

1 KODIAK/ALEUTIANS FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6 VOLUME II

7
8 Kodiak, Alaska
9 March 23, 2011
10 8:30 a.m.

11
12
13 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- 14
15 Speridon Simeonoff, Sr., Chairman
16 Patrick Holmes
17 Samuel Rohrer
18 Alfred Cratty, Jr.
19 Richard Rowland
20 Alexander Panamaroff, Jr.
21 Della Trumble (Telephonic)
22
23
24
25
26 Regional Council Coordinator, Ann Wilkinson
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43

44 Recorded and transcribed by:
45
46 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
47 135 Christensen Drive, Suite 2
48 Anchorage, AK 99501
49 907-243-0668
50 sahile@gci.net

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Kodiak, Alaska - 3/23/2010)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Good morning everyone.
Let's go ahead and call the meeting to order. It's
8:34 by my time.

Can we have a roll call, please.

MS. WILKINSON: Good morning. Roll call
for March 23. Antone Shelikoff.

MR. SHELIKOFF: Yeah.

MS. WILKINSON: Pat Holmes.

MR. HOLMES: Here.

MS. WILKINSON: Richard Koso is not
here. Sam Rohrer. Not here. Al Cratty.

MR. CRATTY: Here.

MS. WILKINSON: Rick Rowland.

MR. ROWLAND: Here.

MS. WILKINSON: Alexander Panamaroff?

MR. PANAMAROFF: Here.

MS. WILKINSON: Della Trumble.

MS. TRUMBLE: Yes.

MS. WILKINSON: Thank you. Speridon
Mitch Simeonoff.

CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Here.

MS. WILKINSON: And Thomas Johnson.
Okay.

Mr. Chairman. We do have a quorum for
today.

CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Ann.

1 Yesterday when we recessed, I said we'd
2 start this morning by continuing the final draft of our
3 Annual Report. I think you all have a copy of that in
4 front of you. You've had a chance to read it. Is
5 there anything we should add or take back or off.

6
7 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. I'd like to
8 compliment Ann on her being able to compile a general
9 consensus of our discussions on these new items and put
10 it together into a very cohesive way.

11
12 I just drafted an additional sentence
13 about Elder Alex's comments on potential conflicts or
14 actual ones at Larsen Bay between lodges and
15 traditional users. And I just passed it down for him
16 to look at. So he might want to look at that, and if
17 it looks good, then we can read it into the
18 proceedings.

19
20 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay.

21
22 MR. HOLMES: Is it okay?

23
24 MR. PANAMAROFF: Do you want me to read
25 it?

26
27 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Where were you
28 going to put that?

29
30 MR. PANAMAROFF: On No. 5.

31
32 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Item No. 5, right
33 at the end or where? Go ahead.

34
35 MR. PANAMAROFF: It's at the end.
36 Yeah. It states that Larsen Bay elders and subsistence
37 users have conflicts with the clients from local lodges
38 not respecting traditional hunting areas.

39
40 Yeah, we have some major problems down
41 there with a couple of the lodges that don't live in
42 the village, and they drop off their clients up by the
43 dump and let them walk up, and then on their way back,
44 they walk back. And we know that they have done some
45 hunting right in the local area there, right close by.
46 Which is all illegal even for us, but they still do it.
47 And also they've been -- there was one lodge that they
48 were dropping their clients up on the road going up to
49 our watershed, which we have -- we was able to stop
50 them. I haven't seen them going up there in the last

1 year or two, so hopefully that's -- but they're still
2 -- our normal hunting areas around the Larsen Bay area,
3 when the hunting, when the season gets done for the
4 lodge owners, when their season is done, you know,
5 we're doing our subsistence. All the deer and all the
6 animals within the area of Larsen Bay is all gone. We
7 have to go out, you know, several miles before we can
8 get them, so that's another issue where we can't hike
9 to our hunting areas. We have to go way out by skiff,
10 and it creates a big problem for especially the elders
11 that don't have skiffs and they can't walk, you know,
12 that far. And actually the younger ones can't either,
13 it's so far away. So it's been a major problem in
14 Larsen Bay.

15

16 Thank you.

17

18 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Did you want to
19 add that to No. 5 on our.....

20

21 MR. PANAMAROFF: Add it on No. 5. It's
22 part of No. 5.

23

24 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay.

25

26 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Al.

29

30 MR. CRATTY: Yeah. I'd like to go to
31 Issue 6. I'd like to scratch, it says, sales of
32 subsistence-caught halibut and salmon. The Council is
33 concerned about reported sales of salmon and halibut.
34 I'd like to scratch by fishermen claiming to be. I'd
35 like to have it be the Council is concerned about
36 reported sales of salmon and halibut by subsistence
37 users and requests more enforcement by Federal and
38 State officers. I want to scratch the by fishermen
39 claiming to be.

40

41 MS. TRUMBLE: (Indiscernible) Mr.
42 Chairman.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Was somebody on
45 line? Was that you, Della?

46

47 MS. TRUMBLE: No, no. Go ahead,
48 (indiscernible, breaking up) hear you guys. But I
49 couldn't hear if there was a problem or anything on
50 revise that Issue No. 5.

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Can.....
2
3 MS. TRUMBLE: I guess my question is,
4 listening to some of the discussion yesterday, I
5 thought it was agreed just to be using highly effective
6 gear and not listing out the various gear types.
7
8 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. I guess
9 we'll have Ann read that, because there was a sentence
10 added to it.
11
12 MS. TRUMBLE: Okay.
13
14 MS. WILKINSON: Okay. Issue No. 5.
15 The ecosystems of many bay and related waterways are
16 being systematically depleted by commercial fishermen
17 using highly effective gear like trawl nets, long-lines
18 and cod pots. Commercial boats have moved into the
19 protected waters of the bays and have by their numbers
20 and methods and means forced the bays' residents to go
21 far outside their traditional fishing areas. Local
22 subsistence users are concerned. They know the vital
23 resources cannot support such efficient harvests. The
24 Council requests that Federal and State managers,
25 including the North Pacific Halibut Commission, meet to
26 discuss ways to ameliorate the situation and uphold the
27 subsistence priority.
28
29 And then there was a sentence added
30 regarding Larsen Bay, hunting lodges not respecting
31 traditional hunting areas. And I'll just need to
32 figure where to put that in. But I can do that.
33
34 MS. TRUMBLE: Thank you.
35
36 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Do you want that
37 as part of No. 5, Alex?
38
39 MR. PANAMAROFF: Yes.
40
41 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Since you're from
42 Larsen Bay, do you want to just stick it right at the
43 end of No. 5.
44
45 MR. PANAMAROFF: Yes. Uh-huh.
46
47 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay.
48
49 MS. WILKINSON: Okay.
50

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.

2

3 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. I can't
4 remember from our discussions. I know the sale of
5 halibut of halibut and salmon was a big concern. And I
6 was wondering if -- you know, there's been a lot of
7 reports of abuse of subsistence harvest of crab, and
8 I'm wondering maybe if our village reps have heard
9 anything as to whether that's being sold, or is it just
10 a matter of non-residents and other folks just taking
11 too much crab for their own use.

12

13 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Alex.

14

15 MR. PANAMAROFF: Thank you, Mr.
16 Chairman. Yeah, that's also happening in Uyak Bay
17 quite a bit. Or I don't know if it is any more, but I
18 know that Fish and Game has clamped down, and has
19 actually arrested a couple of guys from one of the
20 lodges, that they're putting subsistence pots out and
21 keeping all the crab that they get in the pots and
22 actually bringing them back to Larsen Bay and cooking
23 them for their clients. And I know it's still
24 happening, but at a smaller scale. I know of it
25 happening last year and not as much, like I say, but
26 it's still a problem.

27

28 Like we have just a few small areas
29 where we have a few king crab and the subsistence
30 users, when they try to go up there and get some of
31 their -- I don't know if it's just they move or if
32 they're being depleted from the over-fishing from the
33 subsistence users. I have no idea. I'm not a
34 biologist, so I don't know they move or if they're just
35 being -- because we have a hard time now trying to get
36 king crab. We used to get them right at the head of
37 Larsen Bay for subsistence, and they seemed to have
38 moved out of there.

39

40 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. I was
41 wondering if perhaps this sentence might summarize that
42 up. Also of concern is the use of subsistence crab for
43 feeding clients at some of the lodges. I'd like to
44 toss that out for the village reps to see what they
45 think.

46

47 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Rick.

48

49 MR. ROWLAND: Well, while Pat was
50 talking, I actually missed what he was saying. Could

1 you repeat that, Pat?

2

3 MR. HOLMES: Excuse me. Get my bagel
4 and the herring out of my mouth.

5

6 Also of concern is the use of
7 subsistence crab for feeding clients at some of the
8 lodges, and probably should have around the island,
9 just to identify that problem, because we've done
10 proposals in the past on, you know, this being a
11 problem of abusing subsistence for supplying food for
12 clients and things like that, so I think that that
13 would be a good sentence to stick in and would probably
14 summarize Alex's concerns there at Larsen Bay and some
15 rumors we've heard from other parts of the island.

16

17 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Rick.

18

19 MR. ROWLAND: Thanks, Pat. Thanks, Mr.
20 Chair. My thought is along a different approach. And
21 it's not about stopping someone from using it. I'm
22 sure that there are rules and regulations somewhere
23 about that issue.

24

25 But in this case there's a reason why
26 the crab is depleted, and it's a long history. And I
27 think that one of my concerns is that there needs to be
28 some way of having it put in this draft that the
29 concern is that population needs to be proactively
30 managed where is brought up to a level to where
31 subsistence is available so we don't have to sit here
32 and argue about some commercial operator taking crab,
33 but we could say, yeah, we have an abundance of crab
34 and we're concerned about it for our village members.
35 So I'd like to see it state as well as proactive
36 management to build the king crab biomass back to
37 subsistence levels.

38

39 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Isn't there a
40 regulation already in the books about charter operators
41 and subsistence users giving their subsistence-caught
42 crab and fish to their clients? I've seen that in the
43 books, and I read that.

44

45 Polly.

46

47 DR. WHEELER: Mr. Chair. This is Polly
48 Wheeler with the Office of Subsistence Management.

49

50 Yes, there is. I was looking for it,

1 and I can't find it right now, but there is a
2 regulation that precludes that practice. So I guess
3 it's just a question of enforcing the existing
4 regulation, which is what you were asking for in the
5 letter.

6
7 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah, I think we
8 asked for more show of enforcement.

9
10 DR. WHEELER: I just found it while I
11 was talking. It reads, an owner/operator or employee
12 of a lodge, charter vessel or other enterprise that
13 furnishes food, lodging or guide services may not
14 furnish subsistence-taken shellfish to a client or
15 guest of that enterprise unless the shellfish was taken
16 with gear deployed and retrieved by the client or guest
17 who is a Federally-qualified user. So if you had a
18 guest staying at the lodge that was a Federally-
19 qualified user, they could do that. So basically it's
20 precluded under existing regulation.

21
22 Mr. Chair.

23
24 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you.

25
26 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair. I think that
27 probably is answered, because I didn't have Ann's
28 original notes here under Issue 3, crab enforcement.
29 So that's probably covered there.

30
31 And in answering my colleague's thing
32 on trying to bring the crab back, that's been something
33 that's been discussed ever since the crab have
34 declined, and they basically do everything, and I would
35 think the only one way you could really bring crab back
36 in any numbers is to let Al Cratty catch all the cod
37 and halibut on the island.

38
39 (Laughter)

40
41 MR. HOLMES: Once they're gone, then
42 you'll see the population shift back. But it's a major
43 biological regime change in the whole northern Pacific.
44 And I know that they do a lot of monitoring every year
45 to try and look at the stocks, but the conclusion of
46 all the research that I've seen is that it's a
47 predator/prey thing, and that they really don't have
48 any way of doing that. I suppose they could put a
49 seine across the bay and keep the crab and halibut out,
50 or maybe start crab hatcheries or something.

1 But I think your concerns have really
2 been addressed in the State and Federal management
3 plans. But that's -- anyway.

4
5 Thank you.

6
7 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah. It's still a
8 concern though. I mean, of course, it might not be
9 addressed appropriately, but I would like to see it as
10 a concern to where it's proactively managed instead of
11 just closures. So I wrote, as well as proactive crab
12 management to build the population back up to
13 subsistence use levels.

14
15 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. Sorry I was
16 late there. I had to drop my daughter off at school.

17
18 But, yeah, I just had one comment. In
19 two different places here with the crab and with the -
20 in reference to the hunting near referenced -- or we
21 are referencing lodges. And probably just as important
22 or more important would be to reference the charter
23 fleet. I don't know about in Larsen Bay which one's
24 causing more of the issues, but around the rest of the
25 island it would certainly be the charter fleet, so
26 probably using language lodges and/or lodges and the
27 charter fleet would be probably a little better.

28
29 Thank you.

30
31 MR. HOLMES: Would you like to -- Mr.
32 Chair.

33
34 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Wait.....

35
36 MR. HOLMES: Sorry.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF:one second,
39 please, before we go on. When we're going to have a
40 discussion, when you press the button on your mic,
41 would you please identify yourself and address the
42 Chair so that I can look at you and either rattle my
43 head and, you know, just acknowledge that you're the
44 next speaker. The reason I want you to state your name
45 is our recorder is going to start guess, well, who was
46 that, you know. Okay? All right. Thank you.

47
48 Go ahead, Pat.

49
50 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. Sam.

1 Excuse me, Mr. Chair. I think on your charter you
2 might want to identify that as like charter/outfitters
3 or something, because, you know, that it needs to be
4 identified a little more specifically, because in your
5 mind that covers it, but it's not really identifying
6 that user group. Because I know down in Mitch's neck
7 of the words, you know, south end of the island's where
8 most of the deer are, and there's quite a large number
9 of folks that are -- I don't what you'd call them, and
10 I think that's probably part of the problem is.....

11
12 MR. ROHRER: Transporters.

13
14 MR. HOLMES: Transporters. That's the
15 word. Transporters.

16
17 Thank you. Mr. Chairman.

18
19 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. Sam Rohrer
20 speaking.

21
22 Yeah, outfitter would be the wrong
23 word. Outfitter's not the correct word according to
24 our State regulations. But transporter would be
25 correct. Water-based transporter or something to that
26 effect.

27
28 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al.

29
30 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair. Yeah, I'd just
31 like to state I'm a transporter, a commercial
32 fisherman, and I don't have, we don't have them
33 problems in Old Harbor yet, so I just want to state
34 that as a concern.

35
36 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. How would
37 you like that changed, Alex. Do you want to make
38 changes to that then to reflect that we have
39 owner/operators in the villages and we have operators
40 that are in boats that come in from different areas.

41
42 MR. PANAMAROFF: Mr. Chair. Yeah, I
43 like what Sam has said about make it more broader for
44 -- because we do have problems with charter boats
45 coming over from the mainland, come into Uyak Bay, and
46 they're all during the whole season. We have at least
47 two big -- well, actually it's kind of a small yacht
48 that comes in there with a pretty good sized crew.
49 They're there steady. So I agree with Sam. I'd like
50 to have that put in there, change our language a little

1 bit, what Sam had said.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Della, do
6 you have any input or questions? We're still working
7 with Issue No. 5. We have not gone over the first two
8 concerning caribou on Unimak yet.

9

10 MS. TRUMBLE: Yeah, I'm not
11 (indiscernible) continue. I've got something I'd like
12 to add (indiscernible) the caribou, but go ahead.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Rick.

15

16 MR. ROWLAND: Thank you. Rick Rowland.

17

18 Yesterday when we were having these
19 discussions, just before the end we were talking about
20 the difference between communities that have issues and
21 communities that don't have issues. So if it's all
22 right with Alex, does it make sense, and, Al, does it
23 make sense to say like we did yesterday, instead of
24 naming Larsen Bay specifically, naming of community of
25 compelling need, to generalize it even broader. That
26 way if a community other than Larsen Bay has an issue,
27 then they also can voice a concern.

28

29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Our trusty
30 coordinator is getting all that down. I'm pretty sure
31 we'll have a good draft when we're done here.

32

33 Is there anything else on Issue No. 5
34 that we wish to or take out. Okay. Pat.

35

36 MR. HOLMES: I gave Alex a draft of
37 possible thoughts on transporters. I was wondering if
38 that looks good, or should I read it to the group.

39

40 MR. PANAMAROFF: (Indiscernible,
41 microphone not on)

42

43 MR. HOLMES: Okay. Well, pass it back
44 and I'll read it then.

45

46 I think maybe this should summarize
47 things for what was just discussed. Maybe a line that
48 would say, also of concern are some transporters, in
49 quotes, of hunters that do not respect local
50 subsistence users. Does that kind of summarize things

3 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4

5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Can we see
6 what we've got so far on Issue No. 5, Ann. Or do you
7 just want to put it together later?

8

9 MS. WILKINSON: Put it together and
10 give it back to you later.

11

12 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Okay. Will
13 do.

14

15 We're going -- seem to be going
16 backwards on our list, so we'll just keep on going that
17 way. Issue No. 4 is predator control study group.
18 Does anyone want to make changes or additions to this
19 issue.

20

21 MR. HOLMES: It looks okay.

22

23 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Sam.

24

25 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. I was just
26 curious. When this was initially discussed by the
27 Board about having a study group, were they planning on
28 appointing a representative from the different Councils
29 to be on it? And if they weren't, I would highly
30 recommend that we recommend that they have a
31 representative from the different Councils, similar to
32 what they did on the Bear Claw Working Group.

33

34 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.

35

36 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. When I sat
37 at that Board meeting, I believe, well, the intent was
38 that they would appoint Council Chairs. They were
39 going to do that from areas that were having predator
40 problems. And I asked them if they would appoint
41 somebody from our committee, but I would suggest that
42 maybe we recommend that because we recommend that
43 because we do have such a severe problem with predators
44 that we be included in such a group. I think that's a
45 good point, because they could very well just say
46 appoint Polly and Cole and say, there's our committee
47 and have Staff do it. So it should be o that effect.

48

49 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah. I think
50 there were some groups that were having that problem,

1 and they were going to -- there were three regions that
2 had that problem, and they were going to appoint three
3 people from those regions to that study group. If we
4 want to be a part of that -- so three of you will be on
5 there.

6
7 Okay. Issue No. 4, Predator Control
8 Study Group. Anything else we want to change or add to
9 that one.

10
11 Della, do you have anything for
12 Predator Control Study Group.

13
14 MS. TRUMBLE: No, I think that's pretty
15 well -- well, that's fine the way it is. The addition
16 of the representative from this Council is a good
17 suggestion.

18
19 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. And we
20 don't have a third issue, so we'll just go to No. 2,
21 and that the Unimak Island Caribou.

22
23 Della, if you don't mind, I'd like you
24 speak to that one. You're the representative closest
25 to Unimak Island.

26
27 MS. TRUMBLE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
28 think this is -- it's good the way it is. It's self-
29 explanatory.

30
31 The only thing that I'm wondering, if
32 it's appropriate, is we had some discussion yesterday
33 about the surveys. And the survey issue has come up
34 many times, and I'm not sure if it's necessary, or if
35 it's just being redundant, but to have some language
36 somewhere stating that the caribou, and it probably
37 would have to be a separate one, issue, on these, and
38 it would be that the caribou population in Unit 9D and
39 10 have fluctuated over the past 15 years without a
40 clarity determination by the Service as to the cause.
41 Given our weather, and weather can be limited, we
42 support that the Service request that (indiscernible,
43 breaking up) the Service in coordination with the State
44 to continue the surveys at a time when they'd have a
45 better (indiscernible, breaking up), so that we're able
46 to better determine some of the causes as to the
47 fluctuation in the caribou population. But if we can
48 have something along those.

49
50 And my thoughts on this is just to make

1 sure I think that it gets done, because -- and I trust
2 that, you know, Izembek Staff will, you know. It was
3 Nancy's idea and I thought a lot about it, how or why
4 they did the surveys. The State hadn't -- couldn't do
5 the surveys in the fall or spring, but they were doing
6 their surveys in the winter when the weather is even
7 worse, can be at its worse. Or we don't have snow like
8 as is the case now. And why we needed the snow to do
9 the surveys.

10

11 But if anyway if we can -- that would
12 be my suggestion at this time.

13

14 Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you,
17 Della.

18

19 I forgot to ask you when we started,
20 did you receive a copy of these papers we're going over
21 this morning.

22

23 MS. TRUMBLE: Yes, I did. Ann called
24 last night and I gave her a fax number. I do have
25 them.

26

27 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you.
28 Ann.

29

30 MS. WILKINSON: Thank you. Della,
31 would you please read that sentence again so I can get
32 the key words.

33

34 Thank you.

35

36 MS. TRUMBLE: Okay. Let me look at my
37 notes here. The caribou population in Unit 9D and 10
38 have fluctuated over the past 15 years without a clear
39 determination by the Service as to the cause. Given
40 our weather windows can be limited, we request Fish and
41 Wildlife coordinate their survey efforts with the State
42 of Alaska at a time that these surveys have a better
43 chance of being completed. Just something along those
44 lines, Ann.

45

46 MS. WILKINSON: Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: That is the list
49 of the annual report for the Kodiak/Aleutians, right?
50 Okay. Does anybody have any -- Rick.

1 MR. ROWLAND: Rick Rowland. Thank you,
2 Mr. Chair. This issue is not on the list, but recently
3 I learned that, and communicated in relation to
4 environmental impact statement by the air force, which
5 was following a navy environmental impact statement in
6 relation to Gulf of Alaska training area, the joint
7 training is going to occur in June. And they will
8 attempt to fire 100 missiles, sidewinders and ultra
9 whites, which are live fire into the Gulf of Alaska.
10 And in my capacity where I function daily as the
11 natural resource director, we were consulting with
12 them, and I asked them if they have information related
13 to the migration of the sea lions, and they mentioned
14 that they did not. And I asked them if they had
15 communicated with villages up north in relation to
16 whale migration, excuse me, and they said that they did
17 not. They just communicated with the Gulf of Alaska.
18 So their expanding their area.

19
20 And I would appreciate it if -- well,
21 the reason why is because I know that they're doing a
22 study -- or, correction, an operation in June out there
23 and I know that that's around the time when the fish
24 start schooling up, get ready to come into the island.
25 And I don't know, because I'm not a biologist whether
26 or not doing the operation during that time will cause
27 harm on the salmon or halibut coming up out of the
28 deep, or sea lion migrating through there. So I think
29 it would be important that the -- I voice my concern is
30 that there might be a subsistence issue in germination
31 out there. It's building up, so I think that it might
32 help if I know whether or not Federal agencies that
33 deal with fish and wildlife are communicating with the
34 navy and the air force in regard to this EIS before I
35 put it on as a concern, because if they're not
36 communicating with them, then I believe it is a concern
37 in relation to subsistence, and then it should be
38 communicated.

39
40 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah. Thank you,
41 Rick. Yeah, I believe that would be a concern. It's
42 happening in June when the fish are running. And it's
43 not only fish are traveling those waters, there's
44 predators, you know.

45
46 Who would we get to get more
47 information and times, dates, who they've communicated
48 with. If they're going to have live fire and we have a
49 concern of our subsistence food in that area. I
50 believe they should have had a tribal consultation of

1 some kind.

2

3 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah they did have. Rick
4 Rowland. They did have tribal consultations with
5 specific communities, but from the Kodiak/Aleutians
6 region, I was the only one that showed up there in
7 Anchorage at the air force base, and I'm not sure if
8 other tribes around the region didn't realize of it's
9 importance or more participating or checked the mail or
10 the plane made it in, or something, but I was the only
11 one from the Kodiak/Aleutians region there.

12

13 And the individual to contact in case
14 of -- there's two environmental impact statements that
15 are -- the navy environmental impact statement is at
16 the completion point, and they have had all their
17 public comments, and then now they're doing the joint
18 North Pacific, Gulf of Alaska expansion of the target
19 training area, and the individual to communicate with
20 who's the tribal liaison is Jerome Montague, and he
21 works for Alaska Command, General Dana Adkins in
22 Anchorage. And I don't have the address with me, but
23 he's the guy that's coordinating the whole thing.

24

25 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Well, is
26 this a on-going live fire practice, or are they just
27 starting that? I didn't go, I didn't hear anything
28 about it, but I would like to know.

29

30 MR. ROWLAND: They decided that they
31 are going to do their live firing, they're going to
32 fire 100 missiles in two trainings per year out in the
33 Gulf of Alaska in the area from Cordova, about from
34 Cordova down to the Shuyak out to almost through --
35 almost 300 miles out. And this is going to be their
36 live fire impact area. And they'll do it twice a year.
37 And one time they're going to do it in June, coming up.
38 So that's the information that we received.

39

40 And when we went, myself and a Council
41 member from the Sun'aq tribe went and our concerns were
42 in relation to subsistence, specifically the halibut
43 coming up out of the deep, the salmon schooling up out
44 there, the sea lions that go out and feed out there and
45 then migrate through, and then the whales. Although we
46 don't whale here any more, there's a hope that someday
47 the tribe will whale again. And there's actually a
48 right whale migration paths that are in that area.

49

50 So it is a concern. And I'd like to

1 see it communicated between the two different agencies
2 to where the potential of affecting the subsistence
3 doesn't occur.

4

5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Al.

6

7 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair. Al Cratty.

8

9 Yeah, I'd just like to voice my
10 opinion. I think it's a big concern, too, what Rick is
11 saying. You talk to the boats that come across the
12 Gulf in June or in July or May and they always talk
13 about the salmon they see offshore when they're
14 migrating up to their spawning grounds. I just want to
15 voice my opinion on it.

16

17 Also the whales, they migrate offshore.

18

19 Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: We are not going
22 to have another meeting by June, so would this be a
23 topic that you want to bring it back up at the end of
24 the day and we can spend more time on it so we can get
25 to some of our agenda items taken care of.

26

27 MR. ROWLAND: Sure.

28

29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Remind me.
30 Okay. Or do you want to put it into our annual report?

31

32 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah. If I could. I'd
33 appreciate it.

34

35 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: List it as a
36 concern. It would be Item 5, right? Can we do that,
37 Ann?

38

39 MS. WILKINSON: In a separate item.
40 Yes, you can, but the Board isn't going to see this
41 until after June I imagine. So it will be too late
42 for them to do anything.

43

44 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair. Rick Rowland.

45

46 Is it possible to make special action
47 to address this prior to that Board meeting.

48

49 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah, the Board's
50 having a meeting on the 5th, aren't they? Polly.

1 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
2 did have a question. You had mentioned that there's an
3 EIS out. Now, is it.....

4
5 MR. ROWLAND: Two.

6
7 DR. WHEELER: There's two EIS's out.
8 Well, one option would be to have this Council write a
9 letter in response to the EIS opposing the live fire in
10 this particular area or whatever. I mean, you can
11 outline. But that would be an option instead of just
12 putting -- you could also put it in the annual report,
13 but if you want to be a little proactive, you could
14 write a letter opposing it and send it to whomever,
15 because typically EIS's are -- there's a public comment
16 section. They're looking for public comment. So that
17 would be an option.

18
19 Mr. Chair.

20
21 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Get together with
22 Ann and draft a letter, and you could come up with the
23 people that you met with and we'll send it to them.

24
25 MR. ROWLAND: Thank you. Okay. That
26 will be the most expedient.

27
28 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah. Okay. Pat.

29
30 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. Pat Holmes.

31
32 Rick, and I'm a few years out of the
33 literature stream, but my recollection on at least the
34 state of the art a few years back was that a lot of the
35 salmon in June would be -- you know, they tend to
36 follow a narrower temperature regime. And I suspect it
37 would be similar with whales and sea lion. I don't
38 know about fur seals and all the whales. But I would
39 guess that they probably follow the Gulf of Alaska
40 current, and so it may be something that they could try
41 determine where that was and stay south or out of that
42 area. And they'll either follow the current and then
43 they sort of spin off as they come up to Kodiak, or go
44 to Prince William Sound or Cook Inlet. And so, you
45 know, there -- anyway, I'll just with you a little
46 more. It might be a way to -- you know, because they
47 -- I don't know.

48
49 It's sort of catch 22. We want to be
50 able to have defense, but then we don't want to lose

1 any subsistence opportunity. But there might be some
2 way to look at it and request them to look at
3 literature on migration patterns and be aware of that
4 and to stay out of those zones rather than the whole
5 North Pacific. It's just a thought. But I'll chat
6 with you later if that's okay.

7

8

CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Polly.

9

10 DR. WHEELER: Mr. Chair. I just wanted
11 to let the Council know that the Eastern Interior
12 Regional Advisory Council and the Southcentral Regional
13 Advisory Council are dealing with a comparable issue in
14 their area of expansion of the military fly-over zone.
15 And sort of expansion of the zone and also flying at
16 lower levels. And both of those Councils have written
17 letters opposing that, largely because of its affect on
18 subsistence resources and on subsistence users in that
19 area. So your coordinator could look at those two
20 letters maybe and just see for some language or
21 something, because the concern is over the effect on
22 subsistence resources and on subsistence users using
23 that area. So that might be something that you want to
24 look at also.

25

26

Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you.
29 Yeah, we will. Yeah, we'll take this up again at the
30 end of the day.

31

32

As far as our annual report, is there

33 anything else we want to put in there. Take out.

34 Change.

35

36

(No comments)

37

38

CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Is it the way we

39 want it to read now.

40

41

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Can an read it

42 please -- have it read.

43

44

MS. WILKINSON: Well I'll work on No. 5

45 and the changes in numbers -- well, the changes in No.

46 6 were small, but No. 5 and then adding Della's

47 language for the Issue 2. I can do that at lunch time

48 or when we have a break here. Okay.

49

50

CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: So we can move on

1 then.

2

3

(No comments)

4

5

CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay.

6

7

MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair.

8

9

CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Sam.

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Della.

MS. TRUMBLE: I would agree with that.

Or, I'm not sure why we don't have -- is there an Issue 3 that I'm missing. Was that Issue 2, 4, 5 and 6, and maybe I'm missing part of the fax. I don't have 1 or 3.

MS. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes.

MS. WILKINSON: Della. When I was doing this amended language, I did not include any of the issues that were not brought up to be changed. So No. 1 and 3 remain the same as in the draft that was sent out.

MS. TRUMBLE: Okay. That makes sense.

Thanks, Ann.

CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Are we good

to go.

(No comments)

CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: All right. Moving

on then.

1 Our Charter review. I guess that's on
2 Page 41 of the yellow book.

3
4 MS. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman.

5
6 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Ann.

7
8 MS. WILKINSON: When the Council
9 consider their Charters, they need to know that every
10 two years the Charters need to be reviewed. They are
11 examined by the Secretary every two years and
12 considered for, oh, shoot, the word just went right out
13 of my head. Reapproving anyway. Reapproving them.

14
15 And the changes that the Council can
16 make to the Charter is to size, name, and criteria for
17 removing a member. And for those Councils that have
18 national parks with Subsistence Resource Commissions,
19 they can appoint people to those.

20
21 In the past this Council has requested
22 the Board for designated seats for geographic
23 distribution. And the Board then recommended that to
24 the Secretary and that was approved. We've had a
25 little difficulty filling that, but that is part of
26 your charter that's different from everyone else's.

27
28 So while there are these limited things
29 that are listed that the Council can address, there are
30 other issues you may have you can also make
31 recommendations for the Board to look at.

32
33 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Ann.

34
35 Has the Board had a chance to review
36 the Charter of the Kodiak/Aleutians Regional Advisory
37 Council.

38
39 MS. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman, the Board
40 will review the Charter when it meets to discuss the
41 nominations for Council membership. So they usually do
42 that in July, the Board does.

43
44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Can we make
45 changes to this, suggest changes to it?

46
47 MS. WILKINSON: Yes.

48
49 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: All right.

50

1 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair. Rick
2 Rowland.
3
4 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Rick Rowland, go
5 ahead.
6
7 MR. ROWLAND: Do we have a copy of -- I
8 know she mentioned the few different changes that were
9 allowable by the Council. Do we have a copy of that in
10 our paperwork somewhere.
11
12 MS. WILKINSON: Yes. It's in your
13 operations manual.
14
15 MR. ROWLAND: And the reason why I'm
16 asking is because you mentioned something about this
17 Council can appoint or recommend individuals to serve
18 on a parks commission; is that what you said?
19
20 MS. WILKINSON: Okay. The part about
21 Charters is in your operations manual on Page 34. And
22 some Councils have national parks within their regions,
23 and those national parks have Subsistence Resource
24 Commissions. This region does not. Okay.
25
26 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.
27
28 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. Pat.
29
30 I have a question for Ann, and it's
31 always confused me. Under vacancies, it says, when a
32 vacancy occurs in the Council member appointed under
33 Paragraph 9, the Secretary will appoint an individual
34 in accordance with Paragraph 9 to fulfill a vacancy for
35 the remainder of the applicable term. And I can --
36 sometimes the process gets really slowed down. Is
37 there a pool of potential candidates? I know Councils
38 -- we can't really recommend who participates, but how
39 does the Secretary of Interior do that?
40
41 And I recall some of Rick Koso's
42 concerns on sometimes his actual participation in the
43 Council has practically run out before he was gone
44 through the cycle to be renewed. Or, you know, we've
45 had our representative from Nelson Lagoon, you know,
46 spent half his time without -- you know, the
47 replacement or the re-upping seems to be complicated.
48
49 Could you explain to us how that works?
50

1 MS. WILKINSON: Okay. First of all
2 terms are generally for three years. Sometimes a
3 person may be appointed for two years or one year if
4 they're filling a seat that's been left vacant. And
5 especially if someone's got one of those one year
6 seats, they have to apply for the next one right away,
7 practically they get the notice that they're being
8 appointed, and then, boom, it's time for them to apply
9 again so that they can be considered for an extended
10 term, a three-year term. And so that, yes, can be a
11 bit confusing for people. Fortunately, however, we've
12 had that work out fairly well that people go ahead and
13 reapply and then they'll get selected. But maybe they
14 have only gone to maybe one meeting or even not gone to
15 any meetings at all before they have to reapply. And
16 that's just the way the timing is, but we try to work
17 with those people and encourage them to do so, reapply.

18
19 Nominations process, you know, it's
20 fairly lengthy. It takes about nine months to get
21 through the whole thing. When we have someone who for
22 whatever reason, you know, resigns from his or her
23 seat, we don't any more have a pool of people that we
24 can call on. And we would have to readvertise. And
25 then we have to put together the whole thing again so
26 that the Board has to go through and look at them. It
27 may not be as complex as the one we do for everybody,
28 because it would be just for one region, but it would
29 still be, you know, a fairly time consuming thing.
30 Well, we could still do that, depending on where it
31 falls in the year.

32
33 If it's going to take three or four
34 months to get it done, and it's only going to be about
35 three or four months before we get the new
36 applications, why go through all that. You know, I
37 don't know if I'm explaining this clearly, but just go
38 ahead and add that vacant seat to the list of vacant
39 seats that we have for that year and fill it at the end
40 with all the others. If it's closer to being a full
41 year out that we have that notice that someone has
42 resigned, then, yes, we can go ahead and, you know,
43 advertise for that vacant seat.

44
45 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.

