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SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

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VOLUME II

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DAY'S INN CONFERENCE ROOM
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

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MARCH 24, 1999

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14 MEMBERS PRESENT:

15

16 Mr. Ralph Lohse, Chairman

17 Mr. Fred John, Jr., Vice Chairman

18 Ms. Clare Swan, Secretary

19 Mr. Donald Kompkoff, Sr.

20 Mr. Gilbert Dementi

21 Mr. Benjamin E. Romig

22

23 Ms. Helga Eakon, Coordinator

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(On record - 8:15 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN LOHSE: We'll call this meeting of
th Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council,
the spring meeting back in session.

Helga, do we need to take a roll?

MS. EAKON: No, you do have a quorum with
Gilbert and Fred, yourself and Clare and Donald, you have
five.

CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So a quorum is established.

MS. EAKON: A quorum is still established.

CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. With that, we're
going back on to proposals and I've had a request to make a
motion by Gilbert Dementi.

MR. DEMENTI: I make a motion to reconsider
Proposal 3.

CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do I hear a second.

MS. SWAN: Second.

CHAIRMAN LOHSE: A motion has been made and
seconded to reconsider Proposal 3. All in favor of it
signify by saying aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Opposed signify by saying
nay.

(No opposing responses)

CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries.

Don, you want to make a motion to defer it to the
fall meeting?

MR. KOMPKOFF: Yes, I'd like to make a motion
to defer this meeting [sic] until the fall meeting.

CHAIRMAN LOHSE: This proposal.

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1 MR. KOMPKOFF: This proposal, Proposal 3.

2
3 MR. F. JOHN. I second it.

4
5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Uh-huh (affirmative).

6
7 MR. KOMPKOFF: I just want to say that just
8 because we lived in Cordova doesn't mean we gave up our
9 residency in Chenega and so I'm going to have some people
10 from Chenega and Tatitlek come and testify for the next --
11 well, for the fall meeting.

12
13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Any other discussion?

14
15 (No audible responses)

16
17 MR. F. JOHN. Question.

18
19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been called. All
20 in favor of the motion to defer action on Proposal 3 till the
21 fall meeting so that Don can bring some other testimony,
22 signify by saying aye.

23
24 IN UNISON: Aye.

25
26 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Opposed signify by saying
27 nay.

28
29 (No opposing responses)

30
31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries.

32
33 Okay. Proposal 21. At this time we'll turn it over
34 to Rachel to give us our lead in.

35
36 MS. MASON: That would be to Robert.

37
38 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: To Robert to give us our
39 lead in, okay.

40
41 MR. WILLIS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Proposal
42 21 was submitted by the Denali Fish and Game Advisory
43 Committee and it would create a brown bear season in Unit 13
44 extending from September 1 to May 31 with a harvest limit of
45 one bear per year.

46
47 Currently we have no Federal Subsistence brown bear
48 season in Unit 13. There is a State season in place and it's
49 divided into two sections. Actually there are three separate
50 regulations, but two major sections. And I put the map on

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1 the wall back there so you could, perhaps, see a little bit
2 better. Those of you who aren't familiar with Unit 13, the
3 dividing line used by the State for regulation purposes is
4 the Alaska Railroad which, if you'll follow the red pointer,
5 runs pretty much along the Parks Highway, right in there. So
6 the area of Federal lands on the west side would be Denali
7 National Park, right in here. There's also -- currently
8 there is no season in Denali National Park under State
9 regulation. There is hunting allowed west of the railroad on
10 the State controlled lands in this area. The remainder of
11 the area here of Unit 13, by far the bulk of the unit, is
12 referred to in the regulations as Unit 13, Remainder.

13
14 You can put the lights back on now, Bill, thank you.

15
16 Federal lands in that unit are comprised of Denali
17 National Park. There's a small area of BLM lands scattered
18 along the pipeline and along wild and scenic rivers in the
19 interior of Unit 13, and there's also a small portion of the
20 Chugach National Park down in the southwest corner. All
21 persons who live in Unit 13 have been determined to have
22 customary and traditional use of brown bear in that unit.

23
24 The brown bear population varies from one region of
25 the unit to another. In the Nelchina Basin area, which is
26 comprised of most of the unit and the area referred to as
27 Unit 13, Remainder, the population is high and either stable
28 or increasing, according to ADF&G's figures. This includes
29 those Federal lands of BLM and the National Forest, which are
30 about 10 percent of the total area. The proposed Federal
31 regulation would duplicate the State regulation for that area
32 with the exception of the opening date.

33
34 Bear densities west of the railroad in Denali
35 National Park, in particular, are not well known at this
36 time. They're thought to be somewhat lower than they are
37 south of there and to the east of there. Currently there's a
38 joint National Park Service/ADF&G research project underway
39 to learn more about those populations, but to date it's not
40 yielded any conclusive data. There's no brown bear hunting
41 allowed within the National Park itself.

42
43 The State regulation west of the railroad there is
44 divided into two areas within Denali State Park and outside
45 of Denali State Park. They have different regulations, but
46 in questioning the ADF&G biologist who is familiar with that
47 area, he says that the difference in regulation is not due to
48 any biological difference but rather to a difference in
49 management objectives. Outside the State park that is, both
50 in the Unit 13, Remainder and the other area west of the

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1 railroad, but outside the State park. The management
2 objective is to reduce the bear population. Toward that end
3 they have a harvest limit of one bear every year, whereas,
4 within Denali State Park the objective is to maintain the
5 population, but still allow some hunting and the harvest
6 limit in that area is one bear per four regulatory years.

7
8 As regards to the proposed Federal subsistence
9 season, we have no biological concerns with the request in
10 that portion of Unit 13 east of the railroad known as Unit
11 13, Remainder, although the different opening date requested
12 may cause some confusion among local users because the
13 Federal lands in that area are pretty scattered and they're
14 surrounded by State land, which currently have a season, so
15 it might be beneficial to have a uniform opening and closing
16 date for those areas.

17
18 Within the interior of the park, since populations
19 are thought to be lower and we don't have good information on
20 bear densities, there is a little more concern. Everyone is
21 in agreement that the population is large enough to support a
22 subsistence harvest at some level. The regulation, which
23 limits harvest to one bear every four regulatory years was
24 considered but that doesn't really fit the subsistence matter
25 of harvesting game. People who want to harvest the bear for
26 the meat probably want to take one every year if they do
27 that.

28
29 And so since the number of users that we expected to
30 do that would be small, for two reasons. One, not many
31 people utilize brown bear for meat and, number two, there's a
32 fairly limited number of people who would have customary and
33 traditional use within the park itself. Pretty much limited
34 to those who live along the Parks Highway between Talkeetna
35 and McKinley Village. And for that reason harvest is
36 expected to be low.

37
38 Preliminary conclusion was to modify this proposal as
39 follows: for Unit 13, east of the Alaska Railroad, also
40 referred to as Unit 13, Remainder, one bear per regulatory
41 year with a season of August 10 to May 31. This would
42 duplicate the current State regulation in place in that part
43 of the unit. For Unit 13, west of the Alaska Railroad, one
44 bear per regulatory year, season of September 10 to May 31.
45 The Federal lands there would be with in the park.

46
47 And our reasoning is that in the area east of the
48 railroad brown bear populations are high and currently there
49 is a State season in place on the Federal lands. We don't
50 expect any significant increase in harvest from the

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1 establishment of this regulation and we feel that having the
2 regulation run concurrent with the State regulation in that
3 area would reduce confusion and would be a change of only a
4 few days in the season length.

5
6 In the area west of the railroad, within Denali
7 National Park, we recommend a regulation of one bear per
8 regulatory year, but we would like to also add a stipulation
9 that if the harvest in the first year is more than four
10 bears, we'd like to revisit that harvest limit with an eye
11 toward possibly reducing it to one bear every four years
12 because of the fact that we don't have good information on
13 bear populations. The people who are most familiar with them
14 feel that they are significantly lower within the park than
15 outside the park. They feel that there are sufficient bears
16 for subsistence harvest, but they would prefer to be a little
17 more cautious about the regulation.

18
19 Therefore, the September 10 to May 31 season would,
20 again, duplicate the State season in the area outside of
21 Denali State Park which would, again, avoid any confusion
22 between Federal and State regulations. And allowing one bear
23 per year would more closely fit the subsistence user
24 customary manner of harvesting. With the stipulation that if
25 more than four bears are taken the first year that we could
26 revisit this regulation, we feel would provide sufficient
27 protection for the bear population within the park.

28
29 That concludes the staff analysis.

30
31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any questions for Robert?

32
33 (No audible responses)

34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I've got a couple, Robert.
36 When you said bears for subsistence, there's not that many
37 people that eat bears. Don't other subsistence uses count
38 and can't they also take them for hides, for handicrafts,
39 things like that, or are they required to salvage all the
40 meat on a subsistence brown bear?

41
42 MR. WILLIS: They are required to salvage all
43 the meat on a subsistence brown bear.

44
45 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Second question is,
46 why would they figure the brown bear population inside the
47 park would be lower than the population outside the park when
48 actually inside the park you've got an undisturbed food
49 supply and outside the park you've got -- the bears have got
50 competition with hunters and everything for their food

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1 supply?

2

3 MR. WILLIS: I'll answer that in two ways.
4 Number one, from my limited knowledge of the park, it's the
5 habitat there is not of the quality that it is in the
6 Nelchina Basin, you don't have the food base in the
7 mountainous areas that you have outside.

8

9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So it's altitude?

10

11 MR. WILLIS: Right, that's a general
12 observation. If Hollis Twitchell is with us today, he is
13 with the Denali National Park staff, if you'd like to bring
14 him up to answer any further questions I'm sure he'd be glad
15 to contribute.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Is he on the list? Are you
18 going to be coming up and speaking to us later, Hollis, this
19 proposal?

20

21 MR. TWITCHELL: When the Denali Subsistence
22 Resource Commission's comments are read into the record I
23 could discuss this.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Yeah, I got a couple
26 of questions I'd like to ask you on that.

27

28 And the idea of revisiting it if more than four per
29 year are taken, is that needed to be put in the motion or
30 wouldn't that be an automatic -- I mean if there's biological
31 concerns it can be revisited at any time. I mean, does it
32 need -- does that need to be a necessary part of the motion
33 or would it possibly be that -- I mean, if there are
34 biological concerns the proposal gets revisited or the
35 emergency closures are put in place.

36

37 MR. WILLIS: That number arose out of a
38 discussion that I had with the Park Service biologist who is
39 currently conducting the research in that area. And we felt
40 that it was probably a good idea to put that in there so that
41 people are aware of the situation and were aware that if four
42 bears were taken that it would be an emergency closure and a
43 Special Action to address that and determine if maybe the
44 regulation needed to be changed.

45

46 The fact that you have people hunting other species
47 in that area during the fall of the year and the fact that
48 you have a recommended season which extends all winter and
49 into the next spring indicates probably a need to have some
50 mechanism for stopping the hunt. And we felt that putting

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1 quota in place would be the best means to do that. If we
2 have the quota then we can close by emergency order when that
3 quota is taken. Without a quota we have to go through a
4 different process which requires having a public hearing
5 within the area, 30 days notice announcing that this is going
6 to be considered and so forth.

7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I can see the need for that,
9 I just -- you know, it's -- we need some biological
10 justification for picking the number four, I mean, other than
11 -- I mean in my way of thinking, you know, it's an arbitrary
12 number. I mean I can see the need for having some mechanism
13 for closing it. I can't imagine just all of a sudden
14 attracting a lot of people to hunt bears inside the park, but
15 it could happen.

16
17 MR. WILLIS: I agree that we're not likely to
18 have four bears taken. The four bears is not an arbitrary
19 number.

20
21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

22
23 MR. WILLIS: If you look at the top of page
24 25 there, there's a statement made, which I didn't read to
25 you, the available data indicates the population density of
26 approximately 2.5 to 3.3 bears per 100 square kilometers.
27 That's a fairly low density, it's the best rough estimate
28 that we currently have. And the number four was suggested by
29 the biologist who was working within the park and with that
30 bear population. It was his suggestion that he would not
31 like to see more bears taken than that per year, based on his
32 current knowledge of the population.

33
34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So that number could change
35 in the future if knowledge changed in the future?

36
37 MR. WILLIS: Yes, the study is ongoing at
38 this time and I'm sure within a few years we'll have better
39 -- much better data than we have now.

40
41 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All right. Thank you.
42 That's a good justification on that.

43
44 MR. DEMENTI: Can I make a comment?

45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yes, Gilbert.

47
48 MR. DEMENTI: I'm from Unit 13(E) and I've
49 hunted in that area. And the altitude don't make a
50 difference to the bear. You could get up there, the bear

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1 could be way, I mean, thousands of feet up in the air.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I realize that, but I think
4 what he was talking about is high altitude country doesn't
5 support as much as a food base, it doesn't support as many of
6 them, but you can find them, I mean, yeah.....

7

8 MR. DEMENTI: They're eating berries, you
9 know.

10

11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Uh-huh, way up on top?

12

13 MR. DEMENTI: Thousands of feet.

14

15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah.

16

17 MR. DEMENTI: And there is moose up there and
18 caribou, everything.

19

20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gilbert, you're from that
21 area, what do you think of what Robert said so far, do
22 you.....

23

24 MR. DEMENTI: I think one bear per year,
25 brown bear.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Is reasonable?

28

29 MR. DEMENTI: Is reasonable.

30

31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Any other questions
32 for Robert?

33

34 MR. F. JOHN. I just got -- I got no
35 question, but this proposal here written by Denali Fish and
36 Game Advisory Committee effect a proposed change on
37 subsistence user, it will allow those who like to hunt
38 grizzly bear to resume hunting while in the field. A lot of
39 time when CRNA write up their proposal it's need basis, this
40 is just like going out and if you just like to hunt, you hunt
41 bear. To me that's not subsistence. I mean I'm not against
42 hunting but the way it's written I don't like that. Is there
43 any comment on that from the Federal people? I mean they
44 just go out because -- you open season just because you like
45 to hunt bear?

46

47 MR. WILLIS: Well, we got a request from
48 subsistence users in the area and that's why we're
49 considering it.

50

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1 MR. F. JOHN. Uh-huh. No, I just didn't like
2 the way.....

3
4 MR. WILLIS: You know, I can't get inside
5 their heads and know exactly what they were thinking when
6 they wrote that up.

7
8 MR. F. JOHN. It could be I like to hunt
9 moose, you know, those who like to hunt moose, you know, and
10 then they use that for subsistence purposes and I just didn't
11 agree with how it's written. I don't disagree with hunting
12 bear, you know, but my comment.....

13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You just don't feel that
15 that's a good justification?

16
17 MR. F. JOHN. No, I don't feel that's a good
18 justification for change, just because they like to hunt
19 bear. My comment.

20
21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Any more questions
22 for Robert.

23
24 Ada [sic], can I get you when it comes time to
25 testify? Unless it's something that needs to be interjected
26 right now.

27
28 MS. HILDEBRAND: It's in reference to Fred's
29 comment.

30
31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. If it's in reference
32 to Fred's comment, come and give it to us.

33
34 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff
35 Committee member. In reference to that comment, when we
36 discussed it the proponent stated that because subsistence
37 hunting is opportunistic that while they were out hunting
38 other animals if they came upon a bear they would take the
39 bear for subsistence purposes.

40
41 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Ada [sic].

42
43 Okay, next we'll go on to Alaska Department of Fish
44 and Game comments.

45
46 MR. McDONALD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For the
47 record my name is Mike McDonald, I'm the Assistant Management
48 Coordinator for the Southcentral Region for the Division of
49 Wildlife Conservation.

50

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1 The Department supports the proposal as Mr. Willis
2 has described it, to modify it to mimic the State seasons.
3 We would suggest as a possibility to follow in that vein that
4 the Board of Game liberalize the season in the Remainder of
5 Unit 13 to June 15th, so it may be that you may want to amend
6 the proposal to allow for that.

7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So you say the Board of Game
9 just recently amended the season in Unit 13 until June 15th?

10
11 MR. McDONALD: That's correct, for the
12 Remainder of.

13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. And that must be
15 based on the fact that they feel that the population of bears
16 are pretty high in that area?

17
18 MR. McDONALD: That's correct.

19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So that would mean this
21 proposal, as written, is actually more restrictive than the
22 State season?

23
24 MR. McDONALD: As it's modified, yes.

25
26 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: As modified. Okay. Any
27 questions?

28
29 (No audible responses)

30
31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No questions, thank you. No
32 other comments on it?

33
34 MR. McDONALD: No.

35
36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Other agency comment
37 or -- Hollis.

38
39 MR. TWITCHELL: Chair, Council members,
40 Hollis Twitchell, Denali National Park. Helga, are you going
41 to read the Denali SRC's position into the record?

42
43 MS. EAKON: Yes, I will.

44
45 MR. TWITCHELL: Maybe I'll wait until after
46 that's been entered into the record because I think it'll
47 help clarify what I have to say.

48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Helga, would you like
50 to read that at this point in time?

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1 MS. EAKON: Sure. The Denali Subsistence
2 Resource Commission supports an opening date for Unit 13 on
3 August 10th for both areas, east and west, of the Alaska
4 Railroad to coincide with caribou and moose seasons. It also
5 legitimizes incidental taking of bears by subsistence hunters
6 protecting their harvest or campsite.

7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So basically what
9 you're saying is the SRC supports a consistent opening of
10 August 10, as opposed to the modified version that was --
11 Hollis.

12
13 MR. TWITCHELL: That is correct and there is
14 an additional paragraph on the SRC's position on it regarding
15 the second aspect. Apparently it didn't make it into the
16 record here, so I'll just read it in at this point.

17
18 It says, the Denali Subsistence Resource Commission
19 also supports the item in the justification which addresses
20 Denali National Park harvest in Unit 13. This states that if
21 more than four bears are taken by a subsistence hunter during
22 the year the harvest limit should be reexamined to determine
23 if a reduction to one bear per four regulatory years would be
24 more appropriate. This would be a newly authorized hunt and
25 little is known about the bear populations in our region. We
26 recommend utilizing this conservative approach.

27
28 My comments would be the general sense, from what
29 I've been told by subsistence hunters, is that they do take
30 and would like to take grizzly bears during the times that
31 they're in the field, and that's primarily for moose and
32 caribou hunting, with moose hunting opens August 1st, caribou
33 hunting August 10th. They settled on an August 10th date for
34 a recommendation since that's the time when most of the
35 hunters would be in the field with an opportunity for either
36 a moose or caribou. The biggest concern was that they get an
37 animal down, they're in the process of removing the meat, are
38 confronted with a grizzly bear, they would like to
39 opportunity to take that bear at that time, rather than
40 having to claim it as a defense of life or property type of
41 situation and then, in turn, having to extract bear and turn
42 it over to the State. So that was the main reasons that were
43 articulated at the meeting and that's why the August 10th
44 date was selected. And that was their reasoning.

45
46 There was comments also that the populations of moose
47 and caribou in their area are not as high as they would like
48 and there was some discussions about taking the predator to
49 reduce some predation. That concept or reasoning probably
50 wouldn't be endorsed by the Park Service since we do not tend

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1 to manage one species for another, but at least perception
2 was articulated at the meeting as well.

3 I would concur with what the Subsistence Commission
4 said, I don't think the date of the opening is significant at
5 all, I think that could be set pretty much any time people
6 choose. I'm more concerned that since this is a new hunt on
7 a population that we have not have any good records for, on
8 the south side of Denali, we've just started a cooperative
9 study with the State last year and that information is
10 tentative. That study will be going on for the next two
11 years, we'll have a much better idea of what's going on with
12 the populations then. So I would concur that we should take
13 a conservative approach, at least for the next few years
14 until we have more biological information.

15
16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any questions for Hollis.

17
18 MR. DEMENTI: Hollis, do you get input from
19 the subsistence hunters around Denali Park for input on
20 what's the population of the bear? With your studies with
21 the State and stuff?

22
23 MR. TWITCHELL: In terms of the area and the
24 Cantwell area?

25
26 MR. DEMENTI: Yeah.

27
28 MR. TWITCHELL: What the subsistence users
29 feel the bear population is?

30
31 MR. DEMENTI: Yeah.

32
33 MR. TWITCHELL: We've had several users say
34 they believe the bear population is high. And, again, those
35 comments are associated with concerns about predation on,
36 particularly, moose.

37
38 MR. DEMENTI: Okay.

39
40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Fred, did you have a
41 question?

42
43 MR. F. JOHN. Yeah. What the Denali
44 Subsistence Resource Commission ask for is August 10th to May
45 31?

46
47 MR. TWITCHELL: That's correct.

48
49 MR. F. JOHN. On both side, the east and west
50 side?

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1 MR. TWITCHELL: That's correct. And, again,
2 their reasoning was that the opportunity to take bear is most
3 likely associated with while they are in the field for other
4 resources, primarily moose and caribou.

5
6 MR. F. JOHN. Okay. That's my question.

7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hollis, I have a couple of
9 questions, unless you have a question, Don.

10
11 MR. KOMPKOFF: I just want to say every time
12 I went moose hunting there's always a brown bear or two while
13 you're packing the moose out that every time you kill one
14 there would be brown bears around the areas and you'd have to
15 shoot above their heads to scare them away all the time. And
16 a guy got to carry a lot of shells because I think they're
17 getting more aggressive and everything. Every time you go
18 hunting they -- I always have a problem. The last time we
19 went hunting we got two brown bears after our moose.

20
21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hollis, can I ask you just a
22 couple of questions? And maybe Robert might want to answer
23 this one, too. That four limit for reconsideration, is there
24 a mechanism in there for closing the season during that year?
25 I mean, basically, what I see is the way it sounds is if more
26 than four are taken it comes up for reconsideration, but that
27 doesn't put any safeguards in it for the year that you're
28 currently in. Or would there be an automatic closure and
29 then reconsideration? The way that's worded?

30
31 MR. WILLIS: Mr. Chair, I would -- had in
32 mind an automatic closure or quota, like we have on a number
33 of other species in other areas, and the bears have to be
34 sealed after they're harvested, so we would have a fairly
35 quick notification when these animals were taken and we could
36 issue an emergency order to close the season, just like they
37 do in other situations and like the State often does for
38 their quota hunts.

39
40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. And, Hollis, if I
41 understand right, and this is mostly for clarification for
42 everybody else, this only takes part in the new section of
43 the park, it doesn't take part in the old park, right?

44
45 MR. TWITCHELL: That is correct.

46
47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. And what would the --
48 well, I guess I can really -- you maybe can't answer this
49 one, but what would be your personal feeling about extending
50 it to the same -- so it coincides with the State, to June

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1 15th, do you think that would have much of an impact?

2

3 MR. TWITCHELL: I don't believe it will.

4 Again what I -- my position is that I don't think the dates
5 really matter.

6

7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

8

9 MR. TWITCHELL: What's really critical is how
10 many bears are actually coming out of there and can the
11 population sustain that, that's really the critical issue.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Right. And with the four
14 limit, that gives us some handle on that?

15

16 MR. TWITCHELL: That gives us a place to
17 start from, yeah.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

20

21 MR. TWITCHELL: I'd also like to give you
22 some indication of what the potential harvest would be. In
23 the analysis statements were said that it was -- it was
24 likely to be small. The number of eligible people who would
25 be hunting in that area would be associated primarily with
26 the Cantwell community and that community we issue,
27 typically, 40 to 45 moose permits each year to Cantwell
28 community, and that has regulation of one permit per
29 household, so there certainly would be a possibility of more
30 than one hunter per household.

31

32 We issue, typically, 80 caribou permit and there's,
33 of course, two caribou harvests bag limit in the registration
34 permits in that area, so we typically have about 160 caribou
35 harvest permits out for Denali Park lands as well.

36

37 And so, in essence, there could be a lot of potential
38 hunters in the area, in actuality, I don't think it'll be
39 anywhere near the number, many people acquire permits and
40 don't end up hunting on our lands. They are qualified and
41 eligible and so choose to acquire those permits.

42

43 So there is a fairly large potential, particularly,
44 right in the Cantwell area and the Broad Pass area of Unit
45 13.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Now, is caribou limited to
48 one permit per household, too?

49

50 MR. TWITCHELL: No, it's per hunter.

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1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Per hunter.

2

3 MR. TWITCHELL: Two caribou per hunter.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Two caribou per hunter. And
6 the moose is one per household, but all members of the
7 household can hunt on that permit?

8

9 MR. TWITCHELL: That's correct.

10

11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So technically you could
12 have four people out in the field with one permit?

13

14 MR. TWITCHELL: You could. Typically the
15 people that come in and identify the other household hunters,
16 it's generally only two, occasionally three.

17

18 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah. Well -- okay.

19

20 MR. ROMIG: Mr. Chairman.

21

22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Ben.

23

24 MR. ROMIG: Has there been typically an
25 increase for the brown bear? Do you have more people coming
26 in and asking, you know, are we going, you know, get more
27 bears? Is there more of an interest now? Do you see that?

28

29 MR. TWITCHELL: There's been several
30 individuals who asked for several years why there was a
31 customary and traditional determination for brown bear in
32 their area, so that issue has come up several times, and that
33 is, indeed, what led to the proposal to review the State
34 determination, which was a negative, no subsistence use of
35 brown bear in that unit. So it was those concerns that led
36 to that review last year.

37

38 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions for
39 Hollis?

40

41 (No audible responses)

42

43 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, muchly. Do we
44 have any other agencies or Councils that wish to testify at
45 this point in time?

46

47 (No audible responses)

48

49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, hearing none on that,
50 we'll go on to written public comments. Helga, do you have

00173

1 any?

2

3

MS. EAKON: In your book on page 27 that page is incomplete, it doesn't square with the executive summary on page 22. In addition to Denali SRC's written comments there was one comment of support that said open a Federal bear season, but I don't know who submitted that.

Additionally, the comment of the Rainbow St. Elias Subsistence Recourse Commission tentatively -- they're giving a tentative support to Proposal 21 because they're going to meet, I think, sometime next month to make final comments after they look at the analyses, but when they met in November they gave a tentative support to this proposal.

14

15 MR. ELLIOTT: Can I speak?

16

17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yes, you may.

18

19 MR. ELLIOTT: When you said Council, I was
20 thinking I wasn't a Council, I'm on the Fish and Game
21 Advisory Committee.

22

23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: That's fine.

24

25 MR. ELLIOTT: I missed my spot.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: That's a Council.

28

29 MR. ELLIOTT: Thank you. I'm representing
30 the Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee, first.
31 That's the home of Scott Ogen and Patrick Henry. We, the
32 Advisory Committee, met after the Anchorage Advisory
33 Committee met and they were tickled pink with Anchorage's
34 stamp and if you can -- are old enough to remember Kruschev
35 banging his heel on the table, that was how we were stamping
36 the proposals in agreement with Anchorage Advisory Committee.
37 That the proposals were all discriminatory and not in keeping
38 with the Constitution of the State of Alaska.

39

40 Unfortunately, with Federal action it's like having
41 two parents, a mother and a father, that are not in agreement
42 and the kids are having some problems now, and that may be
43 neither here nor there, but as far as the Constitution goes
44 the majority of the Board feels that it's important, just as
45 if the Permanent Fund were divvied up to satisfy all the
46 physical needs of everybody and then the rest of the money
47 was given out to each and every Alaskan equally after that
48 point. There would be some problems, just as if the
49 Constitution were to allow only people who owned land to vote
50 would be a problem or if women were not allowed to vote, that

00174

1 could be a problem or if only white, male, protestant,
2 Republicans could vote would be a problem. In other words,
3 we rely on the Constitution for protecting us. And the group
4 feels deeply about that.

5
6 I realize that we're at an impasse with the Federal
7 government, but in any case, everything that Pat Wright said
8 yesterday for the Anchorage Committee, the Matanuska Valley
9 Committee pretty much is in agreement with. Unfortunately
10 we're taking this one first because most times I was planning
11 to address you as representing the Advisory Committee. On
12 this particular proposal I would like to interject my own
13 comments.

14
15 Before I do that, through, addressing it directly,
16 besides the blanket thing against all the subsistence
17 proposals because they are discriminatory, we did look at the
18 individual proposals and the Advisory Committee, because of
19 the status of the moose population in Unit 13, which has been
20 in decline since the bad snow depth winter in 1989, feels
21 that with the fact that moose have been declining, with the
22 fact that airborne hunting has stopped happening, that the
23 moose -- or that the wolf and bear population are too high
24 and are worsening a poor moose situation. And so they
25 actually are cutting off the nose to spite their face in this
26 particular proposal, they're against it because it
27 discriminatory, they think that if it was open it ought to be
28 open for everybody, but they are in agreement that there are
29 too many bears in Unit 13 and the more dead bears in Unit 13
30 the better. So in that respect they are sympathetic to the
31 proposal, although they would be vehemently just letting
32 certain in the Cantwell area be available to take those
33 bears.

34
35 That said, having been, in the past, the Chairman of
36 the Mat-Su State Park Citizen Advisory Board, which Denali
37 State Park is the principle park, I'd like to add a few
38 comments of my own, which are, if not in disagreement, at
39 least question the proposal. In other words, I'm no longer
40 speaking for the Advisory Committee.

41
42 I think that the main purpose of this proposal is to
43 be able to hunt bears in the National Park. If you look at
44 13, you have the maps on the wall, right now there's an awful
45 liberal bear season in 13 and there's very little area that's
46 not open to everyone in the state to take a bear every year,
47 season's opened for close to 10 months. And there's a little
48 bitty area that bears are sometimes not accessible because
49 it's the National Park. The reason the study is going on at
50 this time is that in a large part because the State Park

00175

1 Advisory Board was concerned about the number of bears that
2 were in the State Park and the National Park, which is right
3 adjacent to the State Park. Particularly because of the easy
4 accessibility by snowmachines from the Peterville's Road
5 area.

6
7 So there's the question of the number of bears, for
8 one thing, because a lot of the park is high mountains above
9 which nothing grows and a lot of their habitat is actually
10 outside the National Park. And since the Park Service
11 doesn't consider predator control, which I believe this is,
12 in fact, that they don't really allow subsistence just for
13 that reason. Furthermore, it seems a little arbitrary to
14 just let people in Cantwell hunt these bears. I believe
15 before when this determination was made at least everyone in
16 13 would have the opportunity to hunt them. Now it's only
17 people who have customary and traditional use, which I
18 believe are the residents of Cantwell, Telida, Minchumina and
19 Nikolai. What numbers are taken, I don't know. I know the
20 access is pretty easy by snowmachine in the spring,
21 particularly the area down by Denali State Park.

22
23 The reason that bear populations appear high is that
24 moose populations are low. The bear population probably
25 isn't much different than usual, just that the moose
26 population is dropping. So I feel that bear numbers are kind
27 of a guess, that it's not really a subsistence issue and that
28 it's allowing a little extra private hunting for the people
29 of Cantwell in the National Park and they got a heck of an
30 area of 13, even 13(E) is bigger than 16(A) or 14(B), even
31 one section of 13 is bigger than many other units. This is a
32 large area with the most liberal bear season in the state and
33 they want to be able to go in to what I consider the home,
34 the den area, of the bear and take him even there, so as to
35 be able to get a few more moose.

36
37 Those would end my comments and I'm happy to answer
38 question as either an individual or as a member of the
39 Advisory Group, which, again, they probably favor the idea of
40 killing the most bears as possible, just that they think that
41 they should have a crack at them too.

42
43 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: One question, Daniel. Do
44 you think that biologically the bear population in that area
45 can support the hunt with the limitations that are put on it?

46
47 MR. ELLIOTT: By just letting the people of
48 Cantwell, that's.....

49
50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: We can't do anything else,

00176

1 so with the limitations that are on this hunt, as propose,
2 biologically do you feel the bear population can stand this
3 hunt is really the question from us?

4
5 MR. ELLIOTT: I would say in the area that
6 they're going to be hunting, no. But I think they'll
7 probably be hunting at the northern end of the area, which if
8 I can just show on the map for a second. This is the area
9 that they're most likely to be hunting in, that's an
10 extremely small area. I suspect that any bear in that area is
11 going to be dead by the end of the fall. Every gut pile that
12 they find a bear on they'll shoot.

13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: With the lim.....

15
16 MR. ELLIOTT: So, I would say no, that in
17 that small area of the National Park, no, biologically the
18 bear population cannot stand it. I think the species will
19 spread and refill it, but for that area of the National Park,
20 no.

21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You feel that four bears is
23 too big of a limit for that area? You figure that all four
24 bears will be taken in there?

25
26 MR. ELLIOTT: Yes.

27
28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: That's yes to both or yes to
29 the last one?

30
31 MR. ELLIOTT: Yes, I think that all four
32 bears will be taken in that area and according to what people
33 are saying about the number of bears being on moose kills,
34 that -- and with the season recommendation that the hunter
35 and the bear will meet.

36
37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And do you feel that four
38 bears is too large of a take for that area?

39
40 MR. ELLIOTT: Yes, especially since that
41 knowledge of that area is very weak. And the reason --
42 there's two reasons why it's very weak. Most of the bear
43 biology has been based out of Glennallen was totally -- he
44 was more concerned with Nelchina Basin. The studies were
45 done based on Watana (ph) outside the road system. There is
46 no incentive to study what happens in the National Park,
47 because that's National Park and there wasn't no hunting
48 there anyways, so there hasn't been any information. The
49 area has been accessible to the highway system, to poaching,
50 particularly by snowmachine in the spring. I don't know what

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1 happens up in Cantwell when a bear is on the meat, whether
2 it's shot in defense of life and property, which actually,
3 according to Fish and Game, is not legal, you can't shoot
4 bears off a meat pile. Whether or not that's happening
5 anyway, I don't know. But, I think, given the lack of
6 knowledge of the number of bears, where the areas is going to
7 occur, the inconsistency with the National Park Service
8 attitude toward predation control and the fact that all the
9 bears in that area will be taken, no, it would not be good
10 biology.

11
12 Does that sort of answer your question?

13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: That answers the way you see
15 it, that's what I was asking.

16
17 MR. ELLIOTT: Okay.

18
19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I kind of agree with your
20 first statement that animals move around and if you've got a
21 large area around a small area that's easily accessible when
22 you take them out of the small area, they move in from the
23 big area.

24
25 MR. ELLIOTT: Except that the big area is
26 already open in 13(E), it's the small area is the National
27 Park and you've got the Alaska Range which they pretty much
28 aren't particularly crossing too much. You got the high
29 mountains there, they come out of the park for feed and so I
30 would say that the small area is the National Park area,
31 although, yes, they could come up from further south, down by
32 the Ohio River, down by the State Park in that area.

33
34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Thank you. Any other
35 questions for Daniel?

36
37 MR. DEMENTI: Can I make a comment?

38
39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah, Gilbert.

40
41 MR. DEMENTI: I've been hunting that area
42 quite a bit, in fact, since '73 when I moved up there and the
43 area you're talking about is real dense, there's alder up
44 there you can't crawl through. And a hunter sees a bear out
45 there and they see that alder, local hunters, they don't
46 bother going out there because they can't get it back in. I
47 mean, you ever been up there?

48
49 MR. ELLIOTT: You speaking of Cantwell?

50

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1 MR. DEMENTI: Yeah. In that area you're
2 talking about.

3
4 MR. ELLIOTT: If you're talking about the
5 Cantwell area, I have not hunted in that area, but I have
6 lived for many years, starting in '69 south of that area,
7 adjacent to Denali State Park and that area.....

8
9 MR. DEMENTI: You know what I'm talking about
10 then.

11
12 MR. ELLIOTT:is notorious for being
13 good snow machine country in the springtime and maybe they'll
14 go running down bears -- even articles in the newspaper about
15 it, so, no, I have not hunted in the area right around
16 Cantwell.

17
18 MR. DEMENTI: That area is real dense of
19 alder and Hollis can probably say some -- there's some areas
20 you can get into, but some areas you -- and that's where the
21 bear hangs out, when the dense and we -- every fall we hardly
22 see any bears out there. You have to literally run into them
23 almost.

24
25 MR. ELLIOTT: I thought that the person was
26 speaking from National Park Service was saying that the
27 request was by the people of Cantwell, they're saying the
28 bears were eating their moose kills and that's why they had
29 to do it.

30
31 MR. DEMENTI: There is evidence of moose
32 kills.

