 MR. HAYNES: I'm going to have Dave
36 come up and tell you how he's dealt with some permit
37 requests in his area, but it would need to be requested
38 annually but it would certainly be a streamlined
39 process the second time around. But Dave can tell you
40 how he's dealt with those previously.

41

42 MR. CROWLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
43 Chugach Alaska Corporation requests, annually, a
44 cultural permit for their Spirit camp at Nuchach and
45 basically it takes a fax or ap hone call, the permit's
46 issued and the only thing we require is a report from
47 them, how many deer did you take and when and the sex
48 of the deer. It's very straight forward, it takes 10
49 minutes.

50

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Robert, you were next.

2

3 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, well, one of the
4 reasons that two villages are requesting these through
5 the Federal side is that when the oil spill hit and
6 they created the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee
7 Council, they immediately went and bought thousands of
8 acres of land back from the village corporations and
9 now it's being managed by the Federal and so they have
10 a lot of Federal lands surrounding their villages now.

11

12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Ricky.

13

14 MR. GEASE: What are the harvest limits
15 on the permits that the State issues?

16

17 MR. CROWLEY: Mr. Chair. There really
18 are no limits. You know, the harvest has to be within
19 reason, certainly five deer is within reason. There
20 really wouldn't be a limit to the number of hunters,
21 although the permit would just have to have a list of
22 potential hunters on that. Chugach Alaska requests, I
23 believe, it's two to five year annually.

24

25 MR. GEASE: Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions
28 for Dave or Terry.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Terry.

33

34 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman. Maybe just
35 one more comment. We recognize there has been some
36 land purchases as a result of oil spill activities. We
37 would note that some of the lands where deer are
38 available and that are closest to both Chenega and
39 Tatitlek are private lands which are regulated by the
40 State so we're just saying our cultural permit would
41 provide more flexibility. We're certainly not saying
42 deer aren't available on Federal lands near those
43 communities, just that the State permit would do away
44 with having to worry about land status.

45

46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Terry, correct me if
47 I'm wrong, but if I understand correctly the State
48 permits apply on private land, Federal land and State
49 park land where the Federal permits apply only on
50 Federal land?

1 MR. HAYNES: Yes, the State permits
2 would apply on Federal unless there was a closure of
3 those Federal lands to non-Federally qualified
4 subsistence users or to State regulations. That would
5 not be an issue in these two areas.

6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions.

8
9 (No comments)

10
11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

12
13 MR. HAYNES: Thank you.

14
15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do you want to make
16 your phone call right now because we have Federal,
17 State and tribal agency comments and this would be a
18 tribal agency.

19
20 MR. MIKE: (Nods affirmatively)

21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Are there any other
23 Federal or State agencies that wish to comment on this.

24
25 (No comments)

26
27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hearing none, we'll
28 wait for the tribal agency to come on line.

29
30 (Pause)

31
32 MR. KOMPKOFF: I would like to make a
33 comment. This is Pete Kompkoff from Chenega Bay,
34 Alaska. I'm the president tribal administrator for the
35 Chenega IRA Council. I've been a Chenega resident most
36 of my life. And I put those proposals in because we
37 don't have access to moose like the other villages do
38 and we'd like to have in place of the moose, be able to
39 subsist those six deer any time of the year except for
40 right after molt season.

41
42 Okay. That's all I have to say.

43
44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Pete.

45
46 MR. KOMPKOFF: It's for potlatch
47 purposes or ceremonial purposes.

48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Pete, can you hear me?
50 Pete, can you hear me?

1 MR. KOMPKOFF: I can barely hear you
2 let me turn up my volume here.

3
4 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Pete, this is Ralph
5 Lohse.

6
7 MR. KOMPKOFF: Hi Ralph.

8
9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: One of the questions
10 that's come up is -- there's been two things that have
11 come up in our thing. One is the fact that we were
12 wondering whether you wanted a time period on that or
13 if it would be better to have it all open for your
14 convenience, or whether you prefer to take them during
15 the regular hunting season. And the other issue that
16 came up was the fact that they are available under
17 State regulation and they're available on all land on
18 State regulation and not just on Federal land. Do you
19 have any comments on either of those two things.

20
21 MR. KOMPKOFF: Yeah, I'd like to have
22 it open year-round except for right after the molt
23 season, after the does are going through their molt
24 seasons, from July on. And what was the other portion.

25
26 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: One of the things that
27 was brought to our attention is that those cultural
28 permits are readily available from the State, there
29 would be no problem in getting a cultural permit for
30 five deer at any time of the year from the State and it
31 would be accessible on all land, private land, State
32 land and Federal land where the Federal permit would be
33 only available on Federal land, and we were wondering
34 about whether that would meet your needs or if there
35 was a reason that you felt that a Federal permit was
36 more acceptable.

37
38 MR. KOMPKOFF: Oh, no, I just wanted it
39 State or Federal, either one would work for us as long
40 we would be able to get them when we need them.

41
42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Does anybody else have
43 anything.

44
45 MR. KOMPKOFF: Other than waiting for
46 the season to open on August 1st.

47
48 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Pete. I
49 think Robert Henrichs has got a question for you.

50

1 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, Pete, I want to
2 thank you, and I'll talk to you about it later, I think
3 because they put this in we have to deal with it and if
4 they want to get a State one they can do that, too,
5 that's my thoughts on it.

6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Does anybody else have
8 anything.

9
10 MR. KOMPKOFF: I didn't understand
11 that.

12
13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Pete. What Robert was
14 saying was that even if we dealt with this you still
15 could get a State one also and that we need to deal
16 with the request in front of us, which we will do, but
17 was there any other comments you wish to make to us?

18
19 MR. KOMPKOFF: Are you guys seeing a
20 problem with my request?

21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No. Nobody's seeing a
23 problem with it, we're just considering it, and one of
24 the things that was brought to our attention was the
25 fact that we didn't have any -- we weren't sure if you
26 wanted a date on it or not and so we were thinking that
27 possibly, like you said, just have it open and the
28 other thing was brought to our attention, was that you
29 are now currently readily available to get those
30 permits from the State and we just were wondering.....

31
32 MR. KOMPKOFF: Any time of the year?

33
34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any time of the year.

35
36 MR. KOMPKOFF: Okay, I wasn't aware of
37 that.

38
39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah, we were
40 wondering about that. And so we were wondering, you
41 know, whether there was a reason that you particularly
42 went through the Federal or if it was just that you
43 didn't realize that it was available through the State.

44
45 MR. KOMPKOFF: I didn't realize that
46 the permits were available through the State year-
47 round, so that makes it simpler.

48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah, that's what we
50 were told anyhow and we were just wondering your

1 comments on it.
2
3 MR. KOMPKOFF: Okay, thank you very
4 much.
5
6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions
7 for Pete.
8
9 MR. STOCKWELL: I got one.
10
11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: We have another
12 question for you, Pete, Bill Stockwell from Cooper
13 Landing.
14
15 MR. KOMPKOFF: Okay.
16
17 MR. STOCKWELL: When you first came on
18 it sounded like you said you wanted a permit for six
19 deer, the proposal was for five, did I hear wrong?
20
21 MR. KOMPKOFF: Yeah, I probably did, I
22 meant five, it wasn't six, okay.
23
24 MR. STOCKWELL: Okay, thank you, just
25 clarifying.
26
27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions
28 for Pete.
29
30 (No comments)
31
32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Pete, thank you for
33 taking the time and thank you for your comments and
34 your testimony and we'll see you again one of these
35 days.
36
37 MR. KOMPKOFF: You betcha Ralph, thank
38 you very much and thank the Board for considering my
39 request and we hope you guys continue the good job and
40 hope my brother takes my place right away so I can
41 relax and he can take over from here. Thank you very
42 much and have a good day.
43
44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Bye-bye. Okay. With
45 that we go on to InterAgency Staff Committee comments.
46
47 (No comments)
48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No InterAgency Staff
50 Committee comments. Fish and Game Advisory Committee

1 comments. Does the Prince William Sound Advisory
2 Committee have any comments on this one, Tom.