46
47 MR. HOLMES: Thank you, Ann. I guess
48 that does clarify things. You know, we lost Tom
49 Schwantes because he forgot to fill out his
50 reapplication. And I know, was it Pat Pourchot,

1 through -- or Salazar through Pat Pourchot had asked
2 how the Councils could be more effective, and it would
3 seem to me that I wonder if there's some way that our
4 Council could provide some input and suggest that they
5 maintain a pool of applicants so that we can have some
6 timely replacements, because sometimes, as you point
7 out, it might take a whole Board cycle before we get
8 our Council back up to speed. And particularly when
9 we've lost some very good and productive, well-trained
10 members, it's I think rather sad to have our
11 effectiveness reduced because, no offense, because of
12 the bureaucratic system. So could we suggest to Mr.
13 Pourchot and the Secretary that they go back to
14 maintaining a pool of applicants.

15

16 MS. WILKINSON: Mr. Chair, Mr. Holmes.
17 Just for the record, Tom Schwantes did not forget to
18 apply. He called and talked to me about applying. He
19 was considering going on a mission for his church and
20 thought that he wouldn't be able to do it, and so he
21 decided not to reapply with the idea that he would
22 reapply when he returned, and he has done so.

23

24 And the reason that we don't have a
25 pool of applicants now is not because we just aren't
26 keeping one any more. It's because we are not getting
27 the number of applicants that we used to. And so we
28 just don't have enough people to call on.

29

30 MR. HOLMES: So then I guess it would
31 be up to us as Council members to find different people
32 within our community and our connections and tell them
33 to check on line or give you a call and get their
34 applications in so that we can build up that pool. And
35 I think particularly out on the Peninsula we need to
36 have some folks that are effective and working in a
37 council process to represent the Peninsula. So I guess
38 it's kind of all of us to take out our phones and phone
39 books and hustle up some new applicants.

40

41 Is that kind of the way we should do
42 it.

43

44 MS. WILKINSON: Mr. Chair. Thank you.

45

46 Certainly I think you know what
47 constitutes a good Council member. And if you know
48 someone who would make a good Council member, please do
49 encourage them to apply.

50

1 Our applications for this year, that
2 application period's closed. We've already began
3 interviews and everything. But, yes, please do. If
4 you know somebody, or, I'm sorry, encourage your tribal
5 council or any organizations that you belong to to
6 consider putting forward someone's name as an
7 applicant. That would be good, yes.

8
9 We can advertise, you know, in the
10 newspapers and on the radio and everything, and we get
11 responses from that, of course, but it makes a
12 difference when it's -- I don't know exactly how to
13 explain it, but it is different when someone gives some
14 careful thought about someone else that they know would
15 be a good applicant. And we make a note of that when
16 someone's been nominated or has a letter of
17 recommendation.

18
19 Thank you.

20
21 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Rick.

22
23 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair. Rick Rowland.

24
25 One issue I think that's related to
26 prodding someone to do the volunteer work or having
27 someone volunteer to do the volunteer work are two
28 different paths that someone could travel down. So I
29 know a lot of people who quite possibly might be good
30 for this seat, but if I convince them, it would be me
31 convincing them, and not their choice to do it. So I
32 don't know if I would agree with recruiting myself, or
33 me going out and recruiting someone to come and sit on
34 it. So I think that if they see it, it's a good
35 advertisement or communicate to the general, but I
36 don't think that it's a good idea for me to point to
37 somebody to say, you need to be on the seat.

38
39 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah, I agree.
40 You know, if somebody wants to serve, it's got to be
41 their decision. If we go out and recruit somebody and
42 they say, okay, I'll do that for you and they get in
43 here, and they say, wow, what did you get me into? And
44 it, you know, kind of causes some contention in the
45 Board if it's somebody not really wanting to be here.

46
47 I believe that there's people out there
48 that want to do this stuff. We've just got to probably
49 get more applications out and so have people make their
50 own decisions of whether they want to serve or not.

1 One other thing I wanted to ask about
2 our Charter. Before this meeting started, one of the
3 Board members came to me and said, can we have an
4 executive session and the response was, no. And it's
5 not in the charter. I haven't seen it. But I was
6 wondering if we can put it in there. You know, we just
7 need to talk amongst ourselves sometime, and so that we
8 can make the best possible decisions for
9 recommendations or, you know, even some of the
10 proposals that we might want to support or not support.
11 If the Board wished to put in a provision in there so
12 that we can have executive sessions.

13

14 MS. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman. As I
15 mentioned, the reason for not having executive sessions
16 on the Councils is that Federal advisory committees are
17 subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act and the
18 Sunshine Act, and several other things that have to do
19 with open, very public meetings. Everything you do is
20 supposed to be viewed by the public.

21

22 I know that this makes difficulty
23 sometimes, you know, when you want to discuss
24 something, but I have before asked even our attorneys
25 about it. In fact we had some difficulties, the
26 Council Chairs can't even meet with the Board in
27 private discussions.

28

29 So, you know, you can bring it up if
30 you want to, but I can tell you that the answer will be
31 no. Like I said, I would never tell you not to do
32 something you really want to do, but that's what the
33 answer would be.

34

35 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Cut and
36 dried. What do you think of that, Pat.

37

38 MR. HOLMES: Well, you know, I'd have
39 to accept Ann's ruling, because she's really sharp on
40 administrative things. And I'm sure that as much as I
41 think that it's a necessarily process, it's probably
42 designed to prevent corruption in Advisory Councils on
43 Teapot Dome oil sales or something like that and it has
44 nothing to do with us. And, you know, I object to the
45 concept that we can't do it, but, you know, if we
46 can't, we can't. And we'll just have to find some way
47 to deal with things and have to discuss our strategies
48 on tape and find a way to do it where we're not
49 embarrassing somebody or having to have an arm
50 wrestling match while we're having a break I guess.

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Rick.

2

3 MR. ROWLAND: Yesterday we had
4 training, and in that training we were discussing that
5 one of the governing documents that leads this Council
6 is the Robert's Rules of Orders. And now the FACA.
7 And so we had one caveat yesterday that was in
8 opposition to Robert's Rules of Orders, and so is this
9 another caveat that's in opposition to Robert's Rules
10 of Orders? And then so now if there are two caveats
11 that are in opposition to Robert's Rules of Orders, are
12 we truly using Robert's Rules of Orders here or are we
13 under a thumbtack in relation to how we're supposed to
14 be organized? Because I'm interested to know how it's
15 supposed to function if we're being told we're Robert's
16 Rules of Orders and under FACA, and then on the side
17 we're being told that we can't have an executive
18 session. Then under those Robert's Rules of Order that
19 are adopted, then that doesn't sound legal. So I think
20 that a clarification needs to be made about whether or
21 not it's okay for this Council to have an executive
22 session.

23

24 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah. I think the
25 key word for us is we are a Federal committee, and I
26 think means that we're supposed to be open to the
27 public and not behind closed doors.

28

29 Polly.

30

31 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
32 One way maybe to address these concerns in a public way
33 is to include an administrative item in your Annual
34 Report asking about executive sessions, the exceptions
35 to Robert's Rules or something like that. Just get an
36 administrative clarification through the Annual Report
37 Process, and then it will go before the Board. The
38 Board will be aware of what your concerns are, and you
39 will get a response from the Solicitor's Office or
40 whatever else.

41

42 So that might be an option that you
43 could do that would kind of address these issues in an
44 open and transparent way.

45

46 Mr. Chair.

47

48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Polly.
49 Appreciate that.

50

1 Before we continue, we might take a
2 pause here. Yesterday I promised Iver that he would
3 get to speak before the Board, and he was in a rush and
4 he had to go get his grandkids. Can we take a pause
5 and have our elder from Kodiak address the Council.
6

7 MR. MALUTIN: Thank you very much.
8 Yeah, my name is Iver Malutin, and I'm 79 years old,
9 and I was born and raised in Kodiak.
10

11 And I've got a story to tell. And I
12 want the new members that are on the Council, also the
13 audience to take heed of these words. It's not so much
14 Iver Malutin telling a story; it's the indigenous
15 people that told the story.
16

17 And the only reason we're here is food
18 for the table. And so many, many times the dollar
19 takes over and the dollar dictates what we should do.
20 And a good example that's really, really against common
21 sense. And if you stop to think about your indigenous
22 people years and ears and years ago, you wouldn't even
23 be here if your indigenous people didn't have common
24 sense. You wouldn't.
25

26 And if you stop to think about that,
27 and here we have rules that are made by dictation of
28 dollars that say I can catch and release fish. That is
29 so wrong by our rules. When I was a kid growing up, we
30 would go get fish with a gun, with a hook, with a line.
31 We'd kick them out of the stream them of the stream.
32 We'd do anything that we do to get that fish on the
33 table.
34

35 And now we have dollars dictating that
36 if I want to go fish, I'd like to catch a fish, I'd
37 like to catch a fish. And a lot of times kick them and
38 let them go. And I go out to the Buskin River and I
39 watch for the park ranger, and when he's not around, I
40 tell the Filipinos, okay, you -- or whoever. Excuse
41 me, not Filipinos. Anybody. If you want to fish, get
42 them two fish. I don't care how you get them, and I'm
43 going to watch for the park ranger. So they get their
44 two fish and they go. Okay. And what difference if
45 they catch the fish in the fin or the tail or the eye
46 or the mouth, and it's going to the table. And that's
47 something that I think that we're losing track of big
48 time.
49

50 And when we're talking about all these

1 other interesting things, it's all ruled and governed
2 by the dollar. And, I'm sorry for repeating myself so
3 many times to all of you, that you heard me so many
4 times, because I testified to the North Pacific Fishery
5 Management Council so many times, to this Board so many
6 times.

7

8 And one of the things that doesn't
9 prevail here is common sense, because Federal law
10 prevails. and in common sense the Sun'aq Tribe is not
11 governed by Robert's Rules. And I'm a member of the
12 Sun'aq Tribe.

13

14 And the audience can all get a minute
15 or two to speak on any single issue you guys are
16 talking about. I was at two meetings here. The first
17 one at the other building I couldn't talk, because you
18 guys have to fill out a piece of paper and you have to
19 give it to him, and when the subject comes up, then you
20 get to talk. That's okay under the Federal guidelines
21 and the other people. But it's not okay by our
22 standards.

23

24 And one of the most important things I
25 want to tell you, every one of you, is that every
26 single person that lives in every single village in
27 Alaska, that is their home. That is the best in the
28 world. So do the best that you can for them and say
29 that their food is the best no matter where you're at,
30 and try to get to mingle or to eat their food, like
31 their food if you can, and protect their food by all
32 costs.

33

34 Every single thing that I do now is in
35 protection of the land and resources and the air. I'm
36 on the Prince William Sound Council to protect all our
37 resources. I'm on the advisory board for the hospital
38 to protect the elders. I'm on the Commission on Aging,
39 every one of you that are getting older.

40

41 (Laughter)

42

43 MR. MALUTIN: And if you're going to
44 have a good place in the future, somebody has to look
45 after you.

46

47 But one of the things I want to leave
48 with you is that I went to Juneau and I talked -- I
49 know this isn't really relevant to what you're talking
50 about, but it is. I went Juneau and I talked to

1 Senator Coghill. And I said, Senator Coghill, I want
2 to teach you something, and you're going to teach every
3 single senator and representative what I'm going to
4 tell you, because they don't know. What is that? They
5 just handed him a brand new book. Brand new. Every
6 one of the senators in the legislature got them. And
7 it's This is Alaska. I said, I never saw that book,
8 but I'm going to tell you this. I would throw that
9 book in the garbage. He said, what do you mean? I
10 said, turn to the index and turn to K, look at Kodiak.
11 Okay. He did. He went to Page 79, fiber optic,
12 Kenai/Kodiak fiber optic cable. He went to Page 109,
13 Kodiak rocket launch site. I said, is that Alaska? Is
14 that Kodiak? And you guys are going to teach all the
15 people down here about Alaska with this book? I said,
16 come on.

17
18 So that's some of the things that are
19 happening all over the State. I know they don't even
20 know what Kodiak is.

21
22 But think about Atka, think about
23 Kiska. Think about these other places. And I'm
24 listening to you guys, and I'm sitting back there just
25 frustrated, because I'm looking at Kodiak, Larsen Bay,
26 Akhiok, Old Harbor, Kodiak, Kodiak. And that is
27 totally wrong.

28
29 But I could understand and I could see
30 where you guys are right in what you're doing, because
31 you're making an attempt and nobody's coming forward.
32 I would have been on this Board long ago if all them
33 names weren't here, if they would have accepted me. I
34 would have.

35
36 And I really applaud you for trying,
37 but get to the villages in a better way, or do
38 something different so that you could get to those
39 people. When people applied, they'd come to me and
40 they ask me for a letter of support, and I said, I'm
41 not giving you a letter of support unless you
42 understand King Cove, Atka, Sand Point, every single
43 problem that they have out there and understand it,
44 then Kodiak. Then I'll give you my letter of support.

45
46
47 And when I hear people talking here,
48 they talk for their own little villages a lot. And
49 that's good. But don't forget there's all these other
50 places that have to be represented, too.

1 So I think in a nutshell, that's
2 probably all I want to tell you. And it isn't a heck
3 of a lot, but I'm still working. I'm watching you
4 every single day. But I wish that you could let the
5 audience speak, like on this issue you're talking
6 about, maybe somebody back there could give you some
7 idea. You change the format a little bit to let the
8 audience jump in, not long, not as long as I'm here, a
9 minute or two or whatever. I think that you could get
10 better results.

11
12 You're only a advisory board, you're
13 not a policy-making board. Is that right? Okay. So
14 if you're an advisory board, you don't have any teeth.
15 You don't. Because it's got to go to Sam and is boys
16 up there for the final approval.

17
18 So I think in a nutshell that's all
19 I've got to say.

20
21 Thank you.

22
23 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you for
24 that, Iver. But, you know, I think every Board member
25 here reminds themselves when they're here that there is
26 a broad area that they represent. It's not just their
27 village. They do speak to their village concerns, but
28 they are reminded that the area that they represent is
29 more than just the villages on Kodiak Island. It
30 includes villages out in the Aleutians.

31
32 MR. MALUTIN: You know, one of the main
33 things that I forgot to tell you guys, when my mother
34 went to a trial at Valdez, her brother was killed, and
35 the judge told her, Mrs. Malutin, if you weren't there,
36 you didn't see, you can't say. I want you guys to
37 think about that. If you weren't there, and that's all
38 of you, if you weren't there, you didn't see, you can't
39 say.

40
41 So when you make an assumption, 94,000
42 signatures, they mean absolutely nothing. There's no
43 relevancy to nothing unless they come up with where
44 they're from, who they're from. They're probably from
45 the Lower 48. So if you weren't there, you didn't see,
46 you can't say. And if you were there and you did see,
47 be awful careful what you say. Okay.

48
49 I've been on a lot of boards. And I
50 agree with what you're saying, but I don't agree,

1 because sometimes I get my packet at the last minute.
2 It's not her fault, but somebody didn't give her the
3 information to give you the packet 10 days before the
4 meeting, and you don't get it, and you don't have time
5 to even read it on the plane when you're going there.
6 And that's what I'm talking about. Not necessarily you
7 guys are doing something wrong. No. But there are
8 times that you lack information if you're not from a
9 certain little area. Being born and raised in the area
10 gives you a lot.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thanks for
15 that again, Iver.

16
17 Pat.

18
19 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. Pat Holmes.

20
21 Thanks, Uncle Iver, for the lecture.
22 Every time you talk, I learn something new.

23
24 And it made me think that perhaps we
25 should on our agenda for each day, we should have a
26 point at the start and a point at the end for general
27 audience comments. That sort of has disappeared over
28 the years. So that folks can share their wisdom and
29 knowledge with us.

30
31 And I'd also like to acknowledge our
32 representative from the Native Village of Afognak,
33 Nancy Olson. She's a very quiet lady, but when she
34 speaks, she's like Iver, and you should jolly well
35 listen to her.

36
37 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair.

38
39 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Rick.

40
41 MR. ROWLAND: Rick Rowland. Thanks,
42 Iver, for appreciating the comments. And I do have
43 teeth and I use them for subsistence.

44
45 (Laughter)

46
47 MR. ROWLAND: And so that's important.
48 And I had to make a correction, and I appreciate Pat
49 recognizing Nancy, but here last name's Nelson.

50

1 MR. HOLMES: Oh, pardon me.

2

3 MR. ROWLAND: And so I, too, think it
4 would be a good idea for public comments as well. And
5 more so connected with what Iver was talking about is
6 getting out to see the different communities and
7 actually what capacity they're functioning in for their
8 subsistence. And it might quite possibly allow for
9 eating some of the foods or having public comment in
10 the community of, say, for example, Larson Bay or Old
11 Harbor, if it's possible for discussion in the future
12 to talk about having a meeting in one of those rural
13 communities. I know weather is an issue, but if it's
14 possible, that that might make sense to, either here on
15 the island or somewhere out in the Aleutians. That way
16 if we go out there and we do have the community members
17 sit and view what is going on, maybe it might generate
18 more participation in voicing concerns related to
19 subsistence.

20

21 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. If there's
22 nothing else, then we'll continue on with the Charter.
23 I believe we were discussing executive sessions. I
24 think that kind of basically took care of itself.

25

26 Is there anything else on the Charter
27 that we wanted to address.

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Ann.

32

33 MS. WILKINSON: Did you want to follow
34 Polly's suggestions about adding an administrative
35 topic under the -- in the Annual Report to bring up
36 executive sessions and such. Do you want that?
37 Because I can certainly do it.

38

39 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, you can put
40 that on there.

41

42 MS. WILKINSON: Okay. Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: If they slap our
45 hands again, okay.

46

47 MS. WILKINSON: Okay.

48

49 MR. HOLMES: I was wondering if it --
50 Mr. Chair. Pat Holmes.

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes.

2

3 MR. HOLMES: I was wondering, under our
4 meetings I know that we have pretty stiff guidelines
5 and Rick pointed out, you know, the advantages of going
6 to rural places, but is it appropriate for us, Ann, to
7 expand that to say that we can attempt to select or
8 recommend places to go to meetings? I'm wondering, can
9 we use our Charter as a tool to travel more, or are we
10 -- I know we're bound by limits of finances and what
11 not, but I'm just asking you how can we facilitate, or
12 can we use our Charter in some way to state that we do
13 one meeting away from a hub a year or something like
14 that? Or can we ask for that? I mean, how can we try
15 to facilitate that?

16

17 MS. WILKINSON: mr. Chair. I do know
18 that some, several Councils actually, do have that
19 practice. It isn't written anywhere, but they do
20 routinely meet in a hub location one time a year, and
21 then meet in more rural area another time of year, at
22 the second meeting.

23

24 So it isn't necessary to have it in
25 your Charter. There is a section on meetings in your
26 Charter. You could ask to have that put in there, but
27 it's something that can be addressed without being so
28 formal.

29

30 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair. Pat again.

31

32 I'd like to toss out to our Council
33 that maybe we discuss inserting a line in there that
34 one of our meetings a year would be outside of a
35 designated hub community and then we can go back to our
36 Charter and refer to that when we're having discussions
37 on trying to get to a more remote location. I'd just
38 sort of like to have some discussion of our colleagues
39 here.

40

41 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair. Al Cratty.

42

43 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al.

44

45 MR. CRATTY: I'd just like to back
46 Grandpa on that. I think that would be a good
47 recommendation.

48

49 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I'm sorry, I
50 didn't hear that, Al.

1 MR. CRATTY: No, I just thought that
2 what he had said of having a meeting out in one of the
3 rural areas or something would be a good thing to put
4 in the Charter under meetings. I just want to give my
5 support on it.

6
7 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Rick, did you have
8 something.

9
10 MR. ROWLAND: Yes, I do. And I think
11 it would be appropriate to add under 8, meetings, and
12 put under 8 an A or -- yeah, it would be an A, that
13 will say, one meeting will be at a regional hub and one
14 meeting will be at a rural community at the choice of
15 the Council.

16
17 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Della. Go
18 ahead.

19
20 MS. TRUMBLE: Could somebody clarify
21 for me, and maybe, Ann, you can help me on this,
22 because when I pushed for the meeting in Cold Bay,
23 there was some idea or some -- there was a statement
24 made that for the Kodiak/Aleutians our hub was in
25 Kodiak. And can somebody give me some clarification on
26 that.

27
28 MS. WILKINSON: Yes, Mr. Chair. Della.
29 I think it was about three years ago, two or three
30 years ago that Pete asked that we write up a policy or
31 guidelines, whatever you want to call it, but it is
32 going to be the practice, to limit the meetings to more
33 hub areas as a way of saving money. Our travel budget
34 was really undergoing some major cuts. And it was
35 important that we try as much as possible to be
36 fiscally responsible I guess you would say. So that's
37 what we did. And we looked at which communities in the
38 regions, you know, had the best accommodation for
39 travel for all the people to get there, and the most
40 reasonable costs for getting them there. And that's
41 how the hubs were developed, that idea.

42
43 And as part of that policy, and it's
44 always been, that if a Council wants to meet in a
45 community not listed as one of the hubs, and it's true
46 that Kodiak is the only hub committee in this region,
47 but if the Council wanted to meet in a community other
48 than a hub, then all they have to do is say where they
49 wanted to meet. Then their coordinator would do a
50 cost, evaluate cost comparison between that community

1 and the hub, provide the Council's reason for wanting
2 to meet in the other community, and usually, you know,
3 there is some very clear reason why. And then give
4 that information to Pete. And I can only think of one
5 time in all the requests that he's received where he
6 said no. I mean, if somebody really wants to meet in
7 another community, that's always been accepted, except
8 for that one occasion that I know of.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Della.

15

16 MS. TRUMBLE: Thank you, Ann, for that.
17 You know, in listening to some of the discussion and
18 part of it is representation from the Aleutians region,
19 we don't have meetings within your own region, in this
20 respect I think the Kodiak/Aleutians needs -- and it's
21 detrimental, that we have a meeting in our region at
22 least once a year as we do in Kodiak. People don't --
23 you know, are not going to be interested if they're
24 technically in a sense ignored, when you don't the
25 meetings within their own region. Al mentioned earlier
26 this morning that, you know, we're two regions together
27 in one, which -- we do work for each other and be
28 supportive of each region's agendas, and work
29 together. I think it's important that we have a
30 meeting in within the Aleutian region and one within
31 Kodiak each year, because how better are we to do our
32 jobs when -- you know, I think we heard Mr. Malutin
33 talking about educating ourselves in the different
34 regions and being able to do a good job.

35

36 But I'm not sure how to address this.
37 When I first heard it, I was pretty upset about it,
38 because in the past that was not the case.
39 Understanding that there is an issue with finances and
40 I'm not sure how that ever gets addressed. However,
41 right now, we're paying \$1200 round trip from here,
42 King Cover to Anchorage, and it costs more and more,
43 and if you're putting that cost above what our
44 representation should be, I'm not sure how, you know,
45 somehow how we address this. Maybe the Council can come
46 up with some idea where it should be addressed.

47

48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Della.

49 Pat.

50

1 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. Pat Holmes.

2

3 I think on this topic I'd be quite
4 interested. Ann, does each Council only get 100 grand
5 a year or what? I'd like to know what the other
6 Council's spend and how far they travel, and what their
7 costs are for going to different areas, because I would
8 expect -- does the Bristol Bay community -- or Council
9 only meet in Dillingham or King Salmon or do they go to
10 some of the more remote areas? I'd just kind of like
11 to know what goes on in the rest of the State, because
12 this has been something our Council's been concerned
13 with for the 10 years or 11 years I've been on.

14

15 And, you know, despite our rationale,
16 one time we were offered by the Village of St. Paul to
17 pay for our room and board for the whole group and put
18 us up at no cost. And I know that the Village of False
19 Pass would very much like to have us come out for the
20 next meeting.

21

22 And so I'd kind of like to know how is
23 it handled in the other Councils? Do they only meet in
24 the hub or how do they get their representation? And I
25 know we've got some of the biggest spread of geography,
26 but I know my friend from Yakutat goes all the way to
27 Sitka and Ketchikan and Metlakatla and all over the
28 place. So how do the other Councils handle it?

29

30 MS. WILKINSON: Mr. Chair. Well, it is
31 quite different from region to region. Just the
32 communities, their sizes, travel. Everything's
33 different in Alaska from one region to the other.
34 Other Councils do primarily meet in the hubs, but there
35 have been occasions when they've, you know, asked for
36 and met in more -- well, rural is just not to me a good
37 term for this, because it's an agricultural term, and I
38 have a hard time saying it. In more remote locations.

39

40

41 They have met, say, the Bethel --
42 excuse me, the Y-K Council usually meets in Bethel or
43 St. Mary's, but they have also met in just recently
44 Mountain Village. So the Western Interior Council
45 primarily meets in its hubs of Galena or McGrath, but
46 they've also met in Holy Cross recently. So it's very
47 flexible.

48

49 Southeast has a very different set up.
50 There are just so many more planes there and much

1 different for them. They can travel by ferry, and have
2 a lot of different option for traveling there.

3

4 I'm trying to think. And then, of
5 course, the road system in Eastern Interior and
6 Southcentral allows them to meet in other communities
7 as well. But even at that, they still usually meet
8 once a year in Anchorage or Fairbanks, you know, for
9 Eastern Interior and then once out in a more remote
10 community.

11

12 Does that answer your question.

13

14 MR. HOLMES: Yes, Ann. Thank you very
15 much. I know myself and probably all the Council
16 members, if we're going to a more remote place, you
17 know, I mean, the accommodations at Cold Bay are really
18 swell, but, you know, if we go to Unimak, I wouldn't
19 mind sleeping on the floor of the rec center with my
20 sleeping bag as long as I know to bring it.

21

22 And I know I say it at almost every
23 meeting, but if there's a way to reduce the amount of
24 Staff coming to a meeting, and when we do the remote
25 one, and teleconference, then I think that would be
26 really swell, because we can get the input over the
27 phone. Most places have phones. And I just would go
28 through my old story of our last trip to Sand Point
29 where we had Dr. Fried and our coordinator and the
30 recorder. And then the following year, time we went
31 out to Cold Bay, then we must have had 15 different
32 Federal folks coming. And it's a nice place to go.
33 It's swell to go berry picking and stuff. But, you
34 know, if a person's only going to talk five minutes,
35 why can't we do it on the phone and let the Council get
36 out to more remote places.

37

38 Thank you.

39

40 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Agree with that.
41 I think Polly had her hand up first, and then we'll get
42 to you, Rick.

43

44 DR. WHEELER: Mr Chair. Just to help
45 things along maybe. You might want to consider
46 suggesting an amendment to your charter, but also
47 including this as one on the administrative items in
48 your Annual Report so that you've got double coverage
49 where you're interested in meeting in rural areas. And
50 I think you might want to consider -- I mean, you have

1 an addendum to your membership. On Page 42 it say for
2 geographic diversity, it's the goal to seat four
3 members that reside on Kodiak and three members that
4 reside on the Alaska Peninsula and the Aleutian and
5 Pribilof Islands. So because you have that goal
6 specifically in your charter, you can link that back to
7 the need to travel to rural areas outside of Kodiak so
8 that you can generate some interest. As Della said,
9 it's hard for people to be interested if they never see
10 it. So you may want to do something like that in your
11 annual a report so you've got the suggested addition to
12 your Charter, but also you're mentioning it in your
13 annual report. Then it gets up to the Federal Board in
14 both places.

15

16 Mr. Chair.

17

18 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Polly.
19 We'll put it in there.

20

21 Rick.

22

23 MR. ROWLAND: I'd like to make a motion
24 to recommend that an addition be put in under meetings
25 to the Charter, and it be written as a Council meeting
26 will occur at a regional hub and one meeting at a rural
27 community -- in a rural community at the choice of the
28 Council.

29

30 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: A motion has been
31 made. Does everyone understand the motion.

32

33 (No comments)

34

35 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Do I hear a
36 second.

37

38 MR. CRATTY: Second.

39

40 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Moved and
41 seconded. Is there discussion.

42

43 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair.

44

45 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Della.

46

47 MS. TRUMBLE: And this (indiscernible)
48 the Aleutians is technically the other communities so
49 to speak, because the regional hub is Kodiak.

50

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Say that again,
2 Della, please.
3
4 MS. TRUMBLE: The point I think is
5 technically our regional hub is Kodiak for the
6 Kodiak/Aleutians. So when you're saying another -- you
7 know, another community, technically the other
8 community in our case is Aleutian region.
9
10 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair.
11
12 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah, go ahead,
13 Rick.
14
15 MR. ROWLAND: Under my interpretation
16 of a regional hub, I'm from the village, and I think
17 Anchorage is a hub. And anything that's considered a
18 rural community is an outlying rural community, so any
19 community in the region that is considered rural would
20 fit under the second meeting.
21
22 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al.
23
24 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair. Al Cratty.
25
26 I think what Della's concern is that we
27 do have meetings down on the Chain. I think that's
28 what I'm hearing from here. She's just voicing that
29 Kodiak has been chosen as the hub, and I think she
30 feels that the Aleutians are being left out. I think
31 that's where she's coming from. So what she's trying
32 to say, if would could have one meeting in the hub,
33 they would suggest that we have a meeting in the
34 Aleutians the next meeting. You know what I'm trying
35 to say, one meeting in the hub, and one meeting in the
36 Aleutians. I think that's right.
37
38 MS. TRUMBLE: Thanks, Al.
39
40 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Does that make a
41 change to your motion.
42
43 MS. TRUMBLE: I think, Mr. Chair, where
44 I'm headed with this is we are, and I don't know if
45 this is accurate or not, but are we the only statewide
46 RAC that has two regions in one? I think most all the
47 other regions -- well, you have Bristol Bay including
48 the Chigniks, the Chigniks technically are part of
49 Bristol Bay.
50

1 I'm not sure what the right word of
2 correctness is, but I feel like it should be one
3 meeting in Kodiak and one meeting in the Aleutians.
4 You know where I'm headed with this. Because I don't
5 feel like it's fair to the people in the Aleutians to
6 technically not be represented, and in a sense we
7 really weren't to some degree. And that's where I'm
8 headed with this. And Pete and I have had a long
9 discussion about this. And so I'm not sure how that --
10 but I feel like it can be addressed and it should be
11 addressed, whether it be the Kodiak/Aleutians
12 technically have two hub sites, and that's Kodiak and
13 Cold Bay. And also requesting that on occasion that we
14 need -- at least that a meeting can be held in a
15 smaller community outside of the hub sites. So maybe
16 that's more correct as to whether I'm headed with this.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. I was
21 wondering if you might want to maybe have a committee
22 work on some language on that with the permission of
23 Rick, because I think we need to clarify this, because
24 we need to have a good distribution of our meetings on
25 the Alaska Peninsula, Aleutians, and the Pribilofs, so
26 we need to get that in here, but then on occasion there
27 may be a case on Kodiak, not necessarily to meet in the
28 town of Kodiak, but we've had meetings in the past in
29 Old Harbor, and, you know, I'm sure my grandson here
30 would help facilitate that. We've never been to Larsen
31 Bay or to Akhiok even. And, you know, I think let's
32 say when we were having the goat discussions, it would
33 have been really good to get down to the south end. Or
34 when we had the discussions on geese where we made some
35 recommendations, you know, we didn't do an action on
36 it, but we made some recommendations that worked out,
37 it would have been good to go down to Old Harbor and,
38 you know, have that type of interaction.

39

40 So perhaps it might work to just
41 appoint some folks to scribble something out that might
42 try to get all those concepts together rather than talk
43 about it. Is that acceptable.

44

45 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair.

46

47 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Your motion, Rick.

48

49 MR. ROWLAND: For purposes of
50 discussion in the motion, my opinion about the rural

1 community is any outlying community in the region,
2 whether it's Atka, Nikolski, Akutan, Akhiok, Karluk,
3 any community in the region that the Regional Advisory
4 Council -- St. Paul, St. George -- chooses to have a
5 meeting at, that would allow this Council to go to a
6 rural community and communicate with those members in
7 the whole region. That was my intent of having a
8 second meeting in a rural community. So I think it's
9 fairly clear and broad, and having more specifics on it
10 would complicate it more.

11

12 That's all I have to say.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. So you
15 don't feel that a committee is warranted to discuss
16 this further.

17

18 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. We need to
19 have some one or two sentences that spells out what you
20 described in three paragraphs, and I've described in a
21 couple, and Al has. You know, we have to get it down
22 small.

23

24 MR. ROWLAND: She's probably already
25 got it.

26

27 MR. HOLMES: Maybe we could go back to
28 our esteemed coordinator who's really good at putting
29 together a lot of verbal discussion into small.....

30

31 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Ann.

32

33 MS. WILKINSON: Thank you for your
34 compliments, but I know that some of you have written
35 down things. I mean, I've written it down, too, some,
36 what I can. But if you have some notes, and you want
37 me to write it up, just please give them to me.

38

39 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair.

40

41 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al.

42

43 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair. Al Cratty.

44

45 I'd just like to make sure that the
46 Aleutians is getting their fair share of meetings down
47 there. It doesn't bother me to have it in the hub or
48 outside the hub. I'd like to have it voiced where we
49 have one meeting either in the spring in the Aleutians,
50 or one in the fall, and one meeting in Kodiak. You can

1 either put the rural area or the hub area, but we need
2 to address their problems also. I feel they're left
3 out of this. So that's my opinion.

4

5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Alex.

6

7 MR. PANAMAROFF: Thank you, Mr.
8 Chairman. Alex Panamaroff, Larson Bay.

9

10 Yeah, I agree with Al, because, you
11 know, I don't know, I believe we only have two meetings
12 a year normally. And I think we should kind of have it
13 in -- if we're going to do a rural versus urban -- or
14 actually we're all rural on Kodiak, but the outlying
15 areas, I think we need to do one in Kodiak and also one
16 for the Aleutians. I think that's very important that
17 we get the Aleutians involved as far as having one
18 meeting in one of their rural areas or the hub.
19 Whatever. But I think we should always have one in
20 Kodiak area and one in the Aleutian area for each year.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Della.

25

26 MS. TRUMBLE: I just thank everybody
27 for their comments. Would it be appropriate to make a
28 motion to that respect, because technically that is
29 exactly what I started with, because technically at
30 this point we have to request a meeting within the
31 Aleutian region, because the way this is written, it's
32 assigned to hub. So I would appreciate, and then I'd
33 like to call a for motion in that respect.

34

35 The other thing I think that comes to
36 my attention and certainly listening to the discussion
37 if we did have our meeting all day, but given that
38 Unimak caribou issue, it might have been more
39 appropriate in that respect to have had that meeting if
40 we were at all able to, and I know that it get tough
41 because of the hotel issues and having to be -- you
42 have to have a CCR number to sort of be able to have
43 people to stay there, but that would have been
44 appropriate I think to have had that meeting in False
45 Pass (indiscernible, fades out).

46

47 But that's the comments I have right
48 now. Thanks.

49

50 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. The motion

1 on the floor is to have one meeting at the hub, Kodiak,
2 the second meeting at a rural location, and that rural
3 location would -- how would you -- you know, the rural
4 location does not identify the Aleutians.

5
6 MR. ROWLAND: It would be at the choice
7 of the Council. For clarification of the motion, it
8 would be a meeting in the rural community at the choice
9 of the Council. So that means that this Council could
10 choose where their rural meeting is going to be at,
11 whether it's Atka, Adak, Akutan, Cold Bay, False Pass,
12 all the Aleutians, because it's important that the
13 people in the Aleutians get meetings as well, as well
14 as the people in Akhiok or Karluk get to participate,
15 so I think that it's important that this Council gets
16 out to those rural communities in the region. So it so
17 states that it's the choice of the Council to go to
18 those places.