33
34 MR. ELLIOTT: Excuse me, I didn't mean --
35 when the hunter kills the moose, that type of moose kill,
36 when they're trying to get the meat, he was saying that the
37 people in the Cantwell requested the hunt because the bears
38 were coming and taking their meat. So even if.....

39
40 MR. DEMENTI: That's true, they.....

41
42 MR. ELLIOTT:the bear is.....

43
44 MR. DEMENTI: It's like in Kodiak, as soon as
45 they hear a shot, they know that there's a kill.

46
47 MR. ELLIOTT: Yeah.

48
49 MR. DEMENTI: Bears are not dumb.

50

00179

1 MR. ELLIOTT: So even though the alders are
2 real thick, would the bear come out of the alder to where the
3 moose was to eat it?

4
5 MR. DEMENTI: Oh, yeah.

6
7 MR. ELLIOTT: So the bear would then get
8 shot, correct?

9
10 MR. DEMENTI: They come out.

11
12 MR. ELLIOTT: Okay.

13
14 MR. DEMENTI: I lost couple of caribou to a
15 bear.

16
17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions for
18 Daniel?

19
20 (No audible responses)

21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Now, I have one more
23 question. The one comment you've mentioned a number of times
24 is that in spring they're totally accessible to snowmachines.

25
26 MR. ELLIOTT: Particularly the area down by
27 the Denali State Park.

28
29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Is that -- and that area in
30 the park, is that open to snowmachines?

31
32 MR. ELLIOTT: Yeah. It was until the
33 emergency closure.

34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Thank you. Hollis,
36 can you.....

37
38 MR. TWITCHELL: Chair, Council, Hollis
39 Twitchell again. Just to clarify the springtime access, all
40 of the new park additions are opened to snowmachine access
41 and continue to be, so there wouldn't be any restrictions at
42 all on access by that means at that time of year. It's just
43 the area within the old Mount McKinley Park area that the
44 temporary closure is effective.

45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do you see a problem with
47 snowmachine access running down bears in spring?

48
49 MR. TWITCHELL: We've had several instances
50 of that occurring more to the south of the Cantwell area,

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1 down in the Peter Hills, Tokositna, Eldridge Glacier region
2 of Unit 13(E). That hasn't been particularly a problem up in
3 the Cantwell area, but there have been several cases made
4 that way.

5
6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Now, is all of that area --
7 I mean, would all of that area combined to be in the quota of
8 four or -- I mean the area that you had the problems in the
9 past, any bear taken in there goes into the quota of four,
10 too?

11
12 MR. TWITCHELL: Well, the situations that I
13 referred to were non-subsistence hunters and NPS eligible
14 subsistence hunters that waited at the boundaries of the park
15 for the bears after dening, as they drop down the drainages
16 out of the high country down into the lower elevations, and
17 that where the particular hunting problems I'm referring to
18 occurred in the encroachment of the non-subsistence hunt
19 entering into the park boundaries for the actual taking of
20 the bear. That's what I was referring to.

21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Thank you. Any other
23 questions for Hollis?

24
25 (No audible responses)

26
27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Hollis.

28
29 MR. McDONALD: Mr. Chair, when the Department
30 sets quotas we usually use the language up to or something
31 like -- when four bears are taken the season will be closed
32 by emergency order. The one cautionary note I'd like to make
33 is that the sealing requirement is a 30 day after the kill,
34 within 30 days, so, you know, should a number of kills take
35 place in a short period of time, the Park Service may not be
36 aware of it until well after the quota has been reached.
37 Just a point of information.

38
39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So would you suggest a more
40 conservative quota?

41
42 MR. McDONALD: Either that or they may be
43 able to reduce for people that take bears in the park, reduce
44 the reporting period to, say, within five days after a kill.

45
46 MR. ROMIG: How about something like a
47 registration permit, you know, where you wouldn't have, you
48 know, just everybody and their brother out there could have a
49 certain amount.

50

00181

1 MR. McDONALD: I certainly would leave that
2 up to the Park Service to make that kind of a determination,
3 I know they do have such permits, for instance, in Lake Clark
4 National Park, they have permits like that, it's not unknown.

5
6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Robert, can I
7 ask you a real quick question?

8
9 MR. WILLIS: Sure.

10
11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Basically, if the idea
12 behind this is a subsistence hunt, registration permits,
13 unless it would be just a registration permit like they have
14 on the moose and the caribou in the part, I mean, that is
15 applicable to a subsistence hunt, isn't it?

16
17 MR. WILLIS: Certainly. The fact that we
18 have a sealing requirement and the fact that we have the Park
19 Service permits that are required for anybody who uses the
20 park are two methods of tracking the harvest and I would --
21 and with regard to the 30 day requirement, my thinking is
22 exactly like Mike's is that what we would do would be to put
23 a shorter limitation on that. There are a number of hunts
24 around the state with different reporting requirements as far
25 the number of days that are allowed before the kill has to be
26 reported and it's based on the need to close seasons on short
27 order. I would expect to put a pretty short one on the bear
28 hunt because we're talking about a very few bears and a
29 significant number of hunters in the field.

30
31 Whether or not a registration permit would be
32 necessary on top of those requirements, I don't know, I guess
33 I'd have to study on that some. Certainly we could do it,
34 but that, I don't think, would change the number of people
35 who are out there hunting. It would not affect the quota
36 either, or the reporting requirements. You could put the
37 reporting requirement into the sealing requirement, unless
38 I'm mistaken, unless there's some legal reason we could not
39 do that and that would take care, that would do the same
40 thing as the registration permit would do.

41
42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: With a lot less hassle.

43
44 MR. WILLIS: I would think so.

45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah. Okay. Let's see, are
47 there any other agencies or Advisory Committees? Frank,
48 Advisory Committee or -- Frank, you have a slip in here for
49 testifying, too, is that as part of the Advisory Committee or
50 is that for yourself?

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1 MR. ENTSMINGER: Well, Mr. Chair, mostly for
2 the Advisory Committee but, you know, I basically wear
3 several hats. I'm a member of the Upper Tanana/Fortymile
4 Advisory Committee, I'm also Eastern Interior's appointee to
5 the Wrangell-St. Elias SRC and, of course, I'm a hunter and
6 strong advocate of using the resource on a personal basis.
7 But on this particular proposal.....

8
9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: That's what I was going to
10 just ask you on -- when you're speaking, say who you're
11 speaking for and that way we don't have any questions whether
12 you're speaking for the Advisory Committee, for your self or
13 for the SRC.

14
15 MR. ENTSMINGER: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chair,
16 members of the Council and staff. My name is Frank
17 Entsminger and as I stated before, I'm a member of, you know,
18 the entities that I talked about and I felt kind of obligated
19 to come and address this particular proposal because actually
20 I submitted a proposal to establish a brown bear season in
21 Unit 11.

22
23 But, you know, pertaining to the Unit 13 possibility
24 of establishing this season, like I said, I'm a member of the
25 Wrangell-St. Elias SRC and at our November meeting we
26 tentatively approved, you know, the possibility of the brown
27 bear season in Unit 13 because although it's a different
28 portion of 13 there is a small portion of Unit 13 that's
29 affected by, you know, the regulations and what not that we
30 deal with. But, you know, as a hunter and user of the
31 resource and almost all the members of my Advisory Committees
32 and most of the members of the SRC concur with this.

33
34 You know, there's been talk about the harvesting of
35 the bears as a predator control, major -- you know, that may
36 be true to a point, but more importantly than that, they're
37 are a number of people that hunt grizzly bears, brown bears
38 to actually eat, you know, especially in the fall when
39 they're eating on the berries, it's getting late in the year
40 they've got a very thick layer of fat on them, they're
41 delicious animals. The fat is used for a number of things,
42 you know, making pie crusts, pastries, that type of thing.
43 The meat is very delicious, you know, you have to cook it
44 well so you don't get the trichinosis, there's a possibility
45 of that. You know, on a personal basis I've actually
46 harvested bears in lieu of a moose and they're very good,
47 very tasty eating. So you can preclude the fact that some
48 bears are taken for the purpose of meat.

49
50 And our Advisory Committee and most of the members of

00183

1 the SRC concur that, as hunters, it's not really beneficial
2 to just hunt one segment of the wildlife population. To help
3 balance the equation out there it's best that, you know,
4 ungulate and predators are kill, and not necessarily for
5 predator control measures, but just to, you know, kind of
6 equal things out. If too many of one or the other are
7 harvested things get out of sync. And it's not good for
8 anybody, it's not good for the resource and it's not good for
9 the resource users. So, you know, we always try to encourage
10 a balance harvest of both predators and prey animals. And,
11 you know, when there's an opportunity, you know, to further
12 the chances of a hunter to, you know, a new season, an
13 extended season, increase in bag limit, something to that
14 effect. As long as it's not detrimental to the resource our
15 Committee and the SRC and people in general are all
16 supportive of that. And, you know, I think this Unit 13
17 brown bear proposal falls right into that designation.

18
19 So that's basically what I wanted to put on the
20 record.

21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Frank.

23
24 MR. ROMIG: Frank, can I ask you.....

25
26 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Oop, Ben, sorry. Sit
27 back.....

28
29 MR. ROMIG: The bear meat is actually tasty?

30
31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Delicious.

32
33 MR. ENTSMINGER: Very good, yes. On one
34 occasion I had some friend helping me work on my cabin and as
35 I said, I didn't kill a moose that year, so we were serving
36 them grizzly bear and, you know, knowing that a lot of people
37 are a little squeamish about eating bear we didn't really
38 tell them what they were eating, but it kind of was boiled
39 down to the mystery meat.

40
41 MR. ROMIG: Yeah.

42
43 MR. ENTSMINGER: And finally about the third
44 night they said, all right, they said, what are we meeting,
45 is this the last carpenter you had hired? So we had to tell
46 them they were eating bear meat and they couldn't get over
47 it, I mean, it was really, really good.

48
49 MR. ROMIG: Yeah.

50

00184

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah, I'll concur with Frank
2 on that, that a good pot roast of grizzly or black bear is
3 pretty hard to tell from good beef.

4
5 But anyhow I had a question -- well, I don't need to
6 ask Frank, I'll Robert on that. If one of the concerns is
7 that people will shoot brown bear because they have a moose
8 down and the bear comes to take the moos carcass or the
9 caribou carcass, but under this permit, if they take it a
10 brown bear, they are required to salvage all meat from the
11 brown bear, right?

12
13 MR. WILLIS: That's correct.

14
15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: In other words, you can't
16 just shoot the brown bear in defense of life or property and
17 leave it, you're actually required under the same wanton
18 waste laws the state has?

19
20 MR. WILLIS: It's not under the same law,
21 it's a requirement in our regulations. If you harvest a bear
22 for subsistence purposes you have to salvage all the edible
23 meat. And I would also point out that, as I understand the
24 State DLP laws, it's not legal to shoot an animal to take
25 meat.

26
27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No.

28
29 MR. WILLIS: Only to protect your camp or
30 yourself.

31
32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's not, but, I mean, that
33 seems to be some of the fear that what it would be used for,
34 but if it is used for that they are required to salvage all
35 of the meat from the bear.

36
37 MR. WILLIS: Yes, they are.

38
39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Which, if you've already got
40 a moose down two miles into the back country, you got pack
41 out, now you got a bear to pack out, you might hesitate to
42 shoot the bear.

43
44 MR. WILLIS: And they also have to bring out
45 the hide and skull for sealing.

46
47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And hide and skull for
48 sealing. So they're required to salvage the hide, the skull
49 and all the meat?

50

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1 MR. WILLIS: Yeah.

2
3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Fred.

4
5 MR. F. JOHN. That's what I brought that up
6 for, you know, just -- I didn't like this whole thing because
7 it just says that we like to hunt grizzly bear while hunting
8 in the field, it will allow. And when Gloria Stickwan from
9 CRNA filled out -- make out, you know, opportunity hunt or
10 whatever, opportunistic hunt or -- we gave all the
11 information why, the ways and means and everything. And
12 that's why I brought it out, I wasn't against hunting, it was
13 something that I -- you know, I don't see anything here and
14 I'd like to see more information they have for hunting, not
15 just got because they like to hunt, especially subsistence
16 hunting. It goes against everything that I believe in
17 subsistence hunting.

18
19 Thank you.

20
21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. With that we're going
22 to go on with public testimony. I've got two pink slips in
23 here that have got Proposal 21 down on the and if I miss
24 somebody that has a pink slip in here on Proposal 21 let me
25 know. I got Gloria, do wish to speak at this time? And,
26 Gloria, I'm perfectly willing to call you back for every
27 proposal that comes up, if you wish to speak for it, so you
28 don't have to speak to them all if you don't want to.

29
30 MS. STICKWAN: Okay. I've copies of our
31 positions for the Board -- Council.

32
33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

34
35 MS. STICKWAN: My name is Gloria Stickwan, I
36 work for Copper River Native Association. On Proposal 21 at
37 our meeting with all the villages we supported Proposal 21
38 and we leave it up to the agencies to protect the, you know,
39 bear conservation.

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

43
44 (No audible responses)

45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Would you prefer to speak on
47 all of them or would you prefer to come up one at a time on
48 each one, Gloria?

49
50 MS. STICKWAN: I'll come up one at a time.

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1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

2

3 MS. STICKWAN: That's about it.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Any questions for

6 Gloria?

7

8 (No audible responses)

9

10 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No. Thank you. Okay, with
11 that the only other one was Dan and Dan has already spoken,
12 so with that in mind we'll go on to Regional Council
13 deliberation, recommendation and justification. Discussion
14 from the Board, Council.

15

16 Ben, you want to say something before you run off?

17

18 MR. ROMIG: No, I just had to stretch.

19

20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Oh, okay. Okay, we've heard
21 the different reports, we need a motion on the floor before
22 we can discuss anything. We can have a motion to accept it
23 as written, we can have a motion to accept it as modified by
24 Robert Willis, we can have a motion to accept it to concur
25 with the State seasons, which are actually more liberal or we
26 can have a motion to concur with the State season and add the
27 limitation. We need a motion.

28

29 MR. F. JOHN. I make a motion on Proposal 21
30 for the Denali Subsistence Resource modification.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. There's a motion to
33 accept Proposal 21 with the Denali Resource modification.

34

35 MS. SWAN: Second.

36

37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And second. Now we can open
38 it for discussion. Okay, that would be -- how would that
39 read then?

40

41 MR. DEMENTI: August 10th.

42

43 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: August 10th to May 15th.....

44

45 MR. DEMENTI: May 31st.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: May 31st with a review and
48 closure if four bears are taken.

49

50 Bill.

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1 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman, just for
2 clarification, are you asking for a review after four bears
3 are taken or are you asking that the season be closed after
4 four bears -- there is a difference there.

5
6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Both.

7
8 MR. KNAUER: You should specify on record,
9 you know, if you pass it that way, that the season should be
10 closed when four bears are taken, that solves it
11 administratively.

12
13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: The idea was there would be
14 an emergency closure after four bears and that the thing
15 would be revisited.

16
17 Okay. Robert.

18
19 MR. WILLIS: The SRC proposal, I believe, was
20 for both sides -- all of 13(E), both sides of the railroad,
21 would include Denali National Park and the other Federal
22 lands as well. The four bear quota was for Denali National
23 Park only. We need to be sure to specify that with the SRC
24 recommendation. And as far as the extension that the
25 Department of Fish and Game has suggested to June 15 to match
26 their season, which was extended only last week at the Board
27 meeting, I would concur with Park Service that there would be
28 no biological concerns with that if the Board chose to do
29 that.

30
31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So the motion as --
32 let's get the motion down as we understand it right now.
33 It's basically it would be August 10th to May 31st with the
34 Denali Park portion closed by emergency order after four
35 bears are taken. And this proposal to be revisited for that
36 area.

37
38 Now, if somebody wants to add an amendment to have it
39 concur with the State season and go to June 15th, we can put
40 an amendment on the table.

41
42 (No audible responses)

43
44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hearing none, the motion is
45 as -- stands. Any more discussion on it?

46
47 MR. F. JOHN. That's liberal enough. I'd
48 like to say I'm going to vote yes on this. I believe in
49 opportunistic hunting and I'll go along -- I'll vote on this
50 because I think you should bring out all the, you know, bear

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1 hide, everything else there is when you're out there hunting,
2 when you're killing it then you take care the meat and bring
3 it out. And emergency closure after four bears, I like that,
4 so I'm going to vote yes on this.

5

6 MR. ROMIG: I'll concur with Fred's comments.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Don.

9

10 MR. KOMPKOFF: No.

11

12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. If there's no further
13 discussion, we can call for the question on it.

14

15 MR. DEMENTI: Question.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All in favor of supporting
18 the proposal or the proposal as -- boy, I'm blank all of a
19 sudden. The proposal as described, Proposal 3 [sic] signify
20 by saying -- as amend -- as.....

21

22 MS. MASON: Modified.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: That's the word I was
25 looking for, signify by saying aye.

26

27 IN UNISON: Aye.

28

29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Opposed signify by saying
30 nay.

31

32 (No opposing responses)

33

34

35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries.

36

37 MR. F. JOHN. That was Proposal 21, wasn't
38 it?

39

40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: That was Proposal 21. I'll
41 stand amended on that, it was not Proposal 3.

42

43 Okay. At this point in time we all need a stretch
44 break, five minutes. Our speed with which we're going would
45 equal a snail.

46

47 (Off record - 9:29 a.m.)

48

49 (On record - 9:42 a.m.)

50

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1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: We'll call this meeting of
2 the Southcentral Regional Subsistence Advisory Council back
3 in session. Our next proposals that we're going to look at
4 are Proposal 5 and 6, 7 and 8.....

5
6 MR. DEMENTI: Mr. Chair.

7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:10, 12, 13, 14 and 23
9 and 24, and these proposals deal with adding Healy Lake to
10 the existing C&T, and some of them have ramifications in
11 other directions, but I think what we'll do, if it's okay
12 with the rest of the Board, is we'll address the Healy Lake
13 portion.

14
15 Gilbert.

16
17 MR. DEMENTI: We got one more. Joint
18 coordination meeting, number 11.

19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Oh, okay. I'm sorry, I
21 missed a thing on our agenda. Okay. Report of the joint
22 coordination meeting of February 11th, 1999 and Helga's going
23 to make that report.

24
25 MS. EAKON: Yes. If you would look under Tab
26 Q in your book a report of the coordination meeting on
27 overlapping proposal is there. And actually this is the
28 third year that Eastern Interior representatives and
29 Southcentral Regional Council representative have gotten
30 together along with staff and interested people in the area
31 of the overlapping proposals to share information. And we
32 always make sure that we follow the guidelines of the Federal
33 Advisory Committee Act that it is not decisional meeting,
34 it's strictly informational sharing.

35
36 And I shall not go into the details, I'm sure you
37 have read it, but I will say that this third year there were
38 lot of real positive comments by the participants, most of
39 whom are here in this meeting room today. So it's a very
40 good tool to share information on overlapping proposals.

41
42 That's all I have to say.

43
44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. With that, does
45 anybody on the Council see any problem with addressing the
46 Healy Lake portion of these proposals as a block? That would
47 be Proposals 5 and 6, 7 and 8, 10, 12, 13, 14 and 23 and 24.
48 If we take a look at them real quick, if there is nobody
49 that's out in the audience or no administrative person that
50 sees any problem with addressing them as a block, we can do

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1 so.

2

3 Rachel.

4

5 MS. MASON: Mr. Chair, if it would help I can
6 clarify how we could do this.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yes, please.

9

10 MS. MASON: The two proposals that don't
11 really fit into that block are Proposal 7, having to do with
12 sheep in Unit 11 for 6(C) residents and Proposal 12, which
13 also has to do with -- well, it has to do with Unit 11, but
14 this is for moose for Unit 6(C) residents. So if we
15 considered all the Healy Lake proposals together, then we
16 could go on to discuss Proposal 7 and 12 following that. And
17 those both have to do with 6(C) people.

18

19 What I would like to do is to ask George Sherrod to
20 give a general overview of the new Healy Lake information
21 that's been included and then I'll just quickly go through
22 the proposals dealing with Healy Lake and present the
23 conclusion that we discussed at the coordination meeting that
24 really fits for all of them. There's one that needs to be
25 modified, but otherwise the staff recommendation was to
26 support all of them as written.

27

28 So if that's all right with the Council, then we can
29 start with George Sherrod.

30

31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do I hear any objections
32 from the Council?

33

34 (No audible responses)

35

36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Hearing none, George.

37

38 MR. SHERROD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm just
39 going to provide a little bit of a summary, the highlights of
40 this. We have a number of people in the audience, like
41 Gloria Stickwan from CRNA, Connie Friend representing TCC, we
42 have representatives from Eastern Interior Council here and
43 several of the State Advisory Committees, include Frank, who
44 have all dealt with this issue in depth several times over
45 the last few years. And I suppose after I'm done it might be
46 beneficial to have them provide some information if they so
47 desire or answer questions because they're sort of the
48 experts on it, I just pull the stuff together and write it up
49 in the book.

50

1 Healy Lake -- this proposal has come in front of the
2 Eastern Interior, or the essence of these proposals, I think
3 this is the fourth time, so -- and I know they've come before
4 you at least once. Healy Lake, as you know, is a small
5 Native community, it has considerable time depth, occupation
6 of the Healy Lake area goes back minimally 10,000 years. It
7 is isolated, basically it's 50-some miles from Delta. There
8 is an ice road in the winter for portions, the rest of the
9 time it can only be reached by airplane or by boat. It has
10 been granted C&T for all of the resources with the exception
11 of goat in units under the Federal management programs, so
12 many of the questions associated with the eight factors have
13 already been debated and it has been found in their favor
14 that they do take moose, they do take bear, et cetera.

15
16 The primary question, I think, that comes before this
17 group and came before the other Councils is the nature of the
18 use of Unit 11 and portions of Unit 13 by residents of Healy
19 Lake. As you know, throughout Alaska, our Native communities
20 are interlinked through networks of kinship. This is
21 certainly the case with Healy Lake and that these networks of
22 kinship cross unit boundaries and even Regional Council
23 boundaries. The ethnographic records, oral histories, public
24 testimony, one of the copies that I passed out, you found on
25 your table when you came back, is some public testimony taken
26 at Healy Lake a little earlier this spring. And other
27 sources demonstrate a long and strong kinship tie between
28 residents of Healy Lake and residents of the Upper Copper
29 Basin.

30
31 These linkages have provided through history a means
32 by which relatives are able to share hunting and fishing
33 areas and resources. The sharing is done within a cultural
34 frame work, it's not random, it is patterned. And is based
35 on the testimony as utilized, on some occasions, when
36 resources are lacking in the area of primary residency. The
37 caribou didn't come by my village, I have the right to go to
38 a relative's village and partake of caribou hunting there
39 with them.

40
41 It's through these acts of cooperatively hunting,
42 processing and consuming natural resources with relatives
43 that several things occur. Values, knowledge, information
44 about methods and means, cultural and traditions are
45 transmitted, reinforced and perpetuated. Sharing is
46 accomplished. Resources are added to a communities inventory
47 of subsistence foods, and in this case salmon are not readily
48 available in the Upper Tanana, there is information that
49 demonstrates that in the past they have crossed over into the
50 Copper River area to harvest salmon with relatives. And an

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1 efficient harvest of the resource is achieved because you can
2 travel a longer distance if, in fact, you are basing yourself
3 out of an established camp or community.

4
5 All of these, sort of, factors that I just described,
6 while not particularly identified in the eight factors, word
7 for word, basically mere the essence of most of the eight
8 factors. Probably the noticeable exception is the one about
9 proximity to primary residency. It's via these proposals
10 that the residents of Healy Lake are basically asking for a
11 recognition of a history of hunting in the Copper River Basin
12 and hunting with their relatives.

13
14 In the past proposals like this have been dealt with
15 and some would say the nature of this hunt is best
16 accommodated under State regulations, that this is the
17 primary hunting area, it's true that they hunt there, but
18 this is best accomplished under State regulations.
19 Basically, you're dealing with a question of threshold which
20 is plagued the C&T process throughout the state at what
21 threshold does an activity become a customary tradition. And
22 while, in this case, it is true that the nature of Healy
23 Lake's harvest in this area has been relatively low, and it
24 has been sporadic, it does have considerable time depth that
25 goes back through generations, so it is an established
26 practice. I suppose the question is, is the threshold there
27 on the amount that they harvest?

28
29 There's another aspect to Healy Lake's request and
30 that aspect is the ability for the residents of Healy Lake to
31 travel to these areas and hunt with their relatives. This,
32 again, is a cultural practice that occurs not only in Healy
33 Lake but throughout the state for Native individuals to
34 travel to visit relatives in distant locations and at that
35 those times not only hunt but then also participate in the
36 consumption, processing and so on of these resources. I
37 suppose in the case of this type of practice that it's
38 something that has not readily come up before many of the
39 Councils or the Board before. The question here is, is this
40 type of practice part of the culture that was protected or
41 was supposed to be protected under Title VIII of ANILCA?

42
43 And with that, if there aren't any -- I leave it for
44 questions.

45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Council, do we have
47 questions for George? Anybody?

48
49 (No audible responses)

50

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1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So basically, George,
2 you just gave us a review of questions but no conclusions,
3 that'll come from Rachel, right?

4
5 MR. SHERROD: Right. And, as I say, at this
6 time, or somewhere before you deliberate on each of these it
7 might be good to talk to individuals that want to make
8 comments.

9
10 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: We have public testimony and
11 I've got a whole bunch of them down here for that.

12
13 Okay, Rachel.

14
15 MS. MASON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. George
16 has given you an overview of the information and, basically,
17 the justification we have for including Healy Lake or for
18 recommending that. I'll go through the proposals just
19 generally stating what has been asked and then I'll give a
20 general conclusion and justification after that.

21
22 Proposals 5 and 6 both ask to add Healy Lake
23 residents to the current C&T determinations for caribou in
24 Unit 11. One of them came from CRNA and the other one came
25 from Healy Lake, the Village of Healy Lake. Originally there
26 was difference between them in that the CRNA proposal also
27 asked to exclude Chickaloon from the current determination,
28 however, they rescinded that part of their proposal later and
29 that was also part of some other proposals. So the two
30 proposal are identical.

31
32 Proposal 8 asks to add Healy Lake residents to the
33 current C&T determination for sheep in Unit 11. Also, I
34 should add, that these are all for the portion of Unit 11
35 north of the Sanford River. Each of them are for a portion
36 of Unit 11 only.

37
38 Proposal 10 asks that Healy Lake be added to the
39 portion of Unit 11 north of the Sanford River for goat.
40 Proposals 13 and 14 ask that Healy Lake residents be added to
41 the current C&T use determination for moose in the portion of
42 Unit 11 north of the Sanford River. And Proposal 23 and 24
43 both ask -- well, actually Proposals 23 and 24 are a little
44 different. They're for Unit 13(B) and 13(C). One of them
45 asks that Healy Lake residents be added to the current
46 determination for moose in those subunits of 13(B) and 13(C),
47 whereas, the other one ask that the C&T determinations be
48 revised to include rural residents of Unit 11, 12 on Nebesna
49 Road and Unit 20(D) except Fort Greely.

50

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1 So I think I better give you guys a better -- a more
2 complete description of that proposal analysis. I was.....

3
4 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Rachel.

5
6 MS. MASON: Oh, sorry.

7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Rachel, can I interrupt for
9 just a second?

10
11 MS. MASON: Sure.

12
13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Could we -- since 23 and 24
14 are considerably different, just like 7 and 12 are.....

15
16 MS. MASON: Uh-huh (affirmative).

17
18 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:could we drop those at
19 this point in time?

20
21 MS. MASON: Sure.

22
23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Deal with the ones that
24 strictly deal with adding Healy Lake to the northern portion?

25
26 MS. MASON: That would probably be the best.

27
28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And then approach those as
29 separate proposals?

30
31 MS. MASON: That would be an excellent
32 approach.

33
34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So what we will do
35 then is we will look at 5, 6, 8, 10, 13 and 14, which
36 basically deal, if I understand right, with adding Healy Lake
37 as customary and traditional to the northern portion of Unit
38 11, north of the Sanford River.

39
40 MS. MASON: That's correct.

41
42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

43
44 MS. MASON: And in all of those, except
45 Proposal 10, the staff conclusion was to support the
46 proposals. In the case of Proposal 10 the suggested
47 modification was to add Healy Lake to those communities with
48 a positive C&T determination for goat in all of Unit 11. The
49 reason for that is that goat occurs very rarely in Unit 11,
50 north of the Sanford River. And the current C&T

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1 determination in Unit 11 for goat are for all of the unit, so
2 there would be little purpose in granting a positive C&T for
3 Healy Lake only in that portion that's north of the Sanford
4 River. So that's the only modification.

5
6 The justification for supporting all these proposals
7 is based on the kinship and cultural connections that George
8 has described to you between Healy Lake and other Tanana and
9 with Ahtna Athabaskans. The strong ties that they have have
10 been amply demonstrated. Healy Lake is heavily dependent on
11 the harvest of natural resources and we have testimony of
12 both -- testimony from local residents and ethnographic data
13 suggesting that they have many connections with the other
14 Athabaskans that Tanana and with Ahtna Athabaskans.

15
16 Frequently they've participated in cooperative
17 harvesting activities with the members of neighboring bands
18 and groups and they -- the justification suggests that the
19 same customary and traditional determinations that apply to
20 the -- particularly to the community of Dot Lake where there
21 are many connections with them would also apply to the
22 community of Healy Lake.

23
24 And also, as George has pointed out, while there are
25 no recorded harvests of -- there are very few records of
26 harvest by Healy Lake residents, we do have the testimony of
27 residents and other ethnographic information which shows that
28 there have been collective harvests with the people in areas
29 in question in Unit 11.

30
31 Thank you.

32
33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any questions for Rachel?

34
35 MR. F. JOHN. I'd like to say what the
36 testimony that I heard is Healy Lake is related to Dot Lake
37 and Mentasta.

38
39 MS. MASON: Uh-huh.

40
41 MR. F. JOHN. Ahtna region, not the whole
42 Ahtna region.

43
44 MS. MASON: Correct, that's right, it's
45 particularly with Dot Lake.

46
47 MR. F. JOHN. Yeah.

48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Rachel, that what -- I was
50 wondering why when the original Proposal 10 asked for that

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1 portion north of the Sanford River and all other ones request
2 that portion north of the Sanford River and the relationship
3 is with Dot Lake and Mentasta, which basically operates north
4 of the Sanford River, why would there be a suggestion to -- I
5 mean.....

6
7 MS. MASON: Yeah.

8
9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Why would there be a
10 suggestion to modify the C&T for goat to include all of 11
11 when with goat being what it is, nobody would go the extra
12 distance and goat's an opportunistic animal most of the time.

13
14 MS. MASON: Yeah.

15
16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: If their C&T is for north of
17 the Sanford River, why would you include the rest of Unit 11?
18 Just because there are no goats north of the Sanford River, I
19 mean, that doesn't make sense to me.

20
21 MS. MASON: Yeah. This is one of the ironies
22 that come up in this. Dot Lake does currently have a
23 positive C&T for all of Unit 11, so on the logic that we're
24 following, Dot Lake's C&Ts, you could also argue that that
25 should not have been made, but.....

26
27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Probably true.

28
29 MS. MASON: But, yeah, that was the logic
30 that was followed, but your point is a good one, too.

31
32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: But the original request
33 just asks for that portion north of the Sanford River, right?

34
35 MS. MASON: Right, right.

36
37 MR. SHERROD: Mr. Chair.

38
39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: George.

40
41 MR. SHERROD: During testimony there was
42 evidence presented that showed that, on occasion, residents
43 from Healy Lake have historically traveled south of the
44 Sanford River for harvesting activities associated with
45 visiting individuals. As Rachel pointed out, the harvest for
46 Dot Lake, I mean Healy Lake, is almost nonexistent. They get
47 their mail via a mail box in Fairbanks that is then
48 transferred to the local community, so it's difficult to use
49 harvest tickets to establish residency and harvest of that
50 nature. But, as I say, there was some evidence presented in

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1 the course of collecting public testimony and oral histories
2 that indicated that residents from Healy Lake have traveled
3 south of the Sanford River.

4
5 And I think the reason that the other reflect north
6 of the Sanford River was, in part, an artifact that a lot of
7 the C&T for Unit 11 use the Sanford River as a dividing line
8 and it was to some degree a cookie cutter exercise. And
9 you'd make the proposal and then you'd just substitute
10 resources.

11
12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah, I know that, to a
13 certain extent, is true, but I also know from previous
14 testimony by Gloria and a few of them that, you know, that
15 they recognize the fact that they hunted in the northern
16 portion but they didn't hunt in the southern portion. And
17 what I couldn't figure out is what would be the logic of
18 adding goat to the whole thing and not adding moose to the
19 whole thing, sheep to the whole thing, caribou to the whole
20 thing, or the logic in reverse, why, if you cut off moose,
21 caribou, sheep and everything at the Sanford River in
22 recognition of the fact that, like Fred said, they're related
23 to the Mentasta, Dot Lake area more than they're related to
24 the Gulkana, Chitina, you know, that area, why suggest that
25 goat goes farther than everything else? And maybe we can get
26 some testimony from Gloria and other people on that when the
27 time comes.

28
29 MR. SHERROD: Well, it is true there's a lot
30 of inconsistencies, including the, what, C&T for wolf on the
31 North Slope by people on Prince of Wales Island, by scaffold?

32
33 MS. MASON: Yeah. And the cookie.....

34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah, but you don't need to
36 -- because there are inconsistencies, you don't need to
37 perpetuate inconsistencies, if at all possible.

38
39 MR. SHERROD: Yeah.

40
41 MS. MASON: Mr. Chair, that's what the cookie
42 cutter approach was, was just taking -- adding Healy Lake to
43 the current C&Ts and so that would be the logic of it.

44
45 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Are there other
46 agencies that wish to speak to this proposals? Fish and
47 Game. Thank you, George.

48
49 MR. HAYNES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Terry
50 Haynes, Department of Fish and Game. Do you want me to speak

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1 to all of the propos.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: To the Healy Lake proposals,
4 yeah. That would be Proposal 5, 6, 8, 10, 13 and 14.

5

6 MR. HAYNES: The Department does not support
7 these proposals at this time. The Federal regulations
8 provide a very specific process for making these customary
9 and traditional determinations and evaluating the eight
10 factors. We don't have any questions that there are kinship
11 and social relationships between Healy Lake and Upper Tanana
12 Villages, Dot Lake, Tanacross and with villages in the
13 northern part of the Copper Basin. We don't question the
14 importance of fish and wildlife resources to Healy Lake.

15

16 Our concern is that we haven't seen a lot of specific
17 information about where Healy Lake conducts its activities,
18 where it harvests resources and what is the community
19 pattern. The testimony -- I read the public testimony last
20 night from the public meeting held in Healy Lake prior to the
21 Eastern Interior Council meeting and that provides some
22 additional information, but it's very general and, again, I
23 didn't see a community pattern emerge.

24

25 And so we would like to see more specific information
26 and documentation for Healy Lake, much as the Division of
27 Subsistence in its technical papers over the years, where we
28 get information from households, we draw lines on maps, we
29 get this thorough documentation so that there is a published
30 record that can be used. And we think that that can be done
31 in a very short time in Healy Lake, there aren't that many
32 households there. Again, the testimony that was given last
33 month is a good start and so we would like to see these
34 proposals deferred until some additional information is
35 gathered that speaks specifically to Healy Lake's use of
36 resources and looks specifically at Healy Lake in the context
37 of the eight factors that are used to make the customary and
38 traditional determinations.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So your recommendation is
41 that you would like it deferred until a more consistent use
42 pattern is documented?

43

44 MR. HAYNES: That's correct.

45

46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

47

48 MR. ROMIG: Would you like to see that on
49 Federal level or a State level?

50

00199

1 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure what
2 you're asking.

3
4 MR. ROMIG: I mean, the -- you want more
5 information, but you want it to come from the -- are you
6 people ready to go out there and gather information or is it
7 -- or are we - you know, who's going to do what here?