3

4 MR. CARPENTER: The only comments are
5 in the book and the only thing the -- the Advisory
6 Committee had no problem with either one of the
7 villages harvesting these deer, they're both for good
8 reasons. The only question we had is there's a little
9 confusion about what dates both of them wanted at the
10 time but I don't foresee any problems, with the
11 discussion.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Summary of
14 written public comments, Donald.

15

16 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr.
17 Tom Carpenter already spoke on the comments that were
18 provided for us for the book and it's on Page 41. And
19 those comments are both for WP08 and 09.

20

21 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22

23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Donald. Do
24 we have any request for public testimony.

25

26 MR. MIKE: We have none, Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: We have none. In that
29 case a motion to accept WP08-08 and 09 is in order.

30

31 MR. HENRICHS: I'll make that motion.

32

33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been moved that
34 we accept WP08 and 09.

35

36 MR. CARPENTER: Second.

37

38 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And it's been seconded
39 by Tom Carpenter. Discussion.

40

41 Bill.

42

43 MR. STOCKWELL: Mr. Chairman. I'd like
44 to make an amendment to the proposal and my amendment
45 would be that the dates be removed and that the harvest
46 could be taken at any dates that they desire.

47

48 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do I hear a second.

49

50 MR. SHOWALTER: Second.

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been moved and
2 seconded that the dates be removed from proposals and
3 that these proposals be valid all year-round.

4
5 MR. STOCKWELL: That's correct.

6
7 MR. CARPENTER: Question on the
8 amendment.

9
10 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been called
11 on the amendment. All in favor signify by saying aye.

12
13 IN UNISON: Aye.

14
15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All opposed signify by
16 saying nay.

17
18 (No opposing votes)

19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I think we heard
21 enough from the Staff that that would have no
22 conservation concern to have it at any time of the year
23 and I think just like Pete was pointing out, they
24 probably wouldn't take them during the time that does
25 had fawns anyhow so -- young fawns, so that probably is
26 pretty acceptable. Okay, we now have an amended motion
27 in front of us. Any more discussion on the amended
28 motion.

29
30 Tom.

31
32 MR. CARPENTER: Yeah, Mr. Chairman,
33 seeing that there's no biological or conservation
34 concern, we've had positive testimony from both Pete
35 Kompkoff and Chenega and the local Advisory Committee,
36 I would call the question.

37
38 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Tricia.

39
40 MS. WAGGONER: I would actually worry
41 here based on the fact that we discussed them being
42 able to get a State permit and use it on any lands and
43 if we pass these proposals, we're going to have two in
44 essence, they can do it on Federal lands and then
45 they're going to turn around and go to the State and
46 ask for ceremonial harvest from the State, you know,
47 the State and private lands, are we going to send a
48 conflicting message to the users or are, you know, and
49 I'm just kind of trying to resolve that if we pass this
50 are we saying that they're going to have to get two

1 different permits.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Tricia, I don't think
4 we're saying they have to get two different permits,
5 we're saying there are two different permits available
6 by doing this, and they could choose which permit
7 system they would go under. And I suppose it would be
8 up to the managers of both different systems to decide
9 whether there should be -- I mean the State could say
10 you already have a cultural permit for five deer, you
11 don't need another cultural permit for five deer, or
12 the Federal government could say the same thing,
13 depending on which permit they got first. But this
14 would set in regulation that there is a cultural permit
15 of five deer available from the Federal government
16 every year.

17

18 MS. WAGGONER: Okay.

19

20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Bob.

21

22 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, I'm a little
23 confused here. This cultural permit was available
24 through the State but nobody knew about it. When our
25 tribe went and got a permit passed through this same
26 process to take a moose for a memorial potlatch, we
27 didn't know about there was anything from the State and
28 nobody ever came and told us that. I mean is this the
29 same State that's trying to change the subsistence
30 moose hunt?

31

32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Bob. Tom.

33

34 MR. CARPENTER: Yeah, I'd just comment
35 to Tricia, that I think the biologist in town work
36 pretty well together and I think Chenega and Tatitlek,
37 I would say that if the Federal permit doesn't satisfy
38 them because of the restriction on where they can hunt
39 that I think they'll be able to go to the State and
40 between Milo and Dave, you know, Dave could issue a
41 permit and Milo's going to know about it, so I don't
42 see it being a problem.

43

44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And correct me if I'm
45 wrong, I think this is up to five deer, isn't it, it's
46 not a five deer permit, is it up to five deer?

47

48 MR. BURCHAM: It's five deer.

49

50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's five deer, okay.

1 Milo, you had something you were going to add.

2

3 MR. BURCHAM: Yeah, I just have the
4 question and more of a legal thing, maybe Larry could
5 help or Ken, I guess I don't know who.

6

7 As the in-season -- well, does the in-
8 season manager, say, the District Ranger or District
9 have the latitude to not issue this if he knows the
10 State has already done this or are we like, once this
11 is passed, are we obligated to issue this every year if
12 they ask for it. I just want to make sure we're not
13 doubling the limit by having both systems in place. I
14 think the State system is a great idea, but I just want
15 to make sure we work this out legally and that it's all
16 square.

17

18 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Larry.

19

20 MR. BUKLIS: Mr. Chairman. Larry
21 Buklis, OSM. I think if they had applied for a State
22 permit and then came to the Forest Service District
23 Ranger and applied for a Federal permit, they wouldn't
24 be disallowed from getting the Federal permit just
25 because they held the State one, they could apply for
26 each, I believe, under each system, but I think their
27 limits would not be additive, they could not take a
28 full limit under each to get 10. I think there's a
29 general provision that the harvest limits under one
30 system are not additive with the other.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: That they're
33 cumulative.

34

35 MR. BUKLIS: Right. There would be a
36 total limit of five.

37

38 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah.

39

40 MR. BUKLIS: And they could exercise
41 one option or the other or perhaps a combination but
42 not both fully.

43

44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Uh-huh. Ricky.

45

46 MR. GEASE: But it's my understanding
47 that the State does not have a limit of five, so.....

48

49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's what they asked
50 for.

1 MR. GEASE: It's what they asked for,
2 though, right.
3
4 MR. BUKLIS: Okay. I didn't understand
5 that feature of it.
6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I see what you mean,
8 Ricky, that the State has no set limit so the State
9 could say you could have your five from there and we
10 could add three more to it.
11
12 MR. GEASE: Yeah.
13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Again, we're still not
15 talking any conservation concern.
16
17 Ricky.
18
19 MR. GEASE: Would it be easier just to
20 -- I mean, we're talking about passing a more
21 restrictive regulation than the State system has.
22 Wouldn't it be easier to align these regulations with
23 the more liberal State regulations at this point.
24
25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Your suggestion of an
26 amendment would be what?
27
28 MR. GEASE: That the Federal
29 regulations mirror the State regulations in this
30 instance.
31
32 MR. CARPENTER: They can't.
33
34 MR. GEASE: They can't.
35
36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: In the matter of bag
37 limit.
38
39 MR. GEASE: Yes, on Federal property.
40
41 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, in the matter of
42 bag limit.
43
44 MR. GEASE: Just apply for a permit.
45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gloria.
47
48 MS. STICKWAN: I would like to hear
49 from the people who made this proposal, their comments
50 on whether they want to change it, we're changing their

1 proposal to something that's different than what they
2 wrote and I want to hear what they have to say before
3 we -- I mean I guess the discussion is over and done
4 with, but, I don't know, we're just changing the
5 proposal and I have a concern with what they're
6 proposing and what we're trying to change.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Greg.

9

10 MR. ENCELEWSKI: Yeah, my comment would
11 be I agree with Gloria there, I think we ought to act
12 on the proposal and submit it under a Federal proposal
13 and they could sort it out from there, how they want to
14 apply with the State later.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So we have an
17 amended proposal before us that says five deer, no
18 closed period, valid all year-round, I guess is another
19 way of putting it, I don't remember how we stated that.
20 So the only change we would have made would have been
21 to extend the season, leaves the bag limit the same.

22

23 MR. CARPENTER: We're voting on the
24 amendment.

25

26 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: We have already voted
27 on the amendment, haven't we.