19
20 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Pat.

21
22 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. If I might
23 offer an amendment with the permission of Mr. Rowland,
24 and I think this might encompass everyone's comments,
25 because we have the concept of remote, we have the
26 concept of Aleutians, but rural -- I think we should
27 say remote. But let me run this statement by you
28 folks.

29
30 The goal of our Council is to have an
31 equitable distribution of meetings each year between
32 Kodiak communities and the Alaska Peninsula,
33 Aleutian/Pribilof Islands to include one meeting each
34 year in a remote community at the choice of the
35 Council.

36
37 Because then that kind of -- I think
38 that gets most of your thoughts, Al's, Alex's, and,
39 anyway, I'd like to see what folks think of that,
40 because I think that gets it all together. That's my
41 best attempt.

42
43 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Pat, as far
44 as been concerned right now, that was information for
45 the Board. And if you want to make that as motion,
46 would you state it, I move, and then reread amendment.

47
48 MR. HOLMES: I would like to amend
49 Rick's motion to state, the goal of our Council is to
50 have an equitable distribution of meetings each year

1 between Kodiak communities and the Alaska Peninsula,
2 Aleutians/Pribilof Islands to include one meeting in a
3 remote community at the choice of the Council.

4

5 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chairman. This is
6 Della. I'll second the amendment.

7

8 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Moved and
9 seconded. As the maker of the motion, Rick, you have
10 first opportunity to speak.

11

12 MR. ROWLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
13 Rick Rowland.

14

15 My intention of the motion is to have
16 meetings in the rural communities, and simply that, so
17 I could get out and communicate with those people that
18 I know in Adak or Nikolski or Akutan or King Cove or
19 Akhiok or Karluk. That's the intention of the motion.
20 And it's simply stating that this Council needs to get
21 out to those rural communities, because I don't see
22 anywhere in the -- I think if there was an error in my
23 motion-making, it was with the fact of regional hub,
24 because we're all considered rural. And I think that
25 the simple is better, to keep it broader to where if
26 it's a rural community and the Council gets to pick
27 where they go, then they could go to all those
28 communities.

29

30 That's it.

31

32 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chairman.

33

34 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Della.

35

36 MS. TRUMBLE: I think I'm not familiar
37 with the person talking, but where I'm heading, and I
38 think Al, I know you understand this, and Pete, is that
39 technically the Aleutians is (indiscernible, cutting
40 out) classified as a hub site with this, so if we had
41 to -- as Al said, have to pick the hub site, then that
42 hub site would be Kodiak and possibly Cold Bay. And
43 it's cheaper to fly to Sand Point for a meeting.
44 That's where I'm headed with this. I think if the
45 Council would make a meeting and the calendar, we set
46 our meetings, we set one in Kodiak, we set one in the
47 Aleutian region. And that has happened, and matter of
48 fact even set one in the Aleutian region and it came
49 down to us, and (indiscernible) will meet, made this
50 decision last winter in Kodiak, but we have to have a

1 request. We have to submit a request to have a meeting
2 in the Aleutian region, and that was when I was head
3 over fist (ph). I realize it's important to have
4 meetings in the rural areas when we're able to it if
5 the cost allows. And if the small communities by
6 government standards, and, you know, after 9-11 it gets
7 tougher and tougher. You know, you have to all under
8 the protocol, so it's not an easy thing. But at least
9 minimally have a meeting in each of (indiscernible,
10 cuts out) one each year in each region.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Pat.

15

16 MR. HOLMES: Okay. Mr. Chairman. Mr.
17 Rowland. You've expressed your intent, but your motion
18 does not achieve your intent. You need to -- when you
19 deal with these sort of bylaws and Charters and things,
20 you need to be very specific, because you can't have a
21 footnote and say, my intent is to do what you have to
22 say. You have to have your motion so that you --
23 because your motion basically puts us in the same place
24 we are now. Our Council recommends that we choose a
25 place, and then we're overridden, you know, if we don't
26 have a good justification. And so all I'm trying to do
27 is to just specifically get into one or two sentences
28 what the Council's been talking about. And that was
29 why I was originally suggesting we just have a
30 committee to put something together so that we can have
31 this without -- so basically I'll vote against your
32 motion and propose another motion, and it's silly for
33 us to be in this bureaucratic fal-de-rol of, you know,
34 committees, because we just need to be specific so that
35 we get a meeting here in Kodiak and one in the
36 Aleutian, Alaska Peninsula and the Pribilof area. And,
37 you know, saying rural, that's the whole region.

38

39 Because sometimes we'll need to go to
40 some place like False Pass, and, you know, if they
41 don't have all the Federal requirements, then, fine,
42 I'll sleep on a floor, you know, rather than -- and not
43 pay anybody. Or I'd rather to go to Tom Hoblet's house
44 and have a bowl of seal soup than to eat at a hotel in
45 Anchorage or Kodiak.

46

47 And I'm just trying to find a way,
48 because everyone's been expressing intent, and we have
49 to say in a motion for the Charter, we have to get some
50 very specific verbiage to achieve the goals of

1 everyone's intent. That's all I'm trying to do.

2

3 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Rick.

4

5 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair. Thank you,
6 Pat, for the comment and foretelling the future of your
7 vote for the motion on the floor. It appears to me
8 that it doesn't sound like you want to get out to the
9 villages and communicate with the members that are out
10 there.

11

12 But my whole intent is to get out to
13 the village and communicate with those individuals.
14 And my job here is not to make charters or regulations
15 or laws or statutes. My job here is to recommend and
16 make suggestions to the Board to make decisions. So
17 that's the reason why I made the motion to make a
18 recommendation to add an adjustment. Because I can't
19 sit here and say, hey, this is the way it should be,
20 because ultimately somebody else is going to make a
21 decision on this.

22

23 So my recommendation is that we as
24 Council pick one spot to go to a rural community and I
25 have been told by one of my elders we don't have any
26 teeth, so I know that I have to have all the
27 information that I can, and I get that from
28 communicating with the individuals in the village, and
29 so I'd like to get out and see them however it's
30 decided upon.

31

32 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: First Sam, then
33 Al.

34

35 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair.

36

37 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: You're third on
38 the list, Della.

39

40 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. Sam Rohrer
41 here. Rick, I hear what you're saying, I hear what
42 Pat's saying, I hear what everyone else is saying.
43 It's all the same. Pat's motion is -- it clarifies
44 what you were saying and it's exactly what you're
45 trying to accomplish is what Pat's saying. It's a
46 little bit more specific, and we need to -- I really
47 think we need to vote on the amended motion and move
48 on. But he's really saying exactly what you want to
49 say. I mean, you guys have the exact same concerns.
50 We all have the same concerns. It's just clarified a

1 little bit better, and I think we need to vote on it
2 and move on.

3

4 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Al.

5

6 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Yeah, I
7 feel the same way. I think he's actually voicing the
8 same thing, Rick, just putting it in different wording
9 so it's seen a lot better, because the way he's wording
10 it, you've got to be able to word it so that they read
11 it the way it's read. I agree with you, you're saying
12 the same thing as he's saying in different words. So I
13 just wanted to voice my opinion.

14

15 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thanks for
16 that, Al.

17

18 Della.

19

20 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair. I would agree
21 with the last two people. I think we're getting -- need
22 a break here, because we're all saying the same thing
23 but in a different manner.

24

25 Going to a rural community is always
26 the best thing we can do. I'm not as concerned with
27 rural, because we're all rural. A different community
28 outside of what is classified as hubs in our two
29 regions is always a good thing, because that's how we
30 learn. But at this point, like I said, I was just
31 asking to at least be recognized as a site, because we
32 weren't, and the way this has been set up in the past.

33

34 And I think to even give you some
35 better insight as to this, I can give you -- if you ask
36 Ann what the process is, if we were to request a
37 meeting and have it at Unalaska -- and let's not use
38 Unalaska. Let's use Adak. And that kind of gives you
39 a better education as to exactly what the process is.
40 And at this point that process is what needs to be
41 followed for us to even have one meeting within the
42 Aleutian region.

43

44 And that was where I was headed with
45 all of this. And I'm sorry if there's a
46 miscommunication, but that was my point.

47

48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Is there
49 any further discussion on this. I think our procedure
50 would be to vote on the amendment.

1 And, Rick, do you have something more.
2
3 MR. ROWLAND: I'd like to make a motion
4 to amend the amendment and then change the one word
5 from remote to rural.
6
7 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Amendment
8 to the amendment. Is there a second.
9
10 MR. CRATTY: Second.
11
12 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: It's moved and
13 seconded. Any discussion.
14
15 MR. HOLMES: I guess if rural defines
16 -- you know, I don't have any big problem with that.
17 I'm just trying to get it so that some bureaucrat in
18 Anchorage doesn't say Kodiak's rural enough for me or
19 Sand Point's rural enough to me, when the Council's
20 trying to get to False Pass or Nelson Lagoon. Or even
21 go out and see some friends out in Atka. That's one of
22 my favorite places, and I've spent many, many months
23 there. But I don't have a problem. Whichever I guess.
24 It depends on if that is going to communicate well
25 enough that we want to get out in the boondocks. So I
26 have no problem.
27
28 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any further
29 discussion. Sam.
30
31 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. Could somebody
32 read us the amended motion, please.
33
34 MR. HOLMES: Well, Mr. Chairman. Pat.
35
36 I guess with Rick's comment, the goal
37 of our Council is to have equitable distribution of
38 meetings each year between Kodiak communities and the
39 Alaska Peninsula, Aleutians/Pribilof Islands to include
40 one meeting in a, Rick's amendment is changing remote
41 to rural, in a rural community at the choice of the
42 Council.
43
44 Does that fit?
45
46 (No comments)
47
48 MR. HOLMES: Okay. That's where we're
49 at. Mr. Chairman.
50

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Al.
2
3 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair. Al Cratty.
4
5 I am still having a problem with that.
6 I don't know, are you stating having one meeting in the
7 Kodiak area and then one meeting in the Aleutians. So
8 we're divvying up the meetings so the Aleutians are
9 getting their fair shake of it. Your wording doesn't
10 say that. I don't know if that's going fly.
11
12 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: It's in there.
13 It's in the original motion.
14
15 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you.
16
17 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: We just have two
18 amendments dealing with the rural area.
19
20 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. Pat.
21
22 I think I got Al's thing down. How
23 about if we look at it saying between Kodiak Island
24 communities and then that could be the town of Kodiak
25 or a village on Kodiak, and if that would be an
26 acceptable addition to our discussion amendments.
27
28 So should I read it again.
29
30 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Well, that is.....
31
32 MR. HOLMES: Would that get you what
33 you needed?
34
35 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair.
36
37 MR. ROHRER: You changed that, Pat.
38 It's the third amendment.
39
40 MR. HOLMES: Okay.
41
42 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Al.
43
44 MR. CRATTY: Al Cratty. What I'm
45 trying to state is we have one meeting in the Kodiak,
46 if it's rural or whatever, and one meeting in the
47 Aleutians. And I don't hear that in his amendment.
48 I'm just hearing having meetings in Kodiak and rural
49 areas. You aren't defining having one meeting in
50 Kodiak, one in Aleutians.

1 MR. HOLMES: In Alaska Peninsula,
2 Aleutian/Pribilof Islands.
3
4 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Could you write
5 the motion.
6
7 MR. HOLMES: So that's one, and here's
8 the other. Mr. Chairman. I think it's clarified here.
9 I showed Mr. Cratty the sentence and so it separates
10 out Kodiak communities and then the other communities
11 in our region so that we get equitable distribution in
12 all areas. So I think we've got it covered.
13
14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. For
15 clarification can we have our recorder go back and
16 start with the main motion, the first amendment and the
17 second amendment. Can you dig it out of your computer.
18
19 REPORTER: That would take a few
20 minutes, but I'm sure Ann should have it recorded for
21 you.
22
23 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. All right.
24 Back with.....
25
26 MS. WILKINSON: I'm not going to have
27 it verbatim as they had it written down. Just have
28 each person read their amendment back. That would be
29 the most clear way to do it, and then the main motion,
30 because I've just got key words for right now.
31
32 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Rick.
33
34 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair. Rick Rowland.
35
36 We're in amendment, and the motion
37 that's amending the first motion is Pat's motion, and
38 the second amendment is just changing the word remote
39 to rural in Pat's motion. And so that would change the
40 original motion, and I'm sure it's okay, that it is
41 written appropriately by the coordinator.
42
43 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Any further
44 discussion on the second amendment to the motion.
45
46 (No comments)
47
48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Do I hear a call
49 for the question so that we can end discussion.
50

1 MR. CRATTY: Call for question.
2
3 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: The question is
4 called. All those in favor say aye.
5
6 IN UNISON: Aye.
7
8 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Those opposed.
9
10 (No opposing votes)
11
12 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: The second
13 amendment to the motion was to change the word from
14 remote location to rural. All those in favor say aye.
15
16 IN UNISON: Aye.
17
18 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Those opposed same
19 sign.
20
21 (No opposing votes)
22
23 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: The motion passed.
24 The second amendment was -- could you help me, Rick?
25 Or, Pat, you made that second amendment to the main
26 motion.
27
28 MR. HOLMES: Okay. I think this is
29 where we're at. The goal of our Council is to have an
30 equitable distribution of meetings each year between
31 Kodiak communities and the Alaska Peninsula,
32 Aleutians/Pribilof Islands area, to include one meeting
33 in a rural community at the choice of the Council.
34
35 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. All those
36 in favor of the second amendment to the motion say aye.
37
38 IN UNISON: Aye.
39
40 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Those opposed same
41 sign.
42
43 (No opposing votes)
44
45 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Motion carries.
46 And the main motion. All those in favor of the main
47 motion signify by saying aye.
48
49 IN UNISON: Aye.
50

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Those opposed same
2 sign.
3
4 (No opposing votes)
5
6 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: The motion
7 carries.
8
9 Okay. Before we get into anything
10 else, let's take a 10-minute break.
11
12 (Off record)
13
14 (On record)
15
16 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Before we
17 continue, I'd like to ask the Board are we satisfied
18 with the way we want our Charter to be now.
19
20 SEVERAL: Yes.
21
22 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. If we're
23 done with that, then the next item on the agenda is
24 agency reports.
25
26 And I believe Mr. Pappas wanted to move
27 some agenda items forward. Go ahead.
28
29 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
30 George Pappas, Department of Fish and Game. We have a
31 big contingency of Fish and Game Staff available to
32 present to you. I believe they have three
33 presentation. And with your permission, we'd like, if
34 it's okay with you, to move them up in the agenda.
35 It's up to the Council.
36
37 We have Larry Van Daele, Joe
38 Dinnocenzo, and Tyler.
39
40 So it's up to you, sir, just making a
41 request, sir.
42
43 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: We'll ask
44 consensus of the Board to move those items forward so
45 that they can get them done.
46
47 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair. Al Cratty. I
48 agree with doing that.
49
50 MR. HOLMES: And I'll second that.

1 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair. Just a
2 question about the previous note about the Charter.
3 Did we need to have a motion on that or not?

4
5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I would think so,
6 yes. We suggested changes and we need a motion so that
7 we may present them to the Federal Board, unless Ann
8 thinks that we can just present it as is.

9
10 MS. WILKINSON: Excuse me, Mr. Chair.
11 I assume that's what that motion was for, is to put
12 that in the request for amending your Charter and in
13 the annual report.

14
15 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. If you've
16 got it written that way, then it's done. Okay.

17
18 Then the next item on the agenda is the
19 agency reports. I need to clarify which items did we
20 move forward, George?

21
22 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
23 George Pappas.

24
25 We're looking at, under Item No. 13.
26 D., Alaska Department of Fish and Game would be moved
27 up to right above A in Item No. 13.

28
29 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

30
31 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you.
32 And welcome, Larry. We'll give you the floor.

33
34 MR. VAN DAELE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman
35 and committee members.

36
37 I'll make this brief, because I know
38 you have a very busy agenda, and I appreciate your
39 working us in on this.

40
41 I've distributed a copy of the
42 PowerPoint presentation that I'll be presenting to the
43 Alaska Board of Game next week in their deliberations.
44 And I don't intend to go through this entire packet,
45 but it does give you a level of detail that you may be
46 interested in in each one of the species around here.
47 And we can discuss if you want.

48
49 But just as a relatively quick
50 overview, the wildlife populations here in the

1 archipelago, especially the big game populations, are
2 all doing very well.

3

4 With regard to deer, we feel our deer
5 population has been increasing for the past few years
6 with the more mild winters. Our last winter that we're
7 currently experiencing, unless something dramatic
8 changes, is probably one of the most mild we've had in
9 the past five years. And that seems to be the driving
10 factor.

11

12 We're harvesting around 4600 deer a
13 year now, and hunter success is increasing as the
14 number of deer also increase.

15

16 We did a study on chronic wasting
17 disease of deer over the past six years, and we
18 collected almost 1400 deer heads and analyzed them, and
19 found no evidence whatsoever of chronic wasting disease
20 anywhere in the archipelago. So again the deer
21 population appears to be healthy both in numbers and in
22 its bodily health.

23

24 There's still concern about some deer
25 on the south end of the island in particular in the --
26 well, in your backyard, Mr. Chairman, of having
27 abnormal testicular development, and we continue to try
28 to collect information on that. That appears to be
29 more habitat related than it does genetic or any
30 disease relations.

31

32 So any questions with regard to deer.

33

34 Mr. Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah, just one
37 with that with that testicular abnormality. Has that
38 spread? Last I heard, it was on the Aliulik Peninsula.
39 Is it areawide now, or how is that?

40

41 MR. VAN DAELE: No, it seems to be --
42 the focal point seems to be in the Aliulik Peninsula
43 and just a little bit to the west of that, Hepburn
44 Peninsula and so forth. It appears to be correlated
45 with the tundra type of habitat that the deer are
46 using.

47

48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Is that
49 affecting the population in that area?

50

1 MR. VAN DAELE: Not that we've been
2 able to tell. You know, as all the Board members here
3 know, we don't have real good ways to actually count
4 deer like we do the goats and the elks. We rely a lot
5 on incidental observations from other surveys and a lot
6 from talking to hunters and villagers. But there's no
7 indication that we've seen that the productivity on the
8 Aliulik Peninsula has declined because of that.
9 There's still a lot of hunters that go down there, and
10 still plenty of deer for them for what I've seen.
11 Again, I'll defer to you, because that's your backyard.

12
13 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. One last
14 question. How's that for human consumption? Are they
15 safe?

16
17 MR. VAN DAELE: We have no indications
18 whatsoever that they are not safe. They seem to be
19 disease free. The deer that do have the abnormal
20 testicular development, or steer deer as we commonly
21 call them, like in cattle, a steer tends to -- once
22 it's castrated, tends to have more fat deposition and
23 actually better tasting meat than a regular cow would,
24 and that's what we're seeing with these, too. These
25 steer deer actually have better survival over the
26 winter than an intact buck would.

27
28 But, no, there's no indication
29 whatsoever that they're a problem for human
30 consumption.

31
32 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you.

33
34 MR. VAN DAELE: Okay. If no other
35 questions, I'll move on to elk very briefly. We do
36 have some concerns with our elk population up on the
37 Afognak, Raspberry in that the population had declined
38 over the past five years. Part of that decline may be
39 habitat related, because there's more logging in the
40 wintering areas that we know the elk use. Part of it
41 is because we've had tough winters, and we have not had
42 either the productivity or the survival that we'd like
43 to see in some of our herds. And part of it may be
44 that we harvested too many for a couple years when we
45 didn't get good surveys.

46
47 The bottom line is the last three years
48 we've had the population stabilize at around 650
49 animals. This is Page 7 of the handout that I gave
50 you, on the top. And we've dramatically reduced the

1 number of permits for those elk to try to get this herd
2 to rebound. I suspect that we'll start seeing more of
3 an increase in the elk population this coming season,
4 again because we've had a mild winter and we really
5 reduced the harvest of bulls. That's our biggest
6 concern. We've got less than 10 bulls per 100 cows out
7 there now. And that's not a healthy population, not a
8 healthy situation. That's why when we had our
9 registration hunt this year, it was no pull harvest
10 whatsoever.

11
12 Consequently, as you can see from the
13 bottom graph there on Page 7, our harvest, we only
14 killed about 26 elk this past year, which is way down
15 from what it's been in the past. But everyone seems to
16 recognize the fact that we're in a rebuilding mode with
17 those animals, and we should be able to bring them back
18 hopefully fairly quickly.

19
20 We'll be doing a radio collaring
21 project on Afognak elk, put a dozen more collars out
22 there so we can watch them more carefully. We've been
23 working closely with Afognak Native Corporation and
24 Natives of Kodiak and Ouzinkie Corporation in looking
25 at their logging regimes and getting tremendous
26 information and cooperation from them on where the
27 animals are at, and where hunters can go within their
28 lands. So it's a good cooperative venture we're doing
29 with the elk right now.

30
31 With regard to elk, we also looked at
32 chronic wasting disease in elk heads. We looked at 81
33 elk over that same six-year period and saw no evidence
34 whatsoever of problems with those.

35
36 So questions on elk.

37
38 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair.

39
40 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Is there -- the
41 subsistence registration hunt is only done up in the
42 northwest corner?

43
44 MR. VAN DAELE: Correct, yes.

45
46 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Is there a reason
47 why that's so far away, why it isn't for all of
48 Afognak?

49
50 MR. VAN DAELE: The Federal subsistence

1 hunts can only occur on Federal lands, Refuge lands.
2 And that corner of the island up there is the National
3 Wildlife Refuge. The rest of the Island is either
4 State-owned or private-owned by the corporations and
5 you can't have Federal subsistence hunts on those.

6
7 Our next big critter we have are
8 mountain goats.

9
10 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I'm sorry. Pat
11 had his hand up.

12
13 MR. HOLMES: Well, I'm just wondering
14 on your chronic wasting investigations, I assume that
15 you've got some deer from the Chiniak/Pasagshak area,
16 and I was just wondering if you were able to get some
17 samples from my friend Bill Burton's critters, his elk.

18
19
20 MR. VAN DAELE: Mr. Holmes, through the
21 Chair. We have samples from across the archipelago,
22 including the Pasagshak/ Narrow Cape area, and
23 including the areas immediately adjacent to Mr.
24 Burton's elk ranch down there. And again there's no
25 evidence whatsoever. We've done opportunistic disease
26 assays of elk that he's had that have been harvested or
27 died naturally, and again those do not have any
28 evidence of chronic wasting disease either. So we
29 don't have it in the population now as best we can
30 tell, and we don't have it within where the course may
31 be, the domestic elk that were brought in. So we feel
32 fairly comfortable that we're okay with that. So we've
33 actually stopped the program now, because we feel we've
34 done what we need to do.

35
36 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Rick.

37
38 MR. ROWLAND: Thank you Mr. Chair.
39 Rick Rowland.

40
41 Larry, I was wondering, I saw you just
42 mentioned something about the radio collaring, and I
43 was looking at your Page 7 slide, and I'm familiar that
44 there was a GPS collaring previously and I'm wondering
45 when that GPS collaring stopped and if it's in relation
46 to your decline of monitoring how many is out there.

47
48 And I'd like to hear about what effect
49 the bear population is having on the elk herd.

50

1 MR. VAN DAELE: Okay. Mr. Rowland
2 through the Chair. We have had conventional radio
3 collars on elk since the 1980s, and that's how we find
4 the herds, and that's how we do our surveys of them
5 with the help of those particular collars.

6
7 The GPS collars that you refer to were
8 a small group of collars that we started putting out in
9 '02 and we also put a couple more out in '07. And the
10 data from those collars were to give us information on
11 the habitats the elk use rather than predation rates or
12 helping us to find the herd to count them. So that's
13 how we now where the critical wintering areas are that
14 I was referring to earlier, primarily Back Bay, Litnik,
15 those chunks of country that have been recently logged
16 are real important wintering areas. And that's what we
17 need to work with a little more carefully.

18
19 So I think that the decline in the herd
20 is real. It's not because we don't have as many
21 collars as we'd like to. And again a lot of our
22 population data now come from the folks in the
23 corporations that are in the field to give us that
24 information. Andy Christoferson is an excellent source
25 of information for us in his enforcement mode out
26 there.

27
28 The second part of your question had to
29 do with predation of bears on the elk. We know there
30 is predation, primarily on calves in some particular
31 areas. What our data indicate is that our radio-
32 collared animals have extremely high survival rates
33 unless they're shot by a hunter. We've never had a
34 radio-collared elk that was killed by a bear. We
35 suspect that there are individual bears that have
36 learned that they're really grizzly bears and they have
37 teeth and claws for a reason, and they can kill an elk
38 calf just like a real grizzly bear can. But for the
39 most part those are few and far between, because it
40 seems like the Afognak bears, like most Kodiak bears,
41 would rather eat things without legs, because they
42 don't run away so fast.

43
44 (Laughter)

45
46 MR. VAN DAELE: I don't believe that
47 this decline is predation caused. The reason I say
48 that, in addition to what I just told you, is our
49 problem is with the bull segment of the population, not
50 with the productivity of calves, not with the cows.

1 And that indicates that human harvest is more important
2 than bear harvest up there. But we will continue to
3 look at that carefully, because we've heard, you know,
4 reports from loggers, reports from local folks that
5 have seen bears chasing calves and bears chasing elk.
6 And again, you know, individual bears will learn how to
7 eat meat. So it's something that we want to be
8 concerned about.

9

10 MR. ROWLAND: Thanks, Larry.

11

12 MR. VAN DAELE: Anything else on the
13 elks. Okay.

14

15 Mountain goats is our next species of
16 interest. Our mountain goat population is doing very
17 well. We figure we have about 2300 elk -- elk. 2300
18 goats on Kodiak Island itself. We have not seen goats
19 move to Afognak, Raspberry, Sitkalidek. There's been
20 one sighting on Uganik, but that was a while ago. So
21 they're pretty much staying on our island right now.

22

23 Because of the increasing area and
24 because of the increasing numbers of elk, we've
25 liberalized the seasons considerably to the point that
26 half of the island now is considered a registration
27 hunt. We have an unlimited number of hunters that can
28 go in there, and I'm sure all of you from Kodiak are
29 aware of that, but Page 10 on the top shows where our
30 registration area is. It's the big area there on the
31 south and west part of the island.

32

33 We did not see a dramatic increase, in
34 fact, we saw a decrease in the harvest this year of
35 goats in spite of the fact that we liberalized the
36 seasons. We suspect that a large reason for that is
37 the economy. It's a lot harder for people to justify a
38 goat hunt when they don't have a job than it is a deer
39 hunt, for instance. And we also suspect that the goat
40 harvest rate will be going up next year and the year
41 after that once the economy improves and once people
42 realize that they can go on this registration hunt down
43 on the south end.

44

45 Our population on Page 11, you look at
46 that graph on the very top. We think our population is
47 stabilized now, but we don't know for sure. U.S. Fish
48 and Wildlife Service is helping us considerably on
49 monitoring the goat population, and I know they have
50 some proposals to do more specific research on goat

1 movements and goat habitat use, that we're working on a
2 joint proposal, with they're taking the lead on that.
3 So hopefully we'll have some more information about the
4 goats, where they go, what they do and so forth in the
5 future.

6
7 On the central part of the island and
8 this eastern part of the island where we still have our
9 drawing hunts, for the most part the goat populations
10 seem to be stable. And it seems that harvest is in
11 concert with the productivity of those populations. So
12 there's not much of a concern about over-harvest in
13 there, and we don't feel we need to liberalize it any
14 more.

15
16 When I finish with population by
17 population discussion, I'll talk about some proposals
18 before the Board of Game, and we may want to get some
19 input from you guys, because there is again a
20 discussion, a proposal to say we don't like the idea of
21 registering for goat hunts on Kodiak in the villages.
22 That's continually a sore spot for people from off-
23 island. But we can get to that when I get to the
24 actual proposals.

25
26 So that's the basics for mountain
27 goats. Any questions. Comments.

28
29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Al.

30
31 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair. Yeah. Larry,
32 you know, me being a transporter in Old Harbor, I was
33 down around Three Saints and Kaiuganak this year, and I
34 didn't see that very many goats around there. I don't
35 know if they moved out. Well, you know, there was a
36 lot of snow, too, and it seemed like I would have seen
37 them down lower, but I actually didn't see as many as
38 I've seen in recent years. I don't know what the deal
39 was there.

40
41 MR. VAN DAELE: Okay. Yeah, we should
42 talk about that. I would like to hear your thoughts on
43 that, because that is one of the areas that's in this
44 registration hunt and could real easily be hit hard by
45 people.

46
47 MR. CRATTY: Yeah. Maybe they moved
48 out or they're up where I couldn't see them, but with
49 the way the snow was, I thought, you know, usually
50 they're down low, you know.....

1 MR. VAN DAELE: Yeah, push them right
2 down.

3
4 MR. CRATTY:on both points when
5 you come out of there.

6
7 MR. VAN DAELE: Uh-huh. Okay.
8 Continuing the discussion with the brown bears. The
9 brown bear population is stable to increasing on most
10 parts of the archipelago. We guesstimate we've got
11 about 3500 bears on the island. And everyone tells me
12 that that's way low. And it probably is. But anyway
13 we have as many bears as I think we've ever had here on
14 Kodiak in historic times.

15
16 As the bear population has increased,
17 we've also increased the number of permits. We now
18 issue 501 drawing permits each year to both residents
19 and non-residents. You can see on the bottom of Page
20 12 that those are by decade, but our number of bears
21 that we're harvesting has continued to increase. And
22 if you look at the top of Page 13, you see the number
23 of trophy-sized bears is also continuing to increase.
24 So although we're killing more bears, we're still
25 harvesting very large bears, and it's something that
26 helps the economic value of the bear hunts here on
27 Kodiak.

28
29 As far as bear management and research
30 is concerned, we have two -- or three studies going on
31 right now with the help of universities. One is
32 looking at what bears eat in different parts of the
33 island by analyzing heir hair, because you can see
34 roughly what an animal is eating by what chemicals are
35 put down in that animals hair while it's growing. We
36 are doing a study, Fish and Wildlife Service is taking
37 the lead in the Karluk basin with GPS collars to find
38 out where bears move and what resources they use down
39 there. And in the Sitkalidek area and Old Harbor area
40 we've got GPS collars again to find out what the bears
41 are doing on that island, which is a fascinating
42 situation where bear numbers were pushed down to very,
43 very low numbers during the ranching that was done on
44 the island, but it increased dramatically since then.

45
46 And to me probably the most exciting
47 part of that study is that data that were collected
48 over the past three years in that study were analyzed
49 by a couple -- I think they were high school students,
50 Al, for the science fair. And those two young ladies

1 went to the State Science Fair, because they won the
2 competition here regionally as well as in Old Harbor.
3 And I think that's really exciting to take data that
4 were collected in their backyard to be used for that
5 purpose, so to me that's just a real neat thing that's
6 going on with that.

7

8 We've also had some exchanges with some
9 Russian biologists that came over here from central
10 Russia last spring to learn how we count bears and how
11 we radio collar bears.

12

13 We did an intensive aerial survey as we
14 do every year of a portion of the island. We did it in
15 Karluk basin this past year and found out that there
16 were fewer bears than we expected, but we also suspect
17 that that was because of a very, very late spring and
18 late den emergence of the bears. We don't think there
19 was a decline. However, we want to recalculate that.
20 We want to go out there again this spring and count the
21 bears to make sure there wasn't -- to make sure it was
22 anomaly of when we actually did that.

23

24 For public outreach, we still have a
25 very active group of local citizens called the Kodiak
26 Unified Bear Subcommittee. It's a subcommittee of the
27 Fish and Game Advisory Committee. And they have a
28 course that they teach at the Kodiak Community College
29 on commercial bear viewing. How to do it in an ethical
30 manner, how to do it in a cultural respectful manner.
31 And they work together with bear safety presentations
32 and also other types of public outreach here in town.

33

34 As far as other management programs,
35 the Village of Larsen Bay has taken the lead in showing
36 other villages around here how you can build an
37 electric fence and maintain it and really reduce the
38 number of bears in your back yard. I don't want to
39 speak for you, but I believe that's been a real
40 success.....

41

42 MR. PANAMAROFF: It has.

43

44 MR. VAN DAELE:in the way it has,
45 and to me it should be a real source of pride, because
46 it's not an agency-pushed thing. It's a grassroots
47 village type of effort to take it on yourself. I don't
48 know if you want to speak to that at all or.....

49

50 MR. PANAMAROFF: Yeah. Thank you. Mr.

1 Chairman. Alex Panamaroff.

2

3 Yeah. Since we've had that fence up, I
4 can't remember how long, about five, six years, we
5 haven't had one bear incident, one bear going into the
6 dump area since we've had an electric fence up. The
7 problem, the only main problem with keeping it -- we
8 have a sun panel?

9

10 MR. VAN DAELE: Oh, yeah, solar panel.

11

12 MR. PANAMAROFF: Solar panel for
13 charging the battery to keep the fence electrified, and
14 we have hunters going up there. I mentioned earlier
15 that we have problems with some hunters going hunting
16 in the area. They're shooting those panels, so we have
17 to -- almost every year we have buy a new panel, you
18 know, solar panel for it. But as far as the bear
19 situation is concerned, we haven't had no problem at
20 all in the last five years. They come around the area,
21 but they don't go -- they can't get into the dump.
22 They don't, you know. We thought maybe they'd break
23 the fence, because it's not much of a fence, just
24 electric wires spread around there. But it works pretty
25 good.

26

27 MR. VAN DAELE: Yeah, and again to me
28 the reason it works is because you guys have taken
29 ownership of it. I mean, make sure it's maintained and
30 modified as necessary, and it's not some bureaucrat
31 telling you what to do.

32

33 And Port Lions has done something
34 similar. And, Mr. Cratty, I believe Old Harbor is in
35 the process of doing that same sort of thing. So
36 that's a real success story to me.

37

38 Kodiak city. We had at least 20 bears
39 in and around town, and we didn't have any bears that
40 were killed in defense of life or property this year.
41 We had one an agency representative had to kill because
42 it was ripping bear-proof dumpsters.

43

44 (Laughter)

45

46 MR. VAN DAELE: But that was the only
47 real problem we had. And we had a fairly large number
48 of bears killed on the road system in the regular hunt.

49

50 So that's kind of it in a nutshell for

1 the bear situation. Any questions or comments on bears
2 before I move on.

3

4 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.

5

6 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Van Daele. Pat
7 Holmes.

8

9 I was wondering about your comment on
10 Karluk numbers being down and reflecting back on Vic
11 Barnes' study, could possibly that lower abundance in
12 that area mean that as per Vic's study that it was food
13 related, because we've had some tremendous declines in
14 salmon into the Karluk area, and I know when I used to
15 go out and talk to bears counting fish, if there
16 weren't any fish, they'd pack it up and go somewhere
17 else to eat. Could that be happening?

18

19 MR. VAN DAELE: Mr. Chair. Mr. Holmes.

20 That's always a possibility. We do these intensive
21 aerial surveys in the spring as soon as the bears come
22 out of their den, and that usually lessens the
23 movements that are food related as they tend to do back
24 to the same area to den one year to the next.