8
9 MR. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman. The Federal
10 agencies have been spending time in Healy Lake collecting
11 information over the past year or so, I don't believe it
12 would take very long to do a household survey, if that was an
13 approach that people felt should be taken to gathering
14 information. We haven't had discussions about who should
15 that. Certainly the determination of whether or not their
16 customary and traditional uses of resources are not limited
17 to whether those activities occur on Federal lands, even
18 though the issue here is whether to apply that to the Federal
19 lands. I think everyone has an interest in good information
20 being established for Healy Lake.

21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any further questions? Don.

23
24 MR. KOMPKOFF: Yeah, this is -- I want to ask
25 Fred or Gilbert there, where is the jade found around that
26 area towards the north? Where do they find jade?

27
28 MR. F. JOHN. What's that?

29
30 MR. KOMPKOFF: Jade, you know, this mineral,
31 jade? Is that up north somewhere?

32
33 MR. F. JOHN. I don't know. I wouldn't know.

34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah, that's out of this
36 unit, that's up in the **Nowatak area.

37
38 MR. KOMPKOFF: Okay. I just want -- if you
39 want proof of -- we had a historic site on Chenega that they
40 found jade arrowheads that proved that they traded with
41 people from up north in Chenega, so dig in our artifacts, I
42 just want to state that if you need a lot of proof you could
43 go to these artifact places where we went and took a whole
44 bunch out and it'll show you all the stuff from different
45 parts of Alaska.

46
47 MS. SWAN: Mr. Chairman, I have a question.

48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yes, Clare.

50

00200

1 MS. SWAN: Does the -- George?

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: George was here before?

4

5 MS. SWAN: Uh-huh (affirmative)

6

7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do you want to ask him a
8 question?

9

10 MS. SWAN: Yes.

11

12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any more questions for Fish
13 and Game?

14

15 (No audible responses)

16

17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. George, could
18 you come back so Clare can ask you a question?

19

20 MS. SWAN: Now, I'm not sure how to ask this,
21 but it seems to be very important and I don't care if it
22 sounds dumb. Anyway, you were talking about networks of
23 kinship and is there a standard time that you guys have
24 developed or settled on for how long something happens before
25 -- a pattern of use before you can -- for the book, establish
26 what you call use patterns among the tribal peoples. And is
27 it a set time? Because I find that -- I guess it just words
28 a lot of times because I don't know, I have trouble hooking
29 things together because if the people -- and I know why you
30 have to do this, but I'm just curious about the process, I
31 mean, you know, if you haven't taken a goat from somewhere
32 for 31 years it would seem funny to say, well, yeah, we had a
33 customary and traditional -- I mean, that's for the western
34 or the way we have to look at it for the State and the
35 Federalies. But for establishing patterns of use for the
36 tribal people and network of kinship for subsistence trading,
37 do you set -- is there some way that someone says, well, it
38 has to be 10 years or however?

39

40 MR. SHERROD: That's part of the problem with
41 the C&T process is there really are no standards. What
42 percent of the village you have to have before you're in or
43 you're out. How long you have to do something before it's
44 traditional. So there really aren't standards and because of
45 that when we draft these analysis we bring together as much
46 information as we can.

47

48 And I think that the lack of standards is partially
49 what you see between our recommendations and the State's
50 concerns. The State has, through the course of many of their

00201

1 decisions weighed heavily on sort of a quantitative aspect,
2 the length of time, the number of people and so on. In this
3 case, as I tried to point out, there's a really qualitative
4 dimension here and that is the practice of traveling to a
5 community and hunting with relatives.

6
7 If you go to a neighboring community it's not your
8 intent to be sort of a sponge, if there's an opportunity of
9 someone's going hunting, you want the opportunity to go out
10 there and hunt with them. It's just an obligation as well as
11 an opportunity. And, in this case, certainly we don't have a
12 lot of documentation, and I don't think we're going to get a
13 lot of documentation showing that Healy Lake has
14 systematically gone down there every three years or that
15 residents have. It's a very small community, there's
16 probably less than five or six active hunters in the
17 community, and it's bigger now than it was a number of years
18 ago. They were displaced because of schooling and so on, so
19 you're not going to find a record.

20
21 But at the same time, this practice is documented
22 going back through generations. People were born, some of
23 the people in Healy Lake were born in Batzulnetas, which is
24 down in that area.

25
26 But I guess to answer your question about standard,
27 no, there aren't standards and you're stuck with the burden
28 of weighing those standards as best you can, you are the
29 decision-makers.

30
31 I hope that answers your question.

32
33 MS. SWAN: Well, I'm just trying to -- so
34 then -- and then the comment that I want to make about that
35 is then it takes another decision to -- I mean another -- to
36 decide how important that is, whether the information that
37 you have about the network of kinship, these things, are
38 worth even considering for C&T, even through they happen in
39 the context of the network of kinship.

40
41 MR. SHERROD: Right. I mean, they are a
42 cultural practice. I guess, as I say, the question that is
43 probably most critical here in this analysis or in this case
44 is, is that cultural practice something that Title VIII was
45 designed to allow to continue? And I don't have an answer
46 for that, that's.....

47
48 MS. SWAN: Thank you.

49
50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: George, can I answer kind of

00202

1 answer you and Clare at the same time. I think that's one of
2 the reasons that Councils were set up with the mixed group,
3 the overall trying to get as much of a cross section as we
4 can because I think individually you're going to have to
5 answer in your own mind whether that is a cultural practice
6 worthy of being categorized as C&T or not. There are not
7 definitive lines for a lot of this stuff and what's going to
8 have to happen is we're going to have to make decisions based
9 on the fact that as individuals, as part of the Council
10 bringing the expertise and the background that you have to
11 the Council, how much do you weigh those pieces of
12 information and where do you place them in the factor. And
13 from that standpoint a lot of what George says is there are
14 no quantitative measurements for most of the things that
15 we're dealing with. Maybe your idea of what constitutes
16 long-term practice is different than my idea, that's why
17 there's not just one of us sitting here making a decision.

18
19 And, you know, so what we're going to have to do is
20 we're going to have to weigh those factors and you weigh
21 those in your own mind and if that is important to you, and
22 you put it in the long-term scale and say that, you know, if
23 somebody was there for X amount of years and they practiced
24 it one out of so many years, that's a percentage that's big
25 enough to satisfy your use. And maybe I look at it and say,
26 no, they haven't done it three times in the last 10 years, so
27 it's not good enough for my use. I'm not saying that that's
28 the way I would do it, but I'm saying that's going to have to
29 be what's going to have to happen because we have no -- we
30 have to make a decision whether or not the practice is being
31 taken place to satisfy you as an individual on this Council,
32 so that you can vote.

33
34 Does that help, Clare?

35
36 MS. SWAN: Immensely.

37
38 MR. SHERROD: I think, also, Mr. Chair, if I
39 could add, in part that's why the Federal government adopted
40 the concept of factors as opposed to criteria. The eight
41 factors, basically, are a skeleton around which the data can
42 be arranged and you can look at. It's not a checklist that
43 each and everyone of these criteria has to be met before
44 allowing a positive decision to be made.

45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Or have to be met to a
47 certain level.

48
49 MR. SHERROD: Right.

50

00203

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

2
3 MR. DEMENTI: Mr. Chair.

4
5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gilbert.

6
7 MR. DEMENTI: Can I ask you how many people
8 we're talking about when we say Healy Lake?

9
10 MR. SHERROD: I think the current population
11 is 23, a large number of those are children. It's a very,
12 very small community.

13
14 MR. DEMENTI: Okay. And out of that how many
15 people, maybe, you figure is going to be out trying to get
16 permits?

17
18 MR. SHERROD: You mean actually taking part?

19
20 MR. DEMENTI: (Nods in the affirmative)

21
22 MR. SHERROD: Well, based on the testimony
23 that was collected and talking to these individuals, it
24 appears that one or two hunters go down there about every
25 four or five years, visiting with relatives, and at that time
26 would like the opportunity to go hunt with them. Some of
27 these -- in the past some of these trips, when I say
28 visiting, have lasted for a month or more, so we're not
29 saying go down on Saturday afternoon and come back on
30 Tuesday.

31
32 MR. DEMENTI: So you're talking less than
33 half a dozen people?

34
35 MR. SHERROD: Oh, yes.

36
37 MR. DEMENTI: Okay. Thank you.

38
39 MR. F. JOHN. Can I add.....

40
41 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yes, Fred.

42
43 MR. F. JOHN. Healy Lake is -- there's more
44 people from Healy Lake, but they're scattered, you know,
45 probably what he said in Healy Lake, that's all, there are a
46 lot more people from there that are in Fairbanks and a lot of
47 places in the state.

48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: George, for purposes of
50 clarification, and maybe Robert or somebody else will have to

00204

1 answer there, because I have to have a clarification with
2 Fred said. When -- for purposes of C&T when you talk about
3 Healy Lake you're talking about current residents in Healy
4 Lake, it doesn't automatically give C&T to somebody who was
5 from Healy Lake who currently resides in Fairbanks or
6 Anchorage or someplace like that, does it?

7

8 MR. SHERROD: No. And throughout our
9 regulations with C&T determinations you have to be.....

10

11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Physically present.

12

13 MR. SHERROD:actively a resident of
14 that community.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Right. Yeah, okay. So that
17 while there are a lot of people from Healy Lake that aren't
18 in Healy Lake, for purposes of this C&T the only ones that we
19 would be dealing with are those who are physically in Healy
20 Lake.

21

22 MR. SHERROD: Correct.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Any other questions
25 for George?

26

27 (No audible responses)

28

29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: If not we'll go on with the
30 rest of our testimony. At this point in time are there other
31 agencies that would speak to this?

32

33 (No audible responses)

34

35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Advisory Committees?

36

37 MR. GOOD: The Delta Fish and Game Advisory
38 Committee has worked very closely with Healy Lake and we
39 strongly support their proposals. I personally have visited
40 Healy Lake several times, I'm very familiar with the people
41 there and how they live. The comment yesterday about a head
42 of household being in jail for Fish and Game violations, I
43 listened to that and I thought of these people here. I know
44 that Don Bunzelmeyer (ph), who happens to be our Fish and
45 Game area enforcement person, he's almost legendary in the
46 area, is somebody they're always concerned about. And this
47 is the Healy Lake residents, they told me "man, we saw
48 Bunzelmeyer the other day, he has a plane that he flies and --
49 but there are a lot of small planes in the area.

50

00205

1 I went back and asked Don, you know, "how often do
2 you really go over in that area?" "Well, actually pretty
3 rarely." But they're pretty nervous about it and there's a
4 reason they're a little nervous about it, Fish and Game
5 Advisory Committee in Delta Junction has been attempting to
6 help them out by setting season in such a way that they can
7 take animals, legally, and actually have them recorded.
8 They're people who recognized that as subsistence people they
9 do need to put food on the table, and when you don't have
10 food to put on the table they're going to take it. And we
11 done our best to recognize that as well. So anything that we
12 can do to help them, we've tried to do just exactly that.

13
14 And we, again, support Healy Lake.

15
16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

17
18 MR. GOOD: Oh, one other comment. Healy Lake
19 has always, I think, traditionally gone more easterly. They
20 come also around our area, but they definitely move more in
21 an easterly and, you know, out the Alaska Highway toward the
22 Canadian border and then down, say, the Tok Cutoff, much more
23 so than, say, the residents of Delta Junction would ever do.
24 They're -- over recent history and over prehistoric times, I
25 believe, as well, they have much more contact that direction.

26
27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any question for Nat, right?

28
29 MR. GOOD: Right.

30
31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any question for Nat?

32
33 (No audible responses)

34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you then. Any other
36 Advisory Committees or -- as a Committee member or as an
37 individual?

38
39 MS. FRIEND: I represent Tanana Chiefs and
40 Healy Lake.

41
42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Fine, that's.....

43
44 MS. FRIEND: And I have some handouts, too.
45 Mr. Chairman, Council members, staff members, my name is
46 Connie Friend and I'm employed by Tanana Chiefs in Tok and
47 I'm here at the request of Healy Lake to represent them,
48 since they couldn't be here at this meeting.

49
50 I'd like to begin by explaining the handouts that I

00206

1 just passed to you. One is a paper that I've written that's
2 just kind of brought together some of the written resources
3 that explain Healy Lake's kinship ties and cultural ties to
4 the other villages of the Upper Tanana and the Upper Ahtna
5 regions. And the other is some testimony given by actually
6 one of your Council members at a fisheries meeting and it
7 just kind of where it mentioned and so put in to the record
8 the customary trade with fish and the sharing of fish among
9 the Upper Tanana and the Upper Ahtna people. And you'll find
10 that that's something that has been going on for many, may
11 years and is continuing that all people from our areas do
12 exchange those resources.

13
14 Healy Lake, as Mr. Sherrod has mentioned to you, is a
15 very, very, very old village, it's perhaps the oldest settled
16 village in North America, dating back at least 11,000 years.
17 And in the paper that I've given you there's research to
18 indicate that it existed actually in times that we call B.C.,
19 so it's a very old village and the people who live there now
20 are the direct descendants of the original people. They've
21 had to move away, from time to time, as was mentioned due to
22 schooling they were required to leave or give up their
23 children. There were epidemics, several different epidemics
24 that nearly wiped out the entire village. Their matriarch,
25 they have one elder person that they kind of consider their
26 matriarch and she was the only survivor of an epidemic when
27 she was a young mother, lost many of her children there and
28 had to relocate and still goes back. They built a home for
29 her there last year, so that she could come back and stay
30 part of the year.

31
32 So they're a very, very old traditional group of
33 people and their practices are 100 percent tied to the land.
34 They have a direct relationship to the land. That the
35 Southcentral Region, the Upper Ahtna, that's not their
36 traditional hunting grounds and they're not claiming them to
37 be, they're very respectful of the people -- the indigenous
38 people who live in this area. In fact, at the three
39 potlatches that they're known for, three major potlatches
40 that they've given, the Copper River and Ahtna people were
41 their honored guests. And they have extremely high respect
42 and regard and don't wish to infringe on any tribal hunting
43 grounds. They would just like to be able not to be
44 criminalized, they've been criminalized for, as Nat has
45 pointed, for taking a potlatch moose. They've had a hard
46 road with interfacing with Federal and State agencies and the
47 epidemics and the things that have come their way. And they
48 just want to be able to do the things that are there
49 traditions and not be considered criminals for this.

50

1 Let kind of check my notes here a second. They are
2 related, they're directly related to every other village in
3 the Upper Tanana. They have kinship ties. They have
4 kinships ties, as was pointed out, to Mentasta, there are
5 also kinship ties to Chistochina, many, many of the villages
6 that are in the Ahtna region.

7
8 Chief Healy, when he was living, his knock was known
9 on the door of Chief Walter Northway, he would walk to
10 Northway and because he was that frequent of a visitor they
11 knew his knock before they saw him, they would know, oh, it's
12 Chief Healy. And he walked to Circle to consult with the
13 chief there about the caribou, you know, they're directly
14 tied to the land, they help mend and build and mend caribou
15 fences all over the country. There are caribou fences to the
16 north, to the east and to the south that they've been a part
17 of building, manning and sharing in that experience with
18 their relatives and neighbors.

19
20 Let's see. The fishing, as I said before, there's a
21 tie there, too. People from Healy Lake have fished some of
22 the fishwheels of the Copper River with, again, friends and
23 neighbors, hunted along the Nebesna Road, hunted all the way
24 to Glennallen. Gathered berries, driven other relatives to
25 gather berries up and down and brought relatives from the
26 Copper up to -- clear up to the Fortymile country, way up the
27 Taylor Highway to the Fortymile River and that area to pick
28 berries, so there's that exchange that has been going on for
29 many years.

30
31 They just want, in times of shortage, and when
32 they're visiting to be able to hunt. Some of the reasoning
33 behind some of the proposals, the one particularly, Proposal
34 Number 10, regarding goats, was put north of the Sanford
35 River, again, out of respect and not asking more than, you
36 know, what they felt was their -- would be respectful.
37 However, Healy Lake has lost their traditional goat and sheep
38 hunting grounds because of pollution by the Army near the
39 Johnson River where they generally and Gerstle where they had
40 hunted earlier on. That's all gone because of the pollution.

41
42 So, again, there are very, very few people who would
43 actually take that opportunity, even if it were given. But
44 there are -- most of Healy Lake are young people and their
45 hunters and they've grown up with the traditional ways and
46 they're excited, they're excited to -- they're learning who
47 their relatives are. You know, a lot was lost during the
48 epidemics, during the transitions and they're finding out as
49 they're going through this process who they're related to and
50 it makes them happy and, well, they'd like to visit and

00208

1 they'd like to be able hunt while they're down there. So it
2 would be -- it isn't, you know, it isn't a set pattern that
3 this has been going on and a lot of their -- they're still
4 very, very mobile, but, you know, they were nomadic people
5 and they traveled hundreds, thousands of miles, the total
6 hunting grounds for the combined Upper Tanana, Tanacross
7 speaking people, the whole area, was 17,500 miles, according
8 to Bill Simoneon (ph), who is an Alaskan anthropologist.

9
10 So, you know, this is -- the precedent is there and
11 the restraints have been the law, that they're scared to move
12 because they may be in trouble. And the other thing is
13 economically they haven't - they have to really, really pull
14 together to get one vehicle that, you know, they can fill up
15 with gas and oil and be able to go anywhere. That's why
16 they're not here today, it's an economic reason. However,
17 they're growing and they're forward looking and they're
18 thinking ahead and this is part of what they want to do to
19 continue their ties. I think you probably -- it's come up
20 many times that subsistence hunting for a Native person is
21 far more than putting food on the table, that is Healy Lake's
22 number one priority, let me tell you, that's their number one
23 priority. But it goes far deeper than that.

24
25 So these are some of the things and I have a little
26 bit that I want to take issue with the State and address some
27 of their concerns. Anyone who visits Healy Lake can tell
28 immediately that they're traditional people, that they live a
29 traditional Indian lifestyle. The last time I was over there
30 for the testimony that you received today from Eastern
31 Interior they fed us and they fed us what they thought what
32 we would want, I guess, and it was turkey and it was, you
33 know, pretty Western meal. The time I was over there as an
34 individual and I was with the matriarch, I bought her over,
35 their elder, who now resides in Tok, we ate moose stomach, we
36 ate smoked heart, we ate -- well, everything that we ate was
37 from the land and it was traditional foods, except for the
38 macaroni and cheese, which is kind of come along with, but
39 that's how they live and you can see that's immediately
40 apparent if you go there.

41
42 And so having history of greater than of, at least,
43 11,000 years of history of being indigenous people and living
44 according to their traditions and continuing that into the
45 present, you know, it seems like everyone else, and this has
46 been affirmed throughout the Ahtna region, we have letters
47 that say we know that you shared, you know, in the resources
48 in our region and we have documentation of the potlatches
49 given. We have testimony, we have 11,000 years of history.
50 I think that if the State is asking for more then they need

00209

1 to take that upon themselves to find that out.

2

3 And one of the frustrations of the people from Healy
4 Lake is that when they're trying to go through a process and
5 they want to be legal, they want to be recognized, they want
6 to share with their other relatives and the other tribes that
7 they're related to, they just want to be a part. And in
8 trying to do that the rules have change many times for them,
9 you know, they'll say, well, we want harvest reports and then
10 we try and gather that, next time, no, it's genealogy, you
11 know, we want to know who your relatives are. And they're
12 quite isolated and they're -- you know, they have concerns
13 about just handing out, well, this is who I am and this is
14 who my grandma is and this is where I hunt, you know, I mean.
15 And then what do I get back for it, you know, you can see in
16 the testimony there's some people who are quite frustrated
17 with the whole process. You know, why do you keep coming to
18 us asking for more if you're not going to honor our requests?

19

20 And so that's -- I guess that's part of the learning
21 experience for all of us, but I wish -- Pat Saylor is one of
22 the current residents and one of the traditional hunters and
23 I wish that you all could meet him and listen to him because,
24 you know, many places where he's spoken, people have come up
25 to me afterward and they said "I appreciated his testimony so
26 much, it took me back. It took me back to when all this was
27 fresh and new." And there are fresh new people, young
28 people, who have lived a traditional lifestyle, they've been
29 isolated from a lot of, you know, progress for wont of a
30 better word. And it comes across, this is who we are, this
31 what we do, this is a small thing that they're asking, it's a
32 small number and we would just be very thankful if you could
33 hear them and help them through this process.

34

35 As far as the Proposal Number 10, about the goats, I
36 don't know how many people would come to this region to hunt
37 goat south of the Sanford River. They were happy to hear
38 that it had been modified by the staff and just because,
39 again, they'd be free to hunt with their relatives. But if
40 that is a problem, they're also willing to withdraw that
41 proposal entirely.

42

43 So they're looking for a middle ground and they're
44 trying to work their way through the process and would
45 definitely appreciate your help. Thank you.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Any questions?

48 Ben.

49

50 MR. ROMIG: Yeah. I'd like to just say that

00210

1 if you have that type of enthusiasm I hope you, you know,
2 you'll keep it up and not let the turmoil that seems to be
3 going on forever bring the people down anymore.

4
5 MS. FRIEND: Well, like I said, there are a
6 lot of young people in Healy Lake and there is a really good
7 energy there and, you know, nothing really succeeds like
8 success, so, you know, when they get a little bit of forward
9 movement that takes them a long way. But they will, I'm sure
10 they'll go forward regardless and they intend to be on scene,
11 they can't be here in person, but they -- you know, they're
12 committed and they want to do this the right way and they're
13 trying very hard to do that.

14
15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

16
17 MS. FRIEND: Uh-huh.

18
19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: If there are no further
20 questions.

21
22 (No audible responses)

23
24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. We have any other --
25 Gloria, for the Copper River Native Association?

26
27 MS. STICKWAN: Yeah.

28
29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. And I think we have --
30 that for the Advisory Committee or yourself?

31
32 MR. ELLIOTT: Advisory Committee.

33
34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. We'll take Gloria
35 first and then.....

36
37 MS. STICKWAN: My name is Gloria Stickwan,
38 I'm with the Copper River Native Association. I just wanted
39 to respond to Clare Swan, she asked about what ANILCA was in
40 long-term -- what she thought long-term was. Yesterday you
41 heard Native American Rights Fund come before you and they
42 said this is a Native legislation. They intent of Congress
43 was for it to be for Natives, that was the original intent.
44 It was later changed to rural areas because of the
45 discrimination factor, but that was the intent of Congress.
46 That's how you should be basing your C&Ts on.

47
48 I want to also state, too, that C&T is only in times
49 of shortages. All rural areas are opened to hunting unless
50 there's a shortage. That's the only time these things would

00211

1 come into effect.

2

3 We agree that, at this meeting, and it was my
4 understanding that we all agreed that north of Sanford River
5 would be the dividing line. We don't like dividing lines
6 either, but somehow, for management purposes, we believe that
7 there should be a line there for -- because historically
8 we've had areas where we hunted. We know our areas in Ahtna
9 region. We would never go up into Unit 20(D) and hunt there,
10 just out of respect. So it was my understanding that we did
11 agree on north of Sanford River among Healy Lake and us.

12

13 I want to also stress that you look at your C&T
14 factors, it says right here in number four "the consistent
15 harvest and use of fish and wildlife as related to methods
16 and means of taking near or reasonable accessible from the
17 community or area." You should be basing your C&T on where
18 the community is and how close it is to the resource. I
19 agree that north of Sanford River is near their area. I
20 don't agree that Chitina is close to their area. That is
21 traditional Ahtna territory and they've never hunted down
22 that way traditionally and customarily a hundred years ago.
23 It's not anywhere near their area. I think you should be
24 basing your decision on the C&T factor, especially number
25 four. Our people came together at our villages and this is
26 what we agreed on.

27

28 I agree that State of Alaska subsistence management,
29 too, that there should be evidence of historical use of where
30 people have hunted and fished. Testimonies are good as well,
31 I mean, I'll agree with that, that's a person's word. I
32 agree with that, but, too, there should be historical use of
33 people coming in and saying, this is where we hunted.

34

35 I think we should be consistent in our proposals, we
36 shouldn't be saying that it's okay to hunt pass this line or
37 -- we should be consistent in all of our proposals, so people
38 won't be confused. When you start dividing people -- hunting
39 area down to Chitina here, it's going to be confusing for
40 people. Right now under Federal and State it is confusing,
41 peoples don't know where Federal land is, where State land
42 is. When you start being inconsistent it's confusing.

43

44 We are just trying to protect our area down there
45 because our area is so impacted, it's the most heavily
46 impacted in the state, Unit 13. Unit 11 is not right now,
47 but in the future we may have to be forced to hunt over
48 there, in the future, because of the impact to Unit 13.
49 We're just trying to protect our long-term use 20 years from
50 now.

00212

1 In the past when C&Ts were done I may -- I have
2 missed C&Ts, I didn't know that Unit 11 was for Dot Lake, all
3 of Unit 11, that I didn't catch. The C&Ts are confusing for
4 me. I'm just saying that we should have -- be consistent in
5 all our Unit 11 proposals and they all should be north of
6 Sanford River just so that they would be consistent and not
7 confusing for people.

8
9 That's about all I had to say about that.

10
11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gloria, can I ask you a
12 couple of questions or did you have a question, Ben?

13
14 MR. ROMIG: Go ahead.

15
16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So, basically, did I
17 understand you correct that these proposals with Healy Lake,
18 CRNA would support north of the Sanford River.

19
20 MS. STICKWAN: That's what my understanding
21 was at this meeting.

22
23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

24
25 MS. STICKWAN: It was that we agreed to -- I
26 mean, I remember the chair raising their hand and saying
27 we'll agree to that. We don't want to, but if it's causing
28 problems we'll agree to that.

29
30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Could I make a
31 suggestion to you on the Dot Lake issue, that possibly you
32 may want to put a proposal in, in the future, to revisit that
33 proposal and align it.

34
35 MS. STICKWAN: Well, I wonder if they could
36 help me look at all the Unit 11 proposals and have all north
37 of Sanford River, just to be consistent. If I could get help
38 with that.

39
40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah.

41
42 MS. MASON: Yeah, we could do that.

43
44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: But we'd have to take that
45 up again, as a Council and take it back to the Board, but
46 that can be done in the future if you want to, you know, get
47 together and resubmit a proposal for, I don't know if you'd
48 need to call it reconsideration or what, but they could
49 probably help you with that.

50

00213

1 But, basically, what I understand, then, is it is
2 acceptable and the question isn't just whether it's
3 acceptable, does CRNA feel that Healy Lake has those ties and
4 that historical use of the area north of the Sanford River in
5 Unit 11?

6
7 MS. STICKWAN: We believe that they -- we
8 know that they are related to Mentasta, Chistochina people
9 and they've hunted together. We know that it wasn't north of
10 Sanford River, but we don't know how distinguish a line, I
11 mean, you can't just draw a line on the land and say this is
12 where it is, it has to be some kind of landmark to.....

13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Right. What you're saying
15 is they maybe didn't come all the way down to the Sanford
16 River, but they did take part in hunts in.....

17
18 MS. STICKWAN: They went past Sanford River,
19 I mean they went toward Chistochina, they're related to
20 Chistochina people, but, you know, somewhere you got to be
21 able to have a landmark of -- and I agree that.....

22
23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: But you know that they did
24 make use of that northern portion?

25
26 MS. STICKWAN: Yeah.

27
28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

29
30 MS. STICKWAN: For management purposes and
31 for everybody's -- you know, not to cause a lot of headaches,
32 you've got to have some kind of areas to be able to manage
33 those resources.

34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Ben.

36
37 MR. ROMIG: Yeah, I'd like your idea of
38 proximities, too, it's -- I think that's a real -- that's
39 something that I for years have always wanted to see the
40 people from certain areas, you know, have proximities,
41 identify them and then go from there. I think that's a good
42 idea.

43
44 MS. STICKWAN: I just want to say I'm not
45 advocating boundary lines, but somehow you need to do that.

46
47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Fred.

48
49 MR. F. JOHN. I'd just like to -- I'd like to
50 say that I think that Sanford River the staff kind of

00214

1 established that, it wasn't us, right, and we just agreed
2 with the staff.

3

4 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: The suggestion to go south
5 of the Sanford River. Okay, Gloria. Anybody else have
6 questions for Gloria?

7

8 (No audible responses)

9

10 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Gloria.

11

12 Any other Advisory Committee comments on Proposals 5,
13 6, 8, 10, 13, 14? Yes.

14

15 MR. ELLIOTT: Daniel Elliott, again the staff
16 -- against the Constitution, I think this also shows up how
17 they're doing this, is divisive and discriminatory.
18 Divisiveness, I think -- when we first looked at this
19 proposal it was excluding Chickaloon and that's actually why
20 we considered it. The other ones that were just 11, we
21 hadn't -- we were invited to comment on 13 related and we
22 couldn't figure out what Chickaloon did to get them kicked
23 out and Healy replaced. Despite that, you can see how when
24 you get into that location that for subsistence that it's a
25 hornet's nest.

26

27 It would be one thing if people were shooting a moose
28 in the backyard out of season because they needed the food
29 and the season was the wrong time of year, but you're talking
30 about coming in from the center of 20(D) down past Unit 13,
31 down past Unit 12, down past the Sanford River, it's almost
32 like Chenega is saying anyplace that they go fishing they can
33 shoot an animal and anyplace they work for the State and
34 drive along the road that that's traditional hunting ground
35 or that since people Healy Lake go to Tok and they go to
36 Fairbanks that those are hunting grounds. There should be
37 some balance why someone who happens to live in Wasilla,
38 which by the way is only just getting their Fred Meyer Store
39 and Soldotna, rural, has had their Fred Meyer Store for quite
40 a while. It brings up the discrimination that goes on.
41 Other than the fact that it's purely a Native issue.

42

43 As far as culturally, I happen to have a son that I'd
44 be happy to pass on my ideas of hunting and, in fact, he got
45 a caribou when he was seven. It sort of here nor there
46 though, whether or not he would be hunting goat down at Unit
47 11. As a matter of fact, in the '70s I guided for goat down
48 Hanagita Lake, south of the Sanford River and I guided for
49 sheep north of the Sanford River up by Black Mountain. But
50 that's like neither here nor there. These are the problems

00215

1 when you start dividing the people of the state against each
2 other.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Dan. Any
7 questions for Daniel?

8

9 (No audible responses)

10

11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, I think we have one
12 more Advisory Committee. Frank.

13

14 MS. EAKON: Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah.

17

18 MS. EAKON: From here on in, along with other
19 agency comments we do need to hear the recommendations of the
20 Eastern Interior Regional Council and they're going to be
21 made by the Chair, Charles Miller.

22

23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

24

25 MS. EAKON: Okay.

26

27 MR. ENTSMINGER: Mr. Chair, Council members.
28 Frank Entsminger is my name, I'm representing Upper
29 Tanana/Fortymile Advisory Committee and actually probably
30 even a little bit of the Wrangell-St. Elias SRC, Subsistence
31 Resource Commission. You know, both entities have supported
32 Healy Lake's inclusion for C&T use of the units that they are
33 looking for and the species they're looking for. There has
34 been quite a debate in past years, you know, concerning this
35 north of the Sanford River designation.

36

37 I know in past years, sitting on the Wrangell-St.
38 Elias SRC it's been the SRC's consideration that the majority
39 of the members didn't like the divisions of resident zoned
40 communities being able to, you know, hunt in one area and not
41 the other area. They, as a whole, they tried to keep the
42 hunting structures intact, where if you were a resident zoned
43 community and had a positive C&T that you could hunt all the
44 units that encompassed the Wrangell-St. Elias Park, with one
45 exception, you know, basically Unit 6, which is on the south
46 side of the Chugach Range and the Wrangell-St. Elias Range,
47 the areas of Yakutat and the coastal people hunting down
48 there, but then the Southcentral and Interior people hunting
49 in Unit 11 and 12. So -- but actually, you know, there, I
50 think, two years ago it was because of staff recommendation

00216

1 and Park Service people agreeing with staff that this north
2 of the Sanford River designation was kind of basically drawn
3 up.

4
5 As far -- you know, basically, Healy Lake is actually
6 trying to get its status as a resident zoned community of
7 Wrangell-St. Elias right now, as our several of the other
8 Upper Tanana communities and that is that if you have a
9 resident zoned status you don't have to have special permits
10 to hunt down there. There's basically two criteria to be
11 able to hunt National Park lands, i.e., the hard park. You
12 have to have a positive C&T on the species and you either
13 have to be a resident zoned status or have a 13.44 permit
14 issued by the Park Service to, you know, participate.

15
16 When the question of mountain goats came up for Healy
17 Lake, the residents there claimed through their ancestral
18 ties that they used to hunt mountain goats in Unit 11. And
19 if, in fact, they did that it would be logical to assume that
20 they hunted them somewhere south of the Sanford River because
21 very few goats, you know, live north of the Sanford River.
22 So, you know, if Healy Lake and Dot Lake, also, which Dot
23 Lake has a positive C&T for goats, and they can legally hunt
24 goats in all of Unit 11 right now, but if through their
25 ancestral ties if they have done that in the past, you're
26 going to have to give them, you know, all of Unit 11 in order
27 to hunt mountain goats.

28
29 And just a little bit of history on that, actually at
30 one time because of the State's narrow-minded determination
31 of C&T and then also the Park Service upholding the State's
32 decision, mountain goats were removed from being a C&T animal
33 to hunt, and it's only been recently that goats have been
34 reestablished to hunt. So, you know, Healy Lake and other
35 Upper Tanana communities and Copper Basin people haven't been
36 able to hunt goats over there, strictly because it's been
37 against the law to hunt goats over there for about the last
38 15-16 years. And I'm talking about hard park, I'm not
39 talking about park preserve.

40
41 But the bottom line is that if -- you know, if you
42 want to consider these people for hunting that species you're
43 going to have to include all of Unit 11 for that. You know,
44 also there's other proposals that you'll be going through
45 today that addresses some C&T requests south of the Sanford
46 River from Upper Tanana people. So I know there's been a
47 awful lot of people that have opposed these restrictive C&T
48 designations. We feel it causes more problems than solving
49 problems. And right now there's no resource shortage, you
50 know, as far as mountain goats or Dall sheep in Unit 11.

00218

1 think you're probably close to being accurate and there's a --
2 you know, there's a lot of baseline reasons why these
3 regulations and what not evolve, too, and actually as far as
4 goats and sheep for Upper Tanana people, you know, most of
5 the Dall sheep in our immediate area up there are in permit
6 classifications, trophy management areas, primarily. You
7 know, Delta has the Delta Control Use Area, the Tok area has
8 the Tok Management Area, where you actually have to apply and
9 hopefully try and get a permit to hunt there, which doesn't
10 happen very often. I mean, you're lucky if you get a permit
11 one in 10 years, so it's actually -- for the people that do
12 harvest sheep, and want to harvest goats, you know, the only
13 area we have is to go south into Unit 11 to do that.

14
15 So, you know, it's our hope that this option can be
16 held opened for the people up there to do this. So that, you
17 know, in some -- you know, I don't think Upper Tanana would
18 have a problem with the north of the Sanford River
19 designation on moose and caribou, but on sheep and goats it's
20 a different matter. And, as you said, I don't think sheep
21 and goats are probably as highly sought out animals as far as
22 subsistence, but there's definitely a fairly large segment of
23 people that do hunt them. And it would really, you know,
24 hamper individual families and people that would like to go
25 hunt sheep and goats, but couldn't do it because of
26 regulations.

27
28 And, you know, if you can keep hunting one species,
29 it take pressure off another species. So here, again, you
30 know, just a general baseline, we try to keep as many options
31 opened as possible and we feel it alleviates a lot of
32 problems in the end.

33
34 Thank you.

35
36 MR. ROMIG: I think that's what we were kind
37 of doing too, you know, we were leaving as many options
38 opened as we could, as we went along. We weren't trying to
39 be, you know, inclusive or exclusive or a species.

40
41 MR. ENTSMINGER: Well, thank you, I hope that
42 continues. Thanks a lot.

43
44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions for
45 Frank.

46
47 (No audible responses)

48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Frank. Okay.
50 Written test -- sorry.

00219

1 MR. MILLER: I'm Charles Miller the Chair of
2 the Eastern Interior Advisory Council. Mr. Chair, Board
3 members, at our meeting last month we unanimously supported
4 these proposals for Healy Lake and, basically, I'm here to
5 see if there's any questions or -- that I could maybe answer
6 on the Eastern Interior side.