28

29 MR. CARPENTER: No, I called the
30 question but we didn't vote.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Oh, sorry, my fault,
33 we have an amendment to vote on that's on the table at
34 this point in time, the question's been called on the
35 amendment. The amendment was to take away the time, to
36 open it all year-round.

37

38 MR. HENRICHS: I thought we voted on
39 that already.

40

41 MS. STICKWAN: Yeah.

42

43 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: That's what I thought
44 -- I thought we voted on that one. Did we, Tina.

45

46 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)

47

48 MR. STOCKWELL: Yeah, we voted on that
49 already.

50

1 MR. ENCELEWSKI: We already voted.
2
3 MR. BLOSSOM: Yes.
4
5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: We did.
6
7 MR. CARPENTER: We did, okay.
8
9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, so we were just
10 on discussion after that.
11
12 Bill.
13
14 MR. STOCKWELL: I've got a question for
15 the discussion. On the modified proposal, the proposal
16 should read up to five permits, is the way it's written
17 in the book.
18
19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.
20
21 MR. STOCKWELL: It should be issued by
22 the Cordova Ranger District. Both of them read the
23 same the Tatitlek and the village of Chenega, so this
24 says up to five deer.
25
26 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It says up to five,
27 that's what I thought.
28
29 MR. STOCKWELL: Is that the way we're
30 voting.
31
32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: That's the way I
33 thought it was written.
34
35 MR. STOCKWELL: Okay, thank you.
36
37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Doug.
38
39 MR. BLOSSOM: Mr. Chair. I'll offer a
40 friendly amendment and see if anybody likes it.
41 Request that the Federal Board work out regs with the
42 State so that the parties get the permit for five deer
43 for cultural reasons, that way either way they're going
44 to get a permit and we guarantee they get one.
45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do we have a second.
47
48 (No comments)
49
50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hearing none the

1 motion dies, Doug. So what we have in front of us is
2 an amended proposal for up to five deer any time of the
3 year issued by the Cordova Ranger District.

4

5 MR. HENRICHS: Question.

6

7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: The question's been
8 called. All in favor signify by saying aye.

9

10 IN UNISON: Aye

11

12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All opposed signify by
13 saying nay.

14

15 (No opposing votes)

16

17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries
18 unanimously. Do we need a break or shall we go on to
19 WP08-10.

20

21 MR. ENCELEWSKI: Let's do it.

22

23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Let's do it. Does
24 anybody need a break, a 10 minute break, okay, we'll do
25 this and then we'll have a break. Okay, WP08-10.

26

27 MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
28 Members of the Council. I'm Liz Williams with OSM.
29 And you can find the analysis for this proposal on Page
30 49 of your books. And this proposal was submitted by
31 the Chenega IRA Council and the request would allow a
32 designated hunter to harvest a mountain goat in Unit 6
33 on behalf of a Federally-qualified subsistence user who
34 is either blind, 65 or older, at least 70 percent
35 disabled or temporarily disabled.

36

37 And this proposed regulation would
38 simply add mountain goat to the existing regulation.

39

40 The reason for the request is to
41 provide for elders at Chenega Bay who want to use
42 mountain goat but are unable to harvest it for
43 themselves. And the rural residents of Unit 5A and 6C
44 Chenega Bay and Tatitlek have a positive customary and
45 traditional use determination to harvest mountain goats
46 in Unit 6A. The rural residents of Unit 6C and D have
47 a positive determination to harvest mountain goats in
48 Unit 6C and 6D and all rural residents are eligible to
49 harvest mountain goats in Unit 6B.

50

1 Designated hunter provisions recognize
2 the C&T practices of sharing and redistribution of
3 harvest for some people getting things for people that
4 either can't get it or don't have maybe the means,
5 individual harvest limits don't always accommodate
6 cultural practices and a transferable harvest limit is
7 more compatible with the customary harvest patterns of
8 Federal subsistence users who often do sort of communal
9 harvest. Additional mountain goats in Unit 6D are
10 available under the current Federal quota system and
11 allowing designated hunters with the specialized skills
12 necessary to harvest mountain goat is not anticipated
13 to affect mountain goat populations because the Federal
14 quotas will still be in effect. None of the harvest
15 limits are going to change.

16
17 The Federal designated hunter system
18 also allows for the adoption of unit specific
19 regulations that expand the system to other resources
20 in addition to deer, caribou and moose, which are
21 already allowed, mountain goat just isn't at the
22 current time.

23
24 So for those reasons, the OSM
25 preliminary conclusion is to support WP08-10.

26
27 Thank, that concludes my presentation.

28
29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any questions.

30
31 (No comments)

32
33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Am I correct in seeing
34 that currently they have a designated hunter permit for
35 moose, deer, black bear, beaver in Unit 6, which is
36 already an expansion of some of the other areas or do
37 all areas have black bear and beaver?

38
39 MR. BURCHAM: You'd have to look at the
40 Federal regulations. I think beaver is unique to us in
41 Unit 6 with our special designated hunter provision,
42 I'm not sure about black bear.

43
44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And the other question
45 I had is there is no addition to the quota that's
46 available with this, the quota remains the same, and
47 these are all individually quota managed subunits?

48
49 MR. BURCHAM: Yeah, there's a total of
50 17 goats reserved for a subsistence harvest in all the

1 units in Prince William Sound in Unit 6D and that
2 wouldn't change, that would stay the same.

3

4 And for the record, this is Milo
5 Burcham, Forest Service biologist.

6

7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Tom.

8

9 MR. CARPENTER: Milo, just for the
10 record, if you are holding a permit, a designated
11 hunter permit for somebody are you allowed to harvest
12 only one animal at a time?

13

14 MR. BURCHAM: I would have to look at
15 the designated hunter -- I believe it's one bag limit.
16 Give me a minute on that one.

17

18 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yes, in Unit 6, only
19 one designated hunter can only have one bag limit in
20 possession at a time.

21

22 MR. BURCHAM: The statewide allows two
23 harvest limits at one time.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: In the state.

26

27 MR. BURCHAM: For the statewide
28 designated hunter provision.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: But Unit 6 has got a
31 special provision in place already that only allows one
32 bag limit. I think you can find it in the third
33 paragraph down on Page 49. Because I think that's
34 something we put into effect a number of years ago for
35 Unit 6, that you're only allowed one bag limit at a
36 time.

37

38 MR. CARPENTER: I just wanted to make
39 that clear for the record because we are a little bit
40 different here. When these Federal regulations came --
41 when we derived them from State regulations, that was
42 one of the things that people in Cordova wanted, was
43 that you would only have one bag limit at a time which
44 differs from the state, just to let the rest of the
45 Council members know, that that is a consideration.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Milo.

48

49 MR. BURCHAM: It would be just one bag
50 limit at a time. And just to back up a little, go back

1 to a previous meeting when we passed this several years
2 ago, this designated hunter provision, we
3 intentionally, at least it's my recollection that
4 mountain goat was intentionally left off because of
5 some conservation concerns and some thoughts of
6 sporthunters, you know, taking more goats than they
7 needed, or just, you know, taking advantage of
8 opportunities. When I went to Chenega this summer and
9 issued subsistence mountain goat permits to Pete
10 Kompkoff, I was talking to him and he talked about
11 being able to designate somebody, he's getting to be an
12 older guy and he said, oh, I could get somebody to
13 harvest this for me and then I recalled our special,
14 you know, designated hunter provision and I said, no, I
15 guess you can't do it under current regulations and
16 then I saw that we were not meeting a legitimate need
17 for somebody who likes to eat mountain goats, to have
18 somebody get a mountain goat for him and after that
19 discussion I recommended he turn in this proposal
20 because, you know, I saw a legitimate need for adding
21 it at this point.

22

23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Milo, am I correct, in
24 assuming that, from what I understand, this only
25 applies -- this doesn't only apply to Chenega, it would
26 apply to any resident of Unit 6?

27

28 MR. BURCHAM: Yeah, this would apply to
29 anybody who can harvest subsistence mountain goats in
30 Unit 6D, which does include Whittier, Tatitlek,
31 Chenega, Cordova and somebody I issue subsistence
32 mountain goat permits to every year, which are year-
33 round residents of some of the hatcheries in Prince
34 William Sound, like at Cannery Creek.