25

26 My gut feeling is there's not been a
27 decline around Karluk. From talking to the guides this
28 past spring hunt, the bears were really late in coming
29 out. Extremely late. And when we do our intensive
30 aerial surveys it's usually the last week of May,
31 trying to get a window of opportunity between when most
32 of the bears are out and when most of the leaves come
33 on and we can't see them any more. So during that
34 survey last year, we did not see as many, but that's
35 what the guides were seeing also.

36

37 The other interesting thing was two
38 weeks later we went out there and we radio collared
39 bears in the same area, and they were coming out of the
40 woodwork. There were a lot of bears that we saw at
41 that point in time.

42

43 That's why we feel it's critical that
44 we re-census this area next year, or this year, next
45 month basically so that we can see if there really was
46 a difference. I mean, that's a critical management
47 piece that we need to have before we make any big
48 public statements about the bears have crashed in
49 Karluk. That would not be responsible to say that at
50 this point.

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Rick.

2

3 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair. Thank you.

4

5 When I was reading through this packet,
6 I saw something about another area, and I'm not sure
7 exactly where it's at, about utilizing bear furs for
8 handicrafts. Is that something you're familiar with?
9 I can't recall where it's at, but what is that in
10 relation to the Kodiak and the Aleutians in comparison.

11

12 MR. VAN DAELE: Mr. Chair. Mr.
13 Rowland. I believe you're speaking to a proposal to
14 allow the sale of bear claw handicrafts to be sold.
15 And Mr. Rohrer is a member of that committee, and I
16 would -- through the Chair, if you would want to
17 describe that, Sam, and how it affects your regional
18 area.

19

20 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. Through the
21 Chair. Larry. And, Rick, what you might be thinking
22 about is I did mention that at the beginning of the
23 meeting yesterday about the proposal for basically
24 documentation of handicrafts made from bear claws.

25

26 But one of the things I think I noted
27 in the, but I'll say it again here, we don't allow the
28 sale of any bear claws, fur, any bear parts in the
29 Kodiak/Aleutians area. And so that regulation doesn't
30 really apply to us. We've seen proposals to allow that
31 year after year after year, and we've always
32 unanimously voted against them. It's not something
33 that was ever traditionally done here on Kodiak or in
34 the Aleutians. And we've always been very strong in
35 our support of -- unanimous in our decisions to not
36 have that in our regions, so not to have sale of any
37 brown bear parts here.

38

39 Does that answer your questions.

40

41 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Rick.

42

43 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah, it partially
44 familiarizes me, but someone in an area is doing that;
45 that's what I'm asking. Is that correct? And then I'm
46 wondering which area is doing that, because I saw it in
47 the notes and so what's the comparison, difference.

48

49 DR. WHEELER: This is Polly Wheeler
50 with the Office of Subsistence Management.

1 And this proposal has been around for
2 probably five years for various regions of the State.
3 It first came up I believe in Southeast, and it sort of
4 spread out to other areas of the State. And the
5 proposal is that you may sell handicrafts made from the
6 non-edible byproducts of legally harvested bear, and
7 that can include the claws. And currently it's legal
8 under Federal subsistence regulations to sell
9 handicrafts that incorporate the skin, hide, pelt or
10 fur of a brown bear, including claws taken from Units 1
11 through 5, 9A through C, 9E, 12, 17, 20, 22, 23, 24B,
12 only that portion within Gate of the Arctic National
13 Park, 25 and 26. So there's a wide range, and I can
14 show you in the handy dandy where it's allowed.

15
16 It's been an issue. The State has
17 raised an issue repeatedly about conservation concerns
18 with this particular practice. That's why we had the
19 Bear Claw Handicraft Working Group that represented all
20 the Regional Advisory Council regions. The group met
21 last summer, they met again in March. They've worked
22 out a proposal which will be before all of the
23 Councils at the fall meeting. There will be the
24 proposal and the analysis, so you'll have ample
25 opportunity to weigh in on the proposal.

26
27 Mr. Chair. That's it in a nutshell.

28
29 MR. ROWLAND: That makes sense.

30
31 MR. VAN DAELE: Okay. Any other
32 questions on brown bear before we move on. I'm taking
33 longer than you wanted. Sorry.

34
35 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: One note, you
36 know, every time we talk about bears and bear claws and
37 using bears as handicraft, I always have to kind of
38 point out that our people as people of Kodiak Island,
39 and especially on the south end, you know, we have such
40 a tremendous amount of respect for that animal. It's
41 not just anyone that can use the animal for arts and
42 crafts or clothing or personal decoration. The revered
43 hunter may, you know, he may have a set of bear claws
44 on him, or he may have a bear rug in his house. But it
45 wasn't just met for anyone in the village to be able to
46 do that. And that speaks to the amount of respect that
47 the people had for the animal they hunted.

48
49 And it also went to the whales. And
50 not just anybody can go out and get a whale. There are

1 stories out there that our people would offer an
2 esteemed hunter, if he passed away, people would, some
3 other hunters would actually go out and take part of
4 his body and use it on themselves to make themselves better
5 hunters.

6
7 But there's such a high level of
8 respect for the animals and the things that we use from
9 the land and the sea. It wasn't meant that we would
10 use them as arts and crafts to barter and trade.
11 That's a demonstration of disrespect. But for the
12 esteemed hunter, you know, people would know who he is,
13 and they don't generally talk. They don't tell their
14 story. That's why we don't have bear stories. The
15 bear hunter would share with someone who's going to
16 take his place, but he wouldn't share with just the
17 whole village.

18
19 That's for that anyway.

20
21 MR. VAN DAELE: No, thank you, Mr.
22 Chair. That's one of the reasons I am so proud to live
23 and work here, because of what you just described.

24
25 Moving on to -- well, furbearers, you
26 can look at that real quick. We don't have a real high
27 furbearer harvest around here. It's usually around 40
28 or 50 beaver and around 150 or so otter. We had some
29 concern about otters when the price was high, but it's
30 gone down so low now that the harvest has also gone
31 down considerably.

32
33 The other large ungulate that we have,
34 large critter that we have is the feral reindeer. And
35 this has gotten kind of interesting in the past couple
36 years, because the Board of Game has considered these
37 animals to be managed as caribou, and to try to
38 maintain a population of somewhere between 200 and 500
39 animals in there.

40
41 The source of this population was a
42 reindeer herd that was started by the villagers of
43 Akhiok in the 1920s, was actively herded through the
44 1950s and into the early 60s, and in the 1960s the
45 Federal Government declared the animals to be -- well,
46 they took away the grazing rights on the National
47 Wildlife Refuge. And soon thereafter the State
48 declared them feral.

49
50 In the 1960s and into the early 70s the

1 State worked with the previous owners of this herd and
2 actually came up with an agreement of how much per head
3 they were going to pay them. It was \$10 per head. And
4 there was a joint survey a person from our agency and a
5 person that represented the reindeer corporation to
6 count how many animals there were out there, and
7 agreement again to buy the herd. For some reason, and
8 I can't find that reason in my documentation, that deal
9 never was finalized.

10

11 And there were some discussions in the
12 80s to try to bring it up again. A little bit in the
13 90s and now again the idea has come back on how can we
14 either compensate people for this herd that was
15 declared feral, or how could there be a way to take care
16 of the interest of some people to have reindeer herding
17 again near the villages.

18

19 So that's an interesting discussion,
20 and I believe at least from the State side it's a real
21 open discussion right now. It's good cooperation going
22 back and forth. But it does impact our potential
23 management of those 200, 250 animals that are out there
24 right now.

25

26 The herd has stayed pretty darn stable
27 for the past 20 years, 25 years or so. It's stayed in
28 basically the same area, the most remote, nasty part of
29 Kodiak archipelago for getting to and walking around
30 on. But there is concern, too, though that if we have
31 more restrictive hunting seasons, the herd may expand.
32 And if it expands, it may impact the natural vegetation
33 of the Refuge. So the Refuge is concerned about that,
34 and I'm sure they can speak to that a little bit more
35 when they give their presentation.

36

37 So that's kind of a summary of our
38 reindeer/caribou situation around here right now.

39

40 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: One question,
41 Larry. What are the reindeer feeding on? Are they
42 feeding on certain types of tundra or just.....

43

44 MR. VAN DAELE: Mr. Chairman. We have
45 not done studies on the Kodiak herd to find out what
46 they're feeding on. I would suspect it's similar to
47 other reindeer or caribou in that they're eating
48 grasses when they're coming up, emergent vegetation in
49 the swamps and in the tundra out there. They'll browse
50 on the willows and the low bush blueberries that are

1 out there, and the crowberry, the blackberries that are
2 out there. If it's a real tough winter, they'll eat
3 lichens. I don't think deer on Kodiak -- or reindeer
4 here on have to eat lichens all that much. But they
5 really like that tundra area. And, you know, you can
6 have as many letters after your name as a Ph.D. or an
7 M.S. or whatever you want. The reindeer are telling us
8 the habitat that they like. You know, they've been
9 wild for 60 years now and they hang out in that same
10 spot. So what they like is in that spot and that's
11 what they're eating.

12
13 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah. Okay. All
14 right. Thank you.

15
16 MR. VAN DAELE: Any other questions
17 about the reindeer/ caribou?

18
19 (No comments)

20
21 MR. VAN DAELE: Okay. I'll skip over
22 real quick the portion that I have in here about
23 domestic bison. That has more to do with off Federal
24 lands. But you can read through that if you want.

25
26 And that kind of sums it up with regard
27 to our large animals around here.

28
29 With regard to proposals, and again
30 this is something you may or may not want to discuss
31 amongst yourselves, because the Board of Game does meet
32 starting Saturday, just a few days from now.

33
34 There is a proposal in there that would
35 allow if a hunter wounds an elk, that elk would be
36 considered a dead elk. We have that with bears right
37 now in the Kodiak archipelago. A wounded bear counts
38 the same as a dead bear. You can't chase another one
39 around. And what this proposal would do would be to
40 put that same limit on elk. If you shot an elk and
41 wounded it, you couldn't pursue another elk. You were
42 done hunting, unless you could catch that one that one
43 that you just put the bullet or the arrow into. And
44 that was proposed by -- actually And Christoferson
45 proposed that as a private individual for respect for
46 the animals and to try to help the population rebound.
47 So that may be one you want to consider.

48
49 Another one is on Page 22 there,
50 Proposal 227, the bottom ones in that list of the

1 spring proposals. And I think I get into it a little
2 bit more -- yeah, on Page 25 actually, I get into it a
3 little bit more.

4
5 That's the one I alluded to earlier in
6 this discussion. The proposer in that one would like
7 to make our registration goat permits available
8 anywhere, including on the internet at any time. And
9 that would be, you know, after we have our drawing
10 hunt, then we have the registration hunts available in
11 the village closest to the hunt, and it's usually
12 available two weeks prior to the hunt. What this
13 proposal would do would be to take that away and say
14 anybody can register any time for any of those hunts.

15
16 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Until here's an
17 emergency order that says the population is down too
18 far.

19
20 MR. VAN DAELE: Correct. Yes.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: And then you go
23 back to the registration in the village?

24
25 MR. VAN DAELE: No. No. What they
26 would propose is that from now until forever you would
27 have registration hunt permits available anywhere,
28 including the internet. And then we could cut the
29 season off when we had our harvest quota.

30
31 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Have you had -- I
32 know goat was an introduced species, just like the
33 deer. You know, people in the village are getting
34 accustomed to going for goat, and they're finding out
35 that goat meat is not all that bad. Have you had any
36 input from the villages?

37
38 MR. VAN DAELE: Mr. Chair. Mr. Holmes
39 could probably express, you know, all the meetings that
40 we had with regard to whether goats were subsistence
41 animals or not, and the level of discussion we had to
42 achieve this compromise in having the permits available
43 in the villages first and whatever else.

44
45 But goats are not considered a Federal
46 subsistence species. But we do quite honestly in the
47 State system manage it in such a way with these
48 registration hunts that the people closest to the
49 resource get the first crack at it,

50

1 This has always been a problem for
2 people off island. My counterpart, John Crye, and I
3 take a lot of heat over this particular issue, because
4 folks on the road system, you know, in Anchorage and so
5 forth, don't like it. And that's what this proposal
6 would do, would be to take it away, make it so that
7 everybody was completely equal and could get a permit
8 whenever they wanted to.

9
10 What I intend to tell the Board of Game
11 next week is that if this passes, if this proposal
12 passes, we probably won't have registration hunts in
13 those areas, because we're talking anywhere from two to
14 seven goats that we allow harvested in there, and it
15 would happen too fast and we'd jeopardize those herds
16 on the north and east part of the island that are
17 stable that I talked about before. We already have a
18 wide-open registration hunt for half the island. So
19 that's our statement to the Board of Game on this
20 particular proposal.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay.

23
24 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chairman.

25
26 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al Cratty. Go
27 ahead, Al.

28
29 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, Larry, I see you
30 guys got do not adopt this proposal. I feel the same
31 way. I think we worked hard to get this hunt between
32 the State and the Feds. I remember sitting on the
33 committees, and I think it's a good thing here. I'd
34 sure hate to lose it. I just wanted to voice my
35 opinion.

36
37 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Sam.

38
39 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. I just wanted
40 to comment. I, too, sat on a lot of those committees
41 and sat through a lot of those meetings so we could
42 read a compromise. It was a great compromise.

43
44 And I do want to say I was also just at
45 the meeting here a month ago or thereabouts when the
46 Fish and Game Advisory Board met and looked through
47 these proposals. And on that proposal they were
48 unanimous in opposing. Of course, ADF&G's opposing it.
49 Anyway, so I just wanted to note that.

50

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thanks, Sam. Pat.

2

3 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. I'll kind
4 of include my comments here in a motion that we send a
5 letter to the Board of Game and basically on this it
6 would say that the Kodiak Regional Advisory Committee
7 is opposed to Proposal 227, because it will violate the
8 agreement reached between -- it will violate the
9 agreement reached to build the Kodiak Goat Management
10 Plan. And if this had not occurred, two-thirds of the
11 island's goat hunting area could have been withdrawn
12 for Federal subsistence hunt. The Regional Advisory
13 Committee may once again -- if adopted, the Regional
14 Advisory Committee may once again pursue a Federal C&T
15 and request subsistence withdrawal on Federal lands.

16

17 And I'll discuss that a little bit,
18 because we came very close when we were discussing
19 goats, we had a proposal before our committee to have a
20 subsistence goat hunt, and basically it would have been
21 divided up to people that have traditionally hunted
22 within the -- for the villages. And we had
23 presentation from the Federal Staff towards the C&T,
24 but the Fish and Game Advisory Committee and Regional
25 Advisory Council talked about this at great length,
26 because there are folks like Mr. Cratty. There are
27 outfitters in the villages that also participate in
28 helping goat hunting, but we also have local guides
29 that are based in town and in the villages.

30

31 And so it was a question of trying to
32 maintain a goat hunt for everyone. And so the
33 discretionary management ability of the local area
34 biologist allowed us to set up a registration hunt
35 separate from the regular drawing hunt, and folks that
36 want to participate in that, it does give an advantage
37 to local folks. And yet now with the expansion of the
38 registration hunt, folks can still get goats.

39

40 But I have a feeling that if this were
41 to pass and the registration would change to
42 disadvantage folks living in the villages, I would
43 suspect that we'd probably just end up going right back
44 through the whole zoo again. And when I presented this
45 to the Federal Subsistence Board and also to the Board
46 of Game, the Federal Subsistence Board said, well, gee,
47 that's a good solution. It provides for opportunity
48 for people in the villages to get their goats. The
49 Board of Game, and I think what's that fellows from
50 Southeast? Grusendorf? Anyway he articulated to the

1 rest of the Board that, you know, this Goat Management
2 Plan was something that was crafted within the whole
3 Kodiak Island community, and that it didn't
4 disenfranchise people from Anchorage. And that they
5 didn't really want to see it violate the literally
6 hundreds of hours of discussion that went into
7 developing the compromise.

8

9 So I guess with all that behind that,
10 my original point on putting a motion forward on the
11 amendment, that's why.

12

13 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
14 questions for Larry.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: None. Continue,
19 please.

20

21 MR. VAN DAELE: Well, that.....

22

23 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair. Excuse me.
24 Point of order.

25

26 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Oh, I'm sorry.

27

28 MR. ROWLAND: There was a motion made
29 by Pat, and it was not seconded. And so I'm just
30 pointing that out. We're overlooking that.

31

32 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I'm sorry. That's
33 my mistake.

34

35 MR. CRATTY: I'll second. Mr. Chair.

36

37 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Would you restate
38 your motion so that I may follow through with it,
39 please.

40

41 MR. HOLMES: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Pat
42 Holmes.

43

44 In reference to Proposal 227, the
45 Kodiak Regional Advisory Council is opposed to Proposal
46 227, because it violates the agreement reached to build
47 the Kodiak area management -- or Kodiak Goat Management
48 Plan. If this had not occurred, two-thirds of the
49 island's goat hunting areas could have been withdrawn
50 for a Federal subsistence hunt. If adopted, the

1 Regional Advisory Council may once again pursue a
2 Federal C&T and request subsistence goat hunting
3 withdrawals on Federal lands.

4

5 MR. CRATTY: I'll second.

6

7 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: The motion has
8 been made. Is there a second.

9

10 MR. CRATTY: Second.

11

12 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Moved and
13 seconded.

14

15 Any discussion. Rick.

16

17 MR. ROWLAND: Rick Rowland. Where can
18 I read that agreement?

19

20 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Pat.

21

22 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair. Rick. The
23 management plan is in the, we don't have it, the State
24 hunting regs. And I don't know -- I mean, I've got at
25 home just a huge binder full of things that we
26 discussed. And I don't know where we came to a formal
27 agreement.

28

29 We had representatives from all the
30 villages, and we had representatives from the guide
31 community. We had members from the Council. We had
32 members from the Advisory Committee. We had people at
33 large. And so we sat down and we said -- we identified
34 the problem. We said, well, how do we solve this
35 problem and be able to maintain a sport hunt and how do
36 we provide for the potential for people in the villages
37 to have access to goats, because that was a problem.
38 They couldn't numerically get a goat permit. I mean,
39 very seldom.

40

41 And so because of all the FACA laws and
42 everything, we didn't have the Fish and Game Advisory
43 Committee write down and say, we agree to this. The
44 Council couldn't say, we agree to that. But as
45 gentlemen and members of the whole Kodiak community
46 trying to solve a problem we reached that verbally.
47 And then that was presented back to each of the groups,
48 to the Fish and Game Advisory Committee, it was
49 presented back to the Council, and all of the folks in
50 the tribal community. It was discussed with Iver and

1 Sun'aq and everybody.

2

3 Pardon me?

4

5 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, everybody.

6

7 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, and everybody
8 agreed. So it was a community decision, and that's
9 what made it work. And so it's not really a written
10 thing, other than the end product of the management
11 plan.

12

13 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al.

14

15 MR. CRATTY: Yeah. Mr. Chair. Rick,
16 yeah, it was a good feeling to see all the entities
17 work together, the guides, the Fish and Game Advisory
18 Council, and the RAC and Larry and the rest of the
19 people so we could bring something together for the
20 island. It was a pretty good deal. I thought it was a
21 great success.

22

23 MR. HOLMES: And, Mr. Chairman, Pat.

24

25 And I might add that it also was
26 supported by the Fish and Wildlife Service, because it
27 took the, I'll make a joke out of this, it took the
28 management bugaboo out of their pocket and dumped it
29 into Larry's, and just made their life a whole lot
30 easier.

31

32 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any further
33 discussion on the motion.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: If there is no
38 further discussion, is there any objection.

39

40 MR. ROWLAND: I think I have to object,
41 because I don't have written information about it. So
42 I call for a vote.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. One
45 objection. Then we'll -- may we have a roll call vote,
46 please.

47

48 MS. WILKINSON: Okay. Della Trumble.
49 Della Trumble.

50

1 MS. TRUMBLE: Could you -- I'm sorry, I
2 didn't quite get the whole motion.

3

4 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. Pat Holmes.

5

6

7 Della, the motion is, and it basically
8 supports the decision that we made years ago when you
9 were chairing. The Kodiak Regional Advisory Committee
10 is opposed to Proposal 227, because it violates
11 agreement reached to build the Kodiak Goat Management
12 Plan. If this had not occurred, two-thirds of the
13 island's goat hunting areas could have been removed
14 from -- could have been withdrawn for a Federal
15 subsistence hunt. If adopted, the Regional Advisory
16 Council may once again pursue a Federal C&T and request
17 subsistence withdrawal for goat hunting on Federal
18 lands.

19

20 And I guess to Rick, I was just
21 thinking that it probably is written down in the
22 minutes of our Regional Council, and that was five or
23 six years ago. It's probably in the Board of Game
24 minutes. It's probably in the Fish and Game Advisory
25 Committee notes. So we went through such an intense
26 process, and I can't summarize it any better than that.

27

28 That's the proposal, Della. The
29 motion.

30

31 MS. TRUMBLE: Thank you, Pat. I voted
32 yes.

33

34 MS. WILKINSON: Ales.

35

36 MR. PANAMAROFF: Yes.

37

38 MS. WILKINSON: Rick.

39

40 MR. ROWLAND: No. Rick, no.

41

42 MS. WILKINSON: Al.

43

44 MR. CRATTY: Support the motion. Yes.

45

46 MS. WILKINSON: Sam.

47

48 MR. ROHRER: Yes.

49

50 MS. WILKINSON: Pat.

1 MR. HOLMES: Yes.
2
3 MS. WILKINSON: Antone.
4
5 MR. SHELIKOFF: Yes.
6
7 MS. WILKINSON: And Mitch.
8
9 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes.
10
11 MS. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman. The
12 motion passes seven in favor and one opposed.
13
14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. We're done.
15
16 MR. VAN DAELE: Okay. Mr. Chairman.
17 That concludes my formal presentation. On Page 26 of
18 the handout there are some other proposals. If you'd
19 like to discuss any of those, I certainly am welcome to
20 it. But none of them have as dramatic an impact on the
21 Federal subsistence hunts as the ones that we just
22 discussed.
23
24 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat, do you have a
25 question.
26
27 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. When I sat
28 in for Herman on the Advisory Committee meeting on the
29 subsistence seat, there was discussions on proposals
30 for discretionary conditions. Were there some for the
31 elk hunt or were those just elk and bear?
32
33 MR. VAN DAELE: Mr. Chair. Mr. Holmes
34 is referring to Proposal No. 191 on your handout, and
35 actually Pages 27 and 28 have a list of what we call
36 discretionary conditions. What that is, is within our
37 State regulations, as area biologist, I have some
38 flexibility on how I manage the hunts. And we use some
39 of those conditions for our goat hunt registrations
40 that we just got done discussion. We have some that we
41 use with elk and so forth.
42
43 The Board of Game has requested this
44 proposal be put in statewide so that every
45 discretionary permit be open for discussion at the
46 meeting next week. And if there are ones within there
47 that they feel are inappropriate, then they will vote
48 on that particular issue.
49
50 Mr. Holmes, as I recall, the Fish and

1 Game Advisory Committee sent a letter that said they
2 think that all of our discretionary conditions here on
3 Kodiak are important, because they allow a tool for the
4 manager as well as the local people to approve things
5 and work things out. And that was the stand of that
6 particular body.

7

8 So it's a very convoluted, it's a very
9 detailed proposal. In a way the devil's in those
10 details, because the Board could look at any one of
11 these and deliberate or take them away from us.

12

13 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Pat.

14

15 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. There was
16 quite a bit of passionate discussion at the Advisory
17 Committee, and they in mind the goat hunt and other
18 things that we've been able to work out in the local
19 communities and the villages with Fish and Game,
20 because of his discretionary abilities, and so they did
21 put together that letter opposing Proposal 191. And I
22 could see very easily that if that were to pass, then
23 basically mammal harvest here in the Kodiak area could
24 be totally run by the Alaska Outdoor Council or by the
25 political folks leaning really hard on the Board of
26 Game.

27

28 And again I can give you another
29 wording, but I think maybe we should have some
30 discussion on the potential of this before I give you
31 some potential wording against this proposal.

32

33 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: And you want to
34 have a discussion on Proposal 191?

35

36 MR. HOLMES: Yeah. If not, or I could
37 propose a motion opposing that proposal and then we
38 could discuss that. Would that be better?

39

40 MR. CRATTY: After lunch.

41

42 MR. HOLMES: After lunch.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I don't know. The
45 only thing that's affecting people island-wide is the
46 goat. The bears and the elk, the bears -- you've got
47 bear guides that also make that requirement up there,
48 but they're hunters. They've got to know what they're
49 doing out there.

50

1 MR. HOLMES: Yeah. Well, what this is
2 is this will take away, potentially take away powers of
3 the local biologist on the goat hunt and we've already
4 discussed how that plan was developed, but, you know,
5 it will also affect elk and bear management. And so
6 maybe over the lunch break if you'd like, I could find
7 the letter that the Fish and Game Advisory Committee
8 wrote, because this is a sideways attack, just like the
9 proposal to do away with -- have open registration on
10 the island buggers up the goat hunting. This is
11 another sideways way of folks from off island to mess
12 up the opportunity for folks to get things solved
13 local.

14
15 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Sam, you
16 have a question.

17
18 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. I agree with
19 Pat. I think it's really important for us to write a
20 letter against Proposal 191. I think it's real
21 critical, the discretionary decisions that our area
22 biologist can make, and I think that's real critical
23 that we write that letter.

24
25 I would also like to see us write a
26 letter in support of Proposal 146, the wounded elk
27 proposal. Again, that's something that really impacts
28 our elk population, and I'd like to see us write a
29 letter in support of Proposal 146.

30
31 Thank you.

32
33 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Does that
34 conclude your report, Mr. Van Daele?

35
36 MR. VAN DAELE: Yes, sir, it does.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. With that
39 then we'll get that information from Pat after lunch so
40 that we can draft a letter and draft some responses.
41 And I guess right now we'll break for lunch. We'll be
42 back at 1:00 o'clock.

43
44 Thank you, Larry. Appreciate it.

45
46 (Off record)

47
48 (On record)

49
50 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Good afternoon.

1 Let's call this meeting back to order. I have 1:03.

2

3 When we broke for lunch we had just got
4 done with Department of Fish and Game. The next item
5 on our agenda would be under agency reports,
6 Secretarial program review update and actions needed.
7 I guess Polly Wheeler.

8

9 DR. WHEELER: Mr. Chair. I may be
10 mistaken, but I think there were other divisions at
11 Fish and Game that were wanting to give some overviews.
12 I think Comm Fish or -- I don't know, I'm looking
13 behind me. Okay. Good. There's some nodding heads
14 back there. So that was my understanding, is there
15 were a couple more people that wanted to give some
16 information to the Council, and then we can do the
17 subsistence review items after that. Mr. Chair.

18

19 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you,
20 Polly.

21

22 We'll go ahead and continue with the
23 Fish and Game reports.

24

25 MR. DINNOCENZO: Mr. Chairman, members
26 of the council. I'm Joe Dinnocenzo and this is Geoff
27 Spalinger. We're part of the management biologists
28 that manage commercial fisheries for salmon and herring
29 in Kodiak. And the subsistence fishery.

30

31 I was asked today to touch on recent
32 Board of Fish regulatory changes as they pertain to
33 subsistence in the State regs, and kind of touch on our
34 management overview for the next year for subsistence
35 fisheries in Kodiak. I'll start with the Board of
36 Fish.

37

38 The Board of Fish met in January to
39 consider regulation proposals, proposed changes to the
40 regulations. They adopted a couple, three.

41

42 One change, pretty simple sort of
43 change was to change the definition of reporting
44 requirements for a subsistence user, when he should
45 write down the fish that he caught in his gear to when
46 he was -- before he left the fishing site or before the
47 fish disappeared from view. Before that it was pretty
48 vague in the regulations as to exactly when he should
49 record. It could literally be interpreted before that
50 he could -- as each fish came out of the net, he had to

1 write it down. So that was pretty simple, but more
2 specific definition.

3

4 Another proposal that was adopted was
5 to provide that owners of lodges, sportfishing guides,
6 charter boat operators could not subsistence fish while
7 they had paying clients with them, or deploy gear with
8 them. Now, if their paying clients were residents and
9 had subsistence fishing gear with their name on it,
10 they could deploy it, and they could eat the fish in
11 the presence of their guide or lodge owner. But the
12 fish had to be taken -- if the fish was taken with them
13 and had to be eaten in the subsistence fisherman/paying
14 client's presence.

15

16 Another regulation change, there was a
17 proposal to make dipnet gear legal subsistence gear in
18 a very small area near Port Lions where there is a
19 sockeye fishery that was basically created from
20 enhanced fish from Kodiak Regional Aquaculture
21 Association. The Board of Fish elected not to do that.
22 Instead they created a personal use fishery there in
23 that area, and anyone who has a resident sportfishing
24 license can fish there year around with a dipnet for
25 salmon in the upper end of Settler's Cove, and in
26 Crescent Creek. That's right, I think it's Crescent
27 Creek, below the falls. Year around, no reporting
28 requirement, no limit. Just a real simple fishery.

29

30 Let's see. General management overview
31 for 2011. I guess we'll start with -- I'm not going to
32 talk a whole lot about Buskin stock status, except to
33 say that the sportfish people watch that closer than we
34 do when they run the weir there. But we don't
35 anticipate this year, based on what we do know, to have
36 to have any closures or undo normal restrictions. I
37 think status quo fishery there will be in order. I
38 don't think -- that we don't anticipate anyway. But we
39 watch the weir counts and could in-season restrict the
40 fishery if we had to like we have had to in the past
41 few years, but we don't anticipate that this year based
42 on what we do know.

43

44 The same goes for Saltery. If anything
45 at Saltery, we may have to reduce closed waters and let
46 fishermen fish to the stream mouth. We've had to do
47 that on a pretty regular basis. Even last year a bit
48 to curtail -- to prevent over-escapement of sockeye
49 salmon in that system.

50

1 We will have -- we got funding through
2 the legislature somehow for a weir at Pasagshak this
3 year. It will be run June 15th to August 15th. We do
4 have established escapement goals on that stream that
5 we can compare to the data, but we don't have any past
6 weir data yet, so it will be a couple years before we
7 have very good in-season management capability at
8 Pasagshak specifically for sockeye. So we don't know
9 what to expect this year.

10

11 Afognak River, Litnik, we expect the
12 run there to be moderately strong, maybe as strong as
13 last year. That would mean status quo for subsistence
14 there, too. Probably no reduced closed waters, but
15 probably no closures either. So no liberalization,
16 just standard waters, standard opening all the time.

17

18 That's pretty much what I had to say.
19 I tried to make it quick and easy so you guys could ask
20 questions of the pertinent things you wanted to talk
21 about.

22

23 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any questions.

24 Al.

25

26 MR. CRATTY: Yeah. I was just
27 wondering if you guys -- excuse me. Al Cratty. I was
28 wondering, do you guys get funding for our weirs and
29 stuff? I heard a rumor that there was a problem, and I
30 was just wondering if it got pushed through the
31 legislature.

32

33 MR. SPALINGER: Al, through the Chair.
34 Currently there's some funding going through the
35 legislature, and it's in the Senate right now. The
36 last I heard, they were discussing maybe chopping some
37 of it, but retaining a pretty good portion of it. That
38 would essentially bring us back to where we were, so we
39 don't have to reduce the weir length as we did last
40 year. So it's still up in the air. Call your senator.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you.

45

46 MR. SPALINGER: And, Mr. Chair, I would
47 like to add one more thing. I don't know, Joe, did you
48 talk about the Karluk subsistence?

49

50 MR. DINNOCENZO: No, I didn't. I

1 forgot.

2

3 MR. SPALINGER: There was one other
4 change. We consider it relatively minor, but the Board
5 basically gave us EO authority to close the king salmon
6 fishery in Karluk Lagoon, in and out of Karluk. And
7 then we can also restrict the gear to seines for the
8 Karluk villagers so they can still seine sockeye, but
9 then be able to return the kings back to the water
10 unharmed. And I think most of them use seines anyway
11 down there, so it shouldn't be too much of a
12 restriction.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.

15

16 MR. CRATTY: You said you were going to
17 close the Karluk Lagoon. How does the rest of the
18 river up the lake, is that also closed or is that open
19 to sport and subsistence.

20

21 MR. SPALINGER: Mr. Chair. It would
22 actually -- we would most likely -- it's really up to
23 the managers, but we would most likely -- if we got
24 into a situation where we were having a poor king run,
25 we would close the entire system again, and then just
26 go to restricted gear. But we don't know until it
27 really happens.

28

29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.

30

31 MR. HOLMES: Yes. Geoff, could you,
32 you kind of touched on the king salmon, but would you
33 explain stock of concern and what's been happening in
34 the Karluk as far as run abundance of Chinook in recent
35 years. Of kings.

36

37 MR. SPALINGER: Well, Mr. Chair. Pat.
38 The Board did designate kings a stock of concern in
39 Karluk. So essentially they provided some regulations
40 to the Department that would limit king retention for
41 commercial fishermen, and also the subsistence
42 fishermen if we see, continue to see the decline or the
43 lack of return that we've had in the last few years.
44 Hopefully it's coming back. I mean, the last three
45 years the king numbers have been coming up every year,
46 so we're confident that it's coming back fair well now.
47 Or should.

48

49 Did you want specifics on that
50 regulation, Pat?

1 MR. HOLMES: No, thank you for the
2 update, Geoff. Mr. Chairman.

3
4 I have one comment on this. I'm glad
5 to see that funding's available for Pasagshak, because
6 with Buskin being way down, and I think we have a
7 sportfish gentleman, Mr. Tyler, to talk about Buskin in
8 specifics, but with it being down in recent years, you
9 know, folks that have the ability have been forced to
10 go to Pasagshak or Litnik or over to Port Lions for
11 their reds, and I can certainly wish Iver was here. He
12 could tell you about our horse and pony show of him and
13 I trying to get my dory through the surf there at
14 Pasagshak. And I know it's a tough place to get aerial
15 surveys, but the aerial surveys haven't been all that
16 hot. And so with that importance to subsistence as a
17 supplemental system for Buskin, that's really
18 important.

19
20 And I would urge all my members on the
21 Council and everybody in the audience to track the
22 funding for the Department, because even though Geoff
23 said it's to bring it back to status quo, in contrast
24 to 25 years ago where they had funding to run the weirs
25 through September and they probably had close to 16
26 different salmon projects, now the State funds four,
27 the four big weirs. All the minor programs are gone.
28 KRA does the Fraser fish pass, Saltery Cove and
29 Speridon, and then the enhancement project at Port
30 Lions. And so the Department's just barely got enough
31 money to pay salaries, and they certainly aren't able,
32 even if they get this funding, to do what they used to
33 do.

34
35 So I would strongly encourage folks to
36 use the political process to endorse the work that
37 Allen and Gary are doing to try to support the
38 commercial fisheries, because even though it says
39 commercial, their first priority is subsistence. And
40 so all of the things that go to help those projects
41 will one way or another positively affect Kodiak
42 subsistence.

43
44 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

45
46 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
47 questions. Rick.

48
49 MR. ROWLAND: Yes. Rick Rowland. I've
50 got a couple questions. Well, maybe three.

1 years fish going to sea to show the results in adult
2 fish coming back. But that is our inability to prevent
3 over-escapements six, seven, eight years ago for
4 several years in a row was probably what caused the
5 current problem.