7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Charles, back to that
9 Proposal 10, Gloria was talking about having come to an
10 agreement with north of the Sanford River on that one there.
11 Did you, as in Eastern Interior, discuss including all of
12 Unit 11 or discuss the proposal as down to north of the
13 Sanford River?

14
15 MR. MILLER: You mean with the goat?

16
17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: With the goat.

18
19 MR. MILLER: No, we didn't. One of the
20 reasons was like, oh, what's his name.....

21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Frank.

23
24 MR. MILLER: Frank just said that there's no
25 goat north of the Sanford River, so if you're going down, you
26 know, hunting goat you're, you know, hunting south of the
27 river. And there's been -- there's documentation like --
28 see, I'm from Dot Lake also, so is my uncle, you know, he's
29 talked at times going down and living on goat down there.
30 Him and my grandmother both are from the Batzulnetas area
31 and, you know, back then goat was, you know, a main part of
32 their diet.

33
34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So basically what you're
35 saying, Eastern Interior would support goat for the whole
36 unit, not just for north of the Sanford River?

37
38 MR. MILLER: Yes.

39
40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Questions for Charles?
41 Fred? Gilbert?

42
43 MR. F. JOHN. For the goat were you talking
44 for Dot Lake or for Healy Lake?

45
46 MR. MILLER: Just as it stands right now for
47 Dot Lake. I haven't, you know, we haven't really talked
48 anything on Healy Lake so.....

49
50 MR. F. JOHN. Dot Lake got goat in Unit 11?

00220

1 MR. MILLER: Yeah. I guess I'm just jumping
2 the gun right now, sort of, with the -- like Gloria was
3 saying, they want put in another proposal to, you know, cut
4 it off at north of the Sanford River for Dot Lake also.

5
6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, so as far as Eastern
7 Interior is -- you didn't discuss Proposal 10, that we're
8 looking at right here, which deals with Healy Lake as far as
9 goat being in the entire -- you just supported it as written?

10
11 MR. MILLER: Yes.

12
13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

14
15 MR. DEMENTI: Mr. Chair.

16
17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gilbert.

18
19 MR. DEMENTI: Just on the Proposal 10
20 executive summary, Eastern Interior Regional Council
21 recommendation. It says "support a C&T use determination of
22 Healy Lake residents north of the Sanford River, but do not
23 support staff recommendation for all."

24
25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

26
27 MR. MILLER: Okay. Sorry, my.....

28
29 MR. DEMENTI: Unit 11.

30
31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Good. Okay. Any other
32 questions for Charles?

33
34 (No audible responses)

35
36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Gilbert.

37
38 MR. MILLER: If I could, I'd like to make one
39 more comment. Going back to what Ms. Swan asked earlier
40 about showing usage of species in the area. See, for years
41 the park was closed to hunting, so when they closed the park
42 then people quit hunting there. When they do their fact
43 finding and stuff like that, they go to that -- back from
44 that time on. So in reality you don't really get a clear
45 outlook as to actual usage of the park area by the Interior,
46 you know, villages.

47
48 I hope that clears it up a little bit for you.

49
50 MS. SWAN: Uh-huh, thank you.

00221

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Charles, I'm not sure that
2 that's totally correct because one of the criteria is that if
3 the continued use, unless it was interrupted by, you know,
4 government regulations and things like that. So one of the
5 things that is taken into account is the fact that if there
6 were no seasons or if the area was close, that time period
7 doesn't count.

8
9 MR. MILLER: But what I'm saying is when they
10 gather their information they don't go back far enough, I
11 guess, is the point I'm trying to get at. They only go back
12 so far and then, you know, from then forward.

13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions for
15 Charles?

16
17 (No audible responses)

18
19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

20
21 MR. MILLER: Thank you.

22
23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Now summary of
24 written public comments.

25
26 MS. EAKON: Yes, Proposal 5, both the Upper
27 Tanana/Fortymile and Delta Fish and Game Advisory Committees
28 wrote in support of Proposal 5.

29
30 Regarding Proposal 6, the Copper River Native
31 Association modified it to only add Healy Lake, while keeping
32 the C&T determination for Chickaloon. The Delta Fish and
33 Game Advisory Committee opposed Proposal 6, they opposed
34 excluding Healy Lake, Dot Lake and Chickaloon.

35
36 Regarding Proposal 8, there were to comments of
37 support from the Upper Tanana/Fortymile Fish and Game
38 Advisory Committee and the Delta Fish and Game Advisory
39 Committee.

40
41 Proposal 10, the Upper Tanana/Fortymile Advisory
42 Committee supported Proposal 10, while the Delta Fish and
43 Game Advisory Committee modified, we do not see why Unit 11
44 should be divided into two areas. We object to making things
45 more complicated, especially for hunters and enforcement. We
46 support adding Healy Lake.

47
48 For Proposal 13, the Upper Tanana/Fortymile Advisory
49 Committee supported Proposal 13.

50

00222

1 Proposal 14, Copper River Native Association once
2 again amended their proposal to add Healy Lake and keeping
3 the C&T use determination for Chickaloon. And Upper
4 Tanana/Fortymile and Delta Fish and Game Advisory Committees
5 supported Proposal 14.

6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Can I ask you a
8 question, Helga?

9
10 MS. EAKON: Uh-huh (affirmative)

11
12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: If we pass Proposal 5, that
13 kind of cancels Proposal 6, doesn't it?

14
15 MS. MASON: Yes, they're identical.

16
17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: They're identical as
18 modified?

19
20 MS. MASON: Yes.

21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So we don't need to
23 cover them both at the same time, one of them answers the
24 issue of the other.

25
26 MS. MASON: Right.

27
28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. We have some
29 testimony here. Before we have the testimony, I'd like to
30 take a five minute break.

31
32 (Off record - 11:12 a.m.)

33
34 (On record - 11:19 a.m.)

35
36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, we'll call this
37 meeting back into session, I don't know if I need to
38 Southcentral Regional Advisory Council, but we're back in
39 session. At this point in time we have some public
40 testimony. We have 15 minute till we want to break for
41 lunch, but that's only because I've been given strict orders
42 from some people.

43
44 MS. SWAN: They asked me. You promised.

45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I know, I promised.

47
48 Okay, I have in front of me only two request for
49 public testimony on these proposals. If I'm missing somebody
50 let me know. Angela Wade.

00223

1 MS. WADE: I have a four-page thing from my
2 grandma that might give a little history to Chickaloon
3 Village where we come from, but I don't know if that'll fit
4 within the 15 minutes.

5
6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Angela, could you possibly
7 hand that in to use, because what's happened in the meantime
8 is the exclusion of Chickaloon has been dropped.

9
10 MS. WADE: Right. Right. Well, that scares
11 me and I just want to give you some background on the.....

12
13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You mean it scares you that
14 the exclusion is dropped?

15
16 MS. WADE: Well, no, that it just came up in
17 general that we got excluded and they said go anyway.

18
19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

20
21 MS. WADE: Go anyway and let them know we're
22 here and what we do.

23
24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

25
26 MS. WADE: I'm from Chickaloon Village, I'm
27 the Environmental Director but I'm also wearing this hat.
28 And in Chickaloon we depend on our relations in Copper River
29 for our fish and we don't have any runs large enough to
30 support our village due to the coal mining operations and the
31 railroad and sport fishing. There are a few fish that come
32 up into the Matanuska and into our area. In my short 26
33 years I've seen drastic declines in creeks that do have runs.

34
35 And as far as boundaries for Native people, I would
36 look at the Ahtna Language Map, Native Peoples and Languages
37 of Alaska, that pretty much separates us. We have relatives
38 all over the Ahtna territory and we have hunted traditionally
39 as far as Healy Lake and Mentasta, Klutina, Chahitna Pass,
40 Nebesna and Chitina, and this does not mean that we do any
41 encroaching on the peoples in their lands, we would always
42 hunt with them. And I have actually a picture of some
43 traditional hunting, this is my relative and this is Eddie
44 George, this up at Nickoli Lake, Nondalton Creek. We're
45 doing a history project and this is some of the stuff that
46 came out subsistence parts of it.

47
48 I'm just here to say that you cannot put Chickaloon
49 Village in a box, any Native for that fact, we didn't know
50 borders, we didn't stop at a recognized border when the

00224

1 caribou ran through it, you follow. In hearing Healy Lake's
2 testimonies we're not only their relatives, but we are in the
3 same situation. A lot of the fish and four-leggeds do not
4 come through our village and traditional lands anymore, so we
5 will travel.

6
7 We are experiencing urban expansion and have
8 difficulty with Outside hunter encroachment. C&T is very,
9 very important to us and we will not relinquish the small
10 amount of rights that we still have. I feel very strongly
11 that to deny Ahtna people their traditional and cultural use
12 of land that they have been coupled with for thousands of
13 years, it would be likened to deny a person of any faith to
14 attend church.

15
16 And that's pretty much my comments.

17
18 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Angela. Do we
19 have any questions for Angela? And you will hand us -- give
20 us the.....

21
22 MS. WADE: Yes. This is from Clan
23 Grandmother.

24
25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

26
27 REPORTER: Mr. Chairman, you want this
28 entered in the record?

29
30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yes, you can type that into
31 the record and then get us copies of it, so we got it for
32 future.

33
34 MS. WADE: It's kind of long, I'm sorry.

35
36 REPORTER: That's all right.

37
38 Katie Wade's Statement - Chickaloon Village

39
40 "People think that we have to group together to be a
41 village or tribe. That's in the view of the non-natives.
42 They cannot understand or even try to understand that we
43 traveled everywhere. We lived all over Alaska. There is an
44 understanding among most elders that kept up with the old
45 ways that the Creator put us here to take care of the land,
46 animals, the forest, and each other.

47
48 Take care of it, we did. We traveled all over. It
49 was the Indians choice to be in large or small groups.

50

00225

1 Creator made this beautiful land for all to share.
2 Every being has its right to be here - every plant, rock,
3 animal and human. Human beings were placed here, along with
4 other beings, for the purpose of caring for the land.

5
6 The Indian People traveled great distances in order
7 to care for the land. In exchange, the land provided food
8 and shelter for the People.

9
10 During some seasons, People traveled to the mountains
11 to hunt for caribou and sheep, other times to the rivers and
12 inlets to fish. They picked berries in the mountains and
13 lowlands, harvested herbs wherever they went. Places were
14 named. Many of those places still have the original names.

15
16 I traveled up to Mentasta last week to be with some
17 of my clan during a time of mourning and I saw a lot of names
18 that my Grandad and Grandma talked about. Every creek that
19 ended with "na" sounded familiar, because my elders talked
20 about being there, and knew all the people who lived in those
21 areas.

22
23 Newcomers always considered this as Indian land.
24 When the non-natives first came up here, they did not tell
25 the Natives where to live or that we owned them anything.
26 They understood that they were outsiders. We welcomed them to
27 share our land, as long as they didn't intrude on our private
28 lives. But eventually those intruders brought with them
29 their laws and started enforcing them, didn't even act like
30 the Indians had any.

31
32 As long as we didn't bother them, we didn't expect
33 them to bother us either. This is the way we lived for many
34 years.

35
36 They created summer camps, fishing camps, hunting
37 camp - any and all of which could be considered "villages" by
38 non-native definitions.

39
40 Small family groups lived together like this.
41 Research of the Athapascan Peoples is very frustrating for
42 archaeologist because they were such a neat People. They
43 left very few traces of their passing. Their dwelling places
44 were designed to decay - not to stand as monuments.

45
46 People fished for food, and took enough for the
47 winter's supply, being careful not to deplete the supply,
48 always leaving enough for the next human or animal. They
49 knew that more fish would return the next year. Greed could
50 be considered a sin against nature. Now there are battles

00226

1 over fish... there are stories about the old days when the
2 fish were so thick you could "walk across the stream on their
3 backs." The Indian People took good care of the fish - that
4 was one of their jobs.

5
6 If the People had confined themselves to a specific
7 "village site" all the time, would they expect the moose and
8 caribou to come to them? Who would take care of the trees
9 and deadfall to prevent forest fires? And who would marry?

10
11 The People knew that intermarriage in families was
12 dangerous to the life of the tribe - apparently they knew
13 more about such things than the European royalty. Therefore
14 they created an intricate family system to keep such a thing
15 from happening.

16
17 As People traveled around the country, they would
18 meet with other family groups, sometimes weddings would
19 happen as a result. The new couple would usually join with
20 her relatives or, on rare occasions, with his.

21
22 Sometimes a smaller group might split from a larger
23 group, but they would still be a family. Chickaloon Village
24 is a family.

25
26 'Who is your tribe?' Always getting this stupid
27 question. We have clans with different names. There are at
28 least seven clans within our tribe. They were very careful
29 that the same clan didn't marry each other. Sometimes they
30 had to go far to meet an opposite clan. I was told that
31 Grandma Ezi traveled alone from Chitina to Matanuska to marry
32 her husband. He was the same clan as we were. People were
33 happy for them, because they were opposite clan and thought
34 she did a great deed. It was a strict law that no one
35 married the same clan.

36
37 So we covered the whole area. We didn't claim just
38 one section was ours and ours alone. We were responsible for
39 every place that we used

40
41 I know the Indians were happy to be under the
42 guidance of the United States, so they tried to comply with
43 all the demands as much as they could.

44
45 In exchange for this generosity, the Indian People
46 were given promises that the government would take care of
47 them. they would be given health care, allowed to continue
48 to hunt and fish as always, their children would be
49 'educated.'

50

00227

1 Then the non-natives came, and brought with the...
2 Christianity, alcohol, guns, government, and a concept of
3 land use that was entirely foreign to the Indian People.

4
5 Our culture believe in sharing, and sharing we did.
6 We more or less welcomed the non-natives, a lot of times
7 saving their lives against the harsh environment. My Grandad
8 and Grandma alone saved a lot of so-called men. He could not
9 believe how stupid a lot of them were. He used to say, 'they
10 may know what's in a book, but no common sense.' The common
11 sense was more important to them than staring at a book.

12
13 Why do you think they have Native hospitals? For the
14 use of the land. No respectable Native thought he owned
15 land, that's God's creation. We are the caretakers who are
16 sharing with other humans. we are only here a short while.
17 He wants us to use it and keep it clean and holy, as much as
18 we can.

19
20 The Indian People were very generous and sharing.
21 'Certainly, if you wish to build a cabin on that hill, you
22 may.'

23
24 The old-timers knew this was Indican country. As the
25 newcomers came up, they claimed they bought the land, which
26 we knew they didn't.

27
28 In the olden days, when a person promised anything,
29 he was honorable. Because the non-natives preached
30 Christianity and the Ten Commandments, we thought they were
31 honest.

32
33 The children were sent to schools far away from their
34 families, taught to speak American English, and punished if
35 they were caught speaking their own language. Many family
36 traditions were lost. The Indian People tried to assimilate
37 themselves into the dominate non-native culture, but it
38 seemed that they were never quite 'good enough.'

39
40 Before this became a state, all the Natives got a
41 hunting and fishing license which was supposed to be good
42 throughout their lifetime.

43
44 Then later on, People were told that they could no
45 longer hunt where they used to, nor fish at their regular
46 fishing sites. Some people managed to get an 'Indian
47 allotment' in order to 'own' some land to live on.

48
49 Now you ask, 'Where is your village?'

50

00228

1 We can answer - everywhere that Athapascans lived.
2 We are all one family.

3
4 Nicoli Lake was named after my grandfather. My Aunt
5 Mary was born at a site near Old Man Lake.

6
7 In 1959 a vote was held to create Alaska, the Great
8 Land, as the 49th state. There was much opposition. Who
9 voted? In 1959 the population consisted of many Alaskan
10 Natives, and few non-natives. The military comprised a
11 disproportionately large percentage of the total population.
12 Even though they were mostly young GI's in transient, they
13 were allowed to vote, and encouraged (rumor has it that they
14 were also threatened) to vote in favor. In order to vote, it
15 was a prerequisite to speak and write English. Many Alaskan
16 Natives were not allowed to vote. Some, who were in
17 hospitals, did vote, but were not informed on the issue.

18
19 Alaska gained Statehood, but not at the Indians'
20 request, or even with their permission. This is and has
21 always been Indian country. It has never been otherwise,
22 since the days of the ice ages. We understand Russia did not
23 see the land to the United States.

24
25 Then oil was discovered. Non-natives realized that
26 if land was to be given over to oil development, then Natives
27 must be given land, also. Appease the Natives.

28
29 Many, many lawyers came to Alaska. Divide and
30 conquer schemes were used. The divided Alaskan Natives into
31 thirteen regions, and divided those thirteen regions into
32 individual villages, and divided those people into village
33 members and non-village members. The village members had to
34 create corporations.

35
36 Natives didn't understand corporations. All they
37 knew was the corporation was supposed to preserve their
38 hunting and fishing rights, and the land, without disruption.

39
40 By this time, many Indian People had been crowded out
41 of their traditional living styles and had settled near one
42 of their former fishing or hunting camps on a more or less
43 permanent basis. These places were designated as 'villages.'
44 The corporations were supposed to select the now so-called
45 'federally owned land' surrounding their villages, and this
46 land was to be 'given' to them.

47
48 In three generations, the Indian People have gone
49 from being caretakers of the land, to defending ourselves for
50 the right to exist as a village.

00229

1 Definitions of 'village' have been handed down by
2 those who had no idea of Indian ways. 'Did they think we
3 put ourselves on reservations?'

4
5 We have never asked people to move away. We continue
6 to share the land, and know that most non-native people
7 appreciate this land as we do. We only ask that the
8 government live up to its promises of protecting us from
9 harassment and abuse.

10
11 The Chickaloon Village People are of the Ahtna
12 dialect. Our nearby relatives are scattered north and east
13 of Chickaloon. We also have relatives west and south of
14 Chickaloon, of the Deniana dialect.

15
16 I can remember idiots saying, 'Give this God-forsaken
17 land back to the Indians and Eskimos,' when they got
18 discouraged about getting rich. So they knew who it belonged
19 to.

20
21 Don't our traditions mean anything to you?"

22
23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: If there's no questions for
24 Angela, thank you, muchly and thank you for keeping it brief
25 and short.

26
27 MS. WADE: You're welcome.

28
29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And the other one we have is
30 Ida Hildebrand.

31
32 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, I'd like to
33 first speak as an individual and then I will speak as a Staff
34 Committee member, directly to the proposals.

35
36 But as an individual ANILCA sets under the property
37 and commerce clause the United States Congress does have the
38 power to both regulate Indians and commerce and everything
39 else in any state, including Alaska. However, under ANILCA
40 they extended the subsistence priority to both the Natives
41 and non-Natives and in the legislative history they did
42 discuss that they wanted to preserve and protect the
43 continuation of the Native subsistence users and the cultures
44 that are dependent upon subsistence.

45
46 In addition, the subsistence users in Alaska get less
47 than three percent of all the game, 97 percent of that game
48 goes to all other users. Subsistence users get less than one
49 percent of subsistence fish, 99 percent goes to other users.
50 So in my opinion, it's the subsistence users that can claim

00230

1 discrimination.

2

3 Subsistence use, regardless of how the C&T is
4 obtained by any given village, every person in that village,
5 regardless of whether they are Native or non-Native, black or
6 white or green or any other color, may hunt under those
7 subsistence privileges.

8

9 That concludes my statement as an individual.

10

11 My state as a Staff Committee member is to say that
12 in regards to the Healy lake proposals, these people have
13 been trying for at least three years to be recognized in
14 their customary and traditional uses. Last year the Federal
15 Board was adamant in saying they want resolution and they
16 want investigation into what the problem is. The Healy Lake
17 people have testified on numerous occasions before this
18 Council, before the Federal Board and in Healy Lake itself
19 and before the Eastern Interior Council that they have a long
20 history. They have been around for 11,000 years, which is
21 prerecorded Alaska history time. They're traditions are
22 oral, their history is oral, therefore, their testimony is
23 relevant and extremely important. The documentation that
24 everybody seems to be wanting is written documentation.
25 People of oral histories do not have written documentation.

26

27 In addition, both the State and the Federal
28 government seem to be hesitant to fund any new studies and
29 especially have not done any studies on Healy Lake.

30

31 In regard to their statement of hunting while
32 visiting relatives, according to the testimony that I heard
33 from these users it isn't just that they wandered off and are
34 visiting someone, they are very specific invitations,
35 generally from elders of those areas that they go to, and
36 these aren't daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly invitation.
37 It's a very ritualistic type of invitation to hunt in another
38 area. And the people who have been -- coming from a nomadic
39 people that used a large range of area, that is their
40 pattern, that is their tradition.

41

42 And, for your information, the oral histories --
43 excuse me. The epidemics that they spoke of were as late as
44 the 1950s when these people were still being wiped out by
45 common diseases and to me that was quite upsetting when I
46 heard that testimony.

47

48 And to say that these people can't prove their use
49 because they don't have written documentation is more than an
50 insult, it's ludicrous. These people are direct descendants

00231

1 from people who lived there for 11,000 years, they would not
2 survive for 11,000 year had they not used every given species
3 in that area.

4
5 That concludes my comments. Thank you.

6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Any questions
8 for Ida?
9 Ben.

10
11 MR. ROMIG: Yeah, Ida, I remember Bill Thomas
12 saying that we only take -- the subsistence user only takes
13 two percent of the fish and game, why are these statistics --
14 it doesn't seem like it's, you know, a very knowledgeable
15 thing amongst people. I mean people really don't seem to
16 have a grasp of how small of a deal subsistence really is and
17 how important it is. In other words, three percent of the
18 game and one percent of the game is nothing, really. And I'm
19 just -- I'm really bewildered as to why most of the people
20 that I talk to don't have a grasp of the small consequence
21 that this small fish and game would have over, you know, the
22 overall consensus.

23
24 MS. HILDEBRAND: Why it's not.....

25
26 MR. ROMIG: That's more of a statement than a
27 question.

28
29 MS. HILDEBRAND: Okay. But in response to
30 that. I think it just favors the political winds why these
31 numbers don't come out more often, but it is documented by
32 the University of Alaska in a study. I believe Tony Nakazawa
33 (ph) was in charge of that program when they did the study.
34 And I did ask him why these weren't made available to, for
35 instance, to the Alaska State Legislature, and he said it was
36 and they never requested us to speak on it.

37
38 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Fred.

39
40 MR. F. JOHN. I got a ques -- I just want to
41 make comment. You know, I want to talk about Healy Lake a
42 little bit. My mom is from Batzulnetas and Dora is from
43 Batzulnetas and I know the history of the area, you know.
44 And a lot of time, you know, I hear the agency speak on
45 history and of the different clans and bands and everything.
46 And usually what we told them, they come out different that
47 what we tell them. And so we just shut our mouth, you know,
48 because by the time it goes into the Western language it
49 doesn't sound the same as what -- I know if we talked to
50 Healy Lake and Dot Lake there would be no problem, I mean,

00232

1 between us Native tribal government. But when you get a
2 situation like right here, then all the different agency, you
3 know, come in, you know, that's the only problem there is, so
4 we don't really have no problem with -- we know where Healy
5 Lake hunt, we know where Dot Lake hunt, we know the clan
6 situation. We know where Copper River hunt, we know our
7 hunting area and usually we don't -- if we have visitors from
8 way up there, we invite them in our own area.

9
10 So I just wanted to make a comment on that because we
11 don't have no problem with Healy Lake. What we have problem
12 is when it goes into the Western language it's not what it
13 originally was. I think you kind of know what I'm talking
14 about.

15
16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions for Ida?

17
18 (No audible responses)

19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

21
22 Okay, I think that that's all the requests I had for
23 public input on these proposals. Did I miss somebody that
24 had a pink slip in?

25
26 (No audible responses)

27
28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. At this time we'll go
29 into Regional Council deliberation, recommendation and what
30 time have we got?

31
32 MS. MASON: We've got about 11:29. Mr.
33 Chairman, I wanted to just to clarify what the Eastern
34 Interior Council's recommendation was, when Chuck Miller was
35 there. Several people who were at the Eastern Interior
36 Meeting remember that the recommendation actually was to
37 support the staff recommendation, which would be for all of
38 Unit 11 for Healy Lake. So the Eastern Interior Regional
39 Council recommendation that's on page 76 in Tab R that Mr.
40 Dementi pointed out, that is an error.

41
42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So basically what
43 you're saying is Eastern Interior supported the C&T finding
44 for mountain goat in all of Unit 11?

45
46 MS. MASON: Correct.

47
48 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Well, with that,
49 let's put off our deliberation and recommendation until after
50 lunch.

00233

1 Don, do I understand you won't be back after lunch?

2

3 MR. KOMPKOFF: Yes, I got to attend another
4 meeting at 1:00 o'clock.

5

6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Don, we'd like to thank you
7 for your service on the Board. If I understand right, this
8 is your last meeting that you'll be here for us.

9

10 MR. KOMPKOFF: I think whenever my term is
11 going to be up, I guess, that's when I'll be leaving.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. And his term will be
14 up between now and the fall meeting, right?

15

16 MS. EAKON: Your term will expire this fall.

17

18 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: After or before the fall
19 meeting?

20

21 MR. KOMPKOFF: Before the meeting?

22

23 MS. EAKON: Before the fall meeting.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Before the fall meeting.

26

27 MR. KOMPKOFF: Before, okay, and it was a
28 pleasure sitting on the Board and I thank all the Board
29 members that for all the stuff that we did and wish you guys
30 the best of luck.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Well, thank you, Don, for
33 your service and I hope that you have a profitable meeting
34 this afternoon where you're going.

35

36 MR. ROMIG: Thank you for the stories, too,
37 Don.

38

39 MR. KOMPKOFF: You betcha. I got lots of
40 them.

41

42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And we'll probably see you
43 this fall then to testify, right?

44

45 MR. KOMPKOFF: Right, I'll be here.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. With that I've just
48 -- I have one more pink slip request that was just handed to
49 me. Was that on these proposals right here that that request
50 was for? Ken Johns, is what it is? Will it be a long? No.

00234

1 MR. K. JOHNS: My name is Ken Johns, I'm
2 President of Copper River Native Association, been there for
3 the last seven years and I've served on the Alaska State Game
4 Board. I would like to comment in regards to the C&T
5 findings of the region and the hunting area of the Nelchina
6 Caribou Herd, the Mentasta Caribou Herd. I've always said
7 this and I always advocate this, I don't -- I'm not trying to
8 eliminate -- or we're not trying to eliminate any hunting for
9 anybody, but we want some clarification of laws, especially
10 the C&T areas.

11
12 Our people have taken the time, have worked the
13 system in documentation. We've put together maps, we've
14 interviewed people. We started this -- not from -- because
15 of the Federal side, but we started this because of our
16 lawsuits that we fought against in the State Court system of
17 the exact same thing that we're fearful of right now is too
18 many hunters being for the animals, especially the Nelchina
19 Caribou Herd.

20
21 I'm really fearful and this is something -- what we
22 had against Delta Junction is that there's a lot of people in
23 Delta and there's going to possibly be more people with this
24 prison system that's coming in that will be eligible to hunt
25 in our area. I want you to take full consideration that when
26 the influx of these people come in there's probably going to
27 be closure because of the limited Federal lands that we have
28 where the Nelchina Caribou Herd passes through. Who has
29 priority? Who has the longest C&T on uses of that herd?
30 This is what we're fearful of, we fearful of what happened
31 with the State hunt where this all Alaskan law that came
32 through says that everybody was eligible for subsistence so
33 that there were too many hunters for the animals, so what
34 happens is they start closing and restricting hunts to the
35 point where the villages are not able to hunt.

36
37 And one of the things that we would like to see is
38 that you take in full consideration about the C&T who has the
39 most C&T on these species. And that if there is a closure,
40 if there's restriction that you will not hurt those villages
41 that depend on those herd when they come to -- you got a
42 week, two weeks that they come through across the road. I've
43 heard talks about limiting the hunt half a mile off the road.
44 A lot of different things already beginning to happen because
45 if you go there this fall when the Nelchina Caribou Herd, you
46 will see the lines of cars waiting for the caribou coming and
47 it's not mostly the village people, it's people that's coming
48 in from Outside. And it's a dangerous situation, a lot of
49 the locals there don't want to be up on the road system.

50

00235

1 So these are fears that we have and, you know, I'm
2 not trying, like I keep saying, eliminate people from
3 hunting, but there needs to be a determination if there's
4 ever going to be a closure that it has the least impact of
5 the people who has the most customary and traditional use of
6 those animals. And, you know, we went through the State
7 system and we fought through the court system for the last 10
8 years and we kind of know what could happen and what will
9 happen if things aren't determined at the beginning, right
10 now.

11
12 So I just want to make those comments on that.

13
14 MR. ROMIG: Yeah, I'd like to kind of mirror
15 your comments. Also I guess that's been my, for the last
16 several years, I've been trying to figure it out, too, and I
17 think it's a very good point that, you know, when you -- I
18 think you should start talking proximities and usage, you
19 know, the long-term usage. In other words, who was here, you
20 know, before this person and that, and I don't know, you
21 know, whether it's going to get down to Native versus non-
22 Native, but they definitely need to take care the people that
23 are in the immediate area before they, you know, start taking
24 on new people. That's a very big concern of mine, too.

25
26 MR. K. JOHNS: Yeah, and I think that you
27 have tools that you can utilize from this group here to make
28 recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board in regards
29 to this. If there's a closure, you know, who does it hurt
30 and why is it being closed and I'll tell you those are fears
31 and if there's a lot of animals to be taken then I don't mind
32 anybody hunting, but, boy, if it hurts the local village,
33 like we've been hurt through the State system on our hunting
34 -- one time they closed the hunting down in the State system
35 to five days and we went through the court system and sued to
36 have them reopen that. And so there's just too many people
37 for the amount of land, the amount of time and when the
38 animals come through, it's going to be something that if you
39 don't deal with it today, you're going to deal with it later
40 on. And I just don't want it to have any effect on our
41 people back home.

42
43 MR. ROMIG: Well, I think it is -- what is
44 it, Section 801 which deals with long-term usage, but it's,
45 you know, it's a complicated process. I think there need to
46 be, you know, more of a immediate thing to take care of the
47 immediate demands of the people in these certain proximities
48 that, you know, they need to be -- you know, they need to be
49 -- that that game needs to be allocated on a, not only an as
50 needed basis, but on a usage basis, you know, how long have

00236

1 you been using it and, you know, did you just move here and
2 blah, blah, blah. But I think that -- you know, I know for
3 years I've been fighting it on the Kenai and I'm not getting
4 anywhere down there, so, you know, I wish the best for your
5 people, especially the ones that it's going to really affect.

6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Fred, did you have a
8 question?

9
10 MR. F. JOHN. No.

11
12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Ken, I've got one question.
13 There's only one proposal in here that seems to be -- to have
14 some conflict on it on the Healy Lake portion and that's the
15 one on goats where there apparently was some kind of an
16 agreement with Copper River Native Association that that
17 would be north of the Sanford River and yet we have
18 recommendations from the Eastern Interior and from the staff
19 that it be all of Unit 11. Can you speak to that proposal?

20
21 MR. K. JOHNS: Yeah. Well, it's not -- we're
22 trying to comment -- not goats, but a bigger picture what I
23 was just trying to allude to. I don't have any problem
24 people coming in hunting goats, but if there's closure on
25 goats, there's got to be a determination on why it's being
26 closed, because of predation or whatever, but if it is
27 because of overharvest by people from not in and around the
28 Ahtna region and it's closed then I have a problem with that,
29 because we're closed not because of what we do, but because
30 of what other people do. And this is why this proposal came
31 in to start saying there needs to be some system in place
32 that has -- what it says it kind of a priority within a
33 priority, so that you don't hurt the local people there. And
34 it's not goats, it's not caribou, it's not moose, it just how
35 the system is set up that needs to be taken care of now so
36 that everybody knows what the rules are when we get down to
37 actually having to close caribou, moose and goats and sheep.

38
39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: My question -- the reason I
40 asked you that question, Ken, is that's the one that we, as a
41 Council, have got conflicting information on and as we deal
42 with that one we're going to have to make a decision, not
43 just whether Healy Lake has C&T, but whether that C&T extends
44 all through Unit 11 or just like the rest of the proposals
45 down to the Sanford River. And that would come into what
46 you're talking about that in the meantime it makes no
47 difference because there is no priority, there is no closure,
48 this is no shortage, so everybody has access to them anyhow,
49 but in times of shortage, if we find a C&T for Healy Lake in
50 all of Unit 11, at that time and shortage, they have the same

00237

1 priority, basically as you have.

2

3 MR. K. JOHNS: That's the law.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah.

6

7 MR. K. JOHNS: But what I'm pleading for is
8 to make some sensibility out of this whole thing, is that
9 when there are closures that you make some recommendations to
10 the Federal Subsistence Board in regards who get priority
11 within the priority. And that these villages that are here
12 to testify are not now hurt by them, because we can prove
13 that we probably have the highest and the longest, the
14 extended time of C&T in those areas.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Uh-huh. Any other questions
17 for Ken?

18

19 (No audible responses)

20

21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. With that -- thank
22 you, Ken, thank you muchly.

23

24 MR. K. JOHNS: Yeah. Thank you.

25

26 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: With that we are going to
27 break for lunch. I have a couple of announcements to make
28 before we break. Due to the fast speed we're making on
29 handling these proposals the meeting will be extended till
30 tomorrow morning, for sure, arrangements have already been
31 made to have this place tomorrow. I don't see us handling
32 them that much faster this afternoon that we're going to get
33 through them this afternoon. We'll take an hour break for
34 lunch -- let's see what time is it right now.

35

36 MS. MASON: It's quarter to 12:00.

37

38 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Let's make it an hour and 15
39 minute break for lunch, we'll return at 1:00 o'clock at which
40 time the Regional Council will deliberate on these Healy Lake
41 proposals and then after that we'll go on to Proposal 7 and
42 Proposal 12 which also deals with Cordova.

43

44 Rachel.

45

46 MS. MASON: One suggestion, Mr. Chairman.
47 Actually it might -- since Proposal 23 and 24 also deal with
48 Healy Lake, it might make more sense to go on to 23 and 24
49 and then go to 7 and 12.

50

00238

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. And I'm going to make
2 a request. I know that we've all got a lot to say, but if
3 we've already said it let's not say it again this afternoon.
4 In other words, if you got something relevant to say to the
5 proposal at hand, say it, but if you've already made the
6 statement before, no matter how strong you feel in it, unless
7 it has direct bearing and it's something that we would have
8 forgotten, let's not say it again. I like to leave an open
9 meeting and I like to give everybody the opportunity to speak
10 whatever they wish to speak, but at some point in time we
11 have to say that, you know, we've already heard this.

12
13 MS. MASON: You could say that about the
14 analyses, too.

15
16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah, that's possible that
17 one -- that's why we'd like to combine as many of them as we
18 can, that analyses fit one and the other.

19
20 Okay, 1:00 o'clock.

21
22 (Off record - 11:49 a.m.)

23
24 (On record - 1:21 p.m.)

25
26 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Southcentral Regional
27 Subsistence Advisory Committee is back in session after
28 lunch. I'd like to thank the chocolate fairy that brought
29 the chocolates and left them here and thank the person who
30 brought the donuts and goodies this morning to share with
31 everybody, it was appreciated, a lot of people missed
32 breakfast this morning, I think. Sounded like the hotel
33 restaurant was pretty full.

34
35 Okay, with that, we're back on Proposals 5, 6, 8, 10,
36 13 and 14, and it's Regional Council deliberation,
37 recommendation and justification. So a motion to accept
38 those proposals as written would be in order.

39
40 MS. SWAN: So moved.

41
42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been so moved, is there
43 a second?

44
45 MR. DEMENTI: Second.

46
47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Second. Okay, then we have
48 a motion to deal with those proposals as written. At this
49 point in time we can either amend them to put in the staff
50 recommendations or we can leave them as is and work with them

00239

1 from that standpoint. What's the wish of the Council?

2

3 MR. F. JOHN. I'd like to as on Proposal 11,
4 the request for C&T for goat in portion -- oh, it's in
5 portion of Unit 11, that's in the northern part?

6

7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Uh-huh.

8

9 MR. F. JOHN. That's in the.....

10

11 MS. EAKON: For goats?

12

13 MR. F. JOHN. Yeah.

14

15 MS. EAKON: That's Proposal 10 actually.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Right.

18

19 MS. EAKON: For goats in a portion of Unit

20 11.