35

36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions
37 for them.

38

39 MR. STOCKWELL: Yes, I got a question.

40

41 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Bill.

42

43 MR. STOCKWELL: Yeah, I've got a
44 question because I'm new to the process, do we have a
45 definition of what temporary disabled is, I notice it's
46 different than the disabled, which is part of -- came
47 from the State process.

48

49 Thank you.

50

1 MR. BURCHAM: I don't think there's a
2 definition of it but I recall the discussions of that
3 and I think it was intended for women who were pregnant
4 or someone who had a broken limb but that's a little
5 bit of a nightmare for me in dealing with -- well,
6 moose is the species that I deal with the most for, it
7 hasn't been brought up very many times but it's a
8 little bit grey.

9

10 MR. STOCKWELL: That's what I was
11 wondering, it's grey to me, too, and I was wondering
12 where it comes from.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Milo, is it present in
17 other regulations?

18

19 MR. BURCHAM: No, that's unique to us,
20 I think.

21

22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: But is it unique only
23 to this proposal or is it present in other regulations
24 applying to Unit 6?

25

26 MR. BURCHAM: It's present in the Unit
27 6 designated hunter provision which applies to moose,
28 black bear, beaver and deer.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah, I think I can
31 remember some of our discussion on that, and, again, we
32 were counting on the discretion of the agent that gives
33 out the permits to recognize when somebody was really
34 temporarily disabled.....

35

36 MR. BURCHAM: Thanks for that.

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:and we discussed
41 the fact that it had to be pretty disabled to be
42 temporarily disabled.

43

44 MR. BURCHAM: Thanks a lot for giving
45 me that discretion.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I had one other
50 question that Bill brought up right there and I can't

1 remember what it was, oh, we have a subsistence quota
2 in this area and a sporthunting quota, right?

3

4 MR. BURCHAM: (Nods affirmatively)

5

6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So any of these
7 animals that would be taken under the subsistence quota
8 will not take away from other hunter's opportunities
9 under their quotas?

10

11 MR. BURCHAM: No, it won't. The State
12 has set total individual subunit quotas for mountain
13 goat harvest around Prince William Sound and there's a
14 portion of each of those limits that are reserved for
15 subsistence. It varies from one to four goats per unit
16 and total of 17 in Prince William Sound and so
17 subsistence users are allowed 17 goats that would not
18 change, this would just work towards that 17.
19 Subsistence users have not shown very good use of those
20 goats, most of those, at least, have not been reported
21 and the actual harvest is probably far less than 17,
22 I'm getting reports of one to three goats a year or so,
23 so there doesn't seem to be a conservation concern as
24 far as coming close to that limit.

25

26 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Well, that was my next
27 question then, this would not cause a conservation
28 concern or even really conflict with other users.

29

30 MR. BURCHAM: No, and it's not taking
31 away from sporthunter use, at least, with those limits
32 in place right now.

33

34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Any other
35 questions for them.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Alaska
40 Department of Fish and Game.

41

42 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman. Our main
43 question with this proposal and I'm kind of hearing
44 different things. It's our understanding that this
45 proposal would apply to Unit 6D but not to Unit 6A and
46 6B, but I need to get that verified so that we know the
47 scope of this proposal.

48

49 As Milo pointed out there is an
50 allocation of goats for the Unit 6D hunt. In Unit 6A

1 and B, there isn't -- that's not easily accessed goat
2 hunting area but that's administered by a State
3 registration permit and although we would not
4 anticipate much use of that -- of those subunits for
5 goat hunting under this provision, because we're not
6 seeing it under the existing regulations, we need to be
7 very clear about -- make sure we understand if this
8 proposal, as it appears on Page 49, to apply to Unit 6
9 altogether or as, I'm hearing from some of the Federal
10 Staff during this discussion, 6D only. So we need to
11 get that clarified.

12
13 We are concerned about establishing a
14 precedent of broadening the scope of designated hunter
15 permits, at the same time we appreciate the fact that
16 the Unit 6 designated hunter permits have been limited
17 in terms of who's eligible for them to eligibility for
18 State proxy hunting permits. So we think that the
19 Council and people in this region have supported trying
20 to keep some consistency with State regulations in this
21 regard.

22
23 So with that we don't have any further
24 comments, we'd just like to get the clarification about
25 the scope of this proposal.

26
27 Thank you.

28
29 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
30 Preliminary Comments to the Regional Advisory Council.

31
32 Wildlife Proposal WP08-10:

33
34 Authorize designated hunting of
35 mountain goat in Unit 6.

36
37 Introduction:

38
39 The Chenega IRA Council requests this
40 change to allow younger persons to harvest mountain
41 goats for elder residents unable to hunt for
42 themselves.

43
44 Impact on Subsistence Users:

45
46 Federally-qualified subsistence users
47 currently harvest very few goats in Unit 6. The
48 potential impacts of designated hunting are difficult
49 to measure, but some additional goat harvest might
50 occur.

1 Opportunity Provided by State:

2

3 State regulations do not allow proxy
4 hunting of mountain goats.

5

6 Conservation Issues:

7

8 This proposal is not expected to create
9 conservation concerns in Unit 6D, as the goat harvest
10 quota for this subunit is set in regulation. Goat
11 hunting under federal regulations in Units 6A and 6B is
12 administered by state registration permit, and
13 participation by federally-qualified subsistence users
14 is very limited. It is our understanding that this
15 proposal would not apply to Units 6A and 6B.

16

17 Enforcement Issues:

18

19 This proposal would allow persons to be
20 a designated hunter under federal regulations for a
21 species that proxy hunting is not allowed under state
22 regulations.

23

24 Other Comments:

25

26 The state authorizes proxy hunting only
27 for moose, deer, and caribou. Other differences
28 between the state s proxy hunting and the federal
29 designated hunter regulations are outlined in the
30 preliminary staff analysis. Whether or not designated
31 hunting should be authorized for species other than
32 moose, deer, and caribou merits additional discussion.
33 The federal designated hunting regulations for Unit 6
34 differ from those in effect elsewhere, as participation
35 is limited to federally-qualified subsistence users who
36 are either blind, 65 years of age or older, at least 70
37 percent disabled, or temporarily disabled. It is our
38 understanding that these limitations would also apply
39 to designated hunting of goats if this proposal is
40 adopted.

41

42

43 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Terry. I
44 was under the impression it was under 6D, too, but now
45 that I'm looking at it I'm not finding anything that
46 says that.

47

48 Ricky.

49

50 MR. GEASE: On Page -- just to clarify

1 on Page.....

2

3 REPORTER: Wait, Ricky, thanks.

4

5 MR. GEASE: Just to clarify on Page 48
6 under proposed regulation, it's parenthesis D, is that
7 referring to Unit 6D or is that a different section in
8 the regulations there?

9

10 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Tom.

11

12 MR. CARPENTER: Yeah, if you read the
13 proposal on Page 49 it says, would allow a designated
14 hunter to harvest a mountain goat in Unit 6.

15

16 MR. GEASE: Yeah.

17

18 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Uh-huh.

19

20 MR. CARPENTER: And if you go to the
21 Federal subsistence regulations, currently in Unit 6C,
22 which is where we're at right here there is no Federal
23 season. And in 6D, which is Prince William Sound,
24 basically the entire Sound, from Cordova all the way to
25 Whittier up to Valdez into the Gulf would be where
26 residents of both of these villages, and people in
27 Cordova would be able to do this.

28

29 That's the way I understand it.

30

31 It's not the entire -- it is the entire
32 Unit 6, but there are portions of Unit 6 that don't
33 have a Federal season.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Terry, can you answer
36 that a little bit?

37

38 MR. HAYNES: Through the Chair. There
39 is a Federal goat season in Unit 6A and Unit 6B, under
40 a State registration permit, and that's what we're
41 asking about. Would this proposed designated hunter
42 regulation apply to Unit 6A and 6B as well as 6D?

43

44 MR. CARPENTER: The way I would
45 understand it since the proposal was written for Unit
46 6, it would be for the entirety of Unit 6 if you are a
47 qualified user in which everybody that lives in Unit 6,
48 Chenega, Tatitlek, and Cordova and I think Whit -- no,
49 not Whittier, those three communities would be able to
50 use a designated hunter.