6
7 And so it's doing it by itself. Mother
8 Nature is -- you know, there's -- it took a while for
9 the nutrients in the lake to make plankton to bloom,
10 and the right conditions and zooplankton respond to
11 that, and now there's a lot of food in the lake for red
12 salmon. And so the red salmon going out of the lake in
13 the grab samples we've seen are in a lot better
14 condition. And zooplankton levels in the lake have
15 improved. So we think just by continuing to try and
16 better control escapements, although that hasn't been a
17 problem obviously in the last couple years, because we
18 haven't even gotten -- we have in some cases not even
19 gotten minimum escapements, but we try to keep the
20 escapements in the range that we think is warranted for
21 that lake, so as not to deplete the zooplankton levels
22 up there. That's the best thing we can do, and the
23 thing we failed to do before.

24
25 Does that answer your question.

26
27 MR. ROWLAND: Partially, yeah. That's
28 good to see that you're working at paying close
29 attention.

30
31 So you do -- you are proactively
32 managing it to bring it up to subsistence use levels
33 along with commercial levels?

34
35 MR. DINNOCENZO: Off course.

36
37 MR. ROWLAND: Okay. And how are you
38 dealing with like the predators that relate to those
39 kind of species, like, for example, the trout in the
40 river, or being hit hard by the \$225,000 dragger -- or
41 225,000 fish dragger catch or sportfisher catch and
42 release? How are you dealing with.....

43
44 MR. DINNOCENZO: Are you still talking
45 about sockeye or Chinooks or.....

46
47 MR. ROWLAND: King salmon. King
48 salmon.

49
50 MR. DINNOCENZO: Oh, king salmon. The

1 Board of Fish when they -- they took a long time this
2 time to talk about Chinook, king salmon, and they
3 adopted quite a few things to help conserve kings in
4 general.

5
6 They expanded the area that king salmon
7 would be released by seiners. It used to be if Karluk
8 was tracking below the curve and not going to attain
9 the minimum escapement goal, inner and outer Karluk
10 sections were the sections that seiners couldn't keep
11 kings. Now that area's all the way down, including
12 Ayakulik, inner and outer Ayakulik section, even if
13 inner and outer Ayakulik kings are doing well if Karluk
14 kings are doing well, and let kings go down there,
15 because some of those kings might be Karluk kings, all
16 the way up to Cape Kuliak, which is part of the central
17 section. So they expanded that area.

18
19 They closed, and I don't have exact
20 definition of the water, they closed about a five
21 square mile area of water to trawling year around off
22 the mouth of Karluk River. I'm not sure if -- they had
23 provisions in there to curtail subsistence that Geoff
24 already outlined that I'd forgotten about, where we
25 closed gillnetting subsistence fishing and just allowed
26 seining of reds and let the kings go.

27
28 Also there was a provision in there,
29 and I don't remember the specifics, because it's kind
30 of out of my jurisdiction, but to close sportfishing in
31 the near shore waters I think in Uyak Bay, but I'm not
32 sure exactly where that was, and Tyler would have to
33 speak to that.

34
35 But those are some of the things we did
36 to increase the escapement of Chinook in the river if
37 it looked like Chinook were not going to accrue
38 adequate escapement this year. And we'll watch the
39 weir counts and implement those things as we need to
40 in-season.

41
42 I've got to say that from what we've
43 analyzed, again sportfish analyzed the data and has
44 done sort of a forecast of kings there. The range
45 encompasses numbers from below adequate escapement into
46 the midrange of adequate escapement, so it could go
47 either way this year. We may or may not have to do
48 anything.

49
50 Does that answer your question?

1 MR. ROWLAND: Sure.
2
3 MR. DINNOCENZO: Okay.
4
5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.
6
7 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair. Joe, could you
8 talk a little bit about the life cycle of kings and how
9 long they spend in the river as juveniles and what they
10 eat? I'm wondering, you know, being as they kind of
11 like to scarf up little fry as well as insects, if
12 having less sockeye fry to munch on when they're taking
13 their little cruise down to the ocean, you know. You
14 know, there's obviously a lot of parameters you can't
15 control, and I just -- they're a little different than
16 pinks that just pop out of the gravel and go to the
17 ocean, aren't they?
18
19 MR. DINNOCENZO: Yeah, they spend some
20 time in fresh water, and I think it varies a little.
21 They can spend multiple years in fresh water. To the
22 degree to what they eat, that's getting out of my
23 knowledge range, but they certainly do eat other fish.
24
25 We traditionally at Fish and Game are
26 not very good at multi-species management. To consider
27 Chinook as a predator of red salmon fry or herring as a
28 predator of pink salmon fry outside the hatchery here
29 are things we don't likely -- we don't tackle very well
30 regulatorily management-wise. Those are some examples.
31 And we don't typically try, or haven't tried in the
32 past to do it here in our management programs.
33
34 Does that sort of evade the answer a
35 little?
36
37 (Laughter)
38
39 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
40 questions.
41
42 (No comments)
43
44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: If there are none,
45 the -- you've got to press that button. Della, do you
46 have a question.
47
48 MS. TRUMBLE: No, I don't. Thank you.
49
50 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. That

1 concludes. Thank you. Anyone else from Fish and Game.
2 Here we come.

3

4 MR. POLUM: Good morning -- or good
5 afternoon, Mr. Chair. Members of the Council. I'm
6 Tyler Polum with the Department of Fish and Game, Sport
7 Fish. And I'm just going to give you a quick update
8 about our project on the Buskin River.

9

10 We are funded through OSM to run the
11 Buskin weir at the lake outlet as well as on the Lake
12 Louise tributary. And I've been, Sport Fish has been
13 running the weir at the lake for the last 16 years, or
14 this will be the 16th season for it. And for the last
15 nine years at the Lake Louise tributary. And we just
16 got another four years of funding for those projects to
17 be run through Sport Fish.

18

19 At the weir we count and sample sockeye
20 salmon for age, sex and length, genetic information
21 like most of the weirs; I'm sure you're aware of that.
22 We do that at both Lake Louise and the Buskin Lake. We
23 employ two technicians and two high school interns.
24 And the high school interns are part of our OSM
25 funding. And that program has provided, and in the
26 past we've hired 14 interns total, and 11 of them have
27 come back to work for the Department, so it's a pretty
28 successful program.

29

30 And just as a -- what we've seen, just
31 a real quick overview, we've averaged -- in the last 10
32 years we've averaged over 15,000 sockeye, so between 15
33 and 16,000. And then in 2008 we saw the sockeye
34 population, or our return drop to about 5900, but it's
35 been coming up since then. In 2009 we had 7700 and in
36 2010 we had 9800. And we expect that or more this
37 season.

38

39 We have a new escapement goal on the
40 Buskin, 5 to 8,000 sockeye, and the old one was 8 to
41 13,000, based on new information that we collected
42 there.

43

44 And then we typically operate the lake
45 weir from about mid May until the end of July. In the
46 last two years we've operated it from mid May until the
47 end of September. And actually this last season we
48 ended up going until October 7th I believe.

49

50 And Lake Louise is typically operated

1 from mid June until early September, but with a new
2 project we have counting smolt coming out of the Lake
3 Louise tributary. We've operated that weir from mid
4 April until mid September. And that system, just as an
5 overview, the return there is pretty variable, anywhere
6 from 400 to 4,000 we've seen in the last nine years.
7 And that weir was started in 2002.

8
9 And then for 2011 we're going to run
10 both of those projects again, much in the same way
11 we've been doing, and we also have project starting
12 April 16th that we're counting smolt, as I mentioned
13 earlier, coming out of Buskin Lake and the Lake Louise
14 tributary, and we'll be doing a mark/recapture study
15 there to estimate the total population exiting Buskin
16 Lake and that's targeted towards sockeye. And we'll be
17 hiring three more technicians for that project as well.

18
19 And that's funded through OSM. This is
20 the second year of a two-year feasibility study, and
21 last year was our first year. And we're learning a lot
22 out that.

23
24 The goal with that is to get not only
25 the age classes of juvenile sockeye coming out of the
26 lakes, but as well as their condition, their weight to
27 length ratio as well. And then we can compare those to
28 our adult salmon returning.

29
30 As Joe mentioned, there is a
31 subsistence fishery out in front of the Buskin, a
32 pretty sizable subsistence fishery compared to other
33 fisheries around Kodiak. It's also the largest sport
34 fishing river on the Kodiak Archipelago.

35
36 And just so you're aware, the average,
37 the 10-year average sport harvest there was about 1500
38 or about 1600 sockeye. The 10-year average subsistence
39 harvest is about 8300 sockeye just for your
40 information.

41
42 And again I just want to mention our --
43 I mentioned it earlier I guess, but our intern program
44 is starting here pretty soon. Actually just got a
45 phone call from one of our applicants to hire that
46 position, but that's going to throw us some. And we're
47 supposed to find Federally-qualified subsistence users
48 for that program, and we've done so every year through
49 the high school. And it's been a great program to get
50 local students involved a well as provide Staff for

1 ADF&G. And we've had several of those go on to other
2 weirs around the island and around the state.

3

4 So that's the real quick overview of
5 Buskin and if you have any questions, feel free to ask.

6

7 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al.

8

9 MR. CRATTY: Yeah. Tyler, Al Cratty,
10 Old Harbor.

11

12 My concern is, I just want to voice
13 this is down in Old Harbor in the fall they'll shut
14 down the silver, commercial fishing for silver salmon,
15 and they give us a line out so far, which I agree upon,
16 because I like to make sure that the stocks are there
17 for the people. And the streams run into the Federal
18 lands.

19

20 My concern is one of these times if we
21 go short, you've got so many charter operators down
22 there, and they're taking the silver salmon. I mean,
23 is there something in place so if something comes in
24 effect whether there's a shortage, that much of a
25 shortage of salmon that you can shut down the charter
26 operators also.

27

28 MR. POLUM: My knowledge of the silver
29 salmon fishery down there is pretty limited, but just
30 for generally in Kodiak, we do have -- you know, I
31 don't know that we have -- I mean, I'm assuming --
32 maybe Geoff can help me answer this, that we can have
33 the authority to shut down a saltwater, but not charter
34 specifically.

35

36 MR. SPALINGER: Mr. Chair. Al. I
37 don't think either of us really know how the
38 sportfishery runs the saltwater in-season closures. I
39 am not aware of any saltwater in-season closures of
40 that sportfishery as applied. So the expert is not
41 here right now, so we may have to get back to you on
42 that.

43

44 MR. CRATTY: Okay. Well, I just -- we
45 tried numerous, a couple times, we wrote a couple
46 proposals, and I believe he helped us with it, to get
47 some study down there on the
48 Big Creek system, because it's a very used system in
49 Old Harbor. I mean, everybody gets their fish for the
50 winter. We don't have red runs or anything like that

1 down there, sockeye runs, except for over on
2 Sitkalidek, which is very minor. But, you know, that
3 systems used so much, it's just, you know, it's a
4 concern of mine that there could be a collapse in the
5 future, or, you know, it could bum a lot of people out,
6 and it will come back, you know. I mean, it would come
7 back on all of us if something like that happened.

8

9 I just wanted to voice my opinion on
10 it.

11

12 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat, you had a
13 question.

14

15 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, I hope you pass that
16 on to Don. And I know that he's very empathetic on
17 what happens for the villages and trying to make sure
18 people get their fish, as well as your mandate for
19 sport fishing.

20

21 I missed it, what's the outlook for
22 Buskin for this year? It looks like the management,
23 Comm Fish was saying it didn't look for closures, so
24 you folks have your smolt projects that's been going on
25 and gathering scales and so do Suzanne and Don and
26 yourself have an idea, is this going to be an okay run,
27 a great run, a little piddler or what?

28

29 MR. POLUM: Well, as far as the smolt
30 project -- Mr. Holmes, through the Chair. As far as
31 the smolt project goes, we've only had one year of data
32 for that. So we really don't know much from that at
33 this point. As continue to collect data and hopefully
34 that project continues, then we'll know more through
35 that. But at least from the sportfishery standpoint,
36 we're not anticipating -- well, the season will start
37 out with a bag limit of two fish per day, so we're not
38 anticipating anything other than the status quo this
39 season.

40

41 MR. HOLMES: Okay. So we'll probably
42 go back to maybe something less than 2008 or back when
43 we had some large escapements, but we should be able to
44 -- I should be able to plan to go to the Buskin with my
45 skiff and not have to be dragging over to Pasagshak.
46 We'll be back to some normal runs, is that the best
47 guess? And I know, you know, salmon management's an
48 art and sometimes is a guess. So I guess that's what
49 I'm fishing for, is trying to throw my net over you
50 guys, and figure out how to plan for this summer.

1 MR, POLUM: Yeah, that's the best
2 guess. You know, I talked to Don and Suzanne about
3 this, and our consensus is that that we will have some
4 sort of subsistence fishery and sport fishery this
5 summer, just based on what we learned at the weir.

6
7 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
8 questions. Rick.

9
10 MR. ROWLAND: Rick Rowland. I was
11 wondering about, since you are talking about the
12 Buskin, what you guys' communication was to the FAA in
13 relation to their environmental impact statement where
14 it's going to be coming out in the end of the fall, and
15 if you guys have come up with an opinion, and how it
16 relates to some of the alternatives that way that say
17 there might be a possibility of extinguishing the
18 species out in the river.

19
20 MR. POLUM: Will Frost from our Habitat
21 Division is taking the lead on that, and if you would
22 like, I could find that information out for you. I
23 believe that would be the best course of action here as
24 that's still in progress right now. Unless Jeff or
25 somebody else has a new update. I don't believe we
26 don't have an official statement on that yet, an
27 official.....

28
29 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah, I'd be interested
30 to hear that, because if a specific alternative is
31 selected that would remove the subsistence use of the
32 species, or the species completely, then that would
33 remove subsistence, and that's going to take food away
34 from people's table, and so it would be interesting to
35 hear that goes and hear what you guys' plan is about
36 that.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Jeff.

39
40 MR. SPALINGER: Mr. Rowland through the
41 Chair. We certainly expressed those concerns with FAA
42 in detail. The Department's very much involved with
43 that right now, and we've given them our preference to
44 what we think the airport should do, and what we
45 definitely do not want to see as far as extending the
46 airport out onto the beach in front of the Buskin. And
47 we don't know exactly what's going to go on right now.
48 I'm not sure if it's in public review right now. Pat,
49 you might know more than I do right now, but.....
50

1 MR. HOLMES: Yeah it is. The
2 Department was very good in sharing with the airport
3 committee the local Staff comments, and they're like
4 14, 15 pages that I shared, and they were very, very
5 vociferous in trying to maintain the mouth of the river
6 the way it was to avoid conflicts. And then our
7 Council has also sent in a couple resolutions to that
8 effect, to not have any impact at the mouth.

9
10 The official State comment that went
11 through DNR reduced 15 pages down to about two or
12 three, but that's the reflection of whatever happens in
13 Juneau with politics and the governor, but the State
14 did make some very strong comments, and they were very
15 kind to share those with us and used some of those in
16 working on that draft comment for a letter from Sun'aq
17 to address those potential negative effects of the
18 airport. So they've been really working pretty close
19 to help the community on their arguments of not messing
20 up the fishery at the mouth.

21
22 MR. ROWLAND: So you're saying that
23 this Council made resolutions?

24
25 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, we've done two.

26
27 MR. ROWLAND: Okay. Good. Thank you.

28
29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
30 questions. Della, you're on the phone, do you have any
31 questions.

32
33 MS. TRUMBLE: No, I don't at this time.

34 Thanks.

35
36 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: All right. Thank

37 you, Della.

38
39 And thank you very much for your
40 report.

41
42 Now we can get into -- one moment. Go
43 ahead.

44
45 MS. WILKINSON: I was just going to say
46 -- this is Ann Wilkinson -- Antone Shelikoff is on the
47 line, too, today.

48
49 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Oh, okay. Antone,
50 did you have any input to the couple reports we heard

1 from Fish and Game.

2

3 (No response)

4

5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Maybe he is not on
6 there yet.

7

8 Okay. Polly, you have the floor.

9

10 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
11 I'm going to walk you through a number of items that
12 the Federal Board -- well, walk you through a number of
13 items in the book, and I'll kind of go item by item and
14 alert you when there's an action item that the Council
15 can take. So we'll just stepwise down.

16

17 The whole report that I'm going to be
18 giving to you today, Mr. Chair, is on the Secretarial
19 Program Review, give you an update of kind of where the
20 review is at, and also information that the Federal
21 Subsistence Board would like to hear from the Regional
22 Advisory Councils.

23

24 So we'll start with, in your books on
25 Page 44, there's a letter from Secretary Salazar to the
26 new Federal Board Chair, Tim Towarak describing the
27 status of the subsistence program review, where it's
28 at, and specifically outlining 11 items that the
29 Secretary's particularly interested in having the
30 Federal Subsistence Board work on and then report back
31 to the Secretary. And if you notice on the bottom of
32 Page 45, Item No. 11 is prepare and submit a status
33 report on these actions to me with a copy to the
34 Secretary of Agriculture within a year of this letter.
35 The date of the letter was December 17, 2010, so the
36 clock is ticking. We're two months into a 12-month
37 period.

38

39 So the Board took its direction very
40 seriously. It met in November. It had a preview of
41 the letter and kind of the action items and talked
42 about it in November, and set aside January 5th for an
43 executive session to discuss these action items, kind
44 of the high priority items that it needed to work on.
45 And it met that day. The full Board met and discussed
46 progress that they wanted to make. They were very
47 clear that they need to make progress, they need to
48 make progress quickly, but they also were aware of the
49 fact that they don't want to throw too much at the
50 Regional Advisory Councils.

1 There was some sentiment stated on the
2 part of some of the Regional Advisory Councils that
3 they didn't want a whole bunch thrown on them, and they
4 wanted to be able to have the opportunity to respond
5 meaningfully to these particular items. So the Board
6 said, okay. So it decided to prioritize these items.
7

8 The first item that the Board decided
9 to prioritize was expanding the Board to include two
10 new members representing rural Alaska subsistence
11 users. Now, on Page 48 in your books there's a
12 briefing, and if you want to turn to Page 48, it's
13 entitled a briefing on changing the composition of the
14 Board.
15

16 The Office of Subsistence Management
17 worked with Pat Pourchot to develop a proposed rule to
18 change the composition of the Federal Board to add two
19 new members that will represent rural Alaska
20 subsistence users. The proposed rule was published
21 February 11th I believe. Yeah, February 11th.
22

23 And we have a 60-day public comment
24 which closes April 12th. Once the comments are all
25 received, and at last count I think we had received
26 about eight comments, not including the comments from
27 the Regional Councils I would say. Once the comments
28 are received, the Office of Subsistence Management will
29 summarize the comments, provide them to the Federal
30 Subsistence Board.
31

32 The Federal Board will then make its
33 recommendation to the Secretary of the Interior,
34 because, Mr. Chair, this is a Subpart B change to the
35 regulations, so it's program structure, and it's within
36 the purview of the Secretary. So the Secretary is the
37 one that has to make the decision. Once the Secretary
38 hears what the Federal Board has to say and what the
39 Regional Advisory Councils have to say, and what the
40 public say, then the Secretary will make his final
41 decision and then a final rule will be published.
42

43 There's been a number of questions that
44 have come up with regard to process, how those two
45 people are going to be selected. Are they going to be
46 selected -- is there going to be some interest in
47 having regional representation, tribal representation,
48 who are these people, and how are they going to be
49 selected.
50

1 And the Secretary through Pat Pourchot
2 has indicated that they want to keep the regulation to
3 just what the regulation is going to be, and not
4 include kind of process steps in the regulation, which
5 is why it's quite clear, if you can see on Page 49, the
6 proposed Federal regulation is fairly straight forward.
7 And the bolded section is how the regulation is being
8 proposed to be changed.

9
10 So basically the change would read, The
11 voting members of the Board are a Chair to be appointed
12 by the Secretary of the Interior with the concurrence
13 of the Secretary of Agriculture, that's existing. And
14 we would add, or we're proposing to add anyway, two
15 public members representing rural Alaskan subsistence
16 users to be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior
17 with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture;
18 blah-blah-blah. And then the quorum will be changed,
19 because obviously you added a couple new members and
20 you're going to have a change in what constitutes a
21 quorum.

22
23 So that's the proposed change in a
24 nutshell, Mr. Chair.

25
26 Public comments can be submitted in a
27 number of ways, and I'm saying this for the benefit of
28 the public here in case there's any public here. And
29 clearly the Council can submit public comment through
30 this process, but any of you as individuals can also
31 submit public comment if you're interested. And you
32 can submit it by mail; you can submit it to any of us
33 at this meeting if you have just written comments; or
34 you can go to the web at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

35
36 From personal experience with
37 www.regulations.gov, I recommend that you mail them in
38 to us or give them to us at the meeting, because
39 www.regulations.gov can be a little bit of a challenge
40 sometimes to get into.

41
42 Anyway, Mr. Chair, that is Item No. 1.
43 And the action that this Council could take at this
44 time is if you want to submit comments as a Council,
45 that's certainly your prerogative. You can also
46 discuss it and the transcript, we can excerpt the
47 transcript out and submit that as public comments.
48 There's any number of ways you can go about it Mr.
49 Chair. But anyway the action item is are you
50 supportive of this, and do you have any other comments

1 towards this end.

2

3 Mr. Chair.

4

5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al.

6

7 MR. CRATTY: Yes. Mr. Chair. Al
8 Cratty here.

9

10 Yeah, I agree with this. I think it
11 would be a good deal.

12

13 I'd like to see somebody -- it seems
14 like when they do appoint somebody, it's always from
15 the Interior, up in Fairbanks, any kind of way around
16 it. And I'd like to see somebody either from the Chain
17 or the central area that's got good fisheries knowledge
18 and tribal knowledge in our subsistence ways.

19

20 I just wanted to voice my opinion on
21 it.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.

26

27 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. I totally
28 agree with my grandson here. And I think they should
29 consider some sort of geographical spread, just like
30 we've discussed within our region for good
31 representation. And perhaps I might add, with your
32 permission, the thought of having someone from the Gulf
33 of Alaska and then having someone from the mainland of
34 Alaska. Then you could, you know, have your
35 Interior/Bristol Bay person, and then you could have
36 somebody from the Aleutians or Kodiak or somebody like
37 Bert Adams from Yakutat that's Southeast Chair,
38 something like that. I'd like to ask them to think
39 about having a geographical differential, and do a
40 spread with the mainland and Gulf of Alaska for that.

41

42 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

43

44 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair.

45

46 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Della.

47

48 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair. Thank you. I
49 agree with both Al and Pete. I believe that that is a
50 great idea. We do seem to get left behind here.

1 So, thanks.

2

3 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Della.
4 Sam.

5

6 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. One other idea
7 as far as the selection goes. It sure would be nice if
8 they had a review process where they'd present the
9 applicants to the Advisory Boards and let us send our
10 recommendations as well. And not our recommendations
11 of a person so much as our recommendation on, you know,
12 if they select a number of candidates to pass on, that
13 we would have a chance to send our comments on with the
14 individual candidates.

15

16 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Rick.

17

18 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair. Rick Rowland.

19

20 My question is, and I'm not too
21 familiar with this review, but what was reviewed in
22 order to reach this change.

23

24 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
25 And I apologize. I got ahead of myself in my
26 excitement.

27

28 What was reviewed was the Federal
29 Subsistence Management Program. At AFN in October of
30 2009, the Secretary through his special assistant, the
31 Secretary of the Interior through his special
32 assistants Ken Elton and Pat Pourchot made an
33 announcement that the subsistence program, the Federal
34 Subsistence Program had been around for 20 years, and
35 it was time to stop treating it as a temporary program
36 and look at ways that the program could be improved.
37 So that announcement was made in August of 2009.

38

39 The review took a little bit over a
40 year, and the review was basically conducted by Pat
41 Pourchot, who's a Special Assistant for Alaskan Affairs
42 to the Secretary of the Interior. His office is in
43 Anchorage. And he met with 114 different stakeholders
44 as I remember correctly, and got all kinds of input on
45 how the program could be improved.

46

47 Those recommendations went back to the
48 Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of the
49 Interior sifted through them I think and came out with
50 his recommendations for what were some of the higher

1 priority items.

2

3 There's a news release in your booklet
4 on Page -- let's see. It's on Page 46 and 47, and that
5 was the news release that went out in August describing
6 the results, if that's what you want to call them, of
7 the subsistence review. And then it took a couple
8 months to get the letters out to the respective Chair
9 of the Federal Board.....

10

11 And actually one of the items that, the
12 first item that they did was switch out Federal Board
13 Chairs. Mike Fleagle was the Federal Board Chair, and
14 he was replaced with Tim Towarak. Actually he's not
15 from the Interior. He's from Unalakleet. He'd
16 probably resent being called from the Interior, but
17 just to clarify there, Mr. Cratty. So Tim has been the
18 Federal Board Chair since -- I think his first meeting
19 was in November.

20

21 So it just looking at the overall
22 program, Mr. Rowland, and if you have any other
23 questions, I can try and answer them.

24

25 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead.

26

27 MR. ROWLAND: Thank you. I appreciate
28 that answer about what the review was about.

29

30 And from reading this briefly, is there
31 any wording change as to whether or not there's going
32 to be a term limit for that individual in this proposed
33 regulation change.

34

35 DR. WHEELER: That's a good question,
36 and the answer is, no. That has been recommended by a
37 couple of Councils. They're interested in seeing these
38 positions maybe be three year staggered terms or
39 something like that. But I would say that the Board
40 Chair, the Federal Subsistence Board Chair is not a
41 term position either. As it's worked out, sometimes
42 the person's been replaced with a change of
43 administration, and sometimes they haven't.

44

45 I think Mitch Demientieff was in there
46 for a number of years through -- who was he appointed
47 -- I think he was appointed by Babbitt. He was
48 appointed through the Clinton administration, and then
49 when through, I was going to say the Reagan
50 administration, but I'm going backwards, not forward.

1 Sorry about that. Bush administration. And made it
2 through some of the Bush administration, and then Mike
3 Fleagle was appointed I believe in 2006 or 2007, and
4 then he was replaced in 2010.

5
6 So they're not term appointment.
7 They're not technically term appointments, but like I
8 said, some of the -- and the Federal Subsistence Board
9 Chair isn't at issue here. The proposed rule is
10 strictly dealing with the two public members. But if
11 that's a recommendation that this Council wants to
12 make, then I encourage you to do so.

13
14 Mr. Chair.

15
16 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
17 questions. I had one, but it flew away. My mind
18 opened for a little bit and it took off.

19
20 DR. WHEELER: Better watch out for
21 that.

22
23 (Laughter)

24
25 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah. Pat.

26
27 MR. HOLMES: Something flew over
28 towards me from my deaf side.

29
30 I was thinking that, you know, there's
31 some merit of having limits, because if they ended up
32 being a Bristol Bay and, you know, somebody from the
33 Interior and not be Gulf of Alaska, but, you know, it's
34 almost the way Alaska is. You almost need to have
35 three. Somebody from the Interior, somebody from
36 Western and Northwest Alaska, and then, you know, the
37 Gulf, because they're different cultures and different
38 major food sources and everything. But that could be
39 achieved.

40
41 And on the other hand, having a person
42 in a position for a long time like Mitch, he was just
43 so nice to talk to. He was just a really good guy, and
44 he had been in so long that he could see how the whole
45 thing developed and flowed along and how the government
46 worked. And, you know, he could coach us on who to go
47 to to talk to and how to find solutions. And that just
48 doesn't come in a short period of time either.

49
50 So it's pros and cons. I don't know

1 what to say. Maybe we just watch and see how it works
2 and if it doesn't seem to be working, then we need to
3 write some resolutions and letters, Mr. Chair. I don't
4 know.

5
6 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
7 questions. Rick.

8
9 MR. ROWLAND: Since we're discussing
10 it, I appreciated what Al was talking about of having
11 someone in the Gulf of Alaska, Central Alaska and
12 having someone in the Interior. Two representatives
13 from different regions. And now I appreciate what Pat
14 was saying is quite possibly if we could have three
15 representatives.

16
17 And to further that or expand it more,
18 to connect about the term limits, just for discussion
19 purposes, does it make sense to have what could be a
20 three-year rotation and quite possibly every three year
21 a different region is allowed to be participating on
22 the Board. So that's another thought that I'd like to
23 have discussed if possible.

24
25 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I don't know.
26 Maybe term limits might be a good thing, but I like the
27 idea of continuity. You know, if a person is on a
28 board for a number of years and they get a very good
29 idea of how things work, and then when they get -- when
30 they finally get the working mechanisms of their board
31 and then their term is up. And then they've got to
32 step out and let somebody new start over. And, you
33 know, we kind of step on our own feet if we set term
34 limits on the people we want to sit on that Board.
35 With the idea of continuity, once they learn the
36 system, and if they're really good at what they do, you
37 know, keeping them on there is in the best interest of
38 the people they serve.

39
40 Al.

41
42 MR. CRATTY: Yeah. I'd just like to
43 say, me and Alex went to lunch today and we had a
44 discussion of that. And he's telling me he really
45 likes the Board, you know, his three-year term's up and
46 he just learned everything about the Board and it
47 seemed like, you know, he's -- you know, that's what I
48 see you're getting at, and that's the same way I feel.
49 It takes you time to learn the process and the way it
50 is.

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Is that the Chair
2 of the Federal Subsistence Board is not a term seat.
3 Are the other Board members, are they term limited?

4
5 DR. WHEELER: No. Mr. Chair. The
6 Federal Subsistence Board Chair is not a term position,
7 and the other Board members are all the Alaska
8 directors of the five Federal agencies that are
9 involved in Federal subsistence management. So they're
10 all -- they're there for as long as they're in that
11 position. The seat on the Federal Board goes to that
12 position, not, you know, into whoever holds that
13 position. I know at the Fish and Wildlife Service, our
14 current director, Geoff Haskett, has been here for a
15 couple of years. He's been on the Federal Board for
16 that duration. Prior to that we had Tom Melius who was
17 here for two years, and then before that it was Rowan
18 Gould. So we have, on the Federal side, the agency
19 representative or representation is for as long as that
20 person's in that position, and then it just cycles
21 through.

22
23 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah. Maybe we
24 shouldn't even worry about term limits. Just find good
25 people to get in there and appoint them. And I like
26 the idea of having three instead of two with the
27 Interior and then North Slope and Gulf of Alaska.
28 Maybe we can recommend three, and change the number
29 from two to three.

30
31 Sam.

32
33 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. Just one
34 comment to think about. In a way we really do have
35 three as it is, because the Chair's a non-agency
36 person. So, you know, whatever -- well, and the Chair
37 now, he's from Unalakleet, so in a way you really do
38 have three as it is. You just need to make sure the
39 other two that are picked aren't from the Unalakleet
40 area. Get a guy, you know, like we're talking about.
41 But anyway, so in essence we would -- if we added these
42 two, that would leave us with three non-agency people
43 on there.

44
45 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: One more question
46 then as to the Chair is a regular voting member?

47
48 DR. WHEELER: Yes, Mr. Chair. The
49 Chair votes on all decisions.

50

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Rick.
2
3 MR. ROWLAND: I'm recalling this
4 morning's conversation about how important it is to
5 have meetings out in the rural, or out in the Aleutian
6 Chain as well as here. And I think it would be a good
7 idea to -- I mean, I go for this. I agree with this.
8 And then simply say if we could add another subsistence
9 from those three regions instead of making the
10 suggestion that it's somebody already on the Board. So
11 I'd like to say that from North Gulf Coast, the
12 Western/Northwestern Alaska and the Interior.
13
14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Are you saying you
15 agree with three?
16
17 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah.
18
19 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.
20
21 MR. HOLMES: You might want to make it
22 the whole Gulf of Alaska, because Southeast is, you
23 know -- if we just say north Gulf, then, you know,
24 because.
25
26 MR. ROWLAND: Okay. Then I'd like to
27 say North Pacific Ocean.
28
29 MR. HOLMES: There you go.
30
31 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
32 questions. Comments. Della, do you have any questions
33 or comments.
34
35 MS. TRUMBLE: No, I don't at this time.
36 Thank you.
37
38 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you.
39 Antone, are you on line yet.
40
41 MR. SHELIKOFF: Yes. I'm here.
42
43 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Did you
44 have any questions or comments.
45
46 MR. SHELIKOFF: Not at this time, no.
47
48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you.
49 Nothing else from the rest of the Board members.
50

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Move on I
4 guess.

5

6 DR. WHEELER: Okay. Mr. Chair. So
7 just to be clear, would this Council prefer to have
8 transcript excerpted and submitted in full as a public
9 comment or would you like me to summarize what I wrote
10 here, which I believe is you're interested in
11 potentially going to three seats; you're interested in
12 geographic representation and ensuring that the coast
13 as well as the Gulf of Alaska is represented; you're
14 not so sure about term limits, because you feel like
15 there's a lot of value in having some continuity.

16

17 So those are the big items that I
18 heard. And if you want I can summarize them and submit
19 them as comments on behalf of this Council, Mr. Chair,
20 rather than just the full transcript. But it's up to
21 you. Or we could do both.

22

23 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah. I believe
24 we just went away from term limit. And just appoint,
25 keep them as long as they hold their position that
26 they're appointed from, I'd just keep them on there.

27

28 DR. WHEELER: Duly noted.

29

30 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Sam.

31

32 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. The one thing
33 I was going to say is I would say forget the
34 transcripts, just give them your pain points. I'm
35 afraid if we give them too much, we'll lose any punch
36 we might be packing.

37

38 DR. WHEELER: Okay. Ann and I will
39 work together to make sure. We'll have the transcripts
40 in plenty of time. The public comment period closes
41 April 12th, so we will summarize the key points of this
42 Council and submit them on behalf of this Council's
43 public comment.

44

45 Mr. Chair.

46

47 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you.

48

49 DR. WHEELER: Okay. Thank you, Mr.

50 Chair.

1 And moving right along, the next item
2 that the Board is interested that the Board is
3 interested in having input on, or is interested in
4 telling the Regional Advisory Council what it's doing,
5 is the next issue that arose through the programmatic
6 review, and that is the whole issue of deference. As
7 we talked about yesterday in the training, the Federal
8 Subsistence Board is obligated by statute to defer to
9 the Regional Advisory Council recommendation on matters
10 of take. And that would be kind of harvest, methods
11 and means, that sort of thing.

12
13 The issues that came up during the
14 course of subsistence program review, some people were
15 concerned that the Federal Subsistence Board, they felt
16 that the Board should defer to the Regional Advisory
17 Councils on customary and traditional use
18 determinations. They also had some concern over
19 deference to the Regional Advisory Councils on rural
20 determinations and also on in-season management.

21
22 So those were the bit three with regard
23 to deference that came up during the program review.

24
25 The Board took each of those items up.
26 And what it decided is that as a matter of policy, it
27 would defer to the Regional Advisory Councils on their
28 recommendation on the customary and traditional use
29 determinations. Our solicitor's office has indicated
30 that customary and traditional use determinations
31 aren't necessarily matters of take, so the Federal
32 Board doesn't have to defer to the recommendation from
33 the Councils on C&T determinations.

34
35 I would say as a matter of practice the
36 Board has with a few notable exceptions, which this --
37 yeah, with a few notable exceptions. Leave it at that.