21

22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I believe as that was
23 written, Rachel, that was just in the northern portion.

24

25 MS. MASON: Yeah.

26

27 MR. F. JOHN. It just says above the Sanford
28 River, it says in the proposal, just in the northern part.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Right. That's as the
31 proposal was written.

32

33 MS. MASON: That's correct.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

36

37 MS. MASON: I'm sorry, I missed the first
38 part of this discussion.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

41

42 MR. F. JOHN. Okay.

43

44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Did that clarify your
45 question, Fred?

46

47 MR. F. JOHN. Yeah.

48

49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Comments? Gilbert,
50 would you like to speak to these proposals at all?

00240

1 MR. DEMENTI: Well, my personal comment is I
2 hate to omit anybody from their subsistence use and so I can
3 tell you I'm going to be voting for these proposals.

4
5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Ben.

6
7 MR. ROMIG: Pardon me?

8
9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do you have any comments on
10 these proposals?

11
12 MR. ROMIG: Yeah. I think I'd go along with
13 what Gilbert said here. Rather than eliminate people I'd
14 rather see the people that don't really want to see the
15 people in there present some evidence otherwise that would
16 maybe change my vote.

17
18 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Fred.

19
20 MR. F. JOHN. Well, for Healy Lake I'm going
21 to vote for this as long as that Proposal 10 is in the
22 northern part of the -- above the Sanford River and what I
23 say is, like, I've been pushing for Dot Lake for to be
24 because of family ties and because of the traditional hunting
25 and customary way of life and I know that Dot Lake, Mentasta
26 come from Batzulnetas. There's part of Mentasta that came on
27 my dad's side of the family that are from Mentasta, my mom's
28 side is all from Batzulnetas, I've been at Dot Lake, there
29 was Charles family and Gene Henry's family and all them,
30 they're from Batzulnetas, so I have no problem there. But
31 they're related to the people from Healy Lake and so -- and
32 Healy Lake been hunting down in the northern part and I
33 support that. I have no problem. I would support all this
34 as it is.

35
36 MS. SWAN: Mr. Chairman, I speak in favor of
37 these proposals for the same reasons that Gilbert and my
38 fellow Council members, so I will vote for the proposals.

39
40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. I will have to
41 bow to the knowledge that Fred has, since he is from that
42 area and the knowledge of the inner ties that he know of. I
43 respect his comments that he has known about them hunting in
44 the past and visiting relatives and, to me, sometimes I have
45 problems with the definition of time, also, simply because I
46 don't wear a wristwatch and I have been known to miss a date
47 by two days because I didn't know what the day on the
48 calendar was. And I know that when you live in the Bush even
49 years, sometimes, don't mean any difference, so I will
50 support these proposals too. I think it's a reasonable

00241

1 request.

2

3 With that, if there's no other discussion.

4

5 MR. F. JOHN. Question.

6

7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been called. All
8 in favor of Proposals 5, 6 is revised so that it's the same
9 as 5, 8, 10, 13 and 14, signify by saying aye.

10

11 IN UNISON: Aye.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Opposed signify by saying
14 nay.

15

16 (No opposing responses)

17

18 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, motion carries. Now,
19 let's go on and look at Proposal 23 and 24. Rachel, can you
20 give us a lead in on that?

21

22 MS. MASON: Sure. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
23 Proposal 23 was submitted by the Healy Lake Traditional
24 Council and it requests that Healy Lake be added to those
25 communities with a positive C&T determination for moose in
26 Units 13(B) and 13(C). And Proposal 24 submitted by the
27 Delta Fish and Game Advisory Committee requests that the
28 residents of Units, 11, 12 along the Nebesna Road, and 20(D),
29 except Fort Greely be added to those communities with a
30 positive C&T use determination for moose in Unit 13(B).

31

32 I should point out that Proposal 24 is really the
33 only one that you need to consider because Proposal 23 is
34 included in it, Healy Lake is one of the communities in
35 20(D). So if the Council wishes only to consider one, it
36 should be 24.

37

38 Another clarification is that in a written comment
39 that was submitted in November 1998 the Delta Junction
40 Advisory Committee, which is the proponents of 24, clarified
41 its intention by omitting the residents of Units 11 and 12
42 from the proposed change. So, in fact their request is only
43 asking for the residents of 20(D), except for Fort Greely to
44 be added to the list of communities with a positive C&T in
45 Unit 13(B).

46

47 And currently the positive C&T in Units 13(A,B and D)
48 is for residents of Unit 13 -- yes.

49

50 (Whispered conversation)

00242

1 MS. MASON: Okay. I've just been informed
2 that I misled you. Actually you do need to consider both of
3 them, because the first proposal is for moose in Units 13(B
4 and C), whereas, the second proposal, Proposal 24, covers
5 Unit 13(B), so combined the requests ask for a C&T for moose
6 for Healy Lake in Unit 13(C) and then for all the communities
7 in Unit 20(D) and Unit 13(B).

8
9 Thank you for the clarification.

10
11 So back to the current C&T determination. In Unit
12 13(B) is for the residents of Unit 13 and the residents of
13 Chickaloon. And in Unit 13(C) there's a positive
14 determination for the residents of Units 12, 13 and the
15 residents of Chickaloon and Dot Lake. So currently Dot Lake
16 is the only Unit 20(D) community that does have a positive
17 C&T in Unit 13(C).

18
19 I think that we can all agree that moose have been of
20 great nutritional and cultural importance to the residence of
21 all these regions. And that harvested sharing of moose are
22 well-known and well documented in these areas and it's also
23 well-known that the residents of the area share and
24 redistribute moose.

25
26 In terms of the areas where moose is taken,
27 archaeological evidence suggests that the Tanacross
28 Athabaskans generally have traditionally harvested moose
29 within 20 miles of their village, but this is my no means
30 always the case. It's similar to the one that people living
31 in other parts of the Copper River and Upper Tanana regions
32 have used. It's usually been within 40 miles, 20 to 40
33 miles. And it should be noted that this is the distance from
34 the base of operations within the home or neighboring tribal
35 territory and not necessarily from the site of resident
36 communities that exists in the contemporary time.

37
38 The conclusion was to support Proposal 23 adding
39 Healy Lake to the communities with a positive C&T for moose
40 in Unit 13(C). And to modify Proposal 24 -- actually the
41 modification was suggested at a time when we thought that the
42 residents of Units 12 and 11 were added, so as the proposal
43 now stands, the staff recommendation would be to also support
44 Proposal 24 adding the residents of Unit 20(D), except Fort
45 Greely, to those with a positive C&T in Unit 13(B).

46
47 The justification for adding Healy Lake is similar to
48 the justifications that you've discussed for adding Healy
49 Lake to Unit 11 north of the Sanford River and are based on
50 the strong cultural and kinship ties that residents of Healy

00243

1 Lake have with Ahtna Athabaskans and with other Upper Tanana
2 Athabaskans. Also, there's historical and contemporary
3 evidence that hunters from the Upper Tanana have traveled
4 considerable distances, including to Unit 13 in pursuit of
5 moose, caribou and sheep. The distance from Healy Lake to
6 Unit 13 is well within the range of historical hunting forays
7 and there is data showing that, at least, some portions of
8 Unit 13 have been used by Upper Tanana people. And
9 currently, as you know, the community of Dot Lake in 20(D)
10 does have a positive C&T for moose in Unit 13(C).

11

12 So that concludes my summary.

13

14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Rachel, can I ask you to
15 clarify something?

16

17 MS. MASON: Sure.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Am I to understand that
20 Proposal 24, Units 11 and 12 have been withdrawn from that
21 proposal?

22

23 MS. MASON: That's correct.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And it deal only with Unit
26 20(D)?

27

28 MS. MASON: That is correct.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So, basically, what
31 we have is we have 20(D) would include Healy, Dot Lake.....

32

33 MS. MASON: Delta Junction.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:Delta Junction and.....

36

37 MS. MASON: All the other -- all the
38 communities in Unit 20(D), except for Fort Greely.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Except for Fort Greely.

41

42 MS. MASON: There was a list of them at the
43 beginning.

44

45 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And that would be for Unit
46 13(B)?

47

48 MS. MASON: That's correct.

49

50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Currently all of

00244

1 those communities, except Healy Lake, have a C&T for 13(C)?

2

3 MS. MASON: Let's see. Yes -- no, they
4 don't.

5

6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Oh.

7

8 MS. MASON: The only Unit 20(D)
9 community.....

10

11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Is Dot Lake.

12

13 MS. MASON:is Dot Lake.....

14

15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

16

17 MS. MASON:in 13(C).

18

19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So what it basically
20 would be doing is adding -- in 23 you'd add Healy Lake, Dot
21 Lake for Unit 13(C).

22

23 MS. MASON: Right.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And 24 would add all
26 residents of 20(D), except Fort Greely, to 13(B).

27

28 MS. MASON: That's correct.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Is that understood by
31 members of the Council?

32

33 (No audible responses)

34

35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Thank you for that
36 lead in, Rachel.

37

38 MS. MASON: Yeah.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: At this point in time we'll
41 go on, unless there's somebody else from the -- Rachel, you
42 have anybody else for lead in? That's all?

43

44 MS. MASON: I don't think I have anybody else
45 of the staff that are going to testify.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. At this point in time
48 we'll go to Alaska Department of Fish and Game. You can
49 speak to both proposals even if we -- we may end up handling
50 each one separately, but we'll take testimony on both at the

00245

1 same time.

2

3 MR. HAYNES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Terry
4 Haynes, Department of Fish and Game. The Department, again,
5 recommends deferral of these proposals as they apply to Healy
6 Lake. I want to kind of follow up on comments we made on the
7 proposal package that you just completed work on. Just to
8 remind the Council it's not because we dispute the
9 connections that Healy Lake residents have in these other
10 areas, but we're concerned about the process and that there
11 be more specific information available about Healy Lake's
12 used of these areas, so that the record is better
13 established, because this becomes a precedent and precedents
14 allow the process to waver down paths that maybe difficult
15 and problematic down the road. So we -- and I believe a lot
16 of the information that's being presented here today is
17 getting closer to where we would like to see the record
18 created.

19

20 And it's -- we'll certainly evaluate the actions
21 taken by the Council and the information we hear at the rest
22 of this meeting when we make additional recommendations that
23 we may present at the Federal Board meeting this spring.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

26

27 MR. HAYNES: Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any questions for Department
30 of Fish and Game?

31

32 (No audible responses)

33

34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. And that's true
35 that you do have an opportunity to use the information that's
36 here and you still have another opportunity to speak before
37 the Board, right?

38

39 MR. HAYNES: Yes, that's correct.

40

41 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Right. Thank you. Okay,
42 other agency comments. Are there any other agencies that
43 wish to comment at this point in time?

44

45 (No audible responses)

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, then we'll go to
48 Regional Councils, Tanana Chiefs. Would you like to come
49 speak first?

50

00246

1 MS. FRIEND: Mr. Chairman, Council members,
2 my name is Connie Friend with Tanana Chiefs. I'm here to
3 represent Healy Lake. And I don't have the written
4 documentation, but there has been contemporary use of the
5 Unit 13(C and B) by contemporary people that live in Healy
6 Lake today. That present -- that written documentation has
7 been presented before to the Board and to the Eastern
8 Interior Council and I could try and get it for you if that
9 would be helpful, but not immediately.

10
11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Connie. Any
12 questions for Connie?

13
14 (No audible responses)

15
16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Connie, I think a lot of
17 that we've already seen on past deliberations.

18
19 MS. FRIEND: Okay.

20
21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Eastern
22 Interior, have anything to say? Nat, I was told that you
23 would be representing Eastern Interior.

24
25 MR. GOOD: I guess I'll wear both hats here
26 and do the Delta Fish and Game Advisory at the same time.

27
28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And the Delta Fish and Game
29 Advisory at the same time, okay, thank you.

30
31 MR. GOOD: Okay, the first the Eastern
32 Interior Subsistence Council did vote in favor of this
33 unanimously and they do support both proposals. We didn't --
34 we simply supported both of them, we didn't try to
35 extrapolate one over the other, just supported both of them.

36
37 Then as far as -- I'll change hats now, Delta Fish
38 and Game Advisory Committee, obviously, they're going to
39 support both proposals, they supported everything by Healy
40 Lake to this point and they support this one as well. And,
41 of course, they're going to support their own proposal.

42
43 I heard the number, name, whatever, title -- the
44 reference has been made to proximity here and I think that
45 Delta Fish and Game really likes that term because as far as
46 proximity goes, we're very close. When you look at 13(B)
47 there's not question as to why there's only 13(B) that has
48 been asked for and that's because it is immediately adjacent
49 to us. And if you look at the Federal lands in 13(B) you'll
50 find that the majority of those lands are on the national

00247

1 wild and scenic Delta River. And, I don't know, would you
2 like that demonstrated on the map here or.....

3

4 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I think we know.....

5

6 MR. GOOD: You know that we're very close.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Most of us have a pretty
9 good idea of where that is.

10

11 MR. GOOD: Okay, good. I also heard the
12 Delta Prison addressed and one thing I liked -- should that
13 go through, I don't know whether that will or won't, but I do
14 know that == well, very few of the prisoners will be doing
15 very much hunting, but beyond that the people working at the
16 prison are also scheduled to be living on Fort Greely, which
17 means that they have already been eliminated from
18 consideration here. There's some hope that maybe some of
19 them will live in the community because we're still losing
20 people as the base realignment continues there are fewer jobs
21 and we're coming up with vacant housing. If you're looking
22 for a place to move, there are some very reasonable houses in
23 Delta Junction.

24

25 There -- you'll notice that in the Delta proposal it
26 did also support maintaining Chickaloon, you know, we
27 couldn't see eliminating anybody from the area under
28 consideration. Now, the area under consideration is largely
29 the Delta River, as I mentioned here. I'll relate to you a
30 little story I have from a fellow named Bob Geist, who has a
31 14-year-old son who was camped above Miller Creek on the
32 Delta River, they had a nice high point to look for moose.
33 And this happened last year.

34

35 They were sitting up there, they had been watching
36 three moose for, I guess it was, two or three days, but
37 unfortunately they couldn't figure out how to put on any more
38 brow tines on any of the three, it's a spiked-fork, 50-inch
39 or three brow tines in 13(B). And they got really frustrated
40 and they understood the situation but when people from Copper
41 Center came in with motorhome and ATVs and everything and
42 went down and got the three moose that they had been
43 watching, because they didn't have any restrictions, they may
44 have come from much further away, and they may have been
45 basically in, you know, our backyard up there, but they went
46 someplace else to feed somebody else. And that they're
47 feeding somebody is good, regardless of who it is.

48

49 Now, let's see, there's something else I think that
50 should be considered here. You know, we talk about Healy

00248

1 Lake and we talk about Dot Lake, but there were a lot more
2 Native people in the area and they did live at the mouth of
3 the Delta River, they did live at the mouth of the
4 Goodpasture River. Those peoples moved, many downstream,
5 some to Healy Lake or other places, largely as a result of
6 the military coming into the area. The military, in my point
7 of view, has not been very good to us, nor are they a good
8 neighbor at this point either, but they refuse to dry up and
9 blow away here. It would be nice if they would.

10
11 I'd also like to reference -- you talked about bear
12 studies here in Unit 13. Harry Reynolds who was Fish and
13 Game's -- done extensive studies of grizzly bears in 20(D)
14 and, in fact, we have a grizzly problem up there on the other
15 side of the mountain, not surprisingly it is the same as it
16 is on the south side in 13. What we're looking at here --
17 for instance, one of Harry's bears seemed to vanish, he
18 couldn't find it, you know. And finally he found out what
19 was happening, the bear was going down south of the Alaska
20 Range and it was eventually killed south of the Tangle Lakes.
21 If the bears can go back and forth on four feet, I think
22 humans can too. And I believe, also, that the easiest route
23 to the Tangle Lakes area lies right straight up that river
24 bed of the Delta River. I believe that our local indigenous
25 people used that route and that they did occupy the Tangle
26 Lakes area as well.

27
28 Now, our history through there would go back to the
29 gold rush era and then on into the Richardson Trail or Valdez
30 Trail, whichever you want to call it. There was a series of
31 road houses all the way through there. Black Rapids, the
32 road house there was actually used for a long time by market
33 hunters, supply both the State Highway Departments and their
34 crews operating along the road and hauling meat into
35 Fairbanks, supplying different areas. And largely they went
36 up stream on the Delta River from Black Rapids, which -- now,
37 that is actually, essentially the borderline right there.

38
39 The road itself, the Valdez Trail, might as well been
40 call the Anchorage/Fairbanks Trail for a long time because it
41 was the only road between Anchorage and Fairbanks until the
42 construction of the Parks Highway. And one of the major
43 whistle stops has always been Delta Junction. People there
44 have always used that road to move up and down and to hunt
45 caribou and hunt moose, it's a -- prior, you know, to the
46 construction of the Alaska Highway it was the only road
47 there.

48
49 If you are looking for any just good reading, I'd
50 recommend -- I believe it's called Alaska's Wolf Man" in

00249

1 which he talks about the market hunting and he talks about
2 the lodge at Black Rapids, goes on to tell you about
3 McClellum (ph) and Yost's Lodge up there and many of the
4 stories, but do you have any questions? I'll just shut up
5 now or I'll talk all day.

6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So basically as
8 Eastern Interior what you're doing is your supporting both
9 Proposal 23 to include Healy in Unit 13(C) and 24 which would
10 include the communities of 20(D) in 13(B).

11
12 MR. GOOD: Right.

13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: The majority of the land in
15 13(B) that is Federal land is on the Delta River right
16 adjacent to 20(D).

17
18 MR. GOOD: Right.

19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

21
22 MR. GOOD: And the Delta River, obviously,
23 is where Delta got its name. We sit on the bank of that
24 river and.....

25
26 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any questions for Nat?

27
28 (No audible responses)

29
30 MR. GOOD: One other thing, I guess, I would
31 add here. I think that there's a good reason for people to
32 come up and hunt on the Delta River in that area, whether
33 they're from Copper Center or anywhere further south.
34 There's been an intensive effort, maybe a little bit of
35 overkill in the Delta area to recover what was once a
36 decimated moose population. They included perhaps, I don't
37 remember exactly, 150 square miles, let us say, around Delta
38 Junction was completely closed to moose hunting. And then
39 over time -- now, we're finally at the point where we have 10
40 permits allowed, but the fact that the people have really
41 worked hard to bring their moose back, I'd say, if you hunt
42 along those edges, and particularly the moose do range up
43 over the top from the Gerstle River and off those ridges and
44 they do come down in the Delta River, up and down it, I
45 suggest that that's a good place for Unit 13 people to hunt.
46 Which is probably stupid to say, but it's true.

47
48 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I think Unit 13 people
49 already have C&T for that area.

50

00250

1 MR. GOOD: Yes, they do and that's why they
2 do hunt there.

3
4 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah. Okay. Any other
5 questions for Nat.

6
7 MR. F. JOHN. Who has C&T too, you say?

8
9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I said, I think the people
10 from 13 have C&T on the Delta River up there already.

11
12 MR. GOOD: Right, all of Unit 13 does.

13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All of Unit 13 does.

15
16 MR. GOOD: Right.

17
18 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. No other questions
19 for Nat?

20
21 (No audible responses)

22
23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Nat.

24
25 Are there any other Fish and Game Advisory Committees
26 that have anything to add to this?

27
28 (No audible responses)

29
30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, summary -- oops,
31 Frank. Sorry, I didn't see you.

32
33 MR. ENTSMINGER: Mr. Chair, Council members.
34 Frank Entsminger for Upper Tanana, we just wanted to endorse
35 our support for Healy Lake for these two proposals.

36
37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Thank you for
38 your brevity. You could have stayed, we'd asked you
39 questions. Anybody have any questions for Frank?

40
41 (No audible responses)

42
43 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Okay. Written
44 public comments.

45
46 MS. EAKON: Upper Tanana/Fortymile Advisory
47 Committee supported Proposal 23. And as Rachel and Nat just
48 said, Delta Advisory Committee amended their proposal to
49 eliminate residents of Unit 11 and 12 on Proposal 24.

50

00251

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

2

3 MS. SWAN: Excuse, Chair, eliminate residents

4 of?

5

6 MS. EAKON: Units 11 and 12.

7

8 MS. MASON: From the proposal.

9

10 MS. EAKON: Yeah, from the proposal.

11

12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: From the proposal.

13

14 MS. MASON: Eliminate the request to add

15 them.

16

17 MS. SWAN: I see.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: The original proposal was to

20 add 20(D), 11 and 12 and the proposal was modified to just

21 add 20(D).

22

23 MS. SWAN: Okay.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And that's all the written

26 comments?

27

28 MS. EAKON: Yes. Yes.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Public testimony. I think

31 that we had Gloria. Is Gloria here? No. Gloria is the only

32 one that was down as wishing to testify on that one.

33

34 Connie Friend has already testified on that one.

35 Thank you, Connie, I forgot to move your slip over.

36

37 Yeah, Gloria and.....

38

39 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: She's on the phone right

40 now.

41

42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: She's on the phone right

43 now.

44

45 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: She's trying to take

46 care of her car problem.

47

48 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, we'll give her a

49 couple of minutes then. We'll wait for Gloria and we'll just

50 go on to -- can we go on to Regional Council deliberation and

00252

1 then allow Gloria to speak when she gets done? Is that a
2 legitimate way of doing it? Is that okay with the rest of
3 the Council?

4
5 (No audible responses)

6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. In that case what we
8 need is we need a motion on the floor so that we can discuss
9 and deliberate. The motion could be for Proposal 23 by
10 itself, 24 by itself, or 23 and 24 combined, whichever is the
11 wish of the Council.

12
13 MS. SWAN: So moved to discuss motions [sic]
14 23 and 24.

15
16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: As combined or -- they're
17 actually different proposals, so maybe we should take one at
18 a time.

19
20 MS. SWAN: All right.

21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: If -- that would be an
23 easier way to handle it, I think. There's a motion -- which
24 one would you like to take first?

25
26 MS. SWAN: 23.

27
28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: 23. Motion to handle
29 Proposal 23. Okay. Do I hear a second?

30
31 MR. DEMENTI: Just for 23?

32
33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Just for 23.

34
35 MR. DEMENTI: Second.

36
37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, it's been moved and
38 seconded that we discuss and that we accept Proposal 23.

39
40 Gloria, at this time would you like to speak to
41 Proposals 23 and 24? Sorry to put you on the spot so fast.

42
43 MS. STICKWAN: You're on Proposal 23?

44
45 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: We're on Proposal 23 and
46 we're going to be handling 24 next, so if you can speak to
47 those two it would sure be handy.

48
49 MS. STICKWAN: Sorry I'm late, I'm just
50 having problems with my vehicle.

00253

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No problem.

2

3 MS. STICKWAN: At our meeting -- my name is
4 Gloria Stickwan for CRNA -- that we had at the villages, the
5 villages did not support either proposals.

6

7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Didn't support either
8 proposal.

9

10 MS. STICKWAN: We did not support it, both of
11 them.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

14

15 MS. STICKWAN: This is what they said. Their
16 posit.....

17

18 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do you have any comments on
19 it, reasons or.....

20

21 MS. STICKWAN: Well, the only reasons we --
22 what we said was that there's such an impact in Unit 13 that
23 we were concerned about other people coming into our area.
24 And, of course, we said earlier, we don't like to eliminate
25 people but, yeah, these are for C&T, they can hunt during --
26 if there's not a shortage it's opened to them, it's only
27 during shortages that they are not allowed to hunt. And
28 we're just trying to protect our little piece of land down
29 there and that's what the position of the village is, that's
30 what they took.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. If I understand
33 right, you did not support either 23 or 24.

34

35 MS. STICKWAN: No, no.

36

37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And was that 24 as modified
38 or 24 as it was originally written?

39

40 MS. STICKWAN: Excuse me?

41

42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: 24 was -- what was given to
43 us is that 24 had been modified to drop Units 11 and 12. And
44 the only thing that 24 considered is 20(D). Does that.....

45

46 MS. STICKWAN: I think that all of Unit 20(D)
47 is what they -- just parts of it, the ones that have real C&T
48 traditional hunting that goes back hundreds of years, but
49 part of Unit 20 they would.

50

00254

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

2

3 MS. STICKWAN: I think you heard Ken Johns
4 spoke about Delta, his concern about Delta.

5

6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Uh-huh.

7

8 MS. STICKWAN: Come in and that's the concern
9 we had. There's 717 people there that hunt in Unit 13, they
10 get permits, that's the population of Delta. I think that's
11 mostly what they're objecting to.

12

13 MR. ROMIG: But you would support if somebody
14 could prove that they for 200 years of tradition there, you
15 would support that?

16

17 MS. STICKWAN: If they can show evidence that
18 they have, you know. And, of course, we always said Healy
19 Lake north of Sanford River, I mean, we supported them in
20 that area. This is Unit 13, I know, but, you know, if they
21 can show evidence that they hunted in that area, we'd support
22 them.

23

24 MR. ROMIG: It's kind of hard for me to --
25 you know, the reason to -- being close and at the same time I
26 don't want to have some kind of rationale that, you know,
27 because I hadn't seen a couple hundred years of tradition,
28 you know, I couldn't support it, so it's kind of a difficult
29 one to support or.....

30

31 MS. STICKWAN: Yeah, we believe it should be
32 based on historical use of evidence of that. That was our
33 position.

34

35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Fred.

36

37 MR. F. JOHN. You realize Delta Junction and
38 the 20(C) include New Hope community, Dry Creek community and
39 White Stone community?

40

41 MS. STICKWAN: I don't really know anything --
42 let me look at my communities.

43

44 MR. F. JOHN. These are different community,
45 they just came out last few years and they're a pretty good
46 size community.

47

48 MS. STICKWAN: Well, we only support the
49 people that have historical use that goes back hundred years.
50 If they don't have historical use then we don't support them.

00255

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gloria, can I ask you a
2 question?

3
4 MS. STICKWAN: Uh-huh (affirmative).

5
6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Proposal 23 is to allow
7 Healy Lake C&T in 13(C).

8
9 MS. STICKWAN: Uh-huh (affirmative).

10
11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And we just gave Healy Lake
12 C&T in Unit 11 north of the Sanford River and 13(C) is
13 directly north, it's between Healy Lake and Unit 11 right
14 there, am I wrong?

15
16 MS. MASON: There's -- I just need to make a
17 clarification that actually Proposal 23 asks for Healy Lake
18 to be added to both Unit 13(B) and 13(C). The reason that
19 the staff recommendations were slightly different is because
20 Proposal 24 incorporates that request for Healy Lake in
21 13(C), but, in fact, the proposal asks for Healy Lake in both
22 of those subunits.

23
24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Uh-huh. Anyhow, back to
25 what I was asking, Gloria. Is -- in Unit 11 north of the
26 Sanford River, Unit 13(C) sits right on top of that. Healy
27 Lake would have to pass through 13(C) to get into Unit 11
28 north of the Sanford River. Would it be logical that if
29 Healy Lake had ties in the northern half of Unit 11 that they
30 would also have ties in that portion of Unit 13 that is
31 between Unit 11 and where their home is?

32
33 MS. STICKWAN: Yeah, it sounds logical to me.

34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Sounds logical to me, too,
36 so that -- yeah.

37
38 MR. F. JOHN. We're talking about.....

39
40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Proposal 23 deals only with
41 Healy Lake.

42
43 MR. F. JOHN. Uh-huh. Oh, I thought we were
44 talking about.....

45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No, we're on Proposal 23, so
47 we're dealing with Healy Lake.

48
49 MS. STICKWAN: I just want to say again that
50 we were, you know, concerned about customary and traditional

00256

1 use long-term, we support villages that do have hundreds of
2 years of use, you know, it's just that communities that don't
3 have hundred and hundred of years of historical use, we don't
4 support those communities.

5
6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah.

7
8 MR. ROMIG: I guess, at the same time,
9 Gloria, I -- you know, if the lake, you know, could support
10 the fishing and it was opportunistic for people to, you know,
11 pick up some winter fish, it would seem to me that although
12 they hadn't been fishing there a couple hundred years that,
13 you know, it would still be biological -- biologically it
14 would make sense to open it up and to -- and use some of the
15 resources there, rather than just -- you know, rather than
16 just judging on the fact that, you know, our families have
17 done it for hundreds of years. And I guess that's why I get,
18 you know, messed up when I'm trying to decide whether to
19 support it or not support it.

20
21 MS. STICKWAN: Yeah, we just supported Healy
22 Lake, I'm sure we'd support Healy Lake again.

23
24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Gloria. I --
25 that was just -- kind of a for myself that just was kind of
26 an area that I would have thought that there wouldn't have
27 been any problem with. And I recognize your -- as your
28 position, especially with Copper River Native Association,
29 that you're dealing and you're advocating for those places
30 that have been there for a long time.

31
32 MS. STICKWAN: Uh-huh.

33
34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: At the same time, ANILCA
35 does deal with Native and non-Native and we have given C&T to
36 non-Native populations that have been there for a shorter
37 period of time if they've shown prior use. That doesn't mean
38 that we expect you to support those positions, but that
39 doesn't mean that we also won't support -- that we won't give
40 some of those positions either, and that's not a rejection of
41 your belief, that's just that that's part of the process.

42
43 MS. STICKWAN: Yeah, right, I understand that
44 it's opened to all rural areas.

45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Gloria. Anybody
47 else have any questions for her?

48
49 (No audible responses)

50

00257

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

2

3 MS. STICKWAN: I have one more thing. I have
4 to go get my vehicle, it's -- I have to get it towed, so
5 there's other proposals, could I testify to them later? I
6 have to get my vehicle right now.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Let me see, the next two
9 propo -- well, you can testify to them right now.

10

11 MS. STICKWAN: Okay.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: The next two proposals that
14 we'll be dealing with are Proposal 7 and 12, which deal with
15 moose and sheep in a portion of Unit 11 and deal with
16 Cordova. And if you've got any position on those two.....

17

18 MS. STICKWAN: On 7 and 12?

19

20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: On 7 and 12.

21

22 MS. STICKWAN: We didn't support those.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You didn't support those?

25

26 MS. STICKWAN: No.

27

28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. And we shouldn't be
29 probably any farther than that by the time you get back.

30

31 MS. STICKWAN: Okay.

32

33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Unless -- okay, there's
34 request of establishment of brown bear season in Unit 11,
35 Proposal 4, did you have a comment on that?

36

37 MS. STICKWAN: Proposal 4?

38

39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: 4.

40

41 MS. STICKWAN: The only thing that the
42 Chistochina representative said was that when they talk about
43 this area they should be -- be referring to the specie as
44 grizzly. They want it to be called grizzly instead of brown
45 bear, because there's a distinction.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: They want it to be called
48 grizzly instead of brown bear?

49

50 MS. STICKWAN: Yeah.

00258

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

2

3 MS. STICKWAN: Because I guess in that area,
4 customary and traditional, they've always distinguished brown
5 bears from grizzly and brown bears, there's always been that
6 distinction.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Uh-huh. And they want it
9 classified as grizzly.

10

11 MS. STICKWAN: Yes.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

14

15 MS. STICKWAN: And they support the proposal.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, thank you. I doubt if
18 we'll get any farther than that, unless you're gone for quite
19 a while.

20

21 MS. STICKWAN: Okay. Thank you.

22

23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Now, Council, we're
24 back on Proposal 23 which deals with Healy Lake and does
25 anybody have a copy of the motion as it was made?

26

27 Helga, can you.....

28

29 MR. F. JOHN. I want to know what the motion
30 is and I want to know what -- who includes and where it
31 includes.

32

33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Right, that's what I want,
34 too, right now.

35

36 MS. EAKON: I'll paraphrase, to make a motion
37 to adopt Proposal 23.

38

39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. And what exactly
40 is.....

41

42 MR. F. JOHN. Proposal -- what proposal?

43

44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Proposal 23.

45

46 MR. F. JOHN. Okay.

47

48 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: To revise the C&T use
49 determination to include Healy Lake residents in 13(B) and
50 13(C), do I copy that right?

00259

1 MS. MASON: That's right.

2
3 MS. EAKON: Yes.

4
5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So at this point in
6 time it's opened to discussion, comments, deliberations,
7 justification.

8
9 Clare, do you want to speak first?

10
11 MS. SWAN: I'm confused. I just -- to
12 clarify, Mr. Chairman, I -- the Copper River villages stand
13 on 23 is that they would support -- they support those who
14 have 100 years of C&T, is that -- that was a specific thing?
15 Okay. I don't -- and then also -- this is just a comment.
16 People -- Healy Lake would have to go -- I mean it's a matter
17 of just -- we've already voted for Healy Lake and then -- so
18 then for 23 they would have to go to 13, travel to 13(C)?

19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: In order to get to where --
21 we just voted to have this area here.....

22
23 MS. SWAN: Yeah, okay.

24
25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:in order to get there
26 they would travel through 13(C).

27
28 MS. SWAN: Okay. So we -- I just am not
29 clear on where we'd be if we vote it up or down, you know,
30 are we going to be anywhere at all? I think I'll just go get
31 a drink of water, Mr. Chairman.

32
33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Fred, I'd like to -- you're
34 the person with experience up in that area, you're the person
35 that knows these people.

36
37 MR. F. JOHN. Put me in the spot.

38
39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I'm putting you on the spot.
40 We just discussed Healy Lake and we decided that they deal
41 with the people all the way down here in 11, what is your
42 feeling on them dealing in 13(A) -- I mean 13(B) and 13(C)?
43 It seems logical to me that they would.....

44
45 MR. F. JOHN. Well, personally, I don't like
46 it.

47
48 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You don't like it, okay.

49
50 MR. F. JOHN. I have a hard time -- Healy

00260

1 Lake already got 13(C), I believe, right?

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No, they don't have that.

4

5 MR. F. JOHN. They don't have it?

6

7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: They don't have 13(C).

8

9 MR. F. JOHN. So they're looking for 13(B)

10 and 13(C)?

11

12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Uh-huh. Now, the proposal
13 can be modified or amended.

14

15 MR. F. JOHN. Well, first thing personally, I
16 just -- it's already heavy impact in that area from Anchorage
17 hunters and every other hunter in the state, you know, and I
18 live up in Delta for many years and I know where Delta people
19 hunt, they hunt up the Goodpasture River, up the Delta, up
20 the Tanana River and there's a lot of other place, you know,
21 that locally they do hunt. They got a lot of moose up there.
22 In fact, right in the City of Delta, where you can hunt,
23 there's so many moose you can't even walk around without
24 running into them. But, I don't know, I just really kind of
25 confused on this issue. You know, like I say, I really don't
26 know what -- Copper River says do not support the proposal
27 and I usually go along with Copper River say because they --
28 because I represent that area. I'll vote when it comes up
29 either way.

30

31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Ben.

32

33 MR. ROMIG: I have no comment at this time.

34

35 MR. F. JOHN. But -- yes.

36

37 (Whispered staff conversation)

38

39 MS. MASON: Mr. Chairman, I should clarify
40 that the proposal that you have under consideration only asks
41 for Healy Lake.

42

43 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It only asks for Healy Lake.

44

45 MS. MASON: Yes.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And at this point in time it
48 deals with 13(B) and 13(C).

49

50 MS. MASON: Right.

00261

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: If I understood Gloria
2 correct, they would back Healy Lake for 13(C).

3
4 MS. MASON: Right, right.

5
6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: But they were hesitant on
7 13(B), but I wasn't.....

8
9 MS. MASON: Yes.

10
11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: That was my understanding
12 and only my understanding.

13
14 MS. MASON: Yeah, it's -- I believe she
15 implied that they would support them for 13(B) as well, just
16 by saying that she would -- they would support those who had
17 hundreds of years of.....

18
19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Use in the area.

20
21 MS. MASON: Yeah. But, yes, for 23 they
22 would have supported Healy Lake in 13(C).

23
24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah. Gilbert.

25
26 MR. DEMENTI: Well, since they have to travel
27 through 13(C) to get to 11, when the opportunity -- you know,
28 the opportunity present itself, what you going to do? If
29 you're a subsistence hunter, what are you going to do, just
30 go on bye that big ole bull? I mean, I'm for subsistence
31 myself, so I'll support 23 for Healy Lake.

32
33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Well, I'd like to call
34 Connie again, if I may, with the rest of the Council's
35 permission.