1 MR. HAYNES: Through the Chair, we're
2 just asking for clarification from Federal Staff as to
3 the scope of this proposal.

4
5 MR. CARPENTER: Oh, that's the way I
6 understand it, is that right Milo?

7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do we have Federal
9 Staff that can clarify that for us.

10
11 Larry.

12
13 MR. BUKLIS: Mr. Chairman. Larry
14 Buklis, OSM. We believe a good point has been raised,
15 that we checked with the proposal booklet and the
16 analysis are consistent that it is Unit 6, and so if it
17 is a benefit to focus the regulation on 6D as in Delta,
18 then that would be a modification to look into. But
19 you're right to note that it is Unit 6. And that there
20 is a Federal season allowed in other parts of Unit 6, A
21 and B, A and Bravo. So if you want to focus on D, then
22 that would be a modification.

23
24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Seeing as who
25 presented the proposal I would feel that their reason
26 would be to apply it to Prince William Sound, which is
27 6D, that would be my understanding and I was just under
28 the impression that it was applied to 6D. So we'll
29 have to either make a clarification one way or the
30 other on that, Terry, and thanks for bringing that to
31 our attention.

32
33 Bill.

34
35 MR. STOCKWELL: I just looked in the
36 proposal book and the proposal book was written for
37 Unit 6, it said nothing about the letter designation at
38 all so I think we need to amend it when it comes up and
39 I'll be glad to put an amendment in.

40
41 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Terry. Any
42 questions for Terry.

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 MR. HAYNES: Thank you.

47
48 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hearing none, Federal,
49 State and tribal agency comments. Pete didn't say
50 anything about this one here and this one did come from

1 Chenega, and, you know, that's why it's my impression
2 it applies to Prince William Sound, which is where
3 Chenega has their C&T. But it's pretty evident what
4 the reason behind it is, so I don't see anybody here
5 that's to testify for them, though.

6

7 Are there any other Federal or State
8 agencies that wish to testify.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Does the InterAgency
13 Staff Committee have anything.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Fish and Game Advisory
18 Committee. Did the Fish and Game Advisory Committee
19 look at this at all, Tom.

20

21 MR. CARPENTER: The Copper River [sic]
22 Advisory Committee had no problem with this proposal.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Summary of written
25 public comments. Donald.

26

27 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The
28 Prince William Sound [sic] Advisory Committee was the
29 only one that submitted written public comments and Mr.
30 Carpenter already addressed it.

31

32 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

33

34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. And do we
35 have any call for public testimony.

36

37 MR. MIKE: No testimony requested.

38

39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So we have in
40 front of us WP08-10, do we have a motion to put it on
41 the table.

42

43 MR. HENRICHS: I'll make a motion.

44

45 MR. CARPENTER: Second.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been moved and
48 seconded to put WP08-10 on the table. Discussion.
49 Amendments.

50

1 Bill.
2
3 MR. STOCKWELL: I'd like to amend the
4 proposal, Mr. Chairman.
5
6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yes.
7
8 MR. STOCKWELL: I'd like to limit the
9 proposal to Unit 6D only.
10
11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do I hear any second
12 for that.
13
14 MR. CARPENTER: Second.
15
16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been moved and
17 seconded to limit the proposal to 6D. And if we look
18 at most of our analysis it applies to 6D. 6D is where
19 we have our quota system and everything.
20
21 MR. STOCKWELL: And 6D also contains
22 the villages that requested the proposal.
23
24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah. Any other
25 discussion on the amendment.
26
27 (No comments)
28
29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: If there's no
30 discussion question's in order.
31
32 MR. CARPENTER: Question.
33
34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been called
35 on the amendment. All in favor of limiting WP08-10 to
36 6D signify by saying aye.
37
38 IN UNISON: Aye.
39
40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All opposed signify by
41 saying nay.
42
43 (No opposing votes)
44
45 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries. Okay,
46 now we have before us an amended proposal, WP08-10,
47 limited to 6D. Everything else stays the same. Any
48 discussion on the proposal.
49
50 Tom.

1 MR. CARPENTER: Mr. Chairman. Seeing
2 how Unit 6 has some special provisions for the
3 designated hunter program we don't feel that there will
4 be any conservation concerns because there will only be
5 able to be one harvest limit in possession at any one
6 time, we have positive public testimony and would call
7 the question.

8
9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been
10 called. All in favor of amended WP08-10 signify by
11 saying aye.

12
13 IN UNISON: Aye.

14
15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All opposed signify by
16 saying nay.

17
18 (No opposing votes)

19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries
21 unanimously. With that we'll take a 10 minute break.

22
23 (Off record)

24
25 (On record)

26
27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I'd like to call this
28 spring meeting of the Southcentral Regional Advisory
29 Council back into session. We're going to be looking
30 at WP08-12 and we're going to have the introduction to
31 the proposal and an analysis at this point in time and
32 I don't know who's presenting that one, okay, I do now.
33 Oh, for everybody's information, we skipped WP08-11
34 because that's one of the proposals that we put off
35 until first thing tomorrow morning and that's why we're
36 on WP08-12.

37
38 MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
39 Members of the Council. I'm Liz Williams with the
40 Office of Subsistence Management. And you can find
41 Proposal 12 on Page 70 in your books. And this
42 proposal was submitted by Robert Cyr and it requests
43 that Unit 11 be added to the list of units within which
44 the skin, hide, pelt or fur, including the claws of
45 brown bears harvested under Federal subsistence
46 regulations can be used to make handicrafts for
47 personal use or sale.

48
49 The Federal Subsistence Board has
50 considered numerous proposals regarding the sale of

1 handicrafts made from the non-edible byproducts of
2 black and brown bears, as have you, and the Board has
3 supported these regulations in other areas of the state
4 as they are allowable under ANILCA but they've deferred
5 to units only where the RACs have supported these uses.

6

7 The Board, as well as the RACs, have
8 always emphasized that a statewide regulation regarding
9 brown bear handicrafts or any bear handicrafts is not
10 appropriate.

11

12 The Board has not supported these
13 regulations for the Southcentral because this RAC has
14 consistently opposed them. However, because this is a
15 use that's allowable under ANILCA and the regulatory
16 process is always open to the reexamination of issues
17 and regulations, the preliminary OSM conclusion is to
18 support this proposal.

19

20 And I should note that we've had three
21 proposals to include new units in this regulatory cycle
22 and because it's an allowable use under ANILCA we've
23 supported all of those proposals.

24

25 Thank you, that concludes my
26 presentation.

27

28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any questions.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Alaska
33 Department of Fish and Game.

34

35 MR. HAYNES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
36 As Liz pointed out this Council has not supported
37 recognizing the sale of handicrafts made from brown
38 bear parts and there has been testimony before this
39 Council that making handicrafts from brown bear claws
40 is not a customary and traditional practice among the
41 AHTNA. We haven't seen evidence in the Staff analysis
42 demonstrating that this is a customary and traditional
43 activity and in the absence of that kind of
44 information, that is the production and sale of brown
45 bear handicrafts is a customary and traditional
46 activity in Unit 11, we can't support this proposal at
47 this time.

48

49 However, the Department has a proposal
50 which you'll be talking about later in the meeting that

1 would accommodate some uses of brown bear as is being
2 sought in this proposal. And the main difference is
3 that the State's proposal would not define claws as
4 being part of brown bear fur. So we obviously support
5 our own proposal, which you'll discuss later, but we
6 don't believe that there's evidence that this is a
7 customary and traditional activity in Unit 11.

8

9 Thank you.

10

11 Alaska Department of Fish and Game
12 Preliminary Comments to the Regional Advisory Council.

13

14 Wildlife Proposal WP08-12:

15

16 WP08-12 proposes to authorize sale of
17 handicrafts made from fur, including claws of brown
18 bear harvested in Unit 11.