38
39 But the Board recognized that this was
40 an issue for the Regional Advisory Councils, so it
41 said, you know, as a matter of policy it was going to
42 defer to the Regional Advisory Councils on customary
43 and traditional use determinations.

44
45 The next item was with the rural
46 determinations. And as I mentioned yesterday when we
47 talked about rural determinations, this is a relatively
48 new Board. The most long-standing member has been on
49 for about three years. That's Sue Masica with the Park
50 Service. And no one on the Board has dealt with rural

1 determinations. So the Board felt that really at this
2 point it was probably premature to be making a decision
3 one way or the other with regard to deference to
4 Councils on rural determinations since it didn't really
5 know enough about rural determinations.

6
7 So it's having a meeting as we
8 mentioned yesterday on rural determinations to kind of
9 look back at what was done with the 2000 census and
10 what actions the Board took, and to get it kind of at a
11 baseline level where it can proceed with rural
12 determinations and maybe think about the whole
13 deference question. But they felt that at this point
14 they didn't really know enough about the whole process
15 to make a decision one way or the other.

16
17 And the final question with regard to
18 deference was in-season management. And as you
19 probably all know, in-season management decisions, the
20 whole goal is to make timely decisions to save the
21 resource one way or the other. And while there is a
22 lot of consultation that our Federal in-season managers
23 do when they have to make these decisions, the Board
24 did recognize that because the decisions have to be
25 timely, you wouldn't be making an in-season management
26 decision if it wasn't timely, they'll do what they can
27 to get involvement, and they typically do involve the
28 RAC Chairs if the RAC Chair's available, but that
29 demanding deference to the Regional Advisory Council
30 would sort of get away from the need to make in-season
31 management decisions, because they have to be timely.

32
33 But the Board also recognized that
34 maybe there isn't such a great understanding on the
35 part of all the Regional Advisory Council members with
36 regard to who the in-season managers are, what their
37 delegated authority is, and that sort of thing. So it
38 decided that in the next RAC book, or if not that one,
39 the following one, we will include any relevant
40 delegation of authority letters, you know, within your
41 reason, if there's an in-season manager that has
42 delegated authority, those letters will be included in
43 your Council book and we'll make sure that you know who
44 your in-season managers are and for what areas. Just
45 to keep the communications as open as possible.

46
47 So there's no action needed on this
48 time, Mr. Chair. It's just the Federal Board wants the
49 Councils to know what they're thinking about with
50 regard to the deference questions, and it will keep

1 talking to the Councils as they move forward.

2

3

Mr. Chair.

4

5

CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I had one simple
6 question I guess. When you say in-season managers,
7 does the management change on the seasons or are they
8 off at a particular time? What does that mean.

9

10 DR. WHEELER: I guess it depends on who
11 you're talking about. No. The management, as you
12 know, the handy-dandies that we have, these are the
13 regulations that are followed, but oftentimes,
14 particularly with fisheries or in the instance of hunts
15 that need to be closed if they've met their quota.
16 Decisions need to be made in order to conserve the
17 resource, or decisions need to be made, maybe limit a
18 gear type, or extend a season, close a season, open
19 things up. So you have the guiding regulations. But
20 when changes need to be made in-season, then a person
21 has the -- may have the authority delegated by the
22 Board. If there isn't an in-season manager, then the
23 decision has to go up to the Federal Board and as you
24 know, with bureaucracies that can sometimes be -- maybe
25 by the time the decision's made.....

26

27 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: (Indiscernible,
28 microphone not on) and the season's over by the time
29 they make the decision.

30

31 DR. WHEELER: Right. Right.

32

33 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
34 questions. Pat.

35

36 MR. HOLMES: On the first two items, I
37 think that that's a really good thing to have input on
38 from on customary and traditional from the local areas.

39

40

41 And also on rural determination to have
42 a little bit more of a voice or discussion on different
43 criteria, because different regions of the State look
44 at things quite differently. And in our discussions we
45 had with the Federal Board on Kodiak's rural
46 determination, you know, you can ask a basic question,
47 and, you know, if the Board's not educated, they
48 haven't a clue what you're talking about.

49

50 And, for instance, I use the

1 expression, and I tried to explain it, and everyone's
2 eyes were glossed over, and I said, well, what
3 represents a home-cooked meal to you? What do you
4 remember about your mother or your grandmother, or
5 what's soul food. And then I used a word that Iver had
6 given me, an Alutiiq phrase, and, you know, Niles Cesar
7 caught on right away, because he had lived that life.
8 And the rest of the folks were kind of slow to pick up
9 on it.

10
11 And so I think all these definitions
12 that are in there, you know, the 7,000 came from the
13 Rural Electrification Program or something like that.
14 The 11,000 for the population of Ketchikan at ANILCA.
15 You know, it's all done by bureaucrats, and they do
16 need to talk to local folks about really what's
17 customary and traditional for their turf rather than
18 for those people to fall into some definition from D.C.
19

20 On in-season management, I know when I
21 was with Fish and Game, and I'm sure Fish and Wildlife
22 does it as well, when you've got some topic coming up,
23 you know, you can't really -- don't mostly have any
24 time to have a great debate, or a big discussion or a
25 vote, but I think having the common courtesy of
26 advising folks that something's coming up, and I know
27 when they close the Buskin, they usually try to get the
28 word out to everybody, and the same with the Karluk
29 closures, you know, both agencies are letting folks
30 know that that's come up, because it's a conservation
31 issue. And I don't know how we could timely provide
32 input on that, but I think knowing what's happening and
33 why, that helps a lot.

34
35 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Pat.
36 Other questions. Comments.

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Moving right
41 along.

42
43 DR. WHEELER: Moving right along.
44 Okay.

45
46 The next item is the Memorandum of
47 Understanding. And that can be found beginning on Page
48 52 in your books. And there's a briefing document on
49 Page 50. And this was as you might imagine, a -- this
50 was a big -- this issue came up more than once during

1 the course of the subsistence programmatic review.
2 There were a number of people that were concerned about
3 the MOU. There were a number of people or entities
4 that thought that the Federal Board was giving away
5 some of its responsibility in signing the MOU. There
6 was -- there were some concerns.

7
8 And the Federal Board recognized that.
9 The Federal Board recognizes that it may need to revise
10 this MOU. Keep in mind this MOU was signed between the
11 Federal Subsistence Board and the State of Alaska, the
12 Commissioner of Fish and Game, and the Chair of the
13 Board of Fisheries and the Chair of the Board of Game,
14 and then each of the Federal Subsistence Board members.

15
16
17 The MOU does help to address the
18 necessity of having some degree of communication and
19 coordination between the two managing entities. There
20 are actually several sections in Title VIII that
21 specifically -- well, that require the Secretaries to
22 communicate and/or consult with State representatives
23 on certain issues relating to subsistence uses by rural
24 Alaskans.

25
26 So the Board feels like there's
27 certainly value in having this MOU, but recognizes that
28 there may be sections of it that could be revised to
29 better reflect both its statutory responsibilities and
30 those of the State. And also maybe put it -- maybe
31 ease some of the concerns that are out there with
32 regard to what's going on in the body of the MOU.

33
34 So, Mr. Chair, this is your
35 opportunity. There's a public comment period. It's
36 not sort of a formal thing like we have with the
37 proposed rule, but the Board is looking for public
38 comments and is looking to have the public comments by
39 May 1st, so here's your opportunity as a Council to
40 weigh in. And clearly specific comments are more
41 useful than kind of general comments like get rid of
42 it. But the more specific you can be, that is most
43 helpful.

44
45 And the other Councils that have met,
46 and you are the 9th of 10 Councils, the Southeast
47 Council and the Kodiak/Aleutians Council are meeting at
48 the same time, so we've had 8 meetings thus far. And I
49 would say that of the eight councils that have met and
50 weighed in on the MOU thus far, they've all been

1 supportive of the MOU in concept, and most of them have
2 had some sort of a comment in terms of how in their
3 view the MOU could be improved.

4

5 So, Mr. Chair, it's up to you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Sam.

8

9 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. I'd like to
10 hear from Mr. Pappas as to the State's viewpoint on the
11 MOU before I comment. You know, it's something we
12 heard quite a bit about. They talk quite a bit about
13 it while they were developing it, but since it's been
14 developed, I haven't really heard anyone on either side
15 really talk about it, so just curious from the State's
16 perspective what they think.

17

18 MR. PAPPAS: Excuse me. Through the
19 Chair. George Pappas, Department of Fish and Game.

20

21 Yes, the State's in full support of the
22 MOU. It's necessary to maintain communications.
23 Believe it or not, it reduces redundancy in data
24 requests, if that's a term.

25

26 And there have been -- as Polly said,
27 I've been to just about every RAC meeting this year,
28 and everybody's had a constructive comment about it, or
29 want to tweak it, or want to change verbiage from like
30 local knowledge to TEK.

31

32 And even some of the actions that the
33 RACs did were based on the MOU. They illustrated a
34 particular point and said, this is supportive of a
35 particular proposal or modification.

36

37 So, yeah, the Department is 100 percent
38 in support of this.

39

40 And just for your information, my job
41 falls within this MOU, under Section IV, I believe No.
42 9 about designate liaisons for policy communications,
43 identify representatives. It's providing information.
44 And as part of my job is to process information and
45 coordinate with the Federal agencies and users.

46

47 So 110 support.

48

49 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

50

1 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Sam.

4

5 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Pappas, so that's why
6 you're always at our meetings now. That answers my
7 questions.

8

9 But that answered my question, and I
10 think we should -- I'm in support of it. I think it's
11 a good thing, and certainly reducing any redundancies
12 is always a good thing. And keeping open lines of
13 communication, again that's always a good thing.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.

18

19 MR. HOLMES: I agree with Sam. This is
20 much more extensive than the old one. It includes a
21 lot of local input where its possible to do that. And
22 interactions I think with the Councils. And like you
23 said, a duplication of management and research, that's
24 really great.

25

26 And it's sort of a
27 gentleman/gentlewoman's agreement that where they don't
28 agree on things, then they'll sit down and talk about
29 it, whereas I can remember 15 years or more ago, they'd
30 have one squabble and then nobody would talk to anybody
31 at all, and there would be lots of huffing and people
32 with different color shirts puffing up and, you know,
33 not getting anywhere. And what it does is it comes
34 down to then it really complicated management of the
35 fish and critters.

36

37 And this Item No. 5, promotes stability
38 in fish and wildlife management and minimize
39 unnecessary disruption to subsistence and other uses of
40 fish and wildlife, and promote clear and enforceable
41 hunting and fishing and trapping regulations. Because
42 through the years they're starting to parallel. We
43 tried to work ourselves to get regulations that are
44 parallel so they don't conflict, and, you know, so
45 we've gone away from people trying to grab the ball and
46 run home with it to everybody trying to play ball with
47 the same rules.

48

49 And so I think this is -- it might not
50 be perfect. I haven't read the whole thing twice, but

1 I made it through once, and it seems like a good place
2 to be and better than what they had before by a long
3 shot.

4
5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Pat.
6 Other Board comments. Al.

7
8 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair. Yeah, I think
9 it's a good idea, too. I was just reading through some
10 of it, and it looks good. Nice work.

11
12 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair.

13
14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Rick.

15
16 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah. Rick Rowland.

17
18 I appreciate the Memorandum of
19 Understanding between the Federal Subsistence Board and
20 the State of Alaska, and their mutual agreement and
21 everything that's lined out in there. And more so I
22 appreciate it that both the Federal Subsistence Board
23 and the State of Alaska are working towards working
24 together and to ensure that, for example, under Section
25 .802(1) of the policy, of ANILCA, is to cause the least
26 adverse impact possible on the rural residents who
27 depend on subsistence uses. So I appreciate that
28 memorandum.

29
30 Thank you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Rick.

33
34 Della, do you have any questions or
35 comments on the MOU.

36
37 MS. TRUMBLE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
38 agree with what all's been said. And I think to
39 continue forward, it is to the best interest of
40 everybody in the state as a whole.

41
42 The one thing that I guess when I think
43 about the protection of subsistence, and I'm not sure
44 how it gets addressed, the issue that just happened
45 with Unimak, and how this protects that. You know, I
46 guess I'm not really sure how it even addressed that at
47 this point.

48
49 But to continue to work together I
50 think is in our best interest for sure.

1 So thank you.
2
3 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Della.
4
5 How about you, Antone, do you have
6 questions or comments on the MOU.
7
8 MR. SHELIKOFF: Just on the Unimak
9 Island Caribou Herd. I think, you know, that people
10 that they use the resource, that it's kind of a
11 priority that they -- or the resource has been depleted
12 (indiscernible, fading) them to first since that's us.
13
14 Thanks.
15
16 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you,
17 Antone.
18
19 Any other Board questions or comments.
20
21 (No comments)
22
23 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: With the
24 information gathered, Ann, do we have any information
25 that will formulate an opinion from this Board. Have
26 we gathered any information that would formulate an
27 opinion or comments to MOU from this Board, from this
28 Council?
29
30 MS. WILKINSON: You're referring to
31 right now?
32
33 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah.
34
35 MS. WILKINSON: Yes, I think so.
36
37 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. I'll get
38 with you then and see what we have.
39
40 DR. WHEELER: Mr. Chair, if I could
41 maybe do like what you suggested with the -- or what
42 you agreed to with the proposed rule is I can summarize
43 these comments and submit them as a full set of
44 comments from this Council, Mr. Chair. I can write
45 pretty fast. The question is can I read my handwriting
46 when I get back to the office, but we'll see.
47
48 (Laughter)
49
50 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other Board

1 comments, questions on the MOU.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Hearing none,
6 cruising right along, Polly.

7

8 DR. WHEELER: Okay. I think we must
9 have worn you out this morning or something. We're not
10 hitting the usual bumps that we expect.

11

12 Okay. The next item before you is
13 customary and traditional use determinations, and this
14 is just again an input, that the Board is looking for
15 some input.

16

17 When the Board discussed this at their
18 January 5th executive session, it started to down the
19 road of kind of coming up with options for how to
20 change the existing process.

21

22 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Which page?

23

24 DR. WHEELER: There isn't a page.
25 Sorry, you're just going to have to listen to me.
26 Hopefully you can hear me.

27

28 But the Board was interested in, before
29 going down the road of, okay, we're going to change the
30 whole process, maybe we need to backtrack and say,
31 okay, how do the different Councils feel about the
32 existing process for doing customary and traditional
33 use determinations.

34

35 As we covered yesterday in the training
36 session, the Board does the customary and traditional
37 use determinations using the eight factors, and it
38 treats the eight factors as sort of a -- you know, in a
39 holistic approach. It's not a checklist where you have
40 to check off every box and make sure you have
41 information on each of the eight factors. It goes
42 through that as a checklist, looks at the customary and
43 traditional pattern of use of a particular resource in
44 a particular area.

45

46 So rather than kind of changing the
47 process whole hog and giving the Councils options, the
48 Board first decided to ask the Councils, how do you
49 feel about the process? You know, it's done more than
50 300 determinations. When they've been challenged in

1 the courts, the courts have upheld the decisions by the
2 Federal Subsistence Board. So how do you feel about
3 the process? Are there things you'd like to change?
4 If there are things you'd like to change, do you have
5 any specific suggestions.

6
7 So the Board again is just interested
8 in your general input on the whole C&T determination
9 process before it goes down the road of making changes.

10
11 Mr. Chair.

12
13 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah. Thank you,
14 Polly.

15
16 Just one question I guess. When I
17 first got on this Board, we had Pat Petrivelli, and she
18 helped us work through customary and traditional uses
19 and traditions. And I think we also had cultural
20 advisor, and that was Carl Jack. And they always
21 attended our meetings. Is that process we're talking
22 about changing, doing away with our C&T person and our
23 cultural advisor?

24
25 DR. WHEELER: No, Mr. Chair. The
26 process that I'm speaking to is how this Board
27 approaches the C&T determinations. You do have
28 whenever -- if there's a proposal that addresses a
29 customary and traditional use determination before you,
30 there will be an anthropologist that will provide you a
31 full analysis of the information. At one point it was
32 Pat Petrivelli, at another point it was Liz Williams,
33 then it was Pippa Kenner. You've had a series of
34 people coming through. So I assure you there will be
35 an anthropologist what would be doing the analysis of
36 the information and present it to you as a Council.

37
38 With regard to Carl Jack, he retired
39 last September. He was the Native liaison to the
40 Federal Subsistence Program, and his primary job was
41 providing support to the Federal Board Chair. We have
42 not filled that position yet. We have had a number of
43 budgetary issues. At one point during this fiscal year
44 there was a question of if our budget was even going to
45 survive. We still don't have a budget for 2011, let
46 alone 2012. But we didn't want to hire a position and
47 then have to lay them off if we didn't have the budget
48 to support them. So we're committed to filling that
49 position if the budget allows so that you have that
50 Native liaison position, Mr. Chair.

1 And I think that Carl came to some of
2 these meetings, but there's 10 Council meetings so not
3 everybody can be in every place, but we are committed
4 to provide an anthropologist to go through the
5 information, and hopefully we'll have a Native liaison,
6 we'll be able to fill that Native liaison position.
7 But in terms of Staff support, we will support you in
8 every way that we can in doing the customary and
9 traditional use determinations.

10

11 So the process that the Board is
12 talking about is a proposal comes in, it gets analyzed
13 by Staff. The analysis gets presented to you as a
14 Council. The Council weighs in with its traditional
15 knowledge about kind of the uses and the practices
16 surrounding this particular resource in whatever area
17 that we're talking about. That recommendation then
18 goes forward to the Board who makes the decision on the
19 proposal. So that's the process.

20

21 Mr. Chair.

22

23 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you.
24 Questions. Comments.

25

26 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair. For the
27 Council members, the eight criteria are on Page 10 of
28 our operations manual. And it's been a while since I
29 looked at those. And I wish I had looked at those when
30 we were working on the Kodiak's dicentennial rural
31 review, when we were debating them. But now that I
32 look at these, these are the specific arguments that
33 our community was using and, hey, we're rural even
34 though we've got more numbers than you think we should
35 have.

36

37 You know, those pretty well describe
38 it. And, you know, in the Kodiak area, when I talk to
39 new folks about it, I talk about, you know subsistence
40 is caring and sharing of food. And to define it in my
41 own words. And, you know, there it is down there in
42 seven. And, you know, I think the C&T process is
43 pretty good. Sometimes it's been too liberal,
44 sometimes it's been a little bit too literal, but my
45 general feeling is what I've seen since I've been on
46 this Board, it's been improving and I think it's pretty
47 good.

48

49 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: All right. Rick.

50

1 MR. ROWLAND: Hi. Rick Rowland. Thank
2 you, Mr. Chair.

3
4 So I see under the Act in definition
5 Section .803, there is subsistence uses mean the
6 customary and traditional uses by rural residents, and
7 so on and so forth. And it spells out subsistence
8 uses.

9
10 And so my question is, what is it that
11 they want input? Is it about the determination of the
12 rural status? Is it a determination of how determine
13 what is considered customary and traditional? What are
14 they looking for input for exactly?

15
16 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Polly.

17
18 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

19
20 You're correct. ANILCA speaks to
21 customary and traditional and rural. ANILCA didn't
22 define rural. It didn't define customary and
23 traditional. So when the Federal government assumed
24 management authority for subsistence by rural users on
25 Federal public lands, it had to define these different
26 terms. So the implementing regulations are where it
27 looks to define these particular terms.

28
29 And so the Board -- or it was actually
30 the Secretary of the Interior who then directs the
31 Federal Board, but the Secretary of the Interior is
32 looking at these eight factors which are on Page 10 as
33 describing a customary and traditional pattern of use
34 of resources.

35
36 Now that is a way to do it. Is it the
37 only way? No. And that's what the Board is looking
38 at. The approach that it's taken is it looks at the
39 eight factors and it does an analysis of the eight
40 factors, and then it looks to the Councils to weigh in
41 on whether or not they think this is a customary and
42 traditional pattern of use. So there's other ways of
43 doing it.

44
45 The Board has made roughly over -- it's
46 made over 300 C&T findings across the State. Some of
47 them have made their way up to the courts and the
48 courts have affirmed the decisions that the Federal
49 Board has made.

50

1 So the Board could go in and completely
2 revamp or revise the way that it approaches customary
3 and traditional use determinations. But before it does
4 that, it wanted to hear from the Councils on are your
5 thoughts on the existing process.

6
7 So I hope I haven't hopelessly confused
8 you.

9
10 MR. ROWLAND: No, you haven't.

11
12 DR. WHEELER: Okay. Good.

13
14 MR. ROWLAND: I have an understanding
15 of what you're talking about.

16
17 DR. WHEELER: And I will say one thing,
18 just to back track a little bit. This model of using
19 the eight factors or the eight criteria, it was adopted
20 from the State at the time that the Feds assumed
21 managed authority for subsistence. At the time it was
22 thought to be a temporary program, so the Federal
23 program adopted the State's model of dealing with
24 customary and traditional uses, because it was thought
25 to be temporary, didn't want to create a lot of
26 disruption for the users. And so the eight criteria
27 were sort of modified or tweaked or whatever, and they
28 call them eight factors on the Federal side. It's
29 eight criteria on the State side.

30
31 But the whole logic behind the eight
32 criteria or eight factors is that customary and
33 traditional uses are very different than non-customary
34 and traditional uses. So these eight factors were
35 developed to sort of describe a way of life that's
36 characteristically very, very different than the way of
37 life in other parts of Alaska. It doesn't mean it's
38 good or bad or anything else, it's just very different.
39 So that was how those are used to sort of describe that
40 customary and traditional pattern.

41
42 So I'll stop talking.

43
44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Sam.

45
46 MR. ROHRER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. A
47 couple thoughts on it.

48
49 You know, the method for determining
50 C&T is certainly -- it's not perfect. There's

1 certainly some -- there are some areas I'm not real
2 happy with or not real comfortable with it, but
3 unfortunately I can't think of a better way to do it.

4
5 I guess probably the only complaint, it
6 would be nice in the criteria, the eight criteria if
7 they used a little bit more concrete words. Long-term
8 consistent pattern of use, you know, giving us a little
9 bit more guidance on what's long term. Is it 10 years,
10 20 years, 25 years, 250 years.

11
12 And then the seasonal pattern of use
13 reoccurring for many years. You know, again some of
14 those things are pretty vague. It would be nice if
15 there was a little bit more concrete terms used there.

16
17 And then the only other comment on it,
18 I always find it's a little funny when you're sitting
19 at a meeting and you have an anthropologist who lives
20 in Anchorage explaining our culture and history to us.
21 But, anyway, so that's just a little side note.

22
23 Thank you.

24
25 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al.

26
27 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair. Al Cratty.

28
29 Yeah. I feel the same way Sam does.
30 On the long-term consistent pattern of use. Now, if
31 the State uses the same thing, what about the animals
32 that are introduced that weren't here long term? And
33 as a subsistence user I usually eat what I see that's
34 good to eat, sorry to say, but.....

35
36 (Laughter)

37
38 MR. CRATTY: Them buffalo are going to
39 roam too far pretty soon and they'll end up in
40 somebody's freezer.

41
42 I just wanted to, you know, what is the
43 deal there?

44
45 DR. WHEELER: Well, typically our
46 program has kind of -- the Federal program has had the
47 attitude that subsistence users are opportunistic users
48 oftentimes. So as they come across resources as they
49 migrate into different areas. I mean, in the Interior
50 moose weren't there until the middle 1800s, and muskox

1 were reintroduced on the North Slope. I mean, there's
2 lots of examples around the State about where animals
3 have been reintroduced or introduced. And positive C&T
4 determinations have been made for many of those
5 species, on those species with the idea that
6 subsistence users are opportunistic and if they come
7 across something, and it tastes good, then they'll add
8 it to their arsenal.

9

10 MR. CRATTY: Well, that's what I mean.
11 The goat hasn't been here forever, and it's on our
12 Refuge land now, too. And, you know, I just had --
13 that was just some thought.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Rick.

18

19 MR. ROWLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

20 Rick Rowland.

21

22 I see here under the is the current
23 process working for you, and I'm here representing
24 Kodiak, but I'm originally from the village community
25 of Afognak, and I grew up in Old Harbor and so I'm from
26 here.

27

28 But I know that we talked earlier
29 yesterday about the rural/urban determination. And it
30 was brought up that the Coast Guard is brought into the
31 mix, and they're stationed here under the military.

32

33 And then we had discussions about the
34 picking of a number. I don't know where they got the
35 number 2500 to 7000 or how it relates, but that in
36 relation to this community didn't work, and it doesn't
37 work.

38

39 And so quite possibly the amount of
40 rural customary and traditional users, population will
41 remain the same, but the outside population could grow
42 to hundred thousands, and we might still be using the
43 same lifestyle of our ancestors. So it doesn't appear
44 to me that the way it's being figured out is working,
45 to answer the question, is the current process working
46 for you.

47

48 And so is there some way to take a
49 close look at it to where it could be figured out to
50 where a community that has used customary and

1 traditional uses in an area could retain those
2 customary and traditional uses even though it has a
3 population of military personnel impressed upon it.

4
5 DR. WHEELER: You raise an interesting
6 question, and I'll try to answer it as best I can. I
7 mean, we use a lot of the same terminology to refer to
8 different things, and so it seems like there's overlap
9 where maybe there isn't.

10
11 There's rural determinations. Under
12 ANILCA as we've talked about ad nauseam, it's rural
13 users. Well, then because ANILCA doesn't define rural,
14 the implementing regs look at how to define rural. So
15 that's your initial pool of users. Okay. The rural
16 Alaskans, however it's figured out.

17
18 And then you can further refine that
19 pool of users to do the customary and traditional use
20 determinations. So, you know, it could be all rural
21 residents could have a customary and traditional -- you
22 know, if there's no finding done, then it would be all
23 rural residents. But if there is a customary and
24 traditional use finding, it makes the pool of users
25 smaller. To that group of people that only customary
26 and traditionally use that particular resource.

27
28 So there's rural determinations and
29 then there's customary and traditional use
30 determinations. And they're related but they're
31 separate processes.

32
33 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Pat.

34
35 MR. HOLMES: As a point of
36 clarification, it's been too long since I had my ANILCA
37 class, and I can't remember where it is. But we've
38 done a lot of C&Ts for Kodiak, both Federal and State,
39 and folks on the Coast Guard base don't qualify for
40 either, unless they're State residents first. (2) They
41 don't qualify if they live on the base for any Federal
42 subsistence, period, because somewhere there's a
43 statute or citation or something that if you live on a
44 military bases, you're not a subsistence user. So
45 they're out of it.

46
47 And that was part of our argument as a
48 community when we were arguing on the dicentennial as
49 to what you're lumping number in and lumping the Coast
50 Guard in with Kodiak, because they have an entirely

1 different culture there. But even when they did lump
2 them in with us, the last subsistence study that they
3 did, I think Liz Williams worked on in, I don't know
4 what it was, '85 or 6 or something, it showed looking
5 at that, even looking with the Coast Guard base, that
6 our community had 95 percent of the people used and
7 shared subsistence resources. And it was the highest
8 in the whole bloody state. We do more sharing and more
9 utilization of the resource even lumping in the base,
10 than they do up in King Salmon or Dillingham. And so
11 that was -- that helped carry our argument.

12

13 And I think when it comes to the
14 dicentennial review, discussing rural, they need to
15 adjust that number or take what they're lumping in to
16 call a community. I mean, they're part of our
17 community economically and safety-wise, but as -- and
18 if they've lived here for, you know, a year and become
19 residents and live off base, you know, a lot of them do
20 subsistence fishing. But when it comes down to reduced
21 numbers of fish and reduced opportunity, if we get down
22 to a real squeaker, then, you know, there's going to be
23 an elimination process.

24

25 So they are two different kinds of
26 things. I'm sorry, I'm just getting tired. Yeah, I'll
27 quit talking. I'm run down to nothing.

28

29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Other questions.
30 Comments. Della.

31

32 MS. TRUMBLE: No, thank you, Mr. Chair.
33 Pat's doing a great job, and just keep going.

34

35 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Let me get Antone
36 first. Antone, how about you.

37

38 (No response)

39

40 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Antone's not
41 there. Go ahead, Rick.

42

43 MR. ROWLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
44 Rick Rowland.

45

46 Like I mentioned earlier, it's
47 appreciated that you're giving this explanation of what
48 the input is related to.

49

50 And so to take it further back in my

1 thought process is that this whole thing of Subsistence
2 Regional Advisory Council was created because of the
3 ANILCA and the ANILCA was created because of Alaska
4 Native Claims Settlement Act. And the topic is
5 important about the subsistence, that it says Alaska
6 Native Claims Settlement Act and it says by public
7 lands by Native and non-Native rural residents. And so
8 I think it's important that I voice my opinion about
9 it's important that we make sure that the system is
10 working correctly to where it doesn't become an
11 argument all the time. It's something that's set and
12 it's clearly understood of exactly how it's supposed to
13 be so that that priority could remain there.

14
15 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
16 questions, comments before we move on.

17
18 (No comments)

19
20 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Go ahead,
21 Polly.

22
23 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
24 just have a couple of more items and then you won't
25 need to hear from me any more.

26
27 The first item is the rural
28 determinations. And as I just touched on briefly,
29 there's a meeting on April 6th for the Board to get its
30 first grounding in rural determinations. It's a public
31 meeting. The Federal Board will be there, and all
32 Regional Advisory Council Chairs have also been
33 invited. And so that's just to give you a head's up,
34 and more information will be forthcoming on the rural
35 process.

36
37 Hopefully it won't take as long as the
38 last time did. I don't think anybody can argue that
39 seven years is a process that serves the public or
40 certainly the resource users very well. So with any
41 luck, it won't take -- this next review that's based on
42 the 2010 census won't take that long. But the first
43 meeting that the Board's going to be tackling this
44 issue just to get a grounding is April 6th.

45
46 So it's all I had on that, Mr. Chair,
47 and I can move on to the executive session policy.

48
49 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any questions on
50 the next rural /non-rural determination.

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Hearing none,
4 please continue.

5

6 DR. WHEELER: Mr. Chair. Another item
7 that came up during the course of the subsistence
8 review was that some people were disturbed by the
9 Federal Board going into executive session. They felt
10 that the Board was going into executive session too
11 often.

12

13 The Board is allowed under -- the Board
14 can go into executive session if it has to discuss --
15 well, it has to go into executive session if it's
16 discussing personnel matters or matters under
17 litigation. And then it can go into executive session
18 at the call of the Chair.

19

20 But there was some sentiment expressed
21 during the subsistence review that the Board was
22 abusing that privilege and going into executive session
23 too often. The Board heard that, but the Board also
24 reserves the right to go into executive session when
25 and if it needs to, but what it decided is that it
26 would try and not go into executive session, but if it
27 was going to go into executive session, it would let
28 the public know in advance, and it would also have a
29 report out provision, so that if it did go into
30 executive session, following the executive session, a
31 report will come out saying who was there, what they
32 discussed, and assure the public that no action was
33 action.

34

35 And in the spirit of being transparent,
36 Mr. Chair, on Page 61 and 62 of your books there is the
37 first report out of the January 5th executive session
38 and you can see who was there, what staff were there,
39 no formal action was taken at the meeting, and I've
40 actually just gone through sort of what the Board
41 discussed during the course of that meeting. But the
42 Board intends to do this from now on.

43

44 The Board also does have a policy that
45 provides guidelines for meeting, and it's going to
46 amend that policy to reflect this report out provision
47 if it goes into executive session. And that policy for
48 the Federal Subsistence Board operating guidelines will
49 be provided to the Regional Advisory Councils so that
50 everybody knows what their policy is and what their

1 guidelines are.

2

3 Mr. Chair.

4

5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any questions or
6 comments. Pat.

7

8 MR. HOLMES: A question. You mentioned
9 three criteria there for going into executive:
10 personnel, litigation and what was the third?

11

12 DR. WHEELER: At the call of the Chair.

13

14 MR. HOLMES: What?

15

16 DR. WHEELER: At the call of the Chair.

17

18 MR. HOLMES: At the call of the chair.

19 Okay. I think it's a good thing that they're doing
20 this. I think the idea of having a report afterward is
21 good. I've been to some Board meetings with the prior
22 Board and somebody will get a phone call and, boy, they
23 break for coffee and then they come back 180 degrees
24 from where they were discussing before. And one can
25 only assume that someone told them to change their mind
26 or something came in.

27

28 And something I think would be good at
29 Board meetings is that I know some agencies do it, is
30 that they don't allow any texting, no phone calls. I
31 mean, it's a meeting. They have a meeting, it's all
32 public. There's no whipping it out and, Mitch, I need
33 to go to the bathroom, cut it off. I mean, everything
34 is above board. And I think now having any
35 telecommunications on during a meeting, I mean that
36 might cramp a manager's style, but before you go to the
37 meeting, you should talk to your boss and know what
38 you're going to be doing, and not be chatting with
39 somebody else or on the internet or whatever. But, you
40 know, when you're in business, you're in business.

41

42 DR. WHEELER: Mr. Chair. I would be
43 more than happy to bring that suggestion forward. So
44 duly noted, Mr. Chair.

45

46 But before I go into that, if I could
47 -- I'm sorry, but I just thought it would be helpful to
48 read you from the Federal Subsistence Board guidelines
49 that under executive sessions, they have an item called
50 purpose. And I think it's helpful to let everybody

1 know what the purpose of executive session is according
2 to the published guidelines.

3
4 And that is executive sessions are held
5 at the discretion of the Chair for the purpose of
6 reviewing proprietary data or private information,
7 engaging in attorney/ client communications, making
8 decisions on personnel matters, including Regional
9 Advisory Council nominations, and addressing other
10 issues determined by the chair to be appropriate for a
11 closed session, and for which a public meeting is not
12 required by law. The Board will engage in regulatory
13 rule making or act on regulatory proposals during an
14 executive session.

15
16 So that's the parameters for executive
17 sessions, Mr. Chair. So it's not quite as whenever
18 like I intimated earlier.

19
20 Thank you.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Polly.

23
24 Questions. Rick.

25
26 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah. Pat, that must be
27 an old school explanation of -- just kidding.

28
29 My question was about under the three
30 criteria of relation to going into the executive
31 session. Is there any standard of policy related to
32 the statement at the call of the Chair? What specific
33 reasons that are related to at the call of the Chair.

34
35 DR. WHEELER: Mr. Chair. Actually the
36 section that I just read is executive sessions are held
37 at the discussion of the Chair for the purpose of
38 reviewing blah-blah-blah. So that's the at the call.
39 It's not quite a sort of, hey, whenever feels like it.
40 I mean, there are rules. And we will be providing the
41 Federal Subsistence Board guidelines to the Regional
42 Advisory Councils so that it's clear, open and
43 transparent for you at the next meeting.

44
45 Mr. Chair.

46
47 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Polly.

48
49 Any other questions. Comments.

50

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Hearing none,
4 let's move forward.

5

6 DR. WHEELER: Okay. The last item, Mr.
7 Chair, is on tribal consultation. And in your books
8 there's a letter from Federal Subsistence Board Chair
9 Tim Towarak to all Council members. It's on Page 59 in
10 your books. And that was sent out to all council
11 members right around -- it was between Christmas and
12 New Year's, or it's dated December 21, but it ended up
13 getting in the mail probably, you know, right around
14 short thereafter that time.