36
37 MS. FRIEND: Mr. Chairman, Council members,
38 my name is Connie Friend. I think that I might be able to
39 clarify some of this for you. When you're hunting on the
40 Nebesna Road there's actually three different units and
41 subunits that a person passes through, there's some of Unit
42 11, 13(C) and some of Unit 12. And I did find the paper,
43 this is testimony by a Healy Lake resident of some fairly
44 long time use, since I believe the '40s or the '50s, that he
45 hunted along the Nebesna Road.

46
47 Last year, when we were discussing this same
48 proposal, as Proposal Number 37, Pat Saylor from Healy Lake
49 and myself talked with Gloria and in drawing those lines she
50 asked us if Healy Lake would be comfortable with north of the

00262

1 Chistochina River and so that's how that (B) -- we had talked
2 together about that and come to an agreement on that, because
3 other residents of Healy Lake have in the past hunted in
4 13(B).

5
6 But 13(C) is probably -- this is just an educated
7 guess, but probably where people would be going if they were
8 going, and again, the numbers would be very, very small with
9 very, very minimal impact. I know that Pat Saylor was
10 invited to hunt with relatives from Northway and they were
11 going into the White Mountains and, you know, up that area.
12 And it's, again, their intent is so that if and when they
13 should go with a relative they wouldn't be illegal, so they
14 could be, you know, doing this legally. It's not their
15 primary hunting area, they wouldn't be coming as a tribe to
16 hunt regularly, it would be, you know, just an occasional if
17 and when with a relative and very, very few, probably no more
18 than one or two people ever, but that might help you to
19 decide and to.....

20
21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: The issue really is, though
22 -- you know, this is the part that's bothering me, is it's
23 not the case of what they will do in the future. We were
24 presented with information that showed that they hunted in
25 Unit 11 in the past with members, you know, other members of
26 family and tribes and everything else.

27
28 MS. FRIEND: Yeah, it's all the same area.

29
30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And that area is -- I mean
31 Slana is on the border of it -- that area is all the same
32 area.

33
34 MS. FRIEND: Yeah.

35
36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: If it was consistent to
37 assume or to prove that they had hunted in Unit 11 north of
38 the Sanford River, then there should be some evidence or some
39 -- at least something to show that they hunted in Unit 13(C),
40 for the simple reason that you can't get -- like Gilbert
41 said, you can't get to Unit 11 without going to 13(C). If
42 they were truly wanderers, I would have difficulty thinking
43 that they would go into 13(C) and not go into 13(B), because
44 the caribou go back and forth there.

45
46 MS. FRIEND: Uh-huh.

47
48 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: The problem is that for
49 justification, you know, it's -- to me it's going to look
50 extremely odd that we could justify Unit 11 and we can't

00263

1 justify Unit 13(C).

2

3 MS. FRIEND: Yeah, it's true.

4

5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And yet, you know, we have
6 to have that, other than -- you know, I mean that's.....

7

8 MS. FRIEND: Well, I have this paper that
9 says that a Healy Lake resident has hunted along that road.
10 Myself, I've hunted there, too, and, you know, that you just
11 don't go to -- all of these boundaries are, you know, they're
12 theoretical, and when you're in the field, you know, that why
13 there's always this major problem, especially with this area
14 because, like I said, there are three different actually game
15 management areas involved, but, you know, to us who hunt, to
16 us who are out there, it's like, you know, yes, we're here
17 and this is what we do. And we have proof. And another
18 thing about Healy Lake that you might want to bear in mind is
19 that they've lost their elders, there's only this one
20 matriarch who is left and their people who -- you know, who
21 could testify are not living any longer.

22

23 But I know that -- well, another thing that you might
24 to look at, if it would help, is that some of the -- actually
25 the uncle who Mr. Miller refers to from Batzulnetas was
26 actually married to a woman from Healy Lake at a certain
27 point in his life and so those, you know, marital ties
28 they're there in place. And, yes, they hunted there, yes,
29 you know, it was 13 and it was 11 and it was 12. You know, I
30 have this testimony from one person, he's older and he's
31 still living and is here, you're welcome to share it. That's
32 all we have, that's all we can give.

33

34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: But I thought earlier when
35 we were discussing Unit 11 I had heard testimony or comments
36 about them hunting with people from Mentasta Lake and being
37 at Batzulnetas and Chistochina -- had relatives from
38 Chistochina.

39

40 MS. FRIEND: Yeah, they do. They have.

41

42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Those are all -- that's
43 13(B) and 13(C) and it -- you know.

44

45 MS. FRIEND: Yeah. And Gloria -- you know,
46 you can ask her, we talked with her and she felt fine with
47 it. Of course, it's been a year now since that was -- when --
48 this was originally Proposal 37 last year and that was what
49 we talked about and that's what -- you know, that's why Healy
50 Lake is willing to withdraw their -- the -- actually we

00264

1 didn't even propose it, but on 10, you know, why the felt
2 that's all right not to go south of the Sanford River because
3 that what was agreed among them. And.....

4
5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Well, myself, I'm going to
6 have to say that if I could vote for north of Unit 11 because
7 they have relatives in Slana and Mentasta, Batzulnetas and
8 Chistochina and that they visit back and forth there, and
9 that was the rationale for that kind of movement and inner
10 sharing for north of the Sanford River in Unit 11, I will
11 have to support them for 13(B) and 13(C).

12
13 MS. FRIEND: Thank you.

14
15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Other members of the
16 Council?

17
18 MR. DEMENTI: Could I ask a question?

19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah.

21
22 MR. DEMENTI: There's a certain controlled
23 use area I see up there, what -- I mean who's controlling it?
24 Is there hunting in that area?

25
26 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: That's government, that's
27 military reserve.

28
29 MR. DEMENTI: Is it?

30
31 MR. GOOD: No.

32
33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Isn't it?

34
35 MR. DEMENTI: No.

36
37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's not?

38
39 MR. GOOD: (Indiscernible away from
40 microphone) management area, you got a controlled use
41 area.....

42
43 MR. DEMENTI: I mean, do they hunt there?

44
45 MR. F. JOHN. Local area.

46
47 MR. GOOD: Yes, that is an area opened for
48 hunting. The management area is actually a sheep area,
49 there's a Tok Management Area and a Delta Management Area.
50 They're permit drawings only for sheep.

00265

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

2 MR. GOOD: Right, Fred?

3

4 MR. F. JOHN. (Nods head in affirmative)

5

6 MS. SWAN: Is that in that.....

7

8 MR. ROMIG: Where's the State.....

9

10 MR. GOOD: The controlled use area you're
11 talking about is in both 20(D) and in 13. There's an
12 overlap. In fact, we've had some confusion on that, both at
13 the State level with the Board of Game and here, at times,
14 too. The artificial lines that we have put in just don't
15 always work with everything that we're looking at here.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any more comments on
18 Proposal 23?

19

20 MR. F. JOHN. I just want to say, us from
21 Mentasta, we don't hunt in 13(B), we consider that the Lower
22 Copper River people's hunting ground, we hunt up in our area
23 in Unit 11.

24

25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And 13(C)?

26

27 MR. F. JOHN. 13(C) (inaudible).

28

29 MS. SWAN: Just Unit 11?

30

31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Would this proposal be
32 better if somebody amended it to just include 13(C)?

33

34 MR. F. JOHN. I'm not going to touch it.

35

36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Not going to touch it.
37 Okay. If there's no motion to amend, the proposal stands as
38 it is. If there's no further discussion, the question's in
39 order.

40

41 MR. F. JOHN. Question.

42

43 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been called. All
44 in favor of Proposal 23 signify by saying aye.

45

46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Aye.

47

48 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All opposed to Proposal 23
49 signify by saying nay.

50

00266

1 MR. DEMENTI: Nay.

2
3 MR. F. JOHN. Nay.

4
5 MS. SWAN: Nay.

6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Proposal fails.

8
9 MR. F. JOHN. I would vote on it if they just
10 say 13(C).

11
12 MS. EAKON: Ben, did you vote against it?

13
14 MR. ROMIG: No, I didn't vote.

15
16 MS. EAKON: You abstained?

17
18 MR. ROMIG: Yeah.

19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Well, if I wasn't the
21 Chairman I would have offered an amendment, but I couldn't.

22
23 Okay. We'll go on to Proposal 24. 24 says revise
24 C&T use determinations to include the residents of 20(D),
25 except for Fort Greely, in Unit 13(B). Am I correct?

26
27 MS. MASON: Yeah.

28
29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Not 13(B and C), just 13(B)?

30
31 MS. MASON: Only 13(B) and only 20(D), except
32 Fort Greely.

33
34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Except Fort Greely,
35 20(D).

36
37 MS. MASON: Uh-huh (affirmative).

38
39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. We've heard all the
40 testimony on it, a motion to accept is in order so we can
41 discuss it.

42
43 MS. SWAN: So moved for discussion,
44 Mr. Chairman.

45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been moved, do I hear a
47 second?

48
49 MR. F. JOHN. Second.

50

00267

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been seconded by Fred
2 John, Jr., okay. Discussion? This includes all residents of
3 20(D), except Fort Greely, in 13(C).

4
5 MS. MASON: (B).

6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: 13(B), my fault, excuse me.

8
9 MR. F. JOHN. All resident of what?

10
11 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Of 20(D) in 13(B), except
12 for Fort Greely.

13
14 MR. F. JOHN. Could I ask Nat Good -- can I
15 ask you a question, Nat? Up in Delta we got communities like
16 White Stone, we got communities like New Hope, Dry Creek, are
17 they all included in this, are they traditional and customary
18 hunters or.....

19
20 MR. GOOD: Well, you'd have to look at them.
21 Dry Creek, for instance, was founded in the 1950s, they've
22 been there a long time.

23
24 MR. F. JOHN. Dry Creek.

25
26 MR. GOOD: New Hope is probably the most
27 recent.

28
29 MR. F. JOHN. Dry Creek was founded in 19 --
30 almost 1969, a little later. Dry Creek was founded the year
31 I moved to Delta.

32
33 MR. GOOD: Are you sure?

34
35 MR. F. JOHN. Yeah.

36
37 MR. GOOD: Well, I'd have to check on that
38 because I understood it was earlier than that.

39
40 MR. F. JOHN. It was '73.

41
42 MR. GOOD: And I can check that for you, but,
43 yes, they live in the area, they would be included. The
44 communities that he's addressing are religious groups,
45 they're all kind of related to one another and yet all
46 independent of each other, they seem to have some form of a
47 relationship and sometimes the relationship is they're at war
48 with one another, but they are.....

49
50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Disagreement with each

00268

1 other.

2

3

4 MR. GOOD: Yeah. Yeah, disagreement,
5 sometimes pretty strong. That would be included, yes. You
6 stated that Delta residents go on the Tanana and up the
7 Goodpasture, you know, I think that there's a problem with
8 that. Those people with boats, you know, can access those
9 areas, but those areas have really become the playgrounds of
10 Anchorage -- or of mostly Fairbanks people and -- but there
11 are some people that do have cabins up there, largely there's
12 a lot of money in it, if you look at that bridge over the
13 Delta River there, you're looking at a lot of Fairbanks
14 people that really come out and hit it hard.

14

15 You know, we have the same problem there with people
16 coming in from elsewhere, some how or other I think we got
17 identified as a wonderful place to hunt moose and we've been
18 hit very hard. We had people from the Lower 48 coming in,
19 we've had them from all over Southeastern, Anchorage, Homer,
20 the Mat-Su area, they come in very large numbers to our area.
21 In part because of the story that came out through Fish and
22 Game that said, you really should go hunt in areas where
23 there are spiked-fork, 50-inch, four brow tines rules because
24 that's where the really big bulls are going to be. But, of
25 course, those were put in there because we didn't have any
26 moose at the time. There are moose there now, but -- now, we
27 got all the hunters along with it.

28

29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Nat. Not so
30 quiet everybody, let's -- any comments?

31

32 MS. SWAN: I have a question.

33

34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yes, Clare.

35

36 MS. SWAN: Dry Creek and New Hope, what is
37 there -- how many people does that comprise? How many.....

38

39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Fred can you or Nat?

40

41 MR. GOOD: I think Fred knows. Do you know,
42 Fred?

43

44 MR. F. JOHN. Dry Creek when they first
45 started they had about 300. I think there are about 100 now,
46 probably smaller. And New Hope is pretty good size, they're
47 a little Christian group that kept to themselves, they're not
48 part of Delta, they're not part of anybody, except heaven, I
49 guess, I don't know. So I really don't -- I really don't
50 understand, I don't think Delta likes them very well.

00269

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Rachel, have you got some
2 figures?

3
4 MS. MASON: I only have one figure,
5 Mr. Chairman, Clare. Dry Creek had a population of 106 in
6 the 1990 census and they didn't have any figures for the
7 other communities that have been mentioned.

8
9 MR. F. JOHN. I just brought the question up
10 for other communities within Unit 20(D), I don't.....

11
12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I'm make a comment. Since
13 nobody else seems to want to make any discussion, I'll make a
14 comment. We talked in the past about that units that don't
15 really fit subsistence and that watersheds are more
16 applicable. In this case we're dealing with Federal land in
17 13(B), almost all Federal land which is in a watershed that
18 goes right out of Delta. Proximity, there isn't anything
19 more in proximity to that area than Delta.

20
21 I know that we would all like to deal with
22 communities that have been there for thousands of years, but
23 we've set precedents in the past that we recognize that
24 ANILCA addresses Native and non-Native. And we've addressed
25 communities that have been there for less than 100 years.
26 We've addressed communities that have been there for less
27 than 50 years. We've addressed the fact that, like in the
28 Kenny Lake area, Nat, that you've had people come and go, but
29 they're still part of the community.

30
31 I'd have to support this proposal, simply because of
32 the fact it addresses both proximity and watersheds which we
33 have discussed in the past and I don't necessarily expect
34 everybody on the Council to support my supporting, but I
35 would have to say that since the land in question, especially
36 in 13(B), is right next to Delta, it's logical to me that it
37 sits on the same river system. That Delta people have used
38 it for as long it's there. Some of the books that Nat's
39 read, I've read. I know it was used in the recent past,
40 that's in the last 100 years. And for that purpose -- or for
41 lack of better -- or to just get discussion started on it, I
42 feel like they actually meet the criteria that we, as a
43 Council, have addressed in the past.

44
45 Do I get any comments from my Council members?

46
47 MR. F. JOHN. I'd like to say I agree with
48 him on Delta on the drainage on the Delta River. I'd go for
49 them hunting up to the Delta River how far it goes. But when
50 it come down to the Gulkana River I believe that I -- I don't

00270

1 -- myself, I don't believe in these 13(B), 13(C), but we have
2 to live with it. But I have a hard time them coming down,
3 all the way down to Gakona when the people down in Gakona,
4 Copper Center area don't even go into the Delta area. I
5 mean, you know, they got -- I say Delta got their on area to
6 hunt. They got their place to hunt. I've been up there a
7 long time and I know that Delta people do hunt in their area.

8
9 And right now they got it up to Summit Lake and right
10 in that area to me, that's about where the cut off place is.
11 But I have a hard time with that. We're talking about --
12 Delta is a pretty big community, we're talking about 4,000
13 people or more.

14
15 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman.

16
17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Bill.

18
19 MR. KNAUER: I think I might need to make a
20 point of clarification here. The issue of customary and
21 traditional use, the determination, is whether or not a group
22 of people, a community or an area, have previously used an
23 area. It is not the -- it is not to be dealt with as to
24 whether or not they would create an impact or not create an
25 impact on an area. So the vote should only be based on
26 whether or not there has been previous use through harvest
27 information, traditional knowledge, kinship ties or something
28 like that.

29
30 Should there in the future time be a problem with
31 lack of resources, at that time, then the Council will be
32 asked to further delineate among those having customary and
33 traditional use with looking at factors such as proximity,
34 alternative resources and so on.

35
36 MR. F. JOHN. Can I ask you a question?

37
38 MR. KNAUER: Yes.

39
40 MR. F. JOHN. Delta people with planes and
41 everything, they hunt almost all over Alaska, would that mean
42 that they have traditional use all over? And Mentasta we
43 don't have airplane and they don't have any, I think, so they
44 just hunt in their proximity. Would Delta have advantage of
45 over T&C [sic]?

46
47 MR. KNAUER: Some peoples have hunted over
48 larger areas than other, depending upon the proximity of
49 resources. You get on to the North Slope and peoples there
50 have hunted from one end to the other, literally, peoples in

00271

1 one of the Slope have hunted all the way to the other end,
2 they have C&T. It depends generally on the proximity of the
3 resources. But we're looking here as to a situation as to
4 the question is whether or not the people in Unit 20(D) have
5 a history of use down into 13.....

6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: (B).

8
9 MS. MASON: (B).

10
11 MR. KNAUER:(B).

12
13 MR. F. JOHN. What about impact?

14
15 MR. KNAUER: That is something that would
16 need to be dealt with at a future time, if there is an
17 impact. That is not part of the question of customary and
18 traditional use determination.

19
20 MR. F. JOHN. For me, our area is already
21 impacted and I don't -- I mean, you know, it's kind of like
22 Kenai with the tourists, up here it's with the hunters from
23 Anchorage and Fairbanks and all that area. You don't think
24 it's a problem?

25
26 MR. KNAUER: I'm not saying it's not a
27 problem. What I'm saying is the issue is the customary and
28 traditional use determination. If there is a problem in the
29 future then the problem is dealt with by restricting the non-
30 subsistence hunters from the Federal lands or further
31 limiting them somehow. There are two separate situations
32 here.....

33
34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Separate issues.

35
36 MR. KNAUER:that has to be -- that are
37 dealt with. And at this time you're only dealing with the
38 customary and traditional use determination.

39
40 MR. F. JOHN. My question is upon that land --
41 the Federal land that's on the highway, right now the
42 majority of Natives couldn't even get in there because of the
43 impact of the people subsistence non people, you know, that
44 come in already. And it seems like, to me, it's a problem
45 and they keep opening it more and more and more, you know,
46 it's already a problem to me. And I could quote from the
47 older people in the Copper River area, they don't even have a
48 chance there. To me it's already a problem, I mean, that's --
49 I don't know.

50

00272

1 MR. KNAUER: If it is a problem that should
2 be the subject of another proposal, not this particular
3 proposal.

4
5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Bill for
6 clarifying that, that's -- I didn't know how to make that
7 clear. What we're dealing with in this case is whether or
8 not those people from up there have used this in the recorded
9 past and in the unrecorded past and whether or not they are
10 customary and traditional to use the area. As you've pointed
11 out, other issues can be dealt with at a different time, but
12 that question is what's got to be answered at this point in
13 time.

14
15 And I guess with that in mind, I would have to stick
16 with my original comments, especially in line of our talk
17 about proximity and watersheds in the past. And I would have
18 to support the proposal. And, again, Clare, I recognize I
19 wish there was some way that we could then divide subunits
20 into subunits, but we can't and the other difference is that
21 I think that most of your Federal ground is way up there,
22 so.....

23
24 MR. F. JOHN. We kind of divided up, you
25 know, Unit 11, it's two pieces, didn't we?

26
27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah.

28
29 MR. F. JOHN. Tell me that we couldn't do it,
30 that we did divide north and south. And there's a watershed
31 there, the Delta River and the Copper River.

32
33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Then an amendment would be
34 in order. That's a total possibility to do that. If
35 somebody wants to make that amendment, that would be an
36 amendment to this proposal which would address the problem.

37
38 MR. F. JOHN. I'm in trouble as it is.

39
40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You're in trouble enough?

41
42 (Laughter)

43
44 MR. KNAUER: You also got the Denali Highway
45 to use as a dividing line, if you so choose.

46
47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah.

48
49 MR. F. JOHN. Well, since I brought it up,
50 I'll make that amendment that we use the Denali Highway for

00273

1 the dividing line for 20(B).

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: 13(B).

4

5 MR. F. JOHN. Which one?

6

7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: 13(B). Divide.....

8

9 MR. F. JOHN. Oh, yeah, okay, yeah, for
10 residents.

11

12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. There's an amendment
13 on the table; is there a second?

14

15 MR. DEMENTI: Second.

16

17 MS. SWAN: Second.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. It's been moved and
20 seconded to amend Proposal 24 to only include that portion of
21 13(B) north of the Denali Highway. Discussion on the
22 amendment.

23

24 MR. F. JOHN. I want to ask the Federal
25 people if that's okay? I mean, if they have any problem with
26 that?

27

28 MS. MASON: Are you talking to us?

29

30 MR. F. JOHN. Yeah.

31

32 MS. MASON: That would be just fine.

33

34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gilbert.

35

36 MR. DEMENTI: That brings up Proposal 23. I
37 have a little problem with just -- we didn't pass that one.

38

39 MR. F. JOHN. Well, they'll be included in
40 that.

41

42 MR. DEMENTI: And then we amend this.....

43

44 MR. F. JOHN. They'll be included in that.

45

46 MR. DEMENTI: Would that be included in 23?

47

48 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: A portion of Healy Lake will
49 be included in 24 for 13(B) north of the Delta River if we
50 pass this. It will have no effect on Healy Lake in 13(C).

00274

1 MR. DEMENTI: Oh, okay.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: At that point in time if a
4 person would want to either submit a motion to reconsider or
5 an amended motion that could be taken care of.

6

7 MR. DEMENTI: Okay. I'm satisfied with
8 what.....

9

10 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You're satisfied with what
11 he's done right here?

12

13 MR. DEMENTI:what.....

14

15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Fred.

16

17 MR. DEMENTI:Fred said, yeah.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Any other discussion
20 on the amendment? This isn't on the motion, this is just on
21 the amendment.

22

23 (No audible responses)

24

25 MR. F. JOHN. Question.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been called. The
28 amendment is to modify 24 to include only that land north of
29 the Denali Highway in 13(B). All in favor signify by saying
30 aye.

31

32 IN UNISON: Aye.

33

34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Opposed signify by saying
35 nay.

36

37 (No opposing responses)

38

39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries. Okay, now
40 we have an amended motion on the table, 24 is amended to
41 included those residents of 20(D), except for Fort Greely, in
42 that portion of 13(B) north of the Denali Highway. Basically
43 the Delta watershed. Discussion?

44

45 MR. DEMENTI: That includes Healy Lake then,
46 right?

47

48 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Healy Lake is part of 20(D),
49 right?

50

00275

1 MS. MASON: Uh-huh (affirmative).

2

3

4 MR. DEMENTI: Okay.

5

6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah, Healy Lake is part of
7 20(D). Boy, you can tell we've been at this a long time,
8 everybody is so quiet. Okay, hearing no discussion,
9 question's in order, unless somebody has something they want
10 to say on the proposal.

11

12 MR. DEMENTI: Question.

13

14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been called. All
15 in favor of Proposal 24, as amended, signify by saying aye.

16

17 IN UNISON: Aye.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Opposed signify by saying
20 nay.

21

22 (No opposing responses)

23

24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries. So,
25 basically, what we did is Healy Lake is now in the northern
26 portion of Unit 13(B), but is not in Unit 13(C).

27

28 Okay, at this point in time.....

29

30 MS. SWAN: Let's have a break.

31

32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Do we need a break?

33

34 MS. SWAN: Yeah.

35

36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Huh?

37

38 MS. SWAN: Walk around.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I have -- a break has been
41 requested.

42

43 (Off record - 2:45 p.m.)

44

45 (On record - 2:58 p.m.)

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, we'll call this
48 meeting of the Southcentral Subsistence Regional Advisory
49 Council back in session. We just dealt with Proposal 23 and
50 24. The next two proposals are related, Proposal 7 and 10 --

00276

1 no.

2

3

MS. MASON: 12.

4

5

6

CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It was Proposal 7 and 12,
are they related enough we can handle them as one?

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

MS. MASON: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Yeah, if it's
okay with you, I will present both of the analyses before
turning it over for further comment, because I imagine that
many of the comments will be on both of them as well. I'll
just go through Proposal 7, then I'll just go right on to
Proposal 12, if that's all right.

14

15

16

CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

MS. MASON: Proposal 7 was submitted by the
Copper River/Prince William Sound Fish and Game Advisory
Committee and it requests adding the residents of Unit 6(C)
to those with a positive C&T for sheep in the portion of Unit
11 south of the Sanford River. This is also called Unit 11,
Remainder in our regs. And the existing C&T determination
for sheep in Unit 11, Remainder is for residents of the
communities of Chisana, Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center,
Gakona, Glennallen, Gulkana, Kenny Lake, Mentasta Lake,
Slana, McCarthy, South Wrangell, South Park, Tazlina and
Tonsina and residents along the Tok Cutoff at Milepost 79 to
100 (Mentasta Pass), residents along the Nebesna Road and
residents along the McCarthy Road.

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

Over the five study years in which subsistence
harvest studies have been conducted in Cordova, only in 1993
did Cordova residents report taking any sheep, and in that
year they harvested 0.5 pounds per capita. Over the period
1983 to 1997 harvest ticket data show that Cordova residents
took a total of 54 sheep throughout Alaska.

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

At the time that this proposal was put together we
didn't have any information on people in Cordova who had done
sheep hunting. And Tom Carpenter, who is in our audience,
has provided the names of Cordova residents who recall both
sheep hunting and moose hunting here. And I have that, and I
imagine that he will be giving you more information about
that in his comments. But I just wanted you to know that
this came later, after the proposal had been written.

47

48

49

50

In terms of the use area, harvest tickets show that
between 1983 and 1997 about 26 percent of the total 54 sheep
reported by Cordova residents were in Unit 11 and all of
these were from UCUs that are south of the Sanford River.

1 So generally our conclusion was to oppose Proposal 7,
2 the reason was that there's not enough information available
3 at present to justify Cordova residents uses of sheep to
4 justify supporting this proposal, but it is hoped that more
5 information will come to light on the uses of Unit 11 by Unit
6 6(C) residents.

7
8 In terms of the moose proposal, similarly this was --
9 Proposal 12 was submitted by the Copper River/Prince William
10 Sound Fish and Game Advisory Committee. It requests that the
11 residents of Unit 6(C) be added to those with a positive C&T
12 determination for moose in the portion of Unit 11 south of
13 the Sanford River, which is also known as Unit 11, Remainder.
14 And in Unit 11, Remainder, the C&T determination is for
15 residents of Unit 11, Units 13(A) through 13(D) and the
16 residents of Chickaloon.

17
18 Moose is clearly an important resource for residents
19 of 6(C) who are mainly in the City of Cordova and moose is
20 the single largest component of wildlife resources used by
21 Cordova residents as shown in the household surveys. In
22 terms of the area where the moose are harvested, Cordova
23 residents have overwhelmingly harvested in Unit 6(A), 6(B) or
24 6(C). Of the total 6 -- 18 moose reported taken in Unit 11
25 between 1983 and 1997, Cordova residents harvested two of
26 those, and both of them were taken in UCUs south of the
27 Sanford River. And during that same 15 year period Cordova
28 hunters reported 1,154 moose throughout the State of Alaska.

29
30 So 97 percent of their harvests were in Units 6(A),
31 6(B) or 6(C). And, again, there -- at the time that this
32 analysis was written I didn't have any specific information
33 about Cordova residents who had hunted or who recall hunting
34 there in the past. And I did receive a list that was faxed
35 to me by Tom Carpenter, and I hope that he will share that
36 information, as well as the use areas with you later on.

37
38 The conclusion was to oppose Proposal 12. And,
39 again, the justification was that there -- the available
40 information did not indicate that the communities uses of
41 moose would justified a positive C&T. And this was -- what
42 was known was that a reported harvest of two moose in Unit 11
43 over the 15 year period in comparison with over 1,000 moose
44 taken throughout Alaska by Cordova's residents. And no
45 information was available on the connections between Cordova
46 and Unit 11.

47
48 So, again, it was hoped that testimony at this
49 meeting or at the Board meeting would shed more light on the
50 uses of Unit 11 by Unit 6(C) residents.

00278

1 And that's about -- that summarizes what we got for
2 that.

3
4 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Rachel. Any
5 questions for Rachel?

6
7 (No audible responses)

8
9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Alaska Department of
10 Fish and Game.

11
12 MR. HAYNES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The
13 Department supports the staff recommendation not to find a --
14 make a C&T determination for Cordova in Unit 11 south of the
15 Sanford River in Proposals 7 and 12. However, we do find it
16 inconsistent that the staff would make a recommendation for
17 no C&T on the basis of about the same level of information
18 that it used to recommend a positive C&T for Healy Lake in
19 areas north of the Sanford River in Unit 11. So, again,
20 we're concerned about process were we see some
21 inconsistencies and how information is being used.

22
23 And, like Rachel has suggested, we'll -- we're
24 certainly going to be listening to additional information
25 being presented today and on the basis of that information we
26 may have revisions to our recommendations that we'll make
27 before the Federal Board meeting this spring.

28
29 MS. MASON: Mr. Chairman, may I respond to
30 one of the comments?

31
32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yes, you may.

33
34 MS. MASON: There was certainly no
35 intentional disrespect to Cordova residents in this -- in the
36 way this is set up. It's unfortunate that within the same
37 proposals we have the Healy Lake proposal considered along
38 with the Cordova one. The Healy Lake recommendation was made
39 on the basis of the established kinship connections and
40 cultural connections between them and there was no -- there
41 has been no evidence established of that with Cordova.

42
43 Another contrast with the Healy Lake situation is
44 that there is no harvest record, whatsoever, for the Healy
45 Lake area, whereas, with Cordova, which is a much larger
46 community there has been very good harvest ticket information
47 and harvest records established.

48
49 So -- I mean, it is unfortunate that there is an
50 inconsistency in the way they've been treated, but it was

00279

1 certainly not an intentional slam on Cordova.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any questions for the Fish
4 and Game?

5

6 (No audible responses)

7

8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you for that comment.
9 I'm not sure which one I'm thanking you for, but.....

10

11 Okay. Other agency comments?

12

13 (No audible responses)

14

15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Overlapping Regional Council
16 recommendations?

17

18 (No audible responses)

19

20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Fish and Game Advisory
21 Committee comments?

22

23 MR. CARPENTER: Thank you, Mr, Chair, members
24 of the Council. My name is Tom Carpenter, I'm representing
25 the Copper River/Prince William Sound Fish and Game Advisory
26 Committee. Both Proposal 7 and 12 were submitted by our
27 Committee.

28

29 Just some initial background information as to why we
30 have put these proposals in. We are in the process of
31 getting a resident zone status through the Wrangell-St. Elias
32 National Park and one piece of criteria that we need to
33 fulfill is possibly a C&T from the Federal Board.

34

35 I received this book from the Fish and Wildlife
36 Office a couple of weeks ago, and in reviewing it, I was kind
37 of dumbfounded as to the staff analysis opposing both of our
38 proposals. And before even getting into their reasons for
39 doing so, let me recall just a couple of instances in the
40 past two years that this Council and the Federal Board have
41 given positive customary and traditional use finding for
42 areas in the Southcentral region.

43

44 One of them, for instance, was in 1997 was Unit 5(A),
45 which is basically Yakutat, they were given a customary and
46 traditional use finding for moose in Unit 6(A) which
47 encompasses the area on that chart up there, Region 2, which
48 is the yellow area. They were given a positive finding by
49 this Board, a positive staff recommendation and the Federal
50 Board ultimately found in favor of that based on, number one,

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1 a limited amount of harvest ticket information, but primarily
2 on some verbal testimony that was relayed through some of the
3 people that lived down there and the staff.

4
5 Another one was in the same area, which was -- it was
6 dealing with wolves, which there was only one person in 5(A)
7 that testified, verbally, that they had harvested or a
8 relative of theirs had harvested a wolf in 6(A), and the
9 Board ultimately found in favor of them.

10
11 And while sitting here today, I've heard information
12 to where they talk about, you know, it's not necessarily the
13 harvest data that you need, because if you go back through
14 time a lot of the communities didn't necessarily record their
15 harvest, as such. And the information I think that I'm going
16 to provide to this Council will overwhelmingly support
17 Proposal 7 and 12 in favor of a customary and traditional use
18 finding.

19
20 In beginning, I -- since this book was delivered to
21 me, I did a little research and this is just some information
22 that I've compiled, with some help of the other Advisory
23 Committee members, in just the last few weeks. I've come up
24 with a list of over 50 names of people that are either still
25 living in Cordova or had lived in Cordova that have harvest
26 both moose and sheep within Unit 11, a lot of that was in the
27 park -- was in the Unit 11 which is now the hard park.

28
29 Some of the people that are on this list actually own
30 property titled and deeded to them within the hard park,
31 which is a very limited amount of people could claim such a
32 thing today. Two of these people, one who's name is Wayne
33 Smith, he owns titled and deeded property at Tebay Lake and
34 he also has the only piece of titled and deeded property at
35 Hanagita Lake. Both of those are within the hard park. This
36 is in conjunction with part of the property that his brother
37 has, Kenny Smith. Their father was quite a historic Bush
38 pilot, who owned Cordova Air and transited Unit 6(A), Unit
39 11, Unit 13 for a number of years. Eventually with Cordova
40 Air turning into a part of Alaska Airlines.

41
42 This family also has a couple of 160 acres homesteads
43 in the McCarthy area, which is also in Unit 11. There are
44 also several other people that are residents of Cordova that
45 have homesteads within Unit 11. Cliff Collins and Phil
46 Collins, both around the Long Lake area, that's approximately
47 in the vicinity, oh, 15 miles or so before you get to
48 McCarthy, they both have 160 acre homesteads and have so for
49 a number of years.

50

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1 Another resident of Cordova that has a homestead is
2 Skip Mowery, he's at the Lakina Creek which is in the
3 relative vicinity of Long Lake. A grandson of Cliff Collins
4 has a 40 acre piece of property which is in the vicinity of
5 Long Lake. Our Chairman, Mr. Lohse, has a piece of property.
6 And there's another 160 acre homestead which has been
7 transferred from a grandmother to a grandson who is a
8 resident of Cordova, which is at Lakina Lake, which is in the
9 same vicinity. All of these people live in Cordova and all
10 of these people -- and all of this land, excuse me, is in
11 Unit 11.

12
13 I think that when I look at some of this information,
14 some of these charts that's included in the staff report, I'm
15 not so sure that it does the Council justice in trying to
16 figure out, you know, say over the last hundred years, maybe
17 even farther back that that, and most undoubtedly farther
18 back than that, the Eyak Natives, which transited the Copper
19 River for generations, obviously, if you look up at the map
20 right there, Unit 6 is -- the Unit 6 boundary is 11 miles, 11
21 miles from the Unit 11 boundary. It's quite obvious that
22 there was a customary and traditional use of even more than
23 the two that we have proposed before you, which are moose and
24 sheep. It's the goat and the black bear, the trapping, the
25 brown bear, those were obviously things that were used by the
26 Eyak Natives.

27
28 Personally, looking back at this, it's kind of hard
29 to -- you know, before that area was a park it was managed by
30 U.S. Fish and Wildlife, you'd have to go back, you know, say,
31 before it was a park 50 years, I think you'd find an
32 incredible amount of history there of sheep hunting, moose
33 hunting and a different assortment of other activities that
34 took place by residents of Cordova.

35
36 I can tell you right now that in the last five years
37 myself and five other people that live in Cordova to this day
38 have harvested six sheep, last year we harvested one moose,
39 the year before that we harvested a moose and we also
40 harvested a brown bear and a goat. That's five people that
41 live in Cordova, all of this within the last five years.

42
43 I have a couple of letters that I'd like to read that
44 were given to me from people of Cordova. One of them is
45 Cliff and his wife, Jewel, who have the homestead in Unit 11.
46 It says, "To Whom It May Concern: My name is Cliff Collins,
47 I've been a resident of Cordova since 1939. My operated
48 jewelry and photography store in Cordova until the big fire
49 in '63, after which we operated the Collins' Insurance
50 Company.

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1 Both my wife and I have hunted and fished in the
2 park" he said, the hard park. Back then it was just
3 considered, you know, Unit 11. "during this time. Annually
4 we took moose and Dall sheep in both the Hanagita Range and
5 the Bremner River Valleys, which supplied us with our winter
6 meat during those years. One year we also received a drawing
7 permit and took a bison on the Chitina River.