19

20 Introduction:

21

22 Federal regulations authorizing sale of
23 handicrafts made from the skin, hide, fur, or pelt,
24 including claws, of brown bears do not apply to brown
25 bears taken in Unit 11. This proposal would allow such
26 sales from brown bear taken in Unit 11. Where such
27 sales are allowed under Federal law, they are limited
28 only by unenforceable regulation that prohibits sales
29 constituting a "significant commercial enterprise,"
30 which is undefined. Under State law, sales and
31 purchases of handicrafts made with brown bear claws are
32 prohibited. Sales of bear fur handicrafts would be
33 allowed under different circumstances without adoption
34 of this proposal if Proposal WP08-05 is adopted.

35

36 Impact on Subsistence Users:

37

38 This proposal would not further
39 subsistence use of brown bear because sales of brown
40 bear handicrafts are not customary and traditional.
41 The Southcentral Regional Advisory Council in 2005 only
42 supported recognizing the sale of handicrafts made from
43 non-edible parts of black bears and no sales from parts
44 of brown bears largely based on testimony from an AHTNA
45 tribal representative who stated that brown bear claws
46 had never been used for making handicrafts by the
47 AHTNA.

48

49 The Federal Subsistence Board's current
50 allowance of such sales in other units was not based

1 upon a determination that such sales are customary and
2 traditional but upon the Board's contention that the
3 Federal Board can authorize any use if they take is
4 customary and traditional.1 Federal regulations
5 already allow rural residents to barter brown bear
6 handicrafts with anyone; therefore, this proposal is
7 not needed to allow rural residents or urban Natives to
8 obtain such handicrafts for ceremonial, religious and
9 cultural purposes. Adoption of this proposal will
10 increase the likelihood that Federally-qualified
11 subsistence users will face State prosecution for
12 engaging in sales that are prohibited under State law
13 when they occur on State or private lands.

14

15 Opportunity Provided by the State:

16

17 State regulations allow the purchase,
18 sale and barter of handicrafts made from the fur of a
19 bear, but the State's definition of fur does not
20 include the claws. Under 5 AAC 92.900, handicrafts
21 made with bear fur may be sold to anyone. However,
22 sales of handicrafts made with claws are prohibited.

23

24 Conservation Issues:

25

26 Regulations allowing the sales of high
27 value bear claws create a legal market for bear claws
28 that is likely to mask illegal sales, thereby
29 compounding problems with the international trade of
30 Endangered Species and contributing to the illegal
31 harvest, overharvest and waste of bears in other states
32 and countries as well as Alaska. Brown bears develop
33 slowly and have a low reproductive rate making small
34 populations extremely susceptible to overharvest.
35 Allowing widespread sale of high value bear parts
36 without any kind of tracking mechanism is an invitation
37 to illegal harvests. Existing unit-specific Federal
38 regulations are unenforceable and inconsistent with
39 sound management principles. Adoption of this proposal
40 will incrementally increase these problems.

41

42 Enforcement Issues:

43

44 This proposal will increase enforcement
45 issues in several ways. First, by expanding the pool
46 of eligible sellers and potential numbers of legal
47 sales of high value bear parts, it will contribute to
48 increased masking of illegal sales and bolster the
49 economic incentives for illegal harvest in other states
50 and countries as well as Alaska. Second, it will add

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Terry.
2
3 MR. HAYNES: Thank you.
4
5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Federal, State and
6 tribal agency comments. Do we have any Federal, State
7 or tribal agency comments.
8
9 (No comments)
10
11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hearing none.
12 InterAgency Staff Committee comments.
13
14 (No comments)
15
16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No InterAgency Staff
17 Committee comments. Fish and Game Advisory Committee
18 comments. Do we have any Fish and Game Advisory
19 Committee comments on this.
20
21 Donald.
22
23 MR. MIKE: We have none, Mr. Chair.
24
25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All right. Summary of
26 written public comments, Donald.
27
28 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. The summary of
29 written public comments starts on Page 74. We received
30 two written public comments, one from the Copper River
31 Native Association and the other from the AHTNa and
32 they both oppose the proposal.
33
34 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
35
36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Donald. Do
37 we have any public testimony at this point in time on
38 this proposal, WP08-12.
39
40 MR. MIKE: None, Mr. Chair.
41
42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Then at
43 this point in time a motion to accept Proposal WP08-12
44 for consideration is in order.
45
46 MR. CARPENTER: Move to adopt Proposal
47 08-12.
48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do I hear a second.
50

1 MS. WAGGONER: Second.
2
3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been moved and
4 adopted that we adopt WP08-12. Discussion.
5
6 Tricia.
7
8 MS. WAGGONER: Since Unit 12 residents
9 have positive C&T in the northern portion of Unit 11,
10 do we have any recommendations from the Eastern
11 Interior Council?
12
13 MS. WILLIAMS: They don't meet until
14 next week.
15
16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hearing that, Tricia,
17 I guess we don't have any recommendations from them.
18 Any other discussion.
19
20 Gloria, would you like to say
21 something, I'll say something, too.
22
23 MS. STICKWAN: I just want to say that,
24 you know, in the past that we've heard that AHTNA
25 hasn't used -- customarily and traditionally used brown
26 bear. But it all depends on who you hear the
27 information from and when you hear the information and
28 if it's documented. If it's not documented then you're
29 left with people who are at the meeting when decisions
30 are made that say things that say things that are
31 different from what elders may say. I just talked to
32 Nick and he told me that it was traditionally used by
33 AHTNA people.
34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It was traditionally
36 used by AHTNA people.
37
38 MS. STICKWAN: Yes. And so these
39 decisions that are made, C&T, or anything, you know,
40 it's all -- you have to be really careful when you have
41 one individual that attends these meetings, you know,
42 and even in our committee, you know, if one person is
43 outspoken and they say something then everybody goes
44 along with them but if an elder is not there to correct
45 them then mistakes like these are made. And, you know,
46 and that's how this got passed, I mean that's how this
47 was supported.
48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You mean opposed.
50

1 MS. STICKWAN: Yeah, opposed, yeah,
2 sorry. And so I don't know if Nick wants to say
3 anything or not about it.

4
5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Mr. Jackson, would it
6 be out of order for me to ask you to come up and give
7 your comments on this.

8
9 MR. JACKSON: Thank you. My name is
10 Nick Jackson, I'm from Copper Center area. I just
11 talked briefly to Gloria on this proposal here. You
12 know years ago they used to -- this is when I was
13 growing up at a young age and they did hunt it in the
14 spring for bears, just to sell hides, and then they
15 outlawed it and they didn't do that no more.

16
17 But, you know, I think one of the
18 reasons they oppose this is because a lot of them like
19 to wear that claw around their neck and then shooting
20 the bear and cutting the claws off don't make no sense
21 neither and it can be abused and for that reason I
22 think that's why the committee was -- I wasn't at that
23 meeting when they discussed this proposal. But I just
24 wanted to point out that they used to sell bear hides
25 back when I was little.

26
27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Nick, they used to
28 sell bear hides but did they make things out of bear
29 hides and bear claws and bear bones and teeth that
30 would be considered handicrafts that were sold or
31 traded or worn?

32
33 MR. JACKSON: For trading, they did
34 some trading with it.

35
36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: They did, okay.
37 Anybody else have any questions they'd like to ask
38 Nick. I sure appreciate you coming up.

39
40 Gloria. Oh, Doug.

41
42 MR. BLOSSOM: Yeah, Mr. Chair, so as I
43 understand it you have no problem with this proposal.

44
45 MR. JACKSON: Only problem I see is
46 abuse of it, you know, like I know I seen just where
47 the claws were cut off and to me that's not a way of
48 using, you know, traditional use. You know when they
49 do -- in my culture, you know, when you do take
50 something you use it, you don't just shoot it just for

1 claws. And I can see this happen here.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Bill.

4

5 MR. STOCKWELL: Just to clarify, your
6 main concern would be the sale of the bear claws
7 themselves. If people wanted to make handicrafts out
8 of the hide or -- as long as they harvested the whole
9 thing.

10

11 MR. JACKSON: Yes, I would. I would
12 agree with that if they use all of it, but I'm just,
13 you know, leery of being abused of just claws are
14 taken.

15

16 MR. STOCKWELL: Right. And you're
17 talking more of -- now, if a person -- it says here
18 both personal use and sale, if a person harvested the
19 whole bear, then how he makes handicrafts for himself
20 out of the bear, that wouldn't be a problem.