15

16 And it was to explain the intent, that
17 letter was to explain to each Regional Advisory Council
18 member what the Board's approach at that time was with
19 regard to Tribal consultation. And I just have a few
20 points that I just wanted to touch on, Mr. Chair, in
21 that regard.

22

23 Title VIII of the Alaska National
24 Interest Lands Conservation Act provides a foundational
25 role for the 10 Regional Advisory Councils in the
26 development of regulations guiding the taking of fish
27 and wildlife on Federal public lands in Alaska.
28 Deference to the Councils ensues that rural residents
29 have a meaningful role in the management of fish and
30 wildlife and subsistence uses as envisioned by Congress
31 through ANILCA. To date, because of the foundational
32 role of Councils in the federal program, as well as
33 the requirement by statute that the Board defer to the
34 Councils' recommendations, the Federal Board has not
35 explicitly consulted with tribes during the development
36 of regulations.

37

38 The administration by Presidential
39 order has underscored the importance of tribal
40 consultation across the government. Consistent with
41 the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture's
42 renewed emphasis on respectful relationships with
43 tribes, the Federal Subsistence Board intends to
44 enhance its government-to-government consultation with
45 tribes.

46

47 So towards that end, the Federal
48 Subsistence Board invited all Federally-recognized
49 tribes and ANCSA corporations to its meeting in
50 January, where it acted on the fisheries proposals.

1 And on the 21st of January it invited Federally-
2 recognized tribes and ANCSA corporations to a meeting
3 to discuss development of a tribal consultation
4 protocol for the overall Subsistence Management
5 Program.

6
7 And at that meeting on the 21st of
8 January, it was held at the Egan Center, Tim Towarak
9 managed the meeting. The Regional Advisory Council
10 Chairs were also invited to that meeting. We had
11 representation from a number of tribes. We provided
12 the opportunity for tribes to teleconference in if that
13 was their preference. We also provided the opportunity
14 for them to provide written comments to the Board.

15
16 And keep in mind, this is consultation
17 between tribes and the Federal Board. OSM is just sort
18 of facilitating the whole process.

19
20 The meeting on the 21st was an initial
21 discussion session, and the Board's goal is to work
22 with tribes to further develop a tribal consultation
23 policy for the subsistence management program. And
24 this obviously needs to be consistent with Departmental
25 policies.

26
27 The meeting on the 21st was generally a
28 listening session. The main themes expressed at this
29 meeting, there were four of them that we were able to
30 pick out. Tribal traditions in the use of fish and
31 wildlife predate western management systems. Knowledge
32 is passed down through the generations. We need to
33 listen to traditional knowledge. The Regional Advisory
34 Councils, with all due respect, are not tribes. There
35 is a necessity to consult meaningfully directly with
36 the tribes. The tribes need to be informed of program
37 developments early on, and the tribes need to be a
38 partner in the process. And tribal participation in
39 the Council process needs to be made explicit.

40
41 So those were sort of four of the main
42 themes that were heard at that initial meeting.

43
44 The Board is interested in hearing from
45 the Councils on its ideas with regard to tribal
46 consultation.

47
48 But I will say this issue is not as
49 simple as it seems at first blush, because you have
50 ANILCA which is the guiding statute which says the

1 Board will defer to the Regional Advisory Councils,
2 unless these conditions aren't met. And then the
3 tribes have said, well, we don't want to consult with
4 the RACs. We want to consult directly with the Board.
5 But how do you fit that in when you have the statute
6 that demands deference. So it's a tricky one, and the
7 Board is committed to doing something that's
8 meaningful, but also working within the statute that
9 demands deference to the Councils.

10

11 So, Mr. Chair, that's all I had, but
12 the Board is interested if the Councils have more to
13 add on that topic.

14

15 Mr. Chair.

16

17 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Polly.

18

19 Questions. Comments. Tribal
20 consultation. Sam.

21

22 MR. ROHRER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

23

24 Yeah, I've couple comments. I don't
25 know, you know. It kind of leaves guys like Pat and me
26 out in the cold a little bit, who have been subsistence
27 users all of our lives. I was born and raised here in
28 Kodiak. My kids were all raised here. We're all
29 subsistence users.

30

31 The idea of having any organization
32 being able to skirt this process and going straight to
33 the Subsistence Board kind of defeats the whole purpose
34 of having RACs.

35

36 So there was a reason that Title VIII
37 gave a subsistence priority to rural residents. It was
38 to be inclusive of all rural residents, not just
39 specific rural residents.

40

41 So that the talk of tribal agencies
42 having -- being side-step around the RACs, no, I'm not
43 comfortable with that at all.

44

45 Thank you.

46

47 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other.

48

49 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chairman. One more
50 thing.

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Sam, go ahead.

2

3 MR. ROHRER: Certainly to have tribal
4 agencies here at our RACs talking here, giving their
5 testimony is great. I mean, these meetings are open to
6 everyone. We'd love to have as much representation as
7 possible. So not to day I don't want that. Just any
8 type of sidestepping this process, I'm not comfortable
9 with.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Maybe that's
14 something that we need to look -- oh, I'm sorry. Go
15 ahead, Alex.

16

17 MR. PANAMAROFF: Yeah, I just wanted to
18 make a little comment on what Sam has said there. You
19 know, most people don't understand that a tribal
20 government is a government within itself, and it has
21 the same capacity as your Federal government and your
22 State government. So the President had realized that.
23 President Obama. And he made sure that all the
24 agencies will have consultation with the tribes on
25 anything that pertains to their livelihood or, you
26 know, their government. So this is where this came
27 into place. It's just a government-to-government
28 relationship.

29

30 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Pat.

31

32 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. I
33 understand Sam's concerns. But I also, you know,
34 there's tribal governments. I mean, that's a political
35 reality. It's something new in our lifetimes, but it's
36 a way for folks that have been unrepresented to be able
37 to have their opinions expressed.

38

39 And I think the history that we all
40 have in our island community or working together, in
41 some respects I can see that this could be a way of
42 giving our community even more of a leg up in our
43 arguments. And because we all know the players and we
44 all chat with each other and say, well, gee, you know,
45 this might affect me this way or, you know, I can help
46 you that way.

47

48 And so I think that perhaps it might
49 want to be embraced as a good thing, because it is a
50 reality. And I guess that's my little bit of

1 onangansim (ph). It's here and, you know, I think we
2 can all work together and help support each other. And
3 I think it will in the long run benefit our community.

4

5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al.

6

7 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, I'd just like to
8 say, you know, in Old Harbor, our tribe looks out for
9 all the people that are there, if they're Native,
10 white, or whatever. We feel that, you know, they live
11 there. They should have the same privileges that we
12 do.

13

14 I just wanted to voice that.

15

16 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Rick.

17

18 MR. ROWLAND: Rick Rowland. I know
19 that the consultation process between government and
20 government with, for example, a tribe and the U.S.
21 government is different than what my capacity is here.
22 I know that I am the voice of my community members, and
23 I can't make decisions for my tribe. And I have to
24 communicate with my tribe to let them know that what
25 has occurred and what was communicated here. And I in
26 no way would go against making a decision opposing
27 anything the tribe decided to make a decision on.

28

29 But I also have to say that the
30 Regional Advisory Council role is to review and
31 evaluate proposals, regulations, policies, management
32 plans and other matters relating to subsistence uses of
33 fish and wildlife within the region, as well as
34 encouragement of the local and regional participation,
35 and make recommendations concerning policies.

36

37 So having the -- I believe that having
38 the government-to-government relations, communication,
39 consultation process between the tribes and the
40 government is in addition to having individual members
41 that are users from both rural and Native and non-
42 Native communicating with a process of having three
43 different groups. But I in my capacity here see that
44 the tribe consultation with the government is above
45 this position here.

46

47 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Rick.

48

49 Della, do you have questions or
50 comments on tribal consultation.

1 MS. TRUMBLE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. At
2 this time I just would say that I do support it. I
3 know that we in our area do support a large
4 geographical area and sometimes I'm not able to get to
5 some of these communities. But as RAC members,
6 sometimes -- we're basically in an advisory capacity.
7 And technically our tribes do have a stronger voice in
8 some degree than we do in some cases. So I fully
9 support it.

10
11 Thank you.

12
13 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Della.
14
15 Antone, do you have questions or
16 comments.

17
18 (No response)

19
20 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Did we lose him?
21 I guess we lost him.

22
23 I have a comment I guess. You know,
24 tribal consultation is between government-to-
25 government, and the tribal government having a
26 consultation with an advisory committee doesn't make
27 sense to me. I mean, what are we going to do when we
28 consult with a tribal government? We can pass on their
29 concerns, but a tribal government is going to see
30 through that, you know, just like that, and say, why
31 are we talking to you? We could be up there talking to
32 the Federal Subsistence Board. You know, they're -- I
33 don't know. I'm sorry, it doesn't make sense to me
34 that we have to be the middle man in a tribal
35 consultation process with the Federal Subsistence
36 Board.

37
38 Alex.

39
40 MR. PANAMAROFF: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.
41 Yeah, I think we're missing part of a point here. The
42 point is that the Federal Subsistence Board will be in
43 consultation with the tribes, not this Advisory Board.
44 This Advisory Board doesn't come under that heading of,
45 you know, government-to-government consultation.

46
47 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Polly, would you
48 read that part again that says that the Board would
49 defer consultation to the tribal governments and the
50 RACs?

1 DR. WHEELER: The question -- I mean,
2 the Federal Board is trying to work out a tribal
3 consultation policy, but its challenge, of course, is
4 to figure out how to work out this policy while not
5 undermining the role of the Regional Advisory Councils,
6 because according to ANILCA, the Federal Board has to
7 defer to the Regional Advisory Councils on
8 recommendations.

9
10 So that's all. It's looking for input.
11 It's looking for ideas. It being the Federal Board.
12 But it recognizes that it has a challenge in front of
13 it. So any input that this Council has, the Board is
14 interested in hearing.

15
16 Mr. Chair.

17
18 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Yeah. I
19 find it challenging, because I'm with the tribal
20 government and if I need to consult with the Federal
21 Subsistence Board and they've got to defer me back to a
22 Regional Advisory Committee, you know. And ANILCA says
23 that they have to. And my tribal consultations says
24 that I'm a government-to-government tribal
25 consultation. Maybe we ought to change ANILCA.

26
27 (Laughter)

28
29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Sam.

30
31 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. I appreciate
32 all of you guys' comments. And I guess I should just
33 clarify mine, too.

34
35 What I don't want to see is I don't
36 want to see this process eroded, this Advisory Council
37 process where we're looking at regulations. I don't
38 want to see this part eroded.

39
40 But I can see your point of view as
41 well as having importance to have some government-to-
42 government relations. And so it will be interesting to
43 see where they go with this. I'm certainly not against
44 the idea. I just want to be cautious in it, and
45 primarily don't want to see this process eroded. But
46 certainly it makes sense to have some kind of
47 government-to-government regulations.

48
49 And I'll look forward to seeing -- I
50 think it said in here that they're going to have some

1 drafts for us to look at down the road, so it will be
2 interesting to see what they come up with and hopefully
3 we can continue to give our input in it.

4

5 Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Sam.
8 Yeah, it will be interesting to see what kind of
9 suggestions they have.

10

11 Go ahead, Della.

12

13 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair. I'm
14 wondering, and I -- when I said I support this, a
15 couple of things just in the Aleutian region, one being
16 the Unimak Caribou, of course, we're very familiar
17 with. And the consultation that should have been part
18 of that process I think directly with the False Pass
19 Tribe is one example I think that this would come into
20 play I think to the benefit of whatever, you know, the
21 caribou situation.

22

23 Another one that recently came up is
24 the issue that the government does have to have
25 government-to-government consultations with the tribes
26 in regard to the issue of sea otters. And I did get a
27 call from the administrator for Aleut Mammal
28 Commission. And keep in mind I have worked with Aleut
29 Marine Mammal Commission in the past as an employee.
30 That, you know, it comes across, you know, let Fish and
31 Wildlife know that they need to consult with Aleut
32 Marine Mammal Commission on behalf of the tribes. And
33 when I discussed this with our council, tribal council
34 in King Cove, my comment was, you know, I think it
35 should include all of the tribes, you know, and Aleut
36 Marine Mammal Commission.

37

38 There's time to think it -- when you're
39 looking at a picture of this area, and sometimes, like
40 in east and west, in the case of the Aleutians, there's
41 different opinions, and it helps to have I think
42 sometimes in a decision-making process as much
43 information as you can to make good decisions. And
44 that's my point behind it.

45

46 Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Della.

49 Al.

50

1 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, I'd like to state,
2 you know, if you look at Rick, he sits on the Sun'aq
3 tribe. He's a tribal member. And then sits on the
4 Council. I'm an Old Harbor tribal member. I sit on
5 the Council. Mitch is an Akhiok tribal member. He
6 sits on the Council. And Alex is a Larsen Bay tribal
7 member and he sits on his council. So you've actually
8 got four people here. And Della's the same in her
9 community. Five that all sit on tribal counsels. Oh,
10 you're not?

11
12 MR. ROWLAND: I'm not a council member.
13 I'm employed by them. But they gave me a letter of
14 support.

15
16 MR. CRATTY: Well, I just wanted to
17 bring that to attention. I think the majority of the
18 RACs in the State of Alaska, the Natives that sit on
19 there are for about -- you know, will be sitting on
20 their tribal councils.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Maybe we're
23 missing something. Because we have tribal
24 consultation. Are we talking tribal consultation in
25 regards to fish and wildlife only?

26
27 DR. WHEELER: No, but that's another
28 challenge, because the Federal Subsistence Management
29 Program as you know is the Department of the -- there's
30 four Department of the Interior agencies and one
31 Department of Agriculture agency. So you have BIA,
32 Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land
33 Management, and then USDA Forest Service. So there's
34 five Federal agencies that sit on the Federal
35 Subsistence Board. So it would be consultation with
36 the overall program, not with the Fish and Wildlife
37 Service or, you know, not specifically with Fish and
38 Wildlife Service or National Park Service. It's with
39 the overall program.

40
41 You're not missing anything. It's just
42 a little more confusing when you start digging down
43 than it first appears when you kind of think about.

44
45 Mr. Chair.

46
47 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. It doesn't
48 look like we're going to get it fixed here today.

49
50 (Laughter)

1 DR. WHEELER: And I think it's -- the
2 point is, it's a work in progress, and the Board is
3 interested in hearing what people have to say and think
4 and if you have ideas, then the Board is all -- I mean,
5 you'll be meeting with the Board on April 6th. This
6 could be a topic that you put on the agenda where you
7 kind of want to hear from the Board.

8
9 I'm just the interpreter here. I'm
10 carrying the message from the Board and then from the
11 Councils back to the Board. So by all means take any
12 opportunity that you have to think about it, and talk
13 to the Federal Subsistence Board when and as you have
14 the opportunity.

15
16 Mr. Chair.

17
18 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Polly.

19
20 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair.

21
22 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al.

23
24 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. We've
25 got another tribal member sitting here. I'd like to
26 hear what her opinion is, if Nancy would. What your
27 opinion on it for your tribe.

28
29 MS. NELSON: Nancy Nelson. I'm with
30 the Native Village of Port Lions, and I'm employed with
31 the Native Village of Afognak. And I did serve on
32 Native Village of Afognak until I became a employee.

33
34 But I think tribal consultation with
35 the tribes is very important, because all the tribes
36 that way have that opportunity to speak and be
37 represented. But I'm also happy to be here and see who
38 the Federal Subsistence Board is. That's something,
39 you know, we just weren't fully aware of, and I'm glad
40 that they're local people. And I know that you're all
41 going to represent us well at the same time, so I could
42 see both sides.

43
44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Nancy.

45
46 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair.

47
48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Was that Della.

49
50 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair, maybe you

1 correct me. Isn't part of the consultation process
2 involving how to better make the system that we're
3 operating under, the Federal Subsistence Advisory part,
4 stronger or strengthen that system in the future?
5 Because if I recall, isn't that part of what the
6 Secretary was hearing, that most tribes felt that the
7 subsistence wasn't fully being -- I'm missing words
8 here, I'm getting tired, but that's kind of along the
9 lines, you know. Isn't that to strengthen this
10 process?

11
12 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Strengthen. You
13 said strengthen this process?

14
15 DR. WHEELER: Tribal consultation could
16 be a way to strengthen the overall program. As we said
17 earlier, the subsistence program review was announced
18 at AFN in October of 2009 with the thought that, you
19 know, looking at doing a review of the program, and
20 looking to ways that the program could be strengthened.
21 So I think Della's saying maybe tribal consultation is
22 a way to strengthen the program, and that's why it's
23 been raised in the context of the subsistence program
24 review.

25
26 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah. I agree.
27 You know, with that mandate being in ANILCA, I don't
28 see how we can change it to make it different. If the
29 Federal Subsistence Board is mandated to refer tribal
30 consultation to RACs, it's in ANILCA. We can't fix it
31 without changing ANILCA. That's all there is to it.

32
33 Polly.

34
35 DR. WHEELER: Well, you know, the Board
36 did invite Federally-recognized tribes and ANCSA
37 corporations to the meeting in January, both at the
38 front end to consult on fish regulations, and after
39 that fisheries regulatory meeting was done, to kind of
40 talk in general about the program. And I would say
41 that that -- you know, there was probably, I don't
42 remember off hand how many tribes were represented on
43 the meeting on the 18th, but there were probably 10, 15
44 different sets of comments on the -- there were 17
45 fisheries proposals before the Federal Board at that
46 time. So there were comments provided, you know, kind
47 of we hope you'll think about this when you make your
48 decision. We hope you'll think about that. Or we
49 agree with what the Regional Advisory Council
50 recommendation is. So there was a dialogue.

1 I'm not saying that's a perfect thing,
2 but it was a start. And I think the Board recognizes
3 that it could improve upon that. But that was a way to
4 get input. Again, it was a little bit down the road,
5 but the Board is aware of the importance of getting
6 different perspectives in there and from tribal
7 representatives.

8
9 So I don't know that saying, you know,
10 we amend ANILCA or we don't do anything, that's
11 probably -- I think there's ways of getting information
12 between -- or getting consultation going between the
13 Federal Board and the tribes, but there's different --
14 you know, there is the deference to RACs out there,
15 too. So it's going to be an interesting balance to see
16 how the Board proceeds.

17
18 But I think, you know, one way that the
19 Board could get some information is if the Board did
20 come out to these Regional -- and I'm probably speaking
21 a little bit out of turn here, but if the Board had a
22 presence at the Regional Advisory Council meetings,
23 that would be a way -- in the different areas, that
24 would be a way for the Board to hear from tribal
25 members that are present at the Regional Advisory
26 Council meetings and get some input that way, too. So
27 that's a thought that I'll just throw out there.

28
29 Mr. Chair.

30
31 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes. I believe
32 that was one of the items we were going to put on our
33 annual report was to have the Board members attend RAC
34 meetings.

35
36 Rick.

37
38 MR. ROWLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
39 From reading that cooperative agreements at Section
40 .809 of ANILCA, it talks about entering into
41 cooperative agreements or otherwise cooperate with
42 other so and so, on into other nations to effectuate
43 the purposes and policies of this Title. So government-
44 to-government relationship in my opinion is available
45 under the ANILCA as well as the advisory capacity of
46 the Regional Advisory Councils.

47
48 So I'd say that it enhances the
49 process.
50

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Pat, you
2 had something.

3
4 MR. HOLMES: Briefly. I'd just say,
5 you know, I agree with Nancy, and I like Rick's last
6 comment.

7
8 And, you know, it's really not a
9 conflict. I think having tribal folks, and
10 particularly if we get more of a geographical
11 differential in on the Board, that will help, because
12 it will give another perspective. Because, you know,
13 there's two issues. There's governments and then
14 there's the issue of subsistence. And subsistence as
15 rural residents. And I look at it as an old wooden
16 dory, and you've only got so many oars, and you've got
17 to get it across Shelikof Strait, and, you know, to get
18 some caribou or whatever. And we're all in the same
19 boat rowing.

20
21 And as far as subsistence goes, you
22 know, we're trying for the same goal.

23
24 And so anyway, I think we've talked a
25 lot, and I'm done.

26
27 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

28
29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Pat.

30
31 I think a good idea might be to make
32 sure that the Board hears our recommendation when we
33 say some of the Board members or at least one of the
34 Board members must be present at our Regional Advisory
35 meetings, because if we have an opportunity to have
36 tribal consultation, we can say we have a Board member
37 here that would represent the Federal agency. And if
38 the tribes are agreeable with that, we can conduct our
39 tribal consultation.

40
41 You know, if it works, it works. If it
42 don't, like I said earlier, it ain't going to get fixed
43 unless we change ANILCA. That's our book.

44
45 Pat.

46
47 MR. HOLMES: I think that would be a
48 swell idea. And I think, you know, back to when Della
49 was Chair one time, we had a discussion like that, and,
50 you know, when we did the dicentennial, then Mitch was

1 very nice in coming down. I often wonder if that's the
2 reason why Dru Pierce put the thumb on him to bounce
3 him out. I don't know. Because the timing was pretty
4 close there.

5
6 But I think that it would be really
7 good, and I know I was the Fish and Game Advisory
8 Committee when we get State Board members to come down,
9 just one even, that gave them a whole lot better
10 understanding of the community and the advocacy and the
11 problem solving at whichever Board level it occurs.
12 And, you know, I think it would be great for all
13 cultures here in Kodiak to have the Board person come,
14 and just see how we work and how we solve problems.

15
16 And, you know, I believe when Mitch
17 came to town, he talked with the Fish and Game Advisory
18 Chair, you know, because it's good for everybody to
19 have input on subsistence. And I would embrace the
20 idea that, you know, the local tribes would be able to
21 have that opportunity and, you know, the whole
22 community. And particularly if they were having a Fish
23 and Game Advisory Committee, it would be good for them
24 to know what's going on on the Federal side as well.

25
26 So I think your point is well taken,
27 and I'd certainly endorse that as going in, one of our
28 items of report of concern to the Board of having a
29 Board members attend, because I know our coordinator's
30 adding things on as we go. So it's a swell idea.

31
32 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Anything
33 else, Board. Comments. Questions.

34
35 (No comments)

36
37 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. We'll move
38 forward.

39
40 DR. WHEELER: I'm done, Mr. Chair.

41
42 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Before we
43 get into the next one, let's take a five-minute break.
44 Take a stretch.

45
46 (Off record)

47
48 (On record)

49
50 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Let's call

1 back to order. I've got 3:35. And, Polly, you're
2 completely done with your presentation? Okay. Just
3 making sure.

4

5 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman.

6

7 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.

8

9 MR. HOLMES: Something that we left
10 behind after lunch was that State Proposal 191 where
11 the folks in Anchorage are trying to remove the
12 discretionary conditions applied to hunts by the area
13 biologist. And so I got a copy of the letter that the
14 Advisory Committee had and gave it to everybody, and I
15 could boil that into three sentences if you'd like.

16

17 MR. ROHRER: That's three pages.

18

19 MR. HOLMES: No, no, no.

20

21 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, read the
22 letter, Pat.

23

24 MR. HOLMES: Okay. I can read the
25 letter and if you want I can give you something much
26 briefer than that.

27

28 Our committee unanimously opposes
29 Proposal 191. this is the Fish and Game Advisory
30 Committee. We strongly support the Department's
31 ability to use discretionary conditions applied to hunt
32 conditions at the local level. The Kodiak Advisory
33 Board has a long history of working closely with the
34 Department, Fish and Wildlife Service, the
35 Kodiak/Aleutians Advisory Council, Native villages, and
36 other affected users. We gather public input from our
37 island's communities to develop trust, consensus, and
38 compromise necessary for the best management of public
39 resources.

40

41 The discretionary ability of our local
42 biologist to fine-tune allocative compromises frees us
43 from vociferous and occasionally mean-spirited debate
44 that occurs in other areas of the State.

45

46 A good case in point is our Mountain
47 Goat Management Plan which is applauded by applauded by
48 both Alaska Board of Game and the Federal Subsistence
49 Board as an exemplary strategy. It has been cited in
50 game management classes at leading universities.

1 Local management accomplishments can be
2 attested to by relatively healthy populations of
3 wildlife in the Kodiak management area and greater
4 hunter success.

5
6 We're strongly opposed to the Board
7 circumventing the public process by dissecting
8 discretionary details from previously adopted
9 regulations and management plans. Each regulation and
10 plan needs to be reviewed in its total context before
11 deleting or amending discretionary permit hunt
12 conditions and procedures. Often a small detail for a
13 permit hunt, such as registration in a village or
14 sealing skulls or hides before leaving a management
15 area are keystone of local compromise that allowed
16 management plans to function successfully.

17
18 Sincerely Oliver Holm.

19
20 And I can make something a little
21 smaller than that for our Council if you'd like.

22
23 The Kodiak -- or KA RAC let's just call
24 it, is opposed to Proposal 191. The ability of the
25 area management biologist to have discretionary
26 management authority is vital for in-season and long-
27 term viability of local wildlife. This discretionary
28 authority made possible the Kodiak Goat Management
29 Plan, which facilitated goat harvest for sport and
30 villagers who hunt goats. If this had not happened,
31 two-thirds of the island's goat hunting areas could
32 have been withdrawn for a Federal subsistence hunt.
33 And just leave it at that.

34
35 Oh, and then probably use that other
36 sentence from the other one to the Federal one. If
37 adopted, the Kodiak Regional Advisory Committee may
38 once again pursue a Federal C&T request and request
39 subsistence withdrawals on Federal lands.

40
41 If that would please the Council.

42
43 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Questions.
44 Comments. Sam.

45
46 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. Through the
47 Chair. Pat, you should add on your last sentence
48 somehow, that was a good sentence, your last one from
49 the ADF&G one, the very last sentence in the last
50 paragraph, it would be nice to include that.

1 Thank you.
2
3 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.
4
5 MR. HOLMES: Thank you, Mr. Rohrer.
6
7 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Other questions.
8 Comments. Are you going to pass that draft to Ann, and
9 we'll that written up.
10
11 MR. HOLMES: Yeah. Head discussion.
12 So I guess this is just a motion to send this letter to
13 the Alaska Board of Game.
14
15 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay.
16
17 MR. HOLMES: Okay. Mr. Chairman. I
18 guess the feeling is here to take what I just read into
19 the record and add the sentence from the Fish and
20 Game's one. Often a small detail for a permit hunt,
21 such as a registration in a village, or sealing skulls
22 and hides before leaving the management area are the
23 keystone of local compromises that allow management
24 plans to function successfully. We'll put that on the
25 end of what I read before, and then that would be the
26 letter to the Alaska Board of Game on Proposal 191.
27 Unless there's any objection.
28
29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: The motion is to
30 submit a letter to Alaska Board of Game in opposition
31 of Proposal 191. Okay. Do I hear a second.
32
33 MR. CRATTY: Second.
34
35 MR. ROHRER: Second.
36
37 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Moved and
38 seconded. Any discussion.
39
40 MR. CRATTY: Call the question.
41
42 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: The question is
43 called. All those in favor say aye.
44
45 IN UNISON: Aye.
46
47 (No opposing votes)
48
49 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Motion carries.
50 Now, the main motion. All those in favor of the main

1 motion say aye.
2
3 IN UNISON: Aye.
4
5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Those opposed.
6
7 (No opposing votes)
8
9 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Motion carries.
10 Give that to Ann, and if she can read your writing now.
11
12 Okay. That was something that was
13 left.
14
15 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair.
16
17 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Sam.
18
19 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. I don't know
20 if this is the appropriate time to do it or not, but
21 I'd like to see us do a letter in support of Proposal
22 146, which was the wounded elk one as well. And I'm
23 sure Pat could write up something for that.
24
25 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay, Pat? Is
26 that okay with you?
27
28 MR. HOLMES: I'm supposed to be
29 retired.
30
31 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: A letter of
32 support of 146.
33
34 MR. HOLMES: Okay. Can do.
35
36 MR. ROHRER: I propose that submit a
37 letter in support of Proposal 146.
38
39 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: 146. Okay.
40
41 MR. CRATTY: I'll second.
42
43 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Moved and seconded
44 to support Proposal 146.
45
46 Polly, you have.....
47
48 DR. WHEELER: I just have a thought,
49 Mr. Chair, having been at numerous Board of Game
50 meetings when papers are flying. If this Council has a

1 bunch of issues that it wants to address, it may want
2 to consider just writing one letter where three
3 different proposals are addressed. I've heard two, and
4 I think there's a third proposal. So you may just want
5 to write one letter, but address the three different
6 proposals in the one letter just so the papers aren't
7 lost. It's up to you. Just a thought.

8

9 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Do we have any
10 discussion.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Under
15 discussion, I guess the suggestion from Polly was to
16 include both motions and letter in one letter form,
17 instead of having two separate letters. Is the Board
18 okay with that.

19

20 MR. HOLMES: Yes.

21

22 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Pat's
23 drafting up a letter. We'll get it done here in a few
24 minutes.

25

26 Is there any further discussion on the
27 motion. Rick.

28

29 MR. ROWLAND: Rick Rowland.

30

31 This is in relation to 146? Yeah.
32 Proposal 146?

33

34 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes.

35

36 MR. ROWLAND: And it says we do not
37 have objective data on wounding loss. So is that
38 saying that they don't have information related to
39 wounded animals or they do have information? And id
40 they do have the information, I'd like to see it if
41 possible.

42

43 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Sam.

44

45 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. I was at that
46 meeting. And they -- I think the only data they have
47 is enforcement, the enforcement officer talked about
48 flying over and seeing dead elk from the air. And I
49 think there was reports of people on the ground who
50 have seen dead elk. But it was primarily all, what do

1 you call it, hunters reporting stuff, seeing dead elk
2 running around, seeing running with arrows in them that
3 they knew were going to die. So it was just from
4 testimony, people reporting what they've seen in the
5 field.

6
7 Thank you.

8
9 But certainly a real problem. I mean,
10 I think -- I don't think anyone doubts that it's an
11 issue with wounded elk dying.

12
13 Thank you.

14
15 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
16 discussion.

17
18 (No comments)

19
20 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Hearing no other
21 discussion. Is there any objection to the motion.

22
23 (No objections)

24
25 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Seeing none, then
26 motion carries. Did I go too fast on that one, Rick.

27
28 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah. But that's -- I'm
29 good with this.

30
31 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: You're good?

32
33 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah. Well, I'd like to
34 object, because -- I mean, is it too late? Is it too
35 late to object? Because I don't have enough
36 information related to this.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: You can make it
39 now for the record that you would have.....

40
41 MR. ROHRER: You abstained.

42
43 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF:voted
44 against.

45
46 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah, I'd like to do that
47 then, because I just don't have enough information and
48 that point right there makes me wonder about objective
49 data on wounding loss, so that's my point.

50

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Noted.
2
3 MR. HOLMES: Would you like the
4 suggested wording. Mr. Chairman.
5
6 MR. ROHRER: Well, why don't you --
7 excuse me. Why don't you just go by what it says in
8 46. Just go off of that.
9
10 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Working on the
11 letter for support. I think what we did, Pat, was
12 we're going to submit one letter.
13
14 MR. HOLMES: Right. Yeah, but this
15 would be like an addition on the other one. And what I
16 have down, sort of a consensus of ideas with the
17 exception of Rick's reservation, and so we probably
18 need to go and reconsider and revote maybe after I read
19 this, or maybe we should have read this before. I
20 don't know.
21
22 What I have is hunters and Department
23 of Public Safety have observed wounded and dead elk
24 that were wasted. We feel that the proposal will
25 provide practical and sound management of elk in the
26 Kodiak management area and reduce unnecessary loss of
27 elk. Does that kind of get there?
28
29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Did that get that
30 for you, Sam.
31
32 MR. ROHRER: Yeah, that should be good.
33 Thank you.
34
35 MR. HOLMES: Okay. And, you know, a
36 lot of times in -- Mr. Chairman. Pat Holmes.
37
38 A lot of times in game and fish
39 management things -- it's an art, and you almost
40 sometimes have to wing, and there's a lot more hunting
41 of elk with bows and arrows, and it's a big critter.
42 And then there are people that I've seen go out with
43 awfully light caliber weapons to shoot an elk, and they
44 wound it. And then you're up hunting and you stumble
45 over this thing with its legs all bloated, sticking in
46 the air, rotting, and it would have been really good to
47 either have been able to take the animal yourself or
48 give it to some of your friends or villagers or
49 whatnot.
50

1 And so I think what the person writing
2 the case from what I recall had -- every year has run
3 across several elks, as well as the public safety
4 people seeing the dead critters. And so being as those
5 elk are in very low number and they're trying to bring
6 them back up, I think that this would be a very, you
7 know, valuable tool. Basically, if you shoot it,
8 you've got it. And I know I do that with deer. If I
9 shoot it and it goes down, I don't find, I just tear up
10 my tag. You know, that's one I lost. Feel the bears,
11 because it's just a matter of personal ethics, and I
12 think, you know, prevent waste of game. So that's where
13 we're at.

14

15 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Rick.

16

17 MR. ROWLAND: Well, thank you, Mr.
18 Chair. Rick Rowland.

19

20 In that area of discussion, if a person
21 misses and they tear their tag up, or if they wound the
22 animal and then it gets away, then there's a
23 possibility that they might not even have hit it, and
24 then so that would create a bag limit that would in
25 turn in effect go to the quota, and so quite possibly
26 someone who's out there hunting would possibly lose the
27 right to go get one just because somebody decided to
28 make a bad shot and tear their tag up. So if there's
29 only 10 elk and 10 people miss, the 11th guy doesn't
30 get one, so I don't know if this making sense.

31

32 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Sam.

33

34 MR. ROHRER: I guess just for
35 clarification. It's not for missing. It's actually
36 connecting. So if you wound an animal. And the way
37 that works functionally in the field, it's totally an
38 honor system. If you shot the animal and you don't
39 know if you missed him or not, I mean, you have to go
40 off of what your gut feeling tells you. Did you hit
41 him or did you not? Anyways it is somewhat of an honor
42 system. But certainly if you have evidence, if you
43 know you hit it, if you knocked it down, then you
44 validate your tag. It's the only ethical thing to do.
45 I mean, you put an arrow or a bullet into an animal,
46 and the State counts it as a dead animal. The Feds
47 count it as a dead animal. Everyone counts it as a
48 dead animal. You have to report wounding loss. So
49 it's only right that you, the hunter, should count it
50 as a dead hunter [sic] and validate your tag.

1 Thank you.
2
3 (Laughter)
4
5 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair.
6
7 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al.
8
9 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, I'd just like to say
10 I agree with Sam. I think if you're out there hunting,
11 you should have the gun that's going to kill it or
12 whatever, and you shouldn't be missing. I mean, it's a
13 big animal, man. You lose one of them, it's a sad
14 waste. I mean, I love elk. I haven't been able to
15 hunt them for the last couple years. I've been buying
16 a buffalo every year, because it's too hard to get over
17 there and get them any more. I mean, you know, the
18 herds are so low.
19
20 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Are we done
21 with this.
22
23 SEVERAL: Yeah.
24
25 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. No more
26 questions. Comments.
27
28 (No comments)
29
30 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Moving on.
31 Think we're at Federal Subsistence Board executive
32 section. You covered that, didn't you?
33
34 DR. WHEELER: Yes, Mr. Chair. One
35 thing that I did want to point out though which I
36 neglected to point out is that there's a written
37 summary of the January 5th, 2011 Federal Subsistence
38 Board meeting, and that's on Page 61 in your books. 61
39 and 62.
40
41 And then following that there's a
42 couple of pages of a matrix which covers pretty much
43 the information that I just covered in terms of the
44 action items from the secretarial review and the
45 status, the next steps and the RAC involvement. So
46 that's just a reminder to you, it's a summary of what I
47 covered verbally from the materials in your book, but I
48 forgot to mention that earlier, Mr. Chair. So on
49 beginning on Page 63, going over to the very top of
50 Page 65, just a matrix which covers the action items

1 and then what you can expect as far as next steps and
2 follow up.