8
9 Since 1961 we've spent our summers at our homestead
10 at Long Lake, 15 miles west of McCarthy. The park
11 restrictions have taken away our traditional hunting areas,
12 which is now the hard park of the Wrangell-St. Elias National
13 Park, and has made life simply difficult for our families.
14 We spend our winters at mile three and a half on the Copper
15 River Highway in Cordova.

16
17 Thank you. Cliff and Jewel Collins."

18
19 I also have another letter, it's written by a
20 gentleman who lives in Cordova, his name is Don Birch. He
21 said he was sorry he wouldn't be able to attend the meeting,
22 but testifies that both him and his brother, Jack Birch, both
23 hunted in the area that is of concern, mainly in the Nebesna
24 area and the Hanagita area. Both of these are in Unit 11.

25
26 These two gentleman also testified hunting with Bob
27 Dettinger who has the family homestead at Lakina Lake and
28 also with Harley King who was actually one of the gentlemen
29 that was murdered in McCarthy some 20-30 years ago. He was
30 also from Cordova. He also hunted with Jack Wilson. Jack
31 Wilson, to bring any of you who don't know who Jack Wilson
32 is, is probably one of the most famous sheep hunters ever to
33 -- ever in the State of Alaska. As a matter of fact, I
34 talked to him on the phone the other day, he used to live in
35 Colorado and he called when he found out -- because I had
36 sent him a letter, he moved to Gulkana two months ago and was
37 appalled to find out that Cordova residents were not allowed
38 to hunt in the park or in Unit 11. It is why he called to
39 tell me that any support that he would give would be quite
40 useful. And I said, thank you very much and that I'd tell
41 him how this meeting went.

42
43 I have some more letters and I have submitted them to
44 the staff with a long list of people. This list of people
45 is, like I said, something that I have just come up with in
46 the last couple of weeks talking to people in town. Now,
47 thinking back to the last 20 years, it's hard to say how many
48 generations -- we probably lost two generations of people
49 that have lost a lot of hunting time and a lot of their
50 traditional values and ways that would have been passed on to

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1 them from their fathers and grandfathers, due to the fact
2 that park has such high restrictions.

3
4 These people, even with those restrictions, have made
5 it a point to use the preserve, which is basically in the
6 center of Unit 11, which proves to me, and I hope it proves
7 to you, that the people of Cordova are very dependent on the
8 resources in Unit 11.

9
10 Some of the questions that have been asked in regards
11 to this area is access. Access to Unit 11 in the wintertime
12 can be done by snowmachine. I have made several trips from
13 Cordova up the Copper River during the middle of the winter,
14 up to the McCarthy area. I can personally say that I've made
15 five trips in the middle of the summer up the Copper River in
16 a river boat. In the past, thinking of the Copper River Mine
17 at Kennicott, the railroad back in the early 1900s was a very
18 important tool in transporting hunters into Unit 11, up the
19 Copper River where they were dropped off, they went and they
20 hunted, they came back and then when the train turned around
21 at Kennicott it delivered them back to Cordova with their
22 game.

23
24 Unfortunately the railroad isn't there anymore, but
25 talking about traditional means and methods, the river was
26 used, horses have been used, obviously airplanes have been
27 used. There's a lot of different ways and means that the
28 people of Cordova have accessed Unit 11.

29
30 I think in closing I would just like to say that I
31 would hope in the future -- I've basically been associated
32 with about six years of this process, numerous other years
33 with the State process, that there will be more consistency
34 in the way that the staff analyzes the different situations
35 and the different problems around the state. I'm not pushing
36 any blame, one way or the other, but just what I've seen in
37 the last couple of weeks and just, you know, what I've read
38 in this book, I feel that there was ample opportunity to
39 gather information like this, and there is a lot of
40 information that would prove through either the Park Service
41 historian, Fish and Game records, Fish and Wildlife records,
42 public testimony, deeded owners of land within the park,
43 homestead residents within Unit 11, and just people in
44 general in Cordova that there's an extreme history and
45 there's a vital resource up there that people of Cordova have
46 become dependent on over the last hundred years.

47
48 And I would appreciate your vote in approving this to
49 the Federal Board. And I thank you. And if I [sic] have any
50 questions I'll be glad to entertain them.

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1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any there any questions for
2 Tom?

3 MR. DEMENTI: Chair.

4
5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yes, Gilbert.

6
7 MR. DEMENTI: Yesterday we denied T&C [sic]
8 to Chenega and Tatitlek on just about the same thing you
9 proposed here. And you wanted T&C [sic] on Unit 11, they
10 wanted T&C [sic] on Unit 6(C). I mean, I don't know, it's
11 hard to justify something like that.

12
13 MR. CARPENTER: Well, through the Chair. I
14 can understand your concern and obviously this morning
15 through the Council's vote, you know, through the motion to
16 reconsider that that's going to be entertained by the Council
17 later, you know, further testimony from the residents of the
18 villages will assist you in making your determination, you
19 know, at a later date next fall.

20
21 I think that -- I don't know exactly how to address
22 this, I hope that you're not addressing that there's some
23 kind of a prejudice involved, because I think that our
24 Advisory Committee, who put these proposals in and also
25 opposed the proposal for village of Tatitlek and Chenega,
26 this Committee is well represented by both the village of
27 Tatitlek and Chenega at our Council meetings, so we
28 definitely do take input from those folks. Also, the Eyak
29 Corporation and the Native Village of Eyak, which are within
30 the city limits of Cordova, are both well represented. Both
31 of those two entities are in favor of this Committee's
32 proposal for a C&T in Unit 11.

33
34 As I stated before, the only reason that our
35 Committee was not in favor of the C&T for Tatitlek and
36 Chenega for moose in the Remainder of Unit 6 was because of
37 the enforcement problem, we thought of, because of the exodus
38 of the people from the villages to Anchorage and Fairbanks
39 and places like that that have nonrural status, and also the
40 fact of the special permits being issued. Other than that,
41 there was -- we did not deny the fact that those people have
42 had a traditional means of sharing in moose meat and through
43 their families that are represented in the town of Cordova
44 that they have taken place in any hunts.

45
46 Those were the two concerns that I voiced to the
47 Council, and you took action, you know, based on that and
48 other things, I'm sure, but we feel that overwhelming --
49 there's overwhelming support and documented evidence that,
50 you know, residents of Cordova, which is basically the only

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1 resident -- or resident community in Unit 6 besides Tatitlek
2 and Chenega and Whittier, which is, you know, on the other
3 side of the Sound. You know, we're talking about being from
4 here to the airport, that's the distance between 6 and 11 and
5 Unit 6 residents are the only people anywhere around the
6 border of that park and that unit that don't have a
7 traditional means and ways of getting in there and accessing
8 their historical use areas.

9
10 So, if I answered your question, you know, I guess
11 that's, you know, the best I can do.

12
13 MR. DEMENTI: Okay. Are you representing
14 Eyak Tribes when you say this?

15
16 MR. CARPENTER: I am representing the
17 Advisory Committee, I'm the Chairman of the Advisory
18 Committee. When I say that those villages send
19 representatives quite -- not every time, but quite often
20 because they're out in the Sound, to the Advisory Committee
21 meetings and they take part in our public debate. There are
22 several members of our Advisory Committee who are Native
23 people that also are involved with the corporations in town.
24 Now those two are not Tatitlek and Chenega, those are the two
25 that are based within the city limits of Cordova. So I am
26 not representing their corporation, but I am representing the
27 people that serve in these corporations on our Board.

28
29 MR. DEMENTI: Thank you.

30
31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions for Tom?

32
33 MR. F. JOHN. I got a question. One time the
34 Native people in Cordova asked for moose in potlatch.

35
36 MR. CARPENTER: Uh-huh (affirmative).

37
38 MR. F. JOHN. One moose a year.

39
40 MR. CARPENTER: Uh-huh (affirmative).

41
42 MR. F. JOHN. And the Committee -- this was
43 the Native people, right, from Cordova.

44
45 MR. CARPENTER: Right.

46
47 MR. F. JOHN. But your Advisory Committee
48 said no to them.

49
50 MR. CARPENTER: Right.

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1 MR. F. JOHN. What was the reason? Is it
2 that the moose belong to Cordova or -- only or was planted
3 there, it belong to Cordova only and you don't want the
4 Native people in there to participate in a memorial potlatch?

5
6 MR. CARPENTER: No, I think there was a lot
7 of information that wasn't quite accurate that may have
8 gotten to this Council and to the Federal Board and to just
9 people in general about that potlatch, because that potlatch
10 is a community affair. The two Native corporations within
11 the city limits are both, you know, like I say, within the
12 city limits, and so we're just basically one community.
13 Cordova in Unit 6 is a very unusual area to where is -- you
14 were correct in saying that these moose were planted in the
15 1950s, so I think the real problem that the Committee had is
16 that since they weren't an indigenous species to the area,
17 and say, for example, that black bear, goat, you know, seal,
18 whatever else that has been there for thousands of years that
19 that was the traditional things that, you know, even the
20 potlatches that I've been to in the town, that that's what
21 they've used fish and whatever other kind of stuff.

22
23 The big influence when this Advisory Council came to
24 you in '97 with that, was that the representatives that --
25 the people that have seats on our Advisory Committee that are
26 Natives within those two entities that wanted to have the
27 moose, those four people also voted no for the corporation to
28 have special privilege within the unit to harvest a moose out
29 of season. So it wasn't as though this Advisory Committee
30 was just completely opposing what the corporation, the Board
31 of Directors, was proposing to you, we were taking
32 information that was given to us by members of that Native
33 organization, who serve on our body. And we take that quite
34 generally because those people have a lot of history and they
35 have a lot of knowledge and they also attend the Native
36 corporation meetings. And when those people come to us and
37 tell us that we don't support this, that plays a lot in the
38 way our Committee goes, because they're kind of the
39 representatives to us as to the way the two Native
40 corporations feel and the overall census within that
41 community was that it just wasn't a traditional animal that
42 was harvested and that there were other animals and other
43 ways and means of carrying on the potlatch in a more
44 traditional fashion.

45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions for Tom?

47
48 (No audible responses)

49
50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Tom, I got a couple of

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1 comments to make, if I may?

2

3 MR. CARPENTER: Uh-huh (affirmative).

4

5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: One, when you were talking
6 about the staff, one of the things the staff does do, the
7 staff recognizes that it is not capable of gathering all the
8 information that's needed and so the staff has relied on, in
9 the past, that fact that we have a wide diversity of people
10 on our Council from all over Southcentral and we've deferred
11 to members of the Council in the past for information,
12 particularly on areas in which they're involved. One of the
13 things I plan on doing, since this is my area, is I plan on
14 sharing some information on this for the sake of the staff
15 and for the sake of the other Council members.

16

17 That's an assumption on the part of the staff is that
18 one of the reasons we're here is we know something about the
19 area that we're in. One of the assumptions that we've made,
20 as Council members, is that when I'm dealing with an area --
21 something that's going on in Fred's area, I defer to Fred, I
22 want to get his information first, or to Gilbert if it's on
23 the Cantwell area, or Clare if it's on Kenai area. That
24 doesn't mean that I don't interject my opinions and I don't
25 have to make my own decisions, but I count on being able to
26 share information from them. And the staff counts on that,
27 too.

28

29 MR. CARPENTER: Uh-huh.

30

31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So that part I have to, and
32 I don't mean that as a correction, but that part I have to
33 say, that's one of the reasons, sometimes, we're deficient in
34 information is simply because their counting on us knowing
35 something also.

36

37 MR. CARPENTER: Uh-huh.

38

39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I had a couple of questions
40 for you real quick. You were talking about in the last five
41 years, you didn't say whether that was in Unit 11 or if that
42 was just in Alaska.

43

44 MR. CARPENTER: In the five years
45 respectively, through the Chair, the five sheep, the two
46 moose, the bear and the goat were all taken in Unit 11.
47 Those were personal hunting experiences within the last five
48 year that I was talking about that I have been associated
49 with in Unit 11.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: That you know the people
2 involved?

3
4 MR. CARPENTER: That I know that I was there
5 on those hunts.

6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

8
9 MR. CARPENTER: And those were all done,
10 obviously, within the preserve since we don't have access to
11 the hard park.

12
13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah. Since it was brought
14 up a couple of things that I would like to clarify for my
15 other Board members is, we don't really have two corporations
16 in Cordova, we have the Chugach Corporation and we have the
17 Traditional Village of Eyak. People are some members of one,
18 some members of the other, some members of both. And on all
19 of the years that I sat on the Advisory Committee in Cordova
20 they made up anywhere from a third to half of the people on
21 our Advisory Committee. In other words, we are a very
22 integrated community that way, it's not a case of them being
23 left out of the Advisory Committee policy.

24
25 Now, as individuals, they can -- you know, as
26 individuals they may disagree with their corporation, they
27 may disagree with their traditional village, they have that
28 choice as members of the Advisory Committee, the same as we
29 on the Board have to make decisions sometimes that don't
30 agree with where we come from.

31
32 And as far as the consistency between Chenega and
33 Tatitlek, one of the things that was asked of Chenega and
34 Tatitlek was a request for information. And we didn't ended
35 up -- just like George recognized -- Don recognized, his
36 information applied to himself and to the people who lived in
37 Cordova, he didn't apply that information to people who were
38 in Chenega or Tatitlek, which he plans on addressing in the
39 future. In this case we're dealing with an issue that we
40 have a vast amount of information, and I will add some
41 information to what Tom has, dealing with people who are in
42 Cordova or have been in Cordova and have dealt with Unit 11.
43 So I don't see any inconsistency in his position right there.
44 But the question is worthwhile asking. One of things that
45 we've been criticized today for, a number of times, has been
46 our inconsistency.

47
48 Now, are there any other questions for Tom?

49
50 MR. F. JOHN. I don't know about -- I really

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1 don't know about Cordova area and I really don't know what
2 kind of questions to ask, to tell you the truth, I don't have
3 any real information on their hunting area, except what come
4 from you and the information the staff have here.

5
6 MR. CARPENTER: Well, through the Chair,
7 Mr. John, you know, it's -- if you look around the state, you
8 know, I just kind of glance up at that map up there and look
9 at Unit 6 relative to Unit 11, almost all of Unit 6, the
10 northern boundary is Unit 11. So it would be kind of like, I
11 guess, you know, you'd have to take where you're from and
12 kind of look at Unit 13 and Unit 20 and kind of, you know --
13 you know, the people that are obviously traditionally access
14 -- especially talking about a watershed, I mean, that's one
15 of the major watersheds in the state. And access and people
16 that have went up the Copper and come down the Copper for
17 long before I've ever, you know, been on this earth, they've
18 obviously used that area. And the Copper River goes directly
19 -- and the Bremner River which is part way up the Copper head
20 eastward right through the heart of the park. And right off
21 that Bremner River is where I told you about the people that
22 I stated a lot of that privately owned land is right in the
23 heart of the park. And those people do reside in Cordova.

24
25 And the thing to consider with that is that land
26 that's privately owned within the hard park would never had
27 been allowed if there wasn't an extreme amount of activity up
28 there by that family and by also the other people that they
29 were using that area with from Cordova. So, you know, if you
30 take the private land holders within the hard park and you
31 take the percentage of people that -- you know, there's not
32 very many people that own personal property there. The
33 percentage of people that own and have titled property in
34 that area is quite high. So I think that, you know, there's
35 definitely been an historical use in Unit 11.

36
37 MR. F. JOHN. So you -- so for the moose in
38 Cordova you don't have historical use, but you do have a
39 historical use in Unit 11 for moose then?

40
41 MR. CARPENTER: Well, I think that's an
42 interesting point because, you know, as I stated, the moose
43 were transplanted from the Mat-Su Valley in the '50s, you
44 know, by the local residents, so if the people wanted to hunt
45 moose that was the closest place. And, you know, the only
46 other place they could have went is across Icy Bay which is
47 on the east side of -- you can't see it on that map up there,
48 but it's down towards Yakutat quite a way, there are moose
49 there. But those moose are not -- there's not a very large
50 amount of moose. They have gotten larger in densities over

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1 the years, but that's a good point and I never thought about
2 that, but seeing how the moose were transplanted that would
3 have been the closest place that -- you know, the Native
4 people hundreds of years ago would have hunted moose and
5 sheep or, you know, until 1960 when the first hunt was
6 conducted in Unit 6, so yeah, that's a good point.

7

8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions for Tom?

9

10 (No audible responses)

11

12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Tom.

13

14 MR. CARPENTER: Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: At this point in time, are
17 there any other Fish and Game Advisory Committees that which
18 to speak to this? Are you speaking as an Advisory Committee?

19

20 MR. GOOD: I think I can, yes, I've discussed
21 this with my Advisory Committee, plus they trust me to say
22 anything that I would say and have confidence in me, yes.

23

24 I would like to just review a few things. I think
25 that there's been an excellent job done here by Tom, but I'll
26 just throw in a few more things. As we -- I'm still, by the
27 way, in support of Chenega and Tatitlek, so -- but that at
28 this point is irrelevant. You know, there is quite a history
29 of the Copper River Northwestern Railway there, beginning in
30 1909 until the last whistle was blown in 1939, so that was a
31 major route to the Interior. Before that, when I was in
32 Cordova, there were still remnants of an old stern wheeler
33 lying down there by Childs Glacier. That was used in the
34 construction of the railroad prior to 1909. It was
35 definitely a major route into the Interior.

36

37 In fact, the film "Gold Rush" starring our wonderful
38 actor Charlie Chaplin was filmed, I believe, on Childs
39 Glacier and therein, what were then Abercrombie Rapids, the
40 river has shifted over and now you see a large rock pile
41 where it happened. But during Abercrombie Rapids they had
42 people floating the river in a boat and if the boat capsized
43 then they drowned during the filming of this film.

44

45 The Eyak people themselves, I think, should be a
46 particular interest to you, because they are of Athabaskan
47 origin, they're language is more similar to the Interior,
48 they were found at Alaganik Slough and at Eyak on the Eyak
49 River. They did serve as guides to the original people
50 coming up the river, going at least as high as Taral, and

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1 probably beyond. They were at home in that country. They
2 did move up and down the river, they did trade and, as I
3 recall, they also had copper available to them, the only
4 source would have been in the McCarthy area, say, Chitina,
5 McCarthy.

6
7 When I was there in 1970 Cliff Collins had owned his
8 land at Long Lake, as I recall, for quite a period of time,
9 as did other people in the area. Largely they flew, but some
10 people took the ferry and drove from Valdez. And I can
11 remember being there when the parks were established and I
12 can also remember John Denver telling us how beautiful the
13 new park system was as he flew around Alaska landing his
14 helicopter on the tops of mountains and surveying it. That
15 was not appreciated by the people in Cordova at the time,
16 they really access to the land and not to be told about it by
17 somebody who flew around in helicopters.

18
19 That's all I have to say, thank you.

20
21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any questions for Nat?

22
23 (No audible responses)

24
25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Do we have any
26 written public comments?

27
28 MS. EAKON: There were no written public
29 comments, Mr. Chair.

30
31 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Ida. This comes under
32 public testimony, that's the next thing on our agenda.

33
34 MS. HILDEBRAND: Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff
35 Committee member. I just wanted to comment on a concern that
36 I have regarding request for C&T. The request for C&T does
37 not request that you killed X amount of animals, it requests
38 whether or not you used or did not use the species. And I
39 was concerned in that, but unfortunately I was not here for
40 the discussion this morning on Tatitlek or Chenega. But in
41 Cordova area it is not how many animals did you kill, but did
42 you use those species.

43
44 And the other concern is some species are used in
45 greater abundance than others. And sheep may not be used as
46 much as caribou or moose, but they are used and so I just
47 wanted to bring that to your attention that C&T is asking
48 whether or not the species was used in the past.

49
50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Ida.

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1 A motion to accept this -- do we have any other
2 public testimony? I don't have any other pink slips on it.
3 A motion to accept these proposals is in order so that we can
4 have discussion by the Board -- Council.

5
6 MR. ROMIG: So moved.

7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been so moved; is there
9 a second?

10
11 MS. SWAN: Second.

12
13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: It's been moved and seconded
14 that we accept Proposal 7 and Proposal 12. With the
15 Council's permission, I would like to share what I know on
16 this issue, if the Council will allow me as Chair?

17
18 (No audible responses)

19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. We talked about
21 consistency today and back when we discussed the issue of C&T
22 determination for moose in Cordova for the potlatch for Eyak
23 Traditional Village, one of the things that we used was
24 historical information of the Eyak people trading and going
25 up and down the Copper River.

26
27 One of the books I read at Dean Wilson's house, and I
28 wish I remember the name of the book, but it was written in
29 Athabaskan with English translations right underneath, and it
30 was a collection of stories, Athabaskan stories. And one of
31 the stories that I read in there was when a group of Natives
32 from Cordova came up to Taral, the area of Taral, moose
33 hunting, got in a spat with some of the Natives there, killed
34 a few people, escaped back to Cordova area and retribution
35 was sent down from the Upper Copper and there was what was
36 classed as the Battle at Mummy Island. And this is a story
37 in a book written in Athabaskan, so we know that in times
38 past, trade, interaction and all of the other things that we
39 talked about on consistency -- I mean, on the idea that there
40 should be a traditional C&T for moose in Cordova, on Cordova
41 moose, did take place. We know about that from both
42 Athabaskan records and from oral history.

43
44 The Tlingitized Athabaskans in the Yakutat area, when
45 we read their verbal history, when they were requesting C&T
46 in Unit 6(A) pointed out that they came down the Copper River
47 to begin with, they were Copper River Indians that came down
48 the Copper River, moved down to the area of Yakutat and
49 Cordova where they met the Tlingit and over the years became
50 more, and the word that is used is "Tlingitized." The

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1 Tlingits basically became their people.

2

3 Cordova, the Eyak Village of Cordova was an
4 Athabaskan village. Today, and I'd like to read something to
5 everybody. And this is something I would recommend highly to
6 anybody who would like to understand the Cordova area, it's a
7 book put out by Dr. Riki Ott, it's called Alaska's Copper
8 River Delta, it's one of the most good surveys of the Copper
9 River Delta, the wildlife, the water, the interaction between
10 people that I've ever read.

11

12 This is what it says about Cordova. "Cordova is the
13 only community on the Copper River Delta. The year-round
14 population of 2,500 doubles in the summer, the seasonal
15 influx of fishery and cannery workers from other regions of
16 Alaska and Pacific Northwest. About 20 percent of the
17 residents are Eyak, Chugach Aleut and Tlingit Natives, making
18 Cordova the largest Native Village in the Copper River/Prince
19 William Sound Region.

20

21 The social fabric of the community is a blend of
22 diverse cultures and lifestyles. Natives who are defined by
23 their subsistence culture also participate in the cash
24 economy, while non-Native who rely primarily on the case
25 economy also participate actively in the harvesting and
26 sharing of natural resources.

27

28 The town's main economy, commercial fishing, is an
29 economic extension of a subsistence lifestyle. There are
30 many parallels between the subsistence lifestyle and the
31 commercial fisheries in terms of seasonal phases and social
32 bonding. Often the first salmon of spring are shared by the
33 fleet with the townspeople during a community salmon picnic.
34 Over 90 percent of the households in Cordova share with
35 extended family and friends wild foods such as salmon, deer,
36 moose, ducks, berries, jams, halibut, rockfish, shellfish,
37 various plants and miscellaneous treats, such as marine
38 invertebrates, chitin, snails, lipids and mouse nuts Overall
39 residents harvest well over a dozen kinds of wild foods,
40 averaging 400 pounds of wild food per household."

41

42 And there aren't too many place in the state that
43 average more than 400 pounds of wild food per household.
44 That's Cordova. That's the Cordova that I know. When it
45 comes to historical history, we've taken a look at old
46 information for C&T. Well, we know that the trading up and
47 down the Copper River predates caucasian history. We also
48 know that there was Russian trading up and down the Copper
49 River. And one of the things, all the way up to Taral, for
50 sure, I know I talked to Susie Bell from Chitina, back when

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1 she was alive, and she talked about the Russian traders that
2 came up to Taral from Chitina or -- I mean from Cordova or
3 from instead of Cordova they came from a place called Nuchuk
4 (ph), which is on Hinchinbrook Island, outside of Cordova.
5 So that trade has gone up and down quite consistently,
6 including the trade -- one of the items that was traded was
7 moose hide.

8
9 Fred asked about wanting a C&T for moose in Unit 11
10 when we didn't want a C&T for moose in Unit 6, and yet,
11 historically, if people from Cordova wanted moose they had to
12 go to Unit 11. And Unit 11, the closest place to get moose
13 is the Bremner River. Now, the Bremner River is right above
14 Childs and Miles Glacier, it was up above Abercrombie Rapids.
15 People did go up there. I've read a pre-railroad story of
16 people who went from Cordova -- lots of pre-railroad stories
17 of people who went from Cordova by dog sled up into the
18 Bremner River Valley. And if we look back into some of the
19 early history we find that when Cordova was first a
20 community, some of the meat that was sold in the meat markets
21 came out of the Bremner River Valley, and it was either goat,
22 sheep or moose.

23
24 I can personally name two old timers that I knew when
25 I first came to Cordova who trapped in the Bremner River
26 Valley, one of them walked up there with a one-man dog team
27 every year. And one of them went up there on foot. He also
28 came down the Copper River every spring in a raft made out of
29 a piece of canvas filed with twigs and leaves and he'd come
30 down to Cordova, bring his fur out that way, pretty close to
31 traditional moose hide boat.

32
33 We've taken a look at old info on other C&Ts and when
34 it comes to communities, Cordova use probably goes back
35 farther than most communities in the state. Cordova had the
36 best transportation into the Interior for more years than
37 anybody else. In 1907 the first steamboat started going up
38 out of Cordova, all the way -- and I talked to my brother's
39 father-in-law at the Lower Tonsina, all the way to the last
40 boat station at Lower Tonsina, and once all the way to
41 Gulkana Village on the steamboats that went up the Copper
42 River. These steamboats also went up the Chitina River to
43 right below where our cabin is on the Lakina.

44
45 So people did have a means of transportation from
46 Cordova up into the Interior. If you read the old records
47 you find out one of the things they did is they came up here
48 to go sightseeing and they came up to go hunting. And they
49 came up into Unit 11 to do that.

50

1 Just the old Copper River Railroad, dating from 1911
2 to 1939 gives more years of use of the Chitina Valley than
3 most communities in the state have of many of the areas that
4 they've gotten C&T on. Since the Copper River Railroad has
5 closed down, up until 1971 there was no bridge there. The
6 first time I walked that railroad track was in '67. The
7 first time I drove it was in '68. First time there was a
8 bridge, I think, was in '71 at Chitina. But there's been
9 actual access up and down the Chitina Valley.

10
11 Again, I think Cordova is asking for the Remainder of
12 Unit 11, which basically consists of the area that was served
13 by transportation in the old days, which is south of the
14 Wrangells and up the Chitina Valley. He mentioned Harley
15 King, one of the persons that was shot in the McCarthy
16 massacre. Harley was a resident of Cordova who homesteaded a
17 40 acre piece up there just prior to my moving into the
18 valley. And it wasn't 20 years ago, it was only 13 -- 15, 16
19 now I guess.

20
21 And one of the things that he mentioned was Jack
22 Wilson. And one of the persons that was mentioned in there,
23 I just had the privilege of talking with, he's about 62,
24 63-years-old. He's a good friend of mine, a member of the
25 Native Village of Eyak and he is written up in two of Jack
26 Wilson's books, because when he was a kid he came up here and
27 guided with Jack Wilson and packed with Jack Wilson, along
28 with a number of other Cordova kids. And they guided and
29 packed with Jack Wilson, sheep hunting in the Wrangells, both
30 up the head of the Chitina and on the Kotsina and Nadina.

31
32 So from that standpoint the only other thing that we
33 can say is that even to this day Cordova has access to Unit
34 11 through the ferry and the road system. But previously
35 there was no community, no community, that had better access
36 to the Chitina Valley than Cordova for 40 years and that has
37 to be taken into account.

38
39 So to be consistent in comparison with some of the
40 other places that we've given C&T Cordova has very, very good
41 records. And those records can be found in Fish and Wildlife
42 records, they can be found in newspapers, they can be found
43 in, if anybody wants to read the Copper Spike, the can be
44 found in other historical books on the area. And from that
45 standpoint I have to support these two proposals.

46
47 MR. ROMIG: When did they actually pull the
48 rails up on the.....

49
50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: They pulled the rails up in

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1 the '50s. When Cliff Collins first got up there, there was
2 still a speeder on the rails and they could run back and
3 forth from Long Lake to McCarthy on a little speeder on the
4 railroad track.

5
6 MR. ROMIG: Yeah.

7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Basically, they had two
9 kinds of speeders, they had one with gas powered, they had on
10 which was a hand crank one, and they could move up and down.
11 And I now that some of the people that came up there from
12 Cordova with him that went moose hunting, went moose hunting
13 on that speeder. They used that speeder to access the swamps
14 up towards McCarthy.

15
16 MR. ROMIG: And, basically, they've lost all
17 the ties just prior to the earthquake, didn't they? The
18 earthquake is what wiped out the ties.

19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You mean the railroad ties?

21
22 MR. ROMIG: Yeah.

23
24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No. There's still railroad
25 ties today but there was still a lot of railroad -- I mean
26 there was a lot of the track that was railroad ties when I
27 first moved into the valley. What they lost in the
28 earthquake was Cordova was building -- they were building a
29 road from Cordova following the old railroad grade and they
30 had rebuilt all of the bridges out to mile 52 and when the
31 earthquake came it basically wiped out the bridges between
32 mile 27 and mile 52, and that was basically the end of the
33 road. But even to this day we have people that go to the end
34 of the road that hop in a river boat and go up to the Tazlina
35 and the Bremner, which are currently in Unit 11.

36
37 MR. ROMIG: That was Lou's story, by the way?

38
39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Huh?

40
41 MR. ROMIG: That was Lou's story, by the way.

42
43 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Lou's?

44
45 MR. ROMIG: Yeah. He said they stacked them
46 all up and they were waiting in Valdez. The Japanese would
47 buy them.

48
49 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Oh, the railroad rails?

50

00297

1 MR. ROMIG: Yeah.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: The rails, yeah.

4

5 MR. ROMIG: The Japanese would buy them and
6 there were awaiting for their pick-up in 1965 [sic] and the
7 earthquake came and took them all off.

8

9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah, that was the rails not
10 the ties.

11

12 MR. DEMENTI: Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gilbert.

15

16 MR. DEMENTI: In this area we're talking
17 about, is that the National Parks or the Preserve?

18

19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: National Park and Preserve.

20

21 MR. DEMENTI: And Preserve?

22

23 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And Preserve.

24

25 MR. DEMENTI: They got preserves here,
26 National Preserves and the National Parks.

27

28 MS. MASON: Both are there.

29

30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Both are parts of Unit 11.

31

32 MS. MASON: Yeah.

33

34 MR. DEMENTI: Oh. And.....

35

36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Both are parts of Unit 11,
37 the Remainder, that we're talking about.

38

39 MR. DEMENTI: Okay. And you can hunt in the
40 National Parks?

41

42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You can only hunt in the
43 National Park if you have a C&T and if you go without a
44 airplane. You cannot take an airplane into the National
45 Park, but you can go in there by boat. I think, and I better
46 be careful about saying that, I think you can -- Tom.

47

48 MR. CARPENTER: Through the Chair. Just to
49 clarify that. The park and preserve, if you look up there,
50 the dark purple is the hard park and the light area in

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1 between there is the preserve. You can see the Copper River
2 comes up just to the west of the hard park there. The
3 Bremner River, if you get -- oh, you can see those white
4 areas about a third of the way up, the Bremner River comes in
5 and goes towards the east and then there's a pass that goes
6 through Tebay Lakes up to the Hanagita Range that basically
7 heads you right towards the Long Lake, McCarthy area and
8 that's, you know, a lot of the way the people got up there.

9
10 The thing about hunting in the park, and that's one
11 of the processes that Cordova is trying to go through right
12 now, we were actually supposed to have a meeting with the
13 Park Service last week, unfortunately we have been bombarded
14 with the biggest snow storms that we've had in 30 years and
15 we had to cancel that. I believe the Park Service is --
16 we're still trying to come up with a date where they're going
17 to come back in two or three weeks and they're going to have
18 a public hearing about resident zone status or possibly
19 personal 13.44 permits for people within the actual hard park
20 itself. But the preserve is open to, you know, to hunting to
21 anybody right now.

22
23 So I just thought I might add that for you. Thanks.

24
25 Oh, and talking about things -- you can't use an
26 airplane to hunt the hard park, you can use dog sled,
27 snowmachine, horses, river boat, air boat, there might be
28 another one, ATVs on Department of Natural Resource trails or
29 designated trails. There are some walk-in only areas that
30 actually head from the Chitina -- right around the Chitina
31 area that head up into some good sheep country, so there's
32 quite a lot of access that's available still.

33
34 MR. ROMIG: So the access that you're talking
35 about, would it be not only for hunting purposes, would it be
36 for, like, tourism, let's say, you know, like,
37 backpacking.....

38
39 MR. CARPENTER: Are you asking is that what
40 we're going to do?

41
42 MR. ROMIG: Well, no, I'm just asking is
43 that, in general, the.....

44
45 MR. CARPENTER: I couldn't tell you. I don't
46 believe that -- I think that there are restrictions. The
47 park is very restrictive in regards to aircraft. Basically,
48 I'm talking about hunting that I know the particulars on.
49 Those other modes, I believe -- I know that, you know, you
50 are allowed to raft and use river boats and things like, I've

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1 done that a lot of times. I don't think you have to have any
2 special permits to do that.

3 As for actual guiding operations or tourist type
4 activities within the park, there's probably some kind of a
5 permit system that you have to go for there, I don't know
6 exactly what that entails. There are different guides that
7 have registered areas within the preserve, you know, because
8 the hard park is -- the only eligible people to hunt the hard
9 park are people with either that live in a resident zoned
10 community or -- take for example, McCarthy or Chitina, or
11 somebody that is qualified for their own personal permit,
12 which is a 13.44 and that has to be -- you apply to the Park
13 Service and the Resource Council and they approve or deny
14 your personal based on your past history. So you could
15 possibly live, you know, wherever, but if you had a long
16 history that you could get a personal permit.

17
18 So that's what the Park Service is coming down to
19 determine if we should have a resident zoned status, as a lot
20 of the other communities that surround the park or if it
21 would be better just for individuals to apply, so -- the C&T
22 determination would ultimately, you know, help us with the
23 Park Service because that's one of the things they look at
24 and it would also mainly help us get back to our traditional
25 areas.

26
27 MR. ROMIG: Yeah. I know it's extremely hard
28 to get personal use permit for certain areas on the Kenai and
29 it usually has to do with the Forest Service.

30
31 MR. CARPENTER: Right. I think, probably --
32 this is my own personal opinion, the park is very
33 restrictive, it's very hard to, you know, get access, you
34 know, besides just your day-to-day. I think the only other
35 more restrictive thing is through the Federal system is
36 called a research natural area, which they have designated
37 specific spots that have a diverse and genuine group of
38 either animals, plant life and they take those regions off
39 and they kind of restrict them to the least amount of human
40 access, the least amount of motorized activity and those are
41 probably the only more restrictive areas than a National
42 Park.

43
44 MR. ROMIG: Thank you.

45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Is there any other
47 discussion?

48
49 MS. SWAN: Mr. Chairman.

50

00300

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Clare.

2

3 MS. SWAN: We are just deciding on for these
4 two proposals for customary and traditionals.

5

6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Right. What we're deciding
7 on these two proposals is did this community use this area in
8 the past, that's what customary and traditional is.

9

10 MR. PETE: Hi. Good afternoon, Chairman and
11 Council. I'm from Copper River area, I'm from the Native
12 Village of Kluti Kaah, that's in Copper Center. And we're
13 all customary and traditional use on our meats. My mom is
14 from Chitina, Alaska and her -- all her ancestors are from
15 down there. She told me a story once before, some years ago,
16 that the tribe down there in Chitina, it was the Ahtna Tribe
17 and the tribe from down in around Cordova area, they did not
18 get along. That was within the last hundred years because of
19 hunting grounds and fishing rights.

20

21 And so it was up to -- in 19 -- it was after the
22 railroad was gone and everything and we didn't -- had no more
23 communication with them people down there, just it was until
24 just a few years ago, just right now we -- it's been through
25 history that people from down there came up in our territory
26 for -- you know, because they didn't have enough food down
27 there in their area, but when they was up there -- when they
28 was up in our area things didn't went well because of they
29 didn't agree to things so they had little squabble.