21

22 MR. JACKSON: No, it won't be a problem
23 for me then if they use it all.

24

25 MR. STOCKWELL: Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I think that's
28 something that this Council has stressed on a lot of
29 things on customary trade and barter, is that the
30 customary trade and barter is not the first use of it,
31 the first use is you're taking it for other subsistence
32 needs and then to use the byproducts for customary
33 trade and barter would be acceptable, but I know that
34 we've been very hesitant on bears because there seemed
35 to be conflict as to whether or not it would be --
36 whether it was a culturally sensitive issue in the area
37 and I thank you for your clarification on that.

38

39 MR. JACKSON: Okay.

40

41 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: James, did you want
42 him back. Nick.

43

44 MR. SHOWALTER: Well, just a comment to
45 his. Yes, I don't see any problem with harvesting of
46 the claws since bears and other parts are used, and it
47 encompasses the claws for traditional use. And so with
48 that in mind, as you indicated, myself, I would vote in
49 favor of the usage of claws as long as they encompass
50 the total bear usage.

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Mr. Henrichs.

2

3 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, I'm just curious,
4 when you talk about total use of the bear or using it
5 all, are you talking about the meat also -- are you
6 talking about the meat of the brown bear also. I've
7 eaten black bear and I've eaten -- Bruce Cain makes
8 sausage out of brown bears but a lot of people -- what
9 I don't want to see is people going out there killing a
10 bear, taking the claws and the hide and the teeth and
11 just dumping the meat.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I think under
14 subsistence purposes you have to take it for the meat,
15 that was always our understanding.

16

17 Personally I've eaten brown bear and
18 grizzly bear and find no problem with any of it at all
19 and it was always my understanding that if you took one
20 under subsistence regulations and we discussed that on
21 the Kenai, if I remember particularly, if you took one
22 under subsistence regulations you were taking it for
23 the entire bear, including salvaging the meat. In
24 other words, you didn't go out and take a bear for the
25 hide and claws and head like a trophy, under
26 subsistence you went out and took the bear for
27 everything, including the meat and you salvaged the
28 meat. I may be wrong on that -- I am correct on that,
29 that's our current definition, isn't it, would you.....

30

31 MR. LORD: Mr. Chair. Ken Lord from
32 the Solicitor's Office. Our general regulations say
33 that, and I'll read it:

34

35 If you take wildlife for subsistence
36 you must salvage the following parts
37 for human use and under that there's a
38 list of things, but one of them is the
39 hide and edible meat of a brown bear,
40 except that the hide of brown bears
41 taken in, and it's got a couple of
42 units listed, need not be salvaged.

43

44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: But the meat has to be
45 salvaged?

46

47 MR. LORD: That's correct.

48

49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So basically you're
50 taking it for the meat first and these other things are

1 byproducts of your hunt and what you're doing is making
2 use of the byproduct of your hunt for either crafts or
3 cash or whatever that you're trying to do, but the
4 general purpose for taking the bear has to be for the
5 meat. And if it's not, then it's not a subsistence
6 bear, then you better take it under State regulations.

7

8

Mr. Henrichs.

9

10 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, I'm just curious
11 whether anybody's been following the big push there
12 west of Tyonek to take bears because they claim the
13 bears are taking over 50 percent of the moose calves,
14 and the big push to take these bears is to increase the
15 survival of the moose which is a subsistence species
16 really. But I have no idea with what they're going to
17 do with all those bears if they take -- I'm just -- I
18 just thought I'd throw that out there in case anybody
19 was following it.

20

21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I don't think those
22 bears are being taken under subsistence regulations,
23 though, they're being taken under State regulations for
24 moose management, not under subsistence regulations.
25 But under subsistence regulations you have to salvage
26 the meat. You can -- like he says, you can salvage the
27 hide, you don't even have to salvage the hide at
28 certain times of the year.

29

30

Tom.

31

32 MR. CARPENTER: Yeah, I know Barbara
33 said that the Resource Council hasn't met yet but I'd
34 be curious to know if she has talked to any of them
35 about this proposal and what any of them had to say.

36

37 MS. CELLARIUS: (Shakes head
38 negatively).

39

40 MR. CARPENTER: Nothing. All right,
41 thanks.

42

43 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. That took us
44 through the -- I think we went through everything,
45 didn't we, we have a motion on the table, right.

46

47 MR. CARPENTER: Uh-huh.

48

49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: We have a motion on
50 the table for discussion.

1 MR. HENRICHS: Who made the motion.
2
3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Tom did. Who was the
4 second, Tricia was, wasn't she, Tricia was the second.
5 Yes, we have a motion on the table.
6
7 Tricia.
8
9 MS. WAGGONER: Having been involved on
10 the Eastern Interior Council when this similar
11 regulation was passed for Unit 25, Unit 20 and Unit 12.
12 I would encourage this Council to realize that, you
13 know, a portion of Unit 11 that they do have customary
14 and traditional use and that they have made that
15 decision to allow the use of the hide and the other
16 parts for handicrafts. So keeping that in mind when we
17 make our recommendation, you know, that they have found
18 this positive within those units up there.
19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So the Eastern
21 Interior has already passed this basic proposal.
22
23 MS. WAGGONER: Yes. If you look at the
24 proposed regulations, this would be adding Unit 11,
25 it's already you can use claws, hide, pelt, fur, Unit
26 12, Unit 20, Unit 25.
27
28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.
29
30 MS. WAGGONER: And I know that when we
31 deliberated it, there was concerns about abuse. I
32 haven't seen records of abuse since it's passed. I
33 know that's a big concern of everybody but, yeah, it's
34 already in regulation for those units.
35
36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, I wanted to
37 get that on the record.
38
39 MS. STICKWAN: Can I ask Barbara a
40 question.
41
42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: What?
43
44 MS. STICKWAN: Can I ask Barbara a
45 question.
46
47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You sure may.
48 Barbara.
49
50 MS. STICKWAN: Didn't the SRC talk

1 about these proposals in the past, I seem to remember
2 that the SRC has supported these proposals, am I wrong?

3

4 MS. CELLARIUS: That is something I
5 would have to look up for you and I don't have my
6 computer with me in this room. I have it in my hotel
7 room. So it's information I could get for you but it
8 would take me a little while to do that and I just
9 wouldn't want to speak without having said that [sic].
10 I would say that, yeah, I think that's where I -- yeah,
11 that's what I should say, is that, I'm not sure what
12 the answer is and it would take me about 15 minutes to
13 get an answer for you.

14

15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Barbara.

16

17 Ricky.

18

19 MR. GEASE: Just a clarification on my
20 point. So if a person takes a bear in Unit 11 do they
21 have to be a resident of Unit 11 or can they be a
22 different rural resident coming into Unit 11 to hunt?

23

24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You have to be Unit
25 11, Unit 13, not 13, just Unit 11.

26

27 MS. WAGGONER: North of Sanford River
28 is Unit 11, Unit 12, Chistochina, Chitina, and the
29 entire list, Unit 11 remainder is that same list of
30 communities and Unit 11.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah. Right. Bill.

33

34 MR. STOCKWELL: I've got a problem with
35 selling the bear claws and people harvesting the bears
36 because they become a high value of things on the
37 illegal market and also with the -- both the Copper
38 River Native Association and AHTNA opposing this even
39 though some people may not have been at the meetings,
40 it's here and we didn't hear any other comments from
41 them as such. I think I'm going to have to oppose this
42 proposal.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Bob.

47

48 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, this specifically
49 lists what you could use for this and then sell or
50 trade some of this stuff. And I seem to recall a big

1 black market item used to be, not too long ago used to
2 be what, gall bladders out of bears, but you can't sell
3 that or use that for anything. I was just checking to
4 make sure. Because they had guys on the eastern side
5 of the Sound there coming of Whittier killing lots of
6 bears.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: If I remember right
9 and I'm going to try to remember back to our
10 discussions on this when we talked about that, that was
11 one that was purposely deleted from our list of things
12 that could be salvaged and sold from bears, is the
13 gallbladders simply because that was a promotional
14 thing.