3

4 Mr. Chair.

5

6 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you,
7 Polly.

8

9 DR. WHEELER: And, Mr. Chair, just to
10 help you along a little bit, there are two written
11 briefings in your book. One is the Chinook salmon
12 bycatch in the Gulf of Alaska, that's a written
13 briefing from OSM. I'm not prepared to speak to that.
14 But it's an informational briefing.

15

16 And then I guess you're up to, in terms
17 of the Office of Subsistence Management briefings, and
18 Ann can provide you a short summary of the travel
19 procedures. Mr. Chair.

20

21 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Ann.

22

23 MS. WILKINSON: Very briefly. We did
24 discuss the travel procedures when we had the
25 orientation session. So the first part will be very
26 brief.

27

28 Just all Federal travel must be done
29 through our travel control center. So you need to come
30 to me or to someone in our office if you need to make a
31 change, any change at all to your tickets. It's just
32 that simple.

33

34 If you make the change yourself, it
35 could put you in a very bad situation to lose per diem
36 and possibly be responsible for the cost of the ticket.
37 So just be sure to come to me.

38

39 The other thing is that we are
40 preparing to initiate new software for the Federal
41 financial and business management system. And then
42 they're doing it, of course, at the end of the fiscal
43 year, towards the end of the fiscal year. And so
44 everything for the fiscal year has to be entered, all
45 complete, all entered, everything, by the end of
46 September. Well, that's when our Councils are still
47 meeting. So everything that we're doing for the fall
48 Council meeting needs to be completed, that means all
49 the travel plans, all the meeting arrangements,
50 everything, by July. So when we call and ask if you

1 can come to the meeting, please give it your best
2 estimate about whether or not you can come, because
3 it's very likely we won't be able to change the travel
4 plans either. So if you think there's any chance at
5 all that you're going to come to the meeting, say yes.
6 Okay?

7

8 MR. CRATTY: One day?

9

10 MS. WILKINSON: What? For the fall
11 meeting. Well, we'll decide that for sure later today.
12 But -- excuse me.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Excuse me, Ann.
15 Yeah, I see in our fall meeting it's got us for the 7th
16 and 8th of September, for the dates that were already
17 picked. But we'll get to that later.

18

19 MS. WILKINSON: Yes, we'll get to that
20 later. We'll review your meeting selections.

21

22 MR. CRATTY: About 6:00 o'clock.

23

24 MS. WILKINSON: So anyway, so we'll
25 have to get everything done ahead of time. And then if
26 you make a last minute decision to attend a meeting,
27 you might not get a travel advance. So like I said, if
28 you think you're going to come, tell me yes, okay, when
29 I ask.

30

31 And the other thing is that travel
32 vouchers following the fall meeting will probably be
33 slower in coming, because we won't be able to issue
34 them until after October probably.

35

36 Okay. So that's just to let you know.
37 It's going to be a bit of a jumble there towards the
38 end.

39

40 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. I got done
41 with it, used this time, then I have to cancel my
42 flight ticket home. I've contacted our people. I've
43 got to go to another meeting after I'm done with this
44 one. That will carry me up to the 30th. I had a round
45 trip ticket through OSM, so you can just cancel my
46 ticket home. There's another agency will pick that up.

47

48 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair.

49

50 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al.

1 MR. CRATTY: Yeah. I had one question
2 for you, too, Ann. Like if I would have -- if we'd
3 have got done with this meeting earlier tonight, would
4 I'd have had to get ahold of you to get on a plane
5 tonight? Is that -- I mean these little airlines
6 around here, they don't care. They're going to use
7 your ticket whenever. But it's your way of doing
8 things.

9
10 MS. WILKINSON: Yes, unfortunately,
11 that's the way it is. The airlines might be amenable
12 to it, but the travel agency isn't. So we have to go
13 through that agency.

14
15 MR. CRATTY: So if -- like if we're
16 traveling somewhere next fall, and I come back and the
17 weather's bad, and I can't make it that day, do I still
18 got to get ahold of you and let you that I ain't going
19 to make it that day, because of the weather, due to the
20 weather, or does that ticket just carry on.

21
22 MS. WILKINSON: If it's a weather
23 issue, something that the airline themselves have said,
24 no, we're not flying, so you can't go, then, no, you
25 don't need to worry about making a change with me.
26 It's nice to know that you -- it would be nice to know
27 that you're still there in case you need something. It
28 would be a good idea to call me, but you wouldn't need
29 to call for the travel part of it, you know, the
30 ticket, because the airline would just automatically
31 put you on the first available flight then.

32
33 MR. CRATTY: Okay. Thank you.

34
35 MS. WILKINSON: But if you want extra
36 per diem for travel time, you would need to let me know
37 that.

38
39 Thanks.

40
41 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Questions.
42 Comments. Any more on travel procedures.

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you,
47 Ann.

48
49 All right. We are at migratory birds.

50

1 MS. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman.
2
3 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Oh, I'm sorry. Go
4 ahead, Ann.
5
6 MS. WILKINSON: Yes. Sorry. No one is
7 coming to talk about migratory birds, the emperor
8 geese. But there is a written briefing on Page 84 of
9 our book. And it's very general. It has -- is it 84?
10 Yeah. From the Co-Management Council. And it doesn't
11 really address what you asked for, but that's what they
12 provided.
13
14 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair.
15
16 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Rick.
17
18 MR. ROWLAND: Rick Rowland.
19
20 I would just like to state that the
21 tribe that I work for, Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak, is a
22 tribe that manages Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management
23 Council grant, and there's a procedure in place to have
24 someone attend two meetings per year, and there's a
25 procedure in place that provides for each village rep
26 to come into Kodiak twice a year and communicate in
27 relation to creating proposals that are important to
28 the relation of the migratory birds and the harvest of
29 them and the eggs, and other birds in relation for
30 gulls and terns and upland birds or whatnot.
31
32 So there's a process in place, and I'm
33 sure your village has a rep just like everyone else's
34 has a rep.
35
36 And there's a portion in there where
37 it's outreach and education that's considered under the
38 Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council grant, and
39 the intent of the current grant manager is to
40 communicate more with the communities to make sure that
41 everyone understands how to fill out the proposals and
42 get areas that are in need of harvesting specific birds
43 implemented and up to the board.
44
45 Also there's a component in there where
46 just recently a resolution was passed by the Sun'aq
47 Tribe of Kodiak to work with the Fish and Wildlife to
48 do surveys locally.
49
50 So things are tracking forward in a

1 positive way in this, and if the Advisory Council here
2 needs to have communication with the local rep, then
3 I'm sure that that rep would be happy to come in and
4 communicate.

5
6 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Who did we
7 communicate with when we asked them to come in and do a
8 presentation?

9
10 MS. WILKINSON: I talked to -- oh,
11 gosh, now I can't think of his name.

12
13 DR. WHEELER: Russ Oates?

14
15 MS. WILKINSON: Russ Oates. Russell
16 Oates at the Migratory Birds office in Anchorage. And
17 told him that you had asked for someone to come and
18 speak to them about emperor geese. And that you wanted
19 someone to be here, physically be here. And he said,
20 okay, he'd get on it. And then the next thing I heard
21 from him was that no one was coming, that there wasn't
22 anybody available to come.

23
24 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.

25
26 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair. Going off
27 earlier discussion yesterday and our Council's efforts
28 on trying to find out when the threshold is reached and
29 information on emperor geese, I'd like to do this,
30 write another proposal kind of spinning off from
31 conversations I've heard from our members and some of
32 the folks I know out on the Peninsula, Rick Koso's
33 quite interested in this as well as our former member,
34 Tom Schwantes, and other folks. And also it might make
35 a good poke to get some attention.

36
37 I'd like to have a very -- maybe
38 propose a brief letter to the Migratory Bird Council
39 and then maybe Rowland could do a similar thing with
40 your group, and it basically would be the
41 Kodiak/Aleutians Regional Advisory Council would like
42 the Migratory Co-Management Council to consider
43 providing for a cultural harvest of a small number,
44 parentheses, 5, question mark, of emperor geese for
45 elders in communities in the Kodiak, Alaska Peninsula,
46 Aleutians area.

47
48 And I was just thinking that if that
49 would work, then that would be swell, and, you know,
50 Alex and some of the folks over the on the west side

1 could have a nice emperor goose for Christmas or
2 Thanksgiving, and, you know, Rick Koso could get some
3 for his friends out west, and, you know, Della could do
4 out and put one on King Cove.

5
6 MR. ROHRER: And invite us to dinner
7 when we're there.

8
9 MR. HOLMES: Yeah. And invite us all
10 to dinner.

11
12 (Laughter)

13
14 MR. HOLMES: But anyway, I think that
15 that would at least have two goals. One to get
16 considering having a very small harvest, and then, two,
17 hopefully sometime somebody would come and talk to us.

18
19 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Armstrong, is he
20 the head of the Migratory Bird Co-Management Council?

21
22 MR. ROWLAND: Yes Executive director.

23
24 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Executive
25 director.

26
27 MR. HOLMES: Fred Armstrong. Okay.

28
29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Fred Armstrong,
30 executive director, Alaska Migratory Birds.

31
32 Any other comments, questions,
33 discussion on migratory birds.

34
35 (No comments)

36
37 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Where are we at.
38 Hearing none, then we'll move on.

39
40 Fish and Wildlife Service. First we
41 have Izembek. What have we got here. Are they all
42 gone?

43
44 DR. WHEELER: Mr. Chair. I don't think
45 Izembek Refuge is on the phone any more, but I would
46 note that in your beginning on Page 72, there's a
47 written report from Izembek Refuge compiled last month.

48
49 So there's a couple of pages of
50 information on Southern Alaska Peninsula Herd, Unimak

1 Herd, brown bear, waterfowl emperor goose, waterfowl
2 brant, blah-blah-blah.

3

4 So anyway, there's some information
5 from the Izembek Refuge. I don't believe they're still
6 on line, but I encourage you to read through that at
7 your pleasure.

8

9 Mr. Chair.

10

11 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Polly.

12

13 Has the Board read these things. Do
14 you have any questions. Rick.

15

16 MR. ROWLAND: Yes, I have a couple. In
17 suggesting for future reports like this, I would
18 appreciate like, for example, Larry Van Daele brought
19 in graphs, and it was much quicker to read the data.
20 So with this data here, I had to really pay close
21 attention to determining what the fluctuations were.
22 And if I were to have it in a visual graph, it would be
23 more efficient for me. So if that's possible, I would
24 like a picture graph.

25

26 And then also in relation to not only
27 this, but other, is if there's a survey or if there's
28 a survey that shows zero population of specie, I'd like
29 to have it noted to where we're told that no survey was
30 done, not that there was none. Does that make sense?

31

32 And those are the only two things that
33 I've got.

34

35 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair.

36

37 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Della.

38

39 MS. TRUMBLE: A couple things, and
40 maybe as a suggestion, both the Izembek and the Kodiak
41 Wildlife Refuges are really important to any of the
42 decision-making process that we make through the course
43 of our meetings during the course of the two days. And
44 it may be a good suggestion that we possibly move these
45 reports up earlier into the meeting and even the ADF&G
46 reports, because as we go through our agenda, and make
47 decisions, at least we can have information from them.
48 Or if we're making or going to propose any -- I'm
49 losing it here, any whatever here, that we at least can
50 have information from them prior.

1 It kind of is disheartening that there
2 isn't anybody available right now to answer any
3 questions from Izembek. And I realize Cold Bay is
4 right next to King Cove, but that doesn't mean a whole
5 lot when we just usually pass through or can't get to
6 one community or the other.

7
8 So just as a recommendation, maybe we
9 can move these reports up earlier into the meeting, or
10 at least have the Staff let us know if they're not
11 going to be available, or at least be able to
12 accommodate them in their schedule somewhere, because I
13 think it's important that we hear from them.

14
15 Thank you.

16
17 MS. PETERSON: Hello. Mr. Chairman.
18 This is Izembek.

19
20 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Oh, hey, Nancy.
21 This is surprising. We're just going over the Izembek
22 wildlife report. We did have a couple questions.

23
24 Rick, if you wanted to repeat your
25 questions.

26
27 MR. ROWLAND: Yes. Rick Rowland here.

28
29 One of the questions that I had was I'd
30 like to see if possible that visual graphs could be
31 presented so that it could be more efficiently viewed
32 and understood the fluctuations for myself. That way I
33 won't have to sit there and write out the numbers and
34 make by own graph.

35
36 And also, if there's a zero population
37 determination, I'd like to know if no survey was done.
38 Because yesterday we had an incident where we were
39 being informed that there was a zero population until
40 it was later questioned, we were informed that no
41 survey was done. So those are the two points that I
42 wanted to make.

43
44 MS. PETERSON: Okay. Mr. Chairman.
45 This is Chris Peterson at Izembek. We are having a
46 little difficulty hearing those who are speaking, so if
47 they could make sure they get close to the phone, it
48 would help.

49
50 And my apologies. I stepped out of the

1 office for just a few seconds and came in and was
2 waiting my turn to get in.

3
4 As for the gentleman's remarks just
5 now, we can provide visual graphs. That's no problem.

6
7 As for his question concerning those
8 zeros, we do not have any zeros on our tables that
9 we've presented. If we did not conduct a survey, we do
10 not report a number. And if you read the tables down
11 there, you'll see that the asterisks -- the single
12 asterisks does represent that data is not collected.
13 So I think that clarifies his concern.

14
15 Thank you.

16
17 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you for
18 that. Is there any other questions for Izembek. Pat.
19

20 MR. HOLMES: I've got a couple of small
21 points, but first off I'd like to compliment you ladies
22 and your Staff, because you've got a lot more
23 information in here than in the past. You've got some
24 good data on the brant, midwinter, fall, emperor goose
25 surveys. You have a little discussion on the
26 influenza, and the caribou herd on Unimak is pretty
27 good there, too. So I think that's really nice.
28 You've improved things a bit.

29
30 I think where -- and then, of course,
31 you have to excuse me for being a biologist. It would
32 be handy to know, you know, the range around your
33 estimates, because particularly as we'd hope to have
34 the Migratory Council here to talk to us about emperor
35 geese, because sometimes it hits a threshold, and, you
36 know, the season isn't opened. So we're going to be
37 doing a proposal asking them for a small subsistence
38 cultural harvest for elders in the villages, and but
39 if we could get a little range on the estimates, that
40 would be nice.

41
42 I would like to comment the only major
43 thing, on Page 73, while it is true, your comment,
44 likewise there's an interest -- or there's two places,
45 increase of three calves per cow, in that second
46 paragraph, and that's not much. Or it has increased to
47 eight from three. And again if you've got a range
48 around your confidence intervals, you know, when you
49 get down to that small number of animals, 400, you
50 know, that's -- you know, you're saying it, but again I

1 don't know whether it's really significant.

2

3 And the same with the bull to cow ratio
4 has increased from five to eight. That's good, but I
5 don't think that we should be thinking that those are
6 really significant changes. And you're not really
7 saying that, but I guess that's my only comment.

8

9 But again, I would like to compliment
10 you folks on getting a lot more information and getting
11 this information to us before the fact so that we could
12 take a look at it. So thank you very much.

13

14 MS. PETERSON: Thank you for your
15 comments. The only thing I -- yes, we can give range
16 of estimates sometimes. But this data that you are
17 commenting on right here is directly from Alaska Fish
18 and Game. And they did not provide any range of
19 estimates or confidence intervals, which is why it is
20 not in the report.

21

22 But we, or you, either one, we can ask
23 them for that in the future.

24

25 But I do appreciate your comments. And
26 thank you.

27

28 Anything else.

29

30 MR. HOLMES: Roger that. Well,
31 hopefully Lem Butler's still listening, and if not,
32 George Pappadopolis is here. Or George Pappas, excuse
33 me. I didn't mean to contract your ethnic heritage
34 there, George. But I'm sure the word will get passed
35 along so that you folks will have that and we'll have
36 it next year.

37

38 So thanks a lot, and we had a lot of
39 good discussion with Mike this morning. Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Rick.

42

43 MR. ROWLAND: Also I have a question
44 related to the data that you have in relation to the
45 brant and the emperor. In your brant waterfowl you
46 show, it's on Page 74, I don't know if you have the
47 document, but you show that -- in the black brand you
48 show the Izembek total and the flyway total and three-
49 year average. And your Izembek total for the brant is
50 generally between 17,000 and 40,000. And then you look

1 at your flyway total, which is up over 100,000.

2

3 But then you get down to the emperor
4 geese, and you don't have any data related to the
5 flyway. So it makes me wonder where did you come up
6 with the 80,000 average geese is needed to consider
7 opening any hunting season. There are two questions.
8 Why don't you have flyway information in the emperor
9 goose, and where did you get the number 80,000 for
10 considering an opening.

11

12 MS. PETERSON: Okay. Thank you.
13 Hopefully I've got your two questions. First of all,
14 for the emperor good survey, the emperor geese are only
15 found in the area of Alaska and somewhat over into our
16 neighbors to the west. And so there is really no
17 flyway information available on emperor geese, which is
18 why it is not in the table there.

19

20 And the second comment I believe was --
21 I'm sorry, what was the second comment about the brant?

22

23 MR. ROWLAND: It was about the geese.
24 Where did you come up with \$80,000 geese.....

25

26 (Laughter)

27

28 MR. ROWLAND: Or 80,000 geese is needed
29 to consider opening any hunting season.

30

31 MS. PETERSON: Okay. That number as I
32 understand it was developed or was -- yeah, developed
33 quite some time ago when they first wrote up the
34 emperor goose management plan. And it was based on the
35 number of geese that geese that were known to exist
36 back at that time. And it is a number that is
37 difficult to get back to, but it is still the over-all
38 management plan goal is actually for 150,000 birds. So
39 when they set the 80,000 they thought that was
40 (indiscernible, fading) of a good amount that would
41 permit for some hunting. It is difficult to get back
42 to the 80,000, because emperor geese are an arctic and
43 subarctic bird, and the field conditions under which
44 they survive are considerably more difficult than for
45 other geese or goose populations. So it takes a lot
46 longer for emperor geese to recover from a decline.

47

48 If you look at the numbers, it does
49 show that they've been holding in the 70,000s in the
50 spring for the past three years. It's just the

1 juvenile survival is lower than for other goose
2 species. The arctic habitat is much more difficult,
3 production is lower. And the birds have to be three
4 years old before they can reproduce. And all those
5 things combined are what they base the 80,000 number
6 on.

7

8 So it is heartening that they have
9 stayed in the 70,000s for the past three years, and
10 hopefully that will continue.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Does that answer
15 your question, Rick?

16

17 MR. ROWLAND: Yes.

18

19 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Any other
20 questions for Izembek.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: If there are no
25 other questions for Izembek Refuge.

26

27 MS. PETERSON: Mr. Chair, this is
28 Chris.

29

30 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes. Is that you,
31 Della?

32

33 MS. TRUMBLE: Yeah, I'm sorry, I was
34 trying to hit the mute button on (indiscernible).

35

36 On the brown bear on Page 73, you said
37 one bear along with three wolves were taken during the
38 fall harvest in Unit 10. And then -- and there as no
39 2010 fall bear. But that's in Unit 9D. As the bear
40 hunt last year, was that spring or fall? Wasn't it
41 fall last year?

42

43 MS. HOFFMAN: Even years are spring,
44 odd are fall for 9D. And in Unit 10 it's spring and
45 fall.

46

47 MS. PETERSON: In Unimak the bear hunt
48 is each spring and fall, in Unit 10, excuse me, which
49 includes Unimak.

50

1 MS. TRUMBLE: And that's on Federal?
2
3 MS. PETERSON: Yes.
4
5 MS. TRUMBLE: Okay. And then on 9D,
6 I'm sorry, I just caught the end of what I think Nancy
7 was saying about Unit 9D.
8
9 MS. HOFFMAN: The bear harvest in 9D,
10 the way we remember it is even years it's in the
11 spring. It's a spring hunt. And then it's a fall hunt
12 in odd years. So in 2011 it will be a fall hunt and
13 the road system hunt will be open on the Peninsula here
14 in 9D. So last year it was spring in 2010. And so
15 that was reported in the last report last year.
16
17 MS. TRUMBLE: Okay. Thanks.
18
19 MS. PETERSON: You're welcome. Thank
20 you.
21
22 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: If you're
23 speaking, we're losing you.
24
25 MS. PETERSON: We'll try to be a little
26 (microphones off).
27
28 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
29 questions for Izembek.
30
31 MR. HOLMES: Keep the storms out your
32 way. We've had enough of them.
33
34 Thank you.
35
36 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Too late in the
37 day, Pat.
38
39 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair.
40
41 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Della, is that
42 you?
43
44 MS. TRUMBLE: Yeah. I need to try to
45 turn this volume up here. Nancy, we've talked. I know
46 we've covered caribou probably as much as we can
47 probably cover it in the last two days. But I'm
48 wondering when -- as soon as you're able to get some of
49 these counts down, would you be able to share that
50 information with us as soon as possible? I know I for

1 one would appreciate it. And kind of getting a little
2 better insight as to the efforts that are being made.
3 The caribou on both 9D and 10, as you well know, is a
4 major concern to this community, so I would very much
5 appreciate any information that outs there, or as soon
6 as you're able to get it.

7

8 MS. HOFFMAN: Della, I'm sorry. We
9 came on kind of late, and Chris is going to give you an
10 update on that, or what survey -- of what little survey
11 we did get done. So thank you for bringing that up,
12 and Chris will just go over really quick on how we did
13 get up for a brief amount of time.

14

15 Thanks, Della, for bringing that up.

16

17 MS. PETERSON: Thank you, too. Okay.
18 On March 3rd, we ended up having a plane and pilot here
19 at the Refuge from Migratory Birds Management. And
20 they had a couple of hours that they needed to go down
21 around the Unimak Island area, and complete a survey
22 that they were conducting. But they also had some
23 extra room in the plane, and so our new aquatic
24 ecologist here at the Refuge was able to go up with
25 them for a couple of hours. This was totally
26 unplanned, but there was just a window of good weather
27 that lasted about two, three hours. And so he went up
28 in the plane with them.

29

30 And as they were conducting their
31 count, he also kept an eye for caribou. He was able to
32 count 136 caribou on Unimak. They were -- he was not
33 able to do any classifications. He was able to map the
34 approximate areas they were found.

35

36 He also saw quite a few ptarmigan and
37 swans at the same time. So it was a good flight for a
38 couple of hours. Clear skies with good visibility.
39 And that's about it. It was not actually what you
40 might call a full survey. But it was some good
41 observations.

42

43 Thank you.

44

45 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Pat.

46

47 MR. HOLMES: I was wondering if

48 your.....

49

50 MS. PETERSON: And in addition, just to

1 let you know, that, yes, we have since about 2008 I
2 believe is the year, Izembek National Wildlife Refuge
3 has been planning and cooperating with Alaska Fish and
4 Game to conduct what is normally the winter count. We
5 are planning on and have been conducting that count in
6 the summertime along with post-calving counts. So we
7 will continue to do that.

8

9 One reason we would like to continue
10 the winter count for another year or so is for
11 comparison purposes between the two types of surveys.

12

13 But that has been in the making for the
14 last several years, and we'll continue to work on
15 those.

16

17 Thank you.

18

19 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat. Do you have
20 a question.

21

22 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair. For Nancy. We
23 had very nice discussion yesterday with Nancy -- excuse
24 me, Miss, I forgot your first name. Senior moment.
25 Chris. Chris, thank you so much.

26

27 I was wondering if your observer on the
28 winter count was able to take any photographs that you
29 might be able to deduce calf numbers or bull to cow
30 ratios.

31

32 MS. PETERSON: No, the altitudes that
33 they were at wouldn't have permitted for that, and the
34 main intent of the flight was not for caribou. So they
35 really couldn't take a lot of time out to pursue that
36 and get photos.

37

38 MR. HOLMES: Yeah. I understand. It
39 might be handy to have a small camera to take along,
40 you know, just to get a couple snaps as you're flying
41 by.

42

43 Anyway, I was also -- it sounds like
44 from Nancy's comments that you folks are going to get
45 some greater support on summer counts. And we did ask
46 Mike if he could try to assure adequate resources for
47 you folks to be able to get your caribou work done, and
48 then if you had plane problems like in the past, that
49 he would -- we asked him if couldn't possibly divert
50 some of the other machines from other parts of the

1 state down so you folks could be able to get your work
2 down, so hopefully that will occur.

3

4 Thank you very much.

5

6 MS. PETERSON: Well, thank you for the
7 questions and the comments to Mike. We appreciate it.
8 Just keep in mind that one of the big caveats down here
9 was well represented by this little observations that
10 our ecologist went along on, which was we had basically
11 two to three hours. That was the first time in some
12 time that it was clear enough to go. That does not
13 permit getting planes in from somewhere else, but we're
14 working on it, and we will continue to keep your advice
15 in mind.

16

17 Thank you.

18

19 MR. HOLMES: Yeah. Roger that. I lived
20 many months and years out west and know how the weather
21 is, but, you know, if you got another -- I'm done.

22

23 Thank you. Bye.

24

25 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Nancy.
26 If there's no other questions for Izembek.

27

28 (No comments)

29

30 MS. HOFFMAN: Thank you. And you're
31 welcome.

32

33 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: We'll move on.

34 Kodiak.

35

36 Before we get started, I just wanted to
37 note for the record that Al asked to be excused so that
38 he can get some parts before 5:00 o'clock. So he said
39 he'll be back.

40

41 Okay. Go ahead.

42

43 MR. COBB: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My
44 name is McCrea Cobb. I'm the wildlife biologist, one
45 of the wildlife biologists for Kodiak Refuge.

46

47 And before I get started, I just want
48 to point you to Page 76 of the meeting material, and
49 that's where our activity report that we submitted
50 begins. I won't be going into too much detail here.

1 Hopefully you got a chance to look it over a little
2 bit. And also a lot of what is covered in here was
3 also covered previously by Larry Van Daele and others
4 from ADF&G.

5
6 Just to get started here, we record the
7 number of permits issued every year, and Table 1 on
8 Page 76 shows you how that breaks down between deer,
9 bear and elk by year. Some of the data isn't available
10 yet. It will hopefully be soon.

11
12 Our work on brown bears can be broken
13 down into research, which also includes a subcomponent
14 of looking at salmon availability, and then also the
15 intensive aerial surveys that Larry Van Daele mentioned
16 earlier.

17
18 One of the larger projects for research
19 on brown bears right now that we have going on involves
20 collaring the brown bears with GPS collars. And the
21 goal of this is to look at seasonal movements, habitat
22 use and preferences and the relationship between bear
23 resource use and reproductive success. That's focused
24 in the Karluk region. This summer we plan on collaring
25 an additional 12 bears with GPS collars to maintain a
26 sample size of 25 collared bears.

27
28 Another component of that project is
29 looking at salmon availability. Last summer we tested
30 the feasibility of using video recorders to assess
31 variation in timing and spawning abundance and habits
32 of early run sockeye. Figure 1 shows a photo of what
33 the video recorders look like and those video recorders
34 were successful. We'll be distributing more of those
35 and expanding that effort this summer to two other lake
36 basins.

37
38 As Larry mentioned, we'll be conducting
39 intensive aerial surveys this summer. Our plan is to
40 survey the area north of Terror Lake, and then also
41 resurvey the Karluk River drainage to reassess whether
42 or not the change that we saw from last is in fact
43 true, or an artifact of just the timing of the survey
44 from last year.

45
46 Any questions on brown bear.

47
48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Rick.

49
50 MR. ROWLAND: My question is, Rick

1 Rowland -- well, I'm Rick Rowland.

2

3 My question is, of the 25 bears that
4 are going to be GPS VHF collared, is that information
5 going to be available to the public.

6

7 MR. COBB: Mr. Rowland through the
8 Chair. The project with the GPS collared bears will be
9 available to the public once the results are complete.
10 It's a graduate student research project through the
11 University of Idaho. So the end result will be a
12 master's thesis that will be publicly available.
13 However, we still have one more summer of work, and
14 then he'll be writing the thesis, and likely the end
15 results won't be available for I would say at least
16 another two years or so.

17

18 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Sam.

19

20 MR. ROHRER: Through the Chair. I just
21 had a couple comments on the intensive aerial surveys.
22 I was under the impression that you guys were not going
23 to be doing a follow-up survey for Karluk this year in
24 May, but you're saying you are for sure doing one?

25

26 MR. COBB: Mr. Rohrer through the
27 Chair. Currently we're under budget uncertainties. We
28 don't have a budget yet for 2011. So I think a lot of
29 that will hinge on whether or not our budget comes
30 through soon, and I wish Gary was here to speak more
31 about that. Maybe Kent Sundseth, the deputy refuge
32 manager could better answer that question.

33

34 MR. SUNDSETH: Hi. Kent Sundseth,
35 deputy refuge manager, Kodiak Refuge.

36

37 Sam, through the Chair. You're right.
38 There is some uncertainty about the Karluk IS survey.
39 That was something we really want to do because of the
40 results from last year, and we're interested in, just
41 like McCrea explained, seeing if that was a result of a
42 late spring, or if there really is a serious situation
43 in the Karluk basin.

44

45 As he also mentioned, we don't have a
46 budget yet. We're still under continuing resolutions
47 until April 8th of this year. In addition to that we
48 fund a lot of our sort of discretionary projects
49 through a challenge cost share program that we receive
50 funds through the Region. And that program's been cut

1 due to budget uncertainties.

2

3

4 And so that really puts us in a tight
5 spot for this extra project that we wanted to do.
6 However, we haven't given up on it, but it's hard to
7 commit. We don't want to say that we're absolutely
8 going to do it yet when indeed we're still waiting for
9 some of that money to come through. So we're really
10 hoping to get done, we think it's important, but at
11 this point, we just need to wait a little bit longer to
12 commit for certain.

12

13

14 MR. ROHRER: One more thing along those
15 lines. I appreciate that, and I'd certainly encourage
16 you guys and hope that it works out that you can get
17 that survey done. It's important.

17

18

19 I was a little disappointed, last week
20 in the newspaper there was an article by a refuge
21 employee who -- it said along these same lines, except
22 it left off the part about when the survey was done,
23 the weather conditions. I think it's certainly -- I
24 mean, you state it in here, any guide who's out in the
25 field knows it, but last spring was a bad time to be
26 doing surveys, because of the weather conditions. But,
27 you know, that article in the paper. And anyone who
28 doesn't know all the facts read that article, it
29 presented a pretty scary picture of what the bear
30 population looks like down there. I think you guys
31 probably -- maybe the newspaper misquoted. Hopefully
32 that was what happened, but I think if that's not the
33 case, probably a little bit more caution should have
34 been used just in explaining -- I mean, it was too soon
35 to say, knowing what we do about the weather
36 conditions, it was too soon to say about there being a
37 potential issue with the population, and it was
38 certainly not right to say that without throwing in the
39 caveat of it was really bad timing and really bad
40 weather conditions.

40

41

42 So anyways, just a thought and a
43 concern, but I appreciate you listening to me. Thank
44 you.

44

45

45 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Pat.

46

47

48 MR. HOLMES: Pat. Mr. Chair. Guys, I
49 appreciate your work. I think this idea of looking at
50 -- enlarging off of Vic Barnes' work on salmon
51 abundance and bear, correlating that with bears is a

1 good idea. And getting hard data on it. And I don't
2 know if -- I can't quite remember, trees have grown up
3 since the last time I was down there, if that's Upper
4 Thumb or where, but are you planning on using like
5 stream spawner escapement index or are you going to
6 also look at the shore spawners for the sockeye?
7 Because some parts of the lake, that's a significant
8 component, or are you just going to use the stream and
9 then try to say, well, that's a relative relation to
10 the shore spawners in terms of abundance. Just sort of
11 a curiosity.

12

13 Thank you.

14

15 MR. COBB: Mr. Holmes through the
16 Chair. This is McCrea Cobb.

17

18 That is a good question. And I'm not
19 aware of the details of the study in terms of what sort
20 of method they're going to use for assessing what you
21 were talking about. Bill Lekok would be a better
22 person to talk about that. He's not here right now,
23 but I'd be happy to go back and get more information
24 and get back to you about that.

25

26 MR. HOLMES: Oh, yeah. I was just
27 wondering, you know, how you're going to be getting
28 your relationship with these stream counts with the
29 video camera for stream spawners versus shore spawners,
30 because they're kind of two different populations and
31 in the lake and different timing. And, you know, if
32 one's down, then the bears will be diving in the lake
33 for shore spawners, or both depending on the timing, or
34 pack it up and go over to Frazer if both of them are
35 down in there, wandering off somewhere else. So that
36 was a question.

37

38 The study I was talking about is Vic
39 Barnes, he was the former Refuge bear biologist and he
40 correlated -- you know, his years of work was, you
41 know, the abundance and availability in terms of
42 distribution of bears within the refuge was more food
43 related, bears and salmon, than people related or
44 folks, you know, disturbing them.

45

46 And anyway that's a long time ago, but
47 I was just bringing that up, that it's nice to have
48 your work sort of follow up on his in relation to food
49 availability to abundance and distribution.

50

3 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
4 questions.

5
6 (No comments)

7
8 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I've got one.
9 That species you were speaking of earlier, you said the
10 information from that won't be available for two
11 years. Is there other ways that you can plug in some
12 information? Do you have a web site for the Refuge
13 that some of that information can be put into that
14 website before that thesis is out in two years?

15
16 MR. SUNDSETH: Mr. Chair. You won't
17 have to wait a full two years to get any of the
18 information out. We could get some of it out earlier
19 to folks and actually our bear biologist gave a seminar
20 this week -- or last week, I'm sorry, Thursday of last
21 week, at the visitor's center where he displayed some
22 of that information. It was available to the public.

23
24 As far as a comprehensive report, we'll
25 need a little bit of time to gather all that
26 information together.

27
28 We don't have information currently on
29 a web side right now, but that's an interesting
30 possibility, and a good idea. We're currently looking
31 at our website right now and some of the material
32 that's available, and that's something I'll actually
33 bring back to our folks and see if we can't get some of
34 that stuff available. We need to be a little bit
35 careful about how we distribute our data so it can't be
36 misconstrued. We want to make sure we have a good
37 solid report that explains exactly what folks are
38 looking at, so it's solid. But, yeah, we can certainly
39 consider the idea of trying to get some of that
40 information out to folks prior to the completion of the
41 thesis.

42
43 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah. Another
44 question. You were collaring bears in the Karluk, and
45 that area. Is there like a length of time that you work
46 in an area, and then maybe next year you're going to be
47 collaring bears in a different area. My question is
48 the work you're doing now in the Karluk drainage area,
49 when that's done, which area