30

31 But I'm not talking about the Eyak people because the
32 Eyak people are from Copper River people, I'm talking about
33 the other tribes from Eyak. And so that's all I got to say
34 on that. I just wanted you to know that we didn't have no --
35 we didn't know the tribe down lower and they didn't know us
36 the last hundred years because we had that conflict there.

37

38 So thanks for listening.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

41

42 MR. ROMIG: So you pretty much had just the --
43 an understanding that even though you were closely related
44 that you were just no speaking?

45

46 MR. PETE: Yeah. Well, at the time we wasn't
47 speaking from -- it was in our -- it was history book because
48 of our -- it was hunting grounds and so we -- the Ahtna
49 people figured they came up too far, you know, to hunt and,
50 also, something else that went on at the time, I wouldn't

00301

1 know, there had been -- things got really -- got pretty hot
2 between the Ahtna Tribe and the people from down along the
3 coast. So I didn't think Ahtna, you know, they knew where
4 their hunting grounds was, you know, so they hunted there.

5
6 But when the other people from the other tribe from
7 down there at the coast came up, I guess they didn't like it
8 or someone on there, so that's all I know about that part of
9 history.

10
11 MR. ROMIG: Basically there was a lot of
12 unspoken and just knowledge amongst yourselves that was kept
13 among yourselves.

14
15 MR. PETE: Yeah, and we kept that to
16 ourselves and they kept it to theirselves [sic], too, because
17 we didn't want that to have any outbreak again, you know.
18 And I don't -- you know, I don't object to them coming up in --
19 I mean, it was hunt on what, you know, if it's C&T.

20
21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Just clarifying what
22 happened.

23
24 MR. PETE: Yes, I'm just clarifying.

25
26 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I think I maybe even made a
27 mistake in that story because I know that the Eyak are
28 Athabaskans from up country.

29
30 MR. PETE: Right, yes.

31
32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: But he people who came up
33 that basically had the disagreement were Alutiigs, they were
34 from the Mummy Island.

35
36 MR. PETE: Right, yes.

37
38 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And that's where the
39 conflict came was between the Alutiigs down there and the
40 Athabaskans in the Taral area.

41
42 MR. PETE: That's correct.

43
44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

45
46 MR. PETE: Thanks.

47
48 REPORTER: Mr. Chair, name, please.

49
50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Oh, name?

00303

1 hearing is that there was a lot of innersharing, even though
2 there was a little unrest amongst the tribes, but even for
3 hundreds of years.....

4

5 MS. STICKWAN: I believe they shared with the
6 Chitina people.

7

8 MR. ROMIG: Yeah.

9

10 MS. STICKWAN: I've heard stories of them
11 coming up to the Chitina area, but as far as coming up to
12 Gulkana, Gakona, Copper Center, never heard of that. As far
13 as Chitina, yeah, I agree with that part.

14

15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Gloria, would you -- while
16 that's true about the Native people, when we're dealing with
17 C&T we're not just dealing with Native people.

18

19 MS. STICKWAN: Uh-huh.

20

21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And with the access that
22 they had and with people that we know from Cordova that
23 operated from everything out of the Dadina and the Nadina and
24 the Kotsina and all of those areas, I mean the non-Native
25 people after the turn of the century did make use of that
26 area, possibly not the Sanford River, but they used a lot
27 farther than just the south bank of the Chitina River. And
28 an awful lot of the non-Native -- a lot of the non-Native
29 hunting took place on the north bank of the Copper and the
30 north bank the Chitina.

31

32 MS. STICKWAN: I believe these people were
33 transient people who came here for a reason, they came here
34 for the railroad. When the railroad was ended they left,
35 they were -- I don't know if they were permanent residents or
36 not. They came specifically for the railroad, when the
37 railroad left -- not the railroad, but McCarthy Mining, they
38 were here for that and when that ended they left. That's
39 specifically why they came into our area was for that mining
40 company.

41

42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: How about the residents of
43 Cordova that came into the area specifically for hunting and
44 went back to Cordova and either they or their families still
45 live in Cordova?

46

47 MS. STICKWAN: That's kind of a paradox for
48 me.

49

50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah. Thank you.

00304

1 MS. STICKWAN: I see that as a paradox.

2
3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

4
5 MS. STICKWAN: I'm just saying we're willing
6 to compromise here, south of Chitina River, because I just
7 know our people would disagree with this.

8
9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

10
11 MS. STICKWAN: That it?

12
13 MR. DEMENTI: Mr. Chair.

14
15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Is there further questions
16 for Gloria?

17
18 MR. DEMENTI: I want to ask the gentleman,
19 the Advisory Committee from Cordova.

20
21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Gloria.

22
23 MR. DEMENTI: Out of Cordova, how many
24 residents, do you think, would be hunting in that area?

25
26 MR. CARPENTER: Through the Chair. You know,
27 that's a good question. I -- let me think about that for
28 just a second, because, you know, up in the preserve and the
29 like, which is all we're able to hunt right now anyway,
30 because the rest is the park, there's, say, a handful of
31 people that have homesteads up there, still, you know, that
32 continually, year in and year out, access that area. I know
33 like I testified to earlier, during the last five years, of
34 the five sheep, two moose, the bear and the goat that we've
35 taken, all of those have been north of the Chitina River.

36
37 The sheep were taken on the back side of the
38 Crystalline Hills, the moose was taken up the Lakina River,
39 the goat was taken up the Lakina River and the bear was taken
40 in the vicinity of Fireweed Mountain. So all of that
41 activity that I can personally testify to, that I know and
42 have been involved with the last five years, anyway, has
43 taken place north of the Chitina River.

44
45 But I don't know if I could make a fair guess as to
46 how many people would use it, I wouldn't say that there'd be
47 like a huge influx, I think mainly the people that would use
48 it would be the people that have traditionally used the area,
49 people that are friends of the people that live up there,
50 that live in Cordova and up there and so I wouldn't say that

00305

1 it's going to be anything traumatic to the area at all.

2

3 MR. F. JOHN. I got a question. From
4 Cordova, how do you get up there? I mean you fly up there or
5 you.....

6

7 MR. CARPENTER: Through the Chair. There's a
8 lot of different ways, a lot of people get on the ferry, you
9 know, drive up, go from Cordova to Valdez and then take the
10 ferry and then drive up the highway to wherever they're going
11 to go, to all the way to McCarthy or Chitina or wherever
12 they're going. There are a lot of people that have airplanes
13 in Cordova, a lot of that is due to the nature of the town,
14 fishing village, you know, with the different spotter pilots
15 and activities that go on there.

16

17 As I've also testified, I've personally made five
18 trips up the Copper River in the summer in a boat, it's quite
19 a wild adventure. I mean, it's really something that if you
20 ever want to go on a wild trip that's definitely one to go
21 on. It's very beautiful and there's a lot of scenery and
22 it's right through the middle of, you know, wide open
23 country.

24

25 So there is that alternative, there is the old
26 railroad bed that, say, from 52 mile where the million dollar
27 bridge is, outside of Cordova, you can still go from there,
28 basically, depending on what time of year you're at, you
29 know, another 15-20 miles, but you can get all the way up
30 into the Bremner area, which is the hard park without a whole
31 lot of trouble. So access is definitely still there.

32

33 The wintertime access is real good on snowmachine --
34 mainly snowmachine, so there's a lot of different ways that
35 people can get up there.

36

37 MR. ROMIG: Are there actually any salmon in
38 the streams?

39

40 MR. CARPENTER: In the Copper River?

41

42 MR. ROMIG: Yeah.

43

44 MR. CARPENTER: Yeah, I'd say the Copper
45 River -- I don't know if it's the largest one single producer
46 of salmon, but, you know -- probably the Bristol Bay area is
47 the biggest mass producer of salmon, but I would say Prince
48 William Sound and the Copper River have got to be, you know.
49 And those go anywhere from coho, which primarily spawn on the
50 delta and there's some small runs that go up river. Mainly

00306

1 red salmon -- and, obviously, the red salmon go from the Gulf
2 of Alaska several hundred miles, as do the kings, and spawn
3 up in the Interior there.

4

5 MR. ROMIG: And are they still open?

6

7 MR. CARPENTER: Salmon fishing?

8

9 MR. ROMIG: Yeah.

10

11 MR. CARPENTER: The salmon -- the problem
12 with the salmon fishery until you get up, say, above -- even
13 at Chitina is the water is kind of like the Mississippi, you
14 know, it's really not a fishable -- a sport fishing venture,
15 you know, they dipnet at Chitina and some other things,
16 people have fish wheels up there that are allowed to do that.
17 Other than that, there's the sport fishery that goes on up
18 farther than that that a lot of the people are involved with,
19 but, you know, mainly Cordova is a commercial fishing, out in
20 the ocean and in the Sound versus the sport fisheries. But
21 there are salmon runs that are just local to the delta.

22

23 MR. ROMIG: Yeah. Would it be worth one's
24 trip, personally, to -- are you for hire or are there people
25 for hire?

26

27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Can you discuss, I think,
28 after.

29

30 MR. ROMIG: No, are there for people for
31 hire?

32

33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Oh, are there people for
34 hire?

35

36 MR. ROMIG: Yeah.

37

38 MR. CARPENTER: Nobody, as of right now,
39 takes people all the way up the Copper River from Cordova and
40 does salmon charters. There are people up river, you know,
41 that have commercial operations that have different kind of
42 float, you know, different deals like that. I'm not exactly
43 real familiar with that sport business up there.

44

45 MR. ROMIG: Well, spring break is coming up
46 and trying to figure a way to occupy my daughter.

47

48 MR. CARPENTER: I think you got to wait a
49 couple of months, the salmon are still out to sea.

50

00307

1 MR. ROMIG: Well, it'll keep her quiet.

2
3 MR. CARPENTER: Thank you.

4
5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Any other questions
6 for Tom at this point in time?

7
8 (No audible responses)

9
10 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I think one of the things
11 that we're going to have to remember as we deal with this, as
12 was pointed out to me on our last break by a number of
13 people, when we're dealing with C&T the question really isn't
14 impact, that has to be dealt with under 804, the question is
15 do we have consistent and proof that people from an area made
16 use of the resource in the area in which we're talking. And
17 as we deal with this right here, that's what we have to deal
18 with. With the information presented to us, do we feel that
19 the people from Cordova made use of Unit 11, of the part of
20 Unit 11 that we're talking about.

21
22 MS. MASON: Mr. Chairman.

23
24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah, Rachel.

25
26 MS. MASON: May I make one brief note. And
27 this has been alluded to, both by Mr. Carpenter and by you,
28 Mr. Lohse, that there were regulations beyond the users
29 control that would affect the fact that there has not been a
30 great amount of harvest recorded in that area over the past
31 years that there have been records kept.

32
33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah, that's fairly recent.

34
35 MS. MASON: Yes.

36
37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I mean, because the records,
38 the historic records are here. It's when we deal from '83 to
39 97, yes.....

40
41 MS. MASON: Right.

42
43 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:those kind of things
44 apply, but prior to that time, there are, as Tom pointed out
45 with people that he's contacted and with the different books
46 that have been written and historical records, there are a
47 lot of historical records for that area, both Native and
48 non-Native.

49
50 Any other discussion?

00308

1 (No audible responses)

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: If there's no
4 discussion.....

5

6 MR. F. JOHN. I have.....

7

8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You got discussion?

9

10 MR. F. JOHN. Yeah.

11

12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Good.

13

14 MR. F. JOHN. I have question, it's just the
15 access that Cordova have in Unit 11, I really don't see any
16 way to Unit 11 except by airplane and I'd like to say, yeah,
17 you know, in wintertime you go by snowmachine, but in
18 wintertime the sheep not holding up there, you know, and
19 summertime -- I know that -- I know some of the history in
20 our area that Native people made it as far as Bremner Cabin
21 during the wintertime and that was a trading center between
22 the Copper and the lower -- the Eyak Indian.

23

24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Fred, can I answer that
25 through a little bit of -- to the best extent that I can?
26 Historically there are a lot of records of people going up
27 and down the Copper River by sled. One of things that's
28 pointed out is if we read the story of rush over from Valdez
29 and then the exodus from Copper Center and that area during
30 the Gold Rush, people took their sleds down the Copper River
31 to Cordova as a means of getting out, but there were also
32 traders, trappers and others that came up the Copper River by
33 dog sled.

34

35 I've gone back and forth between the areas now for
36 30-some years and -- in fact, I just went down for my
37 father-in-law and mother-in-law's 50th wedding anniversary a
38 month ago and we didn't travel by airplane, we traveled the
39 same way people up in the Copper Center area travel, we got
40 in our car and we drove and we got out of our car and we got
41 on the ferry and we got off in Cordova and we drove. And so
42 it's basically -- the ferry is called the Alaska Marine
43 Highway, it's the only highway we have into Cordova, but it's
44 there, it's accessible and people from Cordova travel back
45 and forth all the time. We've actually got a little harder
46 access to Unit 11 than people up at Mentasta, but not that
47 much harder.

48

49 With that, if there's no more discussion. Anybody
50 have any more discussion?

00309

1 (No audible responses)

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: The question is in order.

4

5 MR. ROMIG: Question.

6

7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been called.

8 Proposal 7 and 12, proposal to add the residents of 6(C) to

9 Unit 11 south of the Sanford River. In other words, that

10 area accessible by road system. All in favor, signify by

11 saying aye.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Aye.

14

15 MS. SWAN: Aye.

16

17 MR. ROMIG: Aye.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All opposed signify by

20 saying nay.

21

22 MR. F. JOHN. Nay.

23

24 MR. DEMENTI: Nay.

25

26 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Motion carries, three to

27 two.

28

29 Break time. We have a lots of proposals to go yet.

30

31 (Off record - 4:34 p.m.)

32

33 (On record - 4:51 p.m.)

34

35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: We're going to call this

36 back in session. We're going to try to finish Proposal 4.

37 We have -- we may go a few minutes after 5:00 in order to do

38 it. We're going to recess as close to 5:00 as we can. We

39 have some people who already have precommitments that they

40 have to leave at 5:00. Rachel, we'll excuse you.

41

42 MS. MASON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

43

44 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And who -- Carl Mitchell,

45 Proposal 4.

46

47 MR. MITCHELL: My name is Carol Mitchell, I'm

48 the wildlife biologist for Wrangell-St. Elias National Park.

49 Proposal 4 is to establish Federal brown/grizzly bear season

50 in Unit 11 with a season running from September 1 though May

00310

1 31 with a one bear per year bag limit. It was proposed by
2 Frank Entsminger and the Upper Tanana/Fortymile Advisory
3 Council.

4
5 Essentially there was no Federal subsistence season
6 for brown bear in Unit 11 until 1997, so there was no season.
7 This proposal is to allow a harvest since there is now a
8 season. There is currently a State season for brown bears in
9 Unit 11 on preserve lands, that's for one bear every four
10 regulatory years with a season running from September 1 to
11 October 31 and then again from April 25 to May 31st. This
12 State regulation does not apply to National Park lands.
13 Brown bears are also harvested under Federal subsistence
14 regulations in adjacent Unit 12.

15
16 There's no current population estimate for brown
17 bears in Unit 11, however, the State fish and game biologist
18 and other biologists, outfitters, local residents consider
19 the bear population to be abundant and healthy. It's
20 apparently high quality bear habitat, there's lots of forage
21 available throughout the unit. There is a documented history
22 of subsistence use of brown bears in the area. The recent
23 harvest for the State season in Unit 11, in the preserve, has
24 been fairly low from 1985 to 1995, the average is only eight
25 bears per year. The management goal at ADF&G set is no more
26 than 30 bears per year. In '96-97 only two bears were taken
27 in the preserve. In 1997-98, during that season, only three
28 bears were harvested. It's a very low harvest for the size
29 area that's under consideration.

30
31 Even though the proposed harvest limit is one bear
32 per regulatory year, we don't expect the Federal subsistence
33 harvest to meet or exceed recent harvest levels that the
34 State's been seeing on preserve lands. We believe that
35 subsistence use of brown bears is fairly limited, people will
36 take advantage of it, but we don't expect everybody to go
37 rushing out and shooting a brown bear or grizzly bear. And
38 we don't believe that the subsistence harvest will negatively
39 impact the brown bear population in Unit 11 in any way.

40
41 The staff conclusions were to support with
42 modification. There was a recommendation that the proposed
43 season dates be changed to coincide with the existing State
44 hunting regulations on adjacent preserve lands to reduce
45 confusion for hunters and law enforcement personnel.

46
47 There is also a recommendation that any brown bears
48 harvested under the season must be sealed within 30 days by
49 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, they've agreed to do
50 that. That's the only way we can keep the track of the kill

00311

1 and the characteristics of the harvest, which we feel is very
2 important for brown bears, so that we can monitor any impacts
3 to the harvest.

4
5 That's it in a nutshell, if anybody's got any
6 questions I'll try and answer them.

7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any questions for Carl?

9
10 (No audible responses)

11
12 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I have a few, if you don't
13 mind.

14
15 MR. MITCHELL: No.

16
17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: This applies on all Federal
18 land, both preserve and park, right?

19
20 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So it's just not on preserve
23 land?

24
25 MR. MITCHELL: Right, we're opening up the
26 park to subsistence hunting, but subsistence hunters, as I
27 understand it, can also hunt on preserve land.

28
29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Right. And the other
30 question is under State regulations you can't take cubs or
31 sows.....

32
33 MR. MITCHELL: Sows and cubs.

34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:accompanied by cubs.

36
37 MR. MITCHELL: Right.

38
39 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And yet for subsistence
40 purpose a young bear is a lot better than an old bear. And
41 one of the things we have in Unit 11 is a high percentage of
42 young bears versus old bears, so is that same regulation in
43 effect in this case?

44
45 MR. MITCHELL: I'm not sure what the current
46 subsistence regulation reads or -- for bears in, say, Unit 12
47 or anything like that, I'd have to check. Certainly we
48 wouldn't want to encourage the thing of sows with cubs.

49
50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No, but at the same time

00312

1 encourage the harvest of cubs and young bears would be.....

2

3 Bill.

4

5 MR. KNAUER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Throughout
6 the state, under the Federal subsistence regulations, cubs or
7 sows with cubs cannot be taken.

8

9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: They cannot be taken?

10

11 MR. KNAUER: Right.

12

13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And cubs in grizzly bears
14 include bears of the second year, right?

15

16 MR. KNAUER: Yes, those are normally still
17 with the sow, yeah.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So it's not just sows with
20 cubs, it's cubs with sows?

21

22 MR. F. JOHN. You mean mother bear can't be
23 taken?

24

25 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Mother bear -- but evidently
26 the young -- you know, some -- I know in our area we have a
27 lot of -- we see them from year to year, so we know it's
28 true, we have a lot of three-year-old bears that end up
29 spending the next year with their mother until the following
30 fall. And, yet, you're awful hard to tell which is the sow
31 and which is the cub, I mean they're -- when they stand up in
32 front of you they all look the same size, you know what I
33 mean? And a three-year-old bear accompanied by a sow would
34 be legal, but a two-year-old bear accompanied by a sow would
35 be classed as a cub?

36

37 MR. MITCHELL: Presumably. You'd have to ask
38 a law enforcement officer, I don't know about that.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Yeah. Because there's a
41 difference from not being able to take sows with cubs and not
42 being able to take cubs with sows.

43

44 MR. MITCHELL: Uh-huh, right. Can't answer
45 that one.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

48

49 MR. F. JOHN. I got no question.

50

00313

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: No question. Any other
2 questions?

3
4 (No audible responses)

5
6 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Carl, it looks like you
7 answered all their questions. I think we have Alaska
8 Department of Fish and Game comments.

9
10 MR. McDONALD: Mr. Chair, Mike McDonald,
11 Department of Fish and Game. The Department agrees with the
12 proposal as amended by the staff. In State regulations a sow
13 accompanied by cubs and cubs being up to two years old or
14 cubs may not be taken. So cubs without a sow couldn't be
15 taken on either.

16
17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: But three-year-old cubs with
18 a sow could be taken.....

19
20 MR. McDONALD: Yes.

21
22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:because they classed as
23 grown bears?

24
25 MR. McDONALD: Yes. And, you're right,
26 distinguishing between a two and a three-year-old is very
27 difficult.

28
29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Uh-huh (affirmative). Okay,
30 anybody have any other questions? And you support this
31 proposal, right?

32
33 MR. McDONALD: Yeah, as amended by the staff,
34 yes.

35
36 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And the staff amended to
37 coincide with the current.....

38
39 MR. McDONALD: With the current -- the State
40 regulation.

41
42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Which is September 1 though
43 May 31st.

44
45 MR. McDONALD: No, it was September 1 through
46 -- excuse me, September 1 through October 31 and April 25th
47 through May 31st. And again, for the consistency with areas
48 surrounding it.

49
50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Thank you. Anybody

00314

1 else have any questions?

2

3 (No audible responses)

4

5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay.

6

7 MR. WILLIS: Mr. Chair.

8

9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Robert.

10

11 MR. WILLIS: Just for the record, the
12 definition of cub bear is found on page 11 of the Federal
13 Subsistence Regulations, and a cub bear is defined as a brown
14 or grizzly bear in its first or second year of life or a
15 black bear in its first year of life.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Who presented the
18 first -- Carl.

19

20 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

21

22 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I'd like to re-ask you a
23 question.

24

25 MR. MITCHELL: Sure.

26

27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I didn't catch something on
28 the first time around. The original proposal called for a
29 season from September 1 through May 31st?

30

31 MR. MITCHELL: Right, uh-huh, inclusive.

32

33 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And then as the staff
34 modified it to September 1 to October 31st and April 25th to
35 May 31st?

36

37 MR. MITCHELL: We were suggesting that as a
38 modification, yes.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You were suggesting it as a
41 modification.

42

43 MR. MITCHELL: To stay in -- to have the same
44 season dates as the State season on the preserve and other
45 lands in that area. Again, just to reduce confusion.

46

47 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Uh-huh.

48

49 MR. MITCHELL: There's no biological reason
50 for it.

00315

1 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: There's no biological reason
2 for it. These other dates, anybody can take a bear on,
3 right?

4
5 MR. MITCHELL: The other dates?

6
7 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: September 1 through October
8 31st, April 25th though May 31st, anybody can take a bear on
9 those dates, right?

10
11 MR. MITCHELL: That's when the normal hunting
12 season -- or the other hunting season in that area is.

13
14 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So subsistence residents
15 that are already up there could take a bear under those
16 regulations anyplace except in the hard park at this point in
17 time?

18
19 MR. MITCHELL: Yes.

20
21 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Resident zoned people could
22 take a bear in the park already at this point in time, right?

23
24 MR. MITCHELL: No, there is no Federal season
25 for subsistence hunting. This opens the Federal subsistence
26 hunt.

27
28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: This opens the hard park.

29
30 MR. MITCHELL: Right, uh-huh.

31
32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. I didn't quite
33 understand that.

34
35 So anybody else have any questions for Carl? But you
36 don't see any biological reason for closing it from 1st of
37 November to 25th of April.

38
39 MR. MITCHELL: Well, generally those are the
40 dates when bears are most available, I mean, you can -- but
41 there are a few bears out later and earlier and things like
42 that, and some of the seasons in adjacent units are opened
43 inclusive from September 1 to May 31, which is probably where
44 the dates in this proposal came from.

45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. As a resident of
47 that area I'm -- you know, I know that one of the most common
48 times for me to accidentally run into a bear is the month of
49 November, that's when I'm least read for it and that's when I
50 run into it. And I always thought if there was a November

00316

1 season that would be a beautiful time to get a bear.

2

3 Okay. Anybody else have any questions for Carl?

4

5 MR. F. JOHN. I think you answered the
6 question I was going to ask about -- so it really wouldn't
7 matter if we just kept that September 1 to May 31?

8

9 MR. MITCHELL: No. The only question then is
10 if somebody has been hunting in the hard park in, say,
11 November and shoots a bear and is coming out and he's stopped
12 by somebody he's got to, you know, explain where and why and
13 things like that, so it's a little bit more difficult for the
14 law enforcement officer involved and things like that, but it
15 doesn't make any difference to the bear.

16

17 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Is he going to have to
18 obtain a subsistence permit to hunt a subsistence bear?

19

20 MR. MITCHELL: Originally there was nothing in
21 there about that, there was a suggestion to modify to require
22 tagging and there was some discussion about waiving the
23 tagging fee because it was a subsistence hunt. As long as
24 the harvest is monitored I don't know that there's any real
25 requirement for a tag or anything like that, but we have to
26 have things sealed so that we can monitor the harvest, that's
27 my understanding anyway.

28

29 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So under this hunt a tag
30 doesn't have to be obtained ahead of time.....

31

32 MR. MITCHELL: No.

33

34 CHAIRMAN LOHSE:just that the bear just
35 has to be turned in to be tagged?

36

37 MR. MITCHELL: It has to be -- yeah, sealed
38 within 30 days of the harvest date.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: So there is not tagging fee
41 either.

42

43 MR. MITCHELL: No.

44

45 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other questions for
46 Carl?

47

48 (No audible responses)

49

50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. Okay, are there

00317

1 any other agency comments?

2

3 (No audible responses)

4

5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Frank, speaking for Advisory
6 Committee or SRC or what?

7

8 MR. ENTSMINGER: Mr. Chair, Advisory
9 Committee. Frank Entsminger, Upper Tanana/Fortymile Advisory
10 Committee. Yeah, basically in the spring of 1997, I believe
11 it was, the Federal Board established brown/grizzly bear as
12 being a subsistence animal, but at that time there wasn't any
13 seasons and bag limits on the books to allow for a hunting
14 season. So last year we proposed a bear season in Unit 12,
15 which was adopted, but inadvertently forgot about Unit 11, so
16 I just submitted the proposal to establish a bear season in
17 Unit 11. So that's what this is all about.

18

19 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: And Unit 12's dates run
20 September 1 through May 31st or was Unit 12's hunting season
21 modified to match the State hunting season?

22

23 MR. ENTSMINGER: I'm not positive on that,
24 Mr. Chair, although I believe it is modified to match the
25 State season. Unit 12 right now is August 10th through June
26 30th.

27

28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, August 10th through
29 June 30th?

30

31 MR. ENTSMINGER: Right. Actually, you know,
32 as a proponent of this proposal, you know, at this point in
33 time, I wouldn't be adverse to, you know, modifying the
34 proposal to match the current State hunting season, just to
35 avoid problems with enforcement and what not, because I
36 really feel that in probably a fairly short time that the
37 bear season is going to be liberalized in the adjacent units
38 and possibly, you know, then the Federal regulations could
39 follow suit. So, you know, at this time I just wanted to get
40 a bear season established.

41

42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you.

43

44 MR. F. JOHN. Frank.

45

46 MR. ENTSMINGER: Yes.

47

48 MR. F. JOHN. What about the tag fee for
49 subsistence hunt, what's your thought on that?

50

00318

1 MR. ENTSMINGER: Well, I think that -- I
2 think it's, you know, unnecessary for a tag fee. I believe
3 that as long as the bears are brought in, you know, for
4 sealing within 30 days, I think, you know, that's ample.
5 There's a fairly abundant bear population in the area right
6 now and, as you know, a lot of subsistence hunting is, you
7 know, what's the work I'm looking for?

8
9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Opportunistic.

10
11 MR. ENTSMINGER: Opportunistic. So, you
12 know, a person that was out maybe moose or sheep hunting or
13 something and had an opportunity to take a bear, you know, if
14 he didn't -- the tag requirement, if he didn't have a tag on
15 him that would be a bear that he normally would harvest and
16 he couldn't. So, I mean, under the present scenario, today's
17 scenario, I don't think a tag fee is necessary. That's my
18 personal feelings and the feelings of our Advisory Committee.

19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Frank. I think
21 if Carl -- if I understood Carl right, under this proposal,
22 as written, there will be no tag and no tag fee, it'll
23 strictly be a sealing afterwards. Am I correct?

24
25 MR. MITCHELL: (Nods in the affirmative)

26
27 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I'm correct, so there is no
28 tag fee. Thank you, Frank.

29
30 MR. ENTSMINGER: You're welcome. Thank you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Any other Fish and Game
33 Advisory Committees?

34
35 (No audible responses)

36
37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Written public comments.

38
39 MS. EAKON: Eastern Interior recommendation.

40
41 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Oh, Eastern Interior. I
42 asked, but you didn't jump up.

43
44 MR. GOOD: I was just trying to avoid coming
45 up here actually. Just very quickly, Eastern Interior is
46 supportive. And just another addition here, the no tag fee
47 would not be any unusual thing for this area, 20(D) began
48 several years ago with an exception, particularly in the area
49 of Healy Lake and Dot Lake, there's no tag fee for taking
50 brown bear in that area and you may take one every year, so

00319

1 it would not be unusual for this area.

2

3 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Nat. Any
4 questions for Nat before he runs off?

5

6 MR. ROMIG: That's \$25, is that what the fee
7 is now?

8

9 MR. GOOD: Yes, it is. And one of the things
10 we put before the Board of Game, and we looked to remove
11 that, was that we felt that it was penalizing subsistence
12 people. If you live in Dot Lake or Healy Lake particularly,
13 it wasn't right for them to spend \$25, which they could use
14 in many other ways rather than to purchase a tag on a
15 possibility of seeing one. We wanted to make sure that they
16 had every opportunity to take a bear if the opportunistically
17 see one.

18

19 MR. ROMIG: Yeah, it seems with all the --
20 like on the Kenai, you know, there's 295 bears and it's, you
21 know, the ratios are maxing out and this and that and it
22 seems unusual just to go into those different geographical
23 locations around state and find real healthy populations like
24 this and then especially not requiring the fee, you know, it
25 makes it more -- I guess it would -- it makes it more
26 opportunistic for a person to hunt in that area, basically,
27 if he doesn't have to come up with \$25, it all adds up after
28 a while.

29

30 MR. GOOD: Oh, it certainly does. And in
31 these areas, in terms of the ungulate population, we feel
32 that this is a very important thing to do. Bears have put
33 moose and caribou, in some instances, in very deep hole, they
34 take a very high percentage of the calves, particularly in
35 the early spring, and any bears that we have taken we feel
36 like we've saved ourselves a few ungulates.

37

38 MR. ROMIG: Uh-huh.

39

40 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Nat. With the
41 Council's permission, I'd like to ask Carl another question
42 that I forgot to ask him when he was up here. In regard to
43 the question that Ben asked and that Nat alluded to, but I
44 wasn't able to get -- under this hunt, who will be eligible
45 to take a subsistence bear in the park and the park preserve?

46

47 MR. MITCHELL: Members of resident zoned
48 communities or persons with 13.44 permits.

49

50 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, it'll be residents --

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1 members of resident zone communities and individuals with
2 13.44s, it won't be everybody that has a C&T and it won't be
3 all rural residents of the state?

4
5 MR. MITCHELL: You know, on the draft staff
6 analysis on page five, the first paragraph, the discussion
7 lays out who's eligible.

8
9 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. So, basically, it'll
10 be a fairly limited amount of people.

11
12 MR. MITCHELL: Yeah. If you want I can read
13 this. "North of the Sanford River the positive determination
14 was granted the communities of Chistochina, Chitina, Copper
15 Center, Gakona, Glennallen, Gulkana, Healy Lake, Mentasta
16 Lake, Tazlina, Tonsina and other residents of Units 11 and
17 12. For the Remainder of Unit 11 a positive determination
18 was granted for Chistochina, Chitina, Copper Center,
19 Glennallen, Gulkana, Kenny Lake, Mentasta Lake, Tazlina,
20 Tonsina and other residents of Unit 11."

21
22 So it is limited, yeah, not all rural residents.

23
24 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. Thank you.

25
26 MR. ROMIG: What would the -- let's just say
27 that there was \$25 fee, what would -- you know, how much are
28 we talking about and how much money are we talking forcing
29 the issue? Just out of curiosity.

30
31 MR. MITCHELL: I don't really know how many
32 people are going out there and hunt. It's not going to be a
33 lot of money, I don't think.

34
35 MR. ROMIG: Yeah, that's fine.

36
37 MR. MITCHELL: Certainly the tag fee is an
38 inconvenience and it does prevent some people from the
39 opportunistic access to a grizzly bear while they're hunting.

40
41 MR. ROMIG: Thank you.

42
43 MR. MITCHELL: Sure.

44
45 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: This will -- I mean, with
46 the tagging this will be monitored and if it becomes
47 excessive there is.....

48
49 MR. MITCHELL: With the sealing we can
50 monitor the harvest and the sex and age ratios and things

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1 like that, so if we end up with a lot more bears taken than
2 we suspect at the moment or if the age or sex ratios are
3 skewed or something like that, we can do something about that
4 later. Right now we don't think it's going to be an issue
5 and so we don't have a problem with the one bear per
6 regulatory year or anything like that.

7
8 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, Carl. Anybody
9 else have questions for Carl?

10
11 (No audible responses)

12
13 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay, thanks again. Now,
14 summary of written public comments.

15
16 MS. EAKON: Yes, the Upper Tanana/Fortymile
17 Advisory Committee supports this proposal. They're also in
18 favor of elimination of the tag fee since this is a
19 subsistence hunt.

20
21 The Delta Advisory Committee supports as well.

22
23 And the Wrangell-St. Elias Subsistence Resource
24 Commission gave tentative support to Proposal 4, saying that
25 this will allow for customary and traditional uses of these
26 species.

27
28 End of comments.

29
30 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you. So, basically,
31 all of those Committee support.

32
33 MS. EAKON: Uh-huh (affirmative).

34
35 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: At this point in time we go
36 into public testimony. The only public testimony I have is
37 Gloria Stickwan. Gloria, would you like to testify on this
38 one?

39
40 MS. STICKWAN: We support the proposal.

41
42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You support the proposal?

43
44 MS. STICKWAN: Yeah.

45
46 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Thank you, muchly. Then at
47 this point in time, I think we've received all our testimony,
48 so a motion by a Council member to accept this proposal,
49 either as written or as modified or however you want to put
50 it is in order.

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1 MR. F. JOHN. I'd like to make a motion to
2 accept this.....

3
4 MR. ROMIG: As written.

5
6 MR. F. JOHN.Proposal 4 as written.

7
8 MR. ROMIG: Second.

9
10 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Okay. It's been moved and
11 seconded to support this proposal as written.

12
13 MR. F. JOHN. Question.

14
15 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: You got to at least wait
16 until I say is there any discussion.

17
18 (Laughter)

19
20 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Is there any member of the
21 Council that would like to discuss or comment on this
22 proposal in light of what we heard? Biologically we haven't
23 been presented with any problems by anybody, everybody seems
24 in support of it.

25
26 (No audible responses)

27
28 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question is in order.

29
30 MR. F. JOHN. Question.

31
32 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Question's been called. All
33 in favor of Proposal 4 as written, signify by saying aye.

34
35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36
37 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: All opposed signify by
38 saying nay.

39
40 (No opposing responses)

41
42 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: Nay. No, I mean I didn't
43 say nay, I'm sorry. I already had say aye, I just -- it's
44 been a long day. I retract that nay. I can't vote twice on
45 an issue.

46
47 With that in mind we are going to recess until
48 tomorrow morning at 8:00 o'clock. We're going to attempt to
49 finish up in time for noon. If we don't, we will extend into
50 the afternoon. I thank you all for your patience and we'll

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1 see you tomorrow.

2

3 MS. SWAN: Can we leave our stuff?

4

5 CHAIRMAN LOHSE: I just leave my stuff.

6

7 (Off record - 5:18 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

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6

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

7 I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the
8 State of Alaska and Owner of Computer Matrix, do hereby
9 certify:

10
11 THAT the foregoing pages numbered 158 through 323
12 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of VOLUME II,
13 SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL COUNCIL
14 PUBLIC MEETING, taken electronically by myself on the 24th
15 day of March, 1999, beginning at the hour of 8:15 o'clock
16 a.m. at the Day's Inn Conference Center, Anchorage, Alaska;

17
18 THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript
19 requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by
20 under my direction to the best of my knowledge and ability;

21
22 THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party
23 interested in any way in this action.

24
25 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 4th day of April,
26 1999.

27
28
29
30
31
32
33

Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 4/17/00