15

16 And I'd like to speak on the claws.
17 There was a time when that bear claws were worth a real
18 lot, bear claws aren't -- bear claws are a drug (ph)
19 right on the market right now, simply because they make
20 such realistic imitations of them that you can't tell
21 the real ones from the fake anymore, and you can order
22 all of the bear claws that you want out of various
23 handicraft catalogs that it would be hard pressed for
24 anybody in this room to tell if they weren't real
25 claws, and they're very reasonable.

26

27 Any other discussion on this proposal.

28

29 Tom.

30

31 MR. CARPENTER: Well, I mean typically
32 on something like this I like to read the public
33 comments, you know, and both the written public
34 comments, I mean from both the Native associations up
35 there in the book are opposed to it and then Mr.
36 Jackson and Gloria, they gave some different testimony
37 so I guess I'm kind of torn, you know, between do the
38 people really want it up there or do they want, and
39 that's why I almost wish that the SRC, which is kind of
40 the resource based Council up there besides these two
41 Native associations, would have gave me a better idea
42 if people up there actually want it.

43

44 I'm almost inclined to defer this
45 proposal until the SRC can meet and give us a decision
46 and that also might give the time for AHTNA and the
47 Copper River Native Association to maybe come to a --
48 you know, maybe we could get some more comments from
49 more people up there, but I don't really know what to
50 do right now. That's kind of what I'm looking at.

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gloria.
2
3 MS. STICKWAN: Well, you heard Nick say
4 there's a potential for abuse, people getting claws.
5 And you heard -- you seen the written comments that the
6 AHTNA people are opposing it and Nick also said that it
7 was mostly for the abuse that they're concerned about
8 that. And I think since they said that there's
9 potential of abuse, I don't think they would change
10 their mind.
11
12 MR. CARPENTER: Okay.
13
14 MS. STICKWAN: I don't see them going
15 back and saying, you know.....
16
17 MR. CARPENTER: So you think that
18 pretty much that they're opposed to it on a
19 general.....
20
21 MS. STICKWAN: I think they're going to
22 oppose again if it's brought up.
23
24 MR. CARPENTER: Okay.
25
26 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I know in the past
27 when we've had discussions on this as a Council, it's
28 been a very controversial issue in Southcentral and
29 we've stated time and time again that we didn't think
30 that it should be made statewide. I was reading one of
31 my own comments on it quite a while back; it says:
32
33 We had a tie vote. We felt as a
34 Council that this would probably be
35 better served if it was dealt on a
36 region by region basis because some
37 people find this culturally
38 unacceptable.
39
40 And that's true, even if some people in
41 the same group find it culturally acceptable, it's -- I
42 would prefer, myself, to take a conservative stand on
43 something like this. It's not anything that's going to
44 economically impact anybody seriously because there
45 aren't that many people taking bears for subsistence
46 use because like Robert pointed out, not very many
47 people have even eaten brown bear.
48
49 At the same time I don't think there's
50 a conservation issue at stake because, again, I don't

1 think very many people are going to take bears under
2 the subsistence regulation because the average person
3 does not want to salvage the meat on a brown bear. But
4 I would be very happy to either defer it or I would
5 probably vote against it simply because I know that
6 it's a culturally touchy issue.

7

8 Tom.

9

10 MR. CARPENTER: Just one more comment.
11 In lieu of what Gloria just said and not taking away
12 from the individual that put this permit [sic] in, but
13 I have to defer my judgment to what the Copper River
14 Native Association and AHTNA's comments are in the
15 book. And also what Gloria -- and the way I would take
16 this proposal is that if the SRC or one of these Native
17 Associations up there changes their mind in the future
18 they can always resubmit a proposal to the Council and
19 we can deal with it then.

20

21 But I would oppose it, I'll call the
22 question.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Tom, one more
25 question. It's not just limited to the Native
26 Association.....

27

28 MR. CARPENTER: I know.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:or the SRC. The
31 individual that has this proposal can resubmit it and
32 present it and bring before us better testimony in
33 favor of his proposal.

34

35 MR. CARPENTER: Right.

36

37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And Ricky had his hand
38 up before you called the question so I'm going to ask
39 Ricky, go ahead.

40

41 MR. GEASE: Do we have any data on how
42 many brown bears are actually harvested in Unit 11 for
43 subsistence?

44

45 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No we don't, Tom's not
46 here at this point in time. I know the number is
47 extremely small, I do know that one was taken in
48 McCarthy last fall for subsistence use and we'll have a
49 proposal later on that deals with that because he took
50 it for subsistence use -- he took it for subsistence

1 under State law, harvested the meat and basically
2 destroyed the hide and found out under State law he had
3 to salvage the hide, which was a real problem because
4 he took it strictly for meat. I mean it all went into
5 his freezer and into his canning jars and so I think
6 we'll be dealing with a proposal like that a little bit
7 later on.

8

9 So I don't think it's a very high take.
10 I can speak for the people in McCarthy area. I know
11 the people who live on the McCarthy Road and last year
12 I know of one; a couple years ago I know of one, my son
13 took one, we ate it. You know it's not a large number
14 of bears taken for subsistence use, simply because most
15 people do not want to eat a brown bear.

16

17 MS. STICKWAN: And because it's not
18 accessible for people to go over there. I mean it's
19 hard for them to hunt.

20

21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Doug.

22

23 MR. BLOSSOM: Mr. Chair. I was
24 inclined to vote for it to start with but as I listened
25 to Gloria and Mr. Jackson, they got a little worry
26 there and I guess the third reason that I've changed my
27 mind is that if a proposer shows up and talks about his
28 proposal, I'm a lot more inclined to agree with them
29 than disagree and because no one showed up to talk for
30 it, I will vote no.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: The question's been
33 called so unless something that's needing to be added,
34 Robert, we should go to the question.

35

36 MR. HENRICHS: Okay, let's vote on it.

37

38 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. The question's
39 been called. All in favor of Proposal WP08-12 signify
40 by saying aye.

41

42 MS. WAGGONER: Aye.

43

44 MR. GEASE: Aye.

45

46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Two for. All opposed
47 signify by saying nay.

48

49 IN UNISON: Nay.

50

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: The opposed carries.
2 Would the minority like to put something on record as
3 to why they voted the way they did.

4
5 Tricia.

6
7 MS. WAGGONER: I think that by voting
8 this down we are limiting Unit 12 residents north of
9 Sanford River and they have already passed this for
10 their area and they have positive C&T for north of
11 Sanford River and I think we are limiting their
12 opportunities.

13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Tricia.
15 Ricky.

16
17 MR. GEASE: I would concur with that.

18
19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. That will go in
20 the record and that will be presented to the Board and
21 the Board will end up making the final decision on it
22 anyhow.

23
24 At this point in time Gloria's asked if
25 we could close just a little early so those that got
26 their per diem checks and need to have some money to
27 exist to get to the bank before the bank closed. I
28 think we made good progress for today. If it's
29 acceptable to the rest, Nick, are you going to be able
30 to stay tomorrow?

31
32 MR. JACKSON: Yes.

33
34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Because Nick
35 Jackson would like to testify on 13 and 14 and on
36 another one, but we're starting tomorrow morning with
37 Proposal 11, the Copper River moose. And with that I'm
38 going to call a recess for today and we'll go back in
39 session at 8:30 tomorrow morning.

40
41 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, could
42 I have your attention please.

43
44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Donald.

45
46 MR. MIKE: There's a community potluck,
47 maybe, Mr. Chair, you could remind everyone.

48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. The community
50 potluck tonight, especially for the Council, but for

1 the members of the community, is at Mt. Eccles Grade
2 School. And you basically go up one block up the
3 street here and you go down three blocks and it's on
4 the left-hand side, and it's Mt. Eccles Grade School,
5 it starts at 6:00 -- from 6:00 to 8:00.

6

7 MR. HENRICHS: And it's for the Staff
8 members and others.

9

10 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah, and for the
11 community.

12

13 MR. HENRICHS: Yeah, you bet.

14

15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And knowing Cordova,
16 you'll probably have some pretty good food there so I
17 would advise showing up. You don't have to, but it'll
18 be good eating.

19

20 (Off record)

21

22 (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)

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Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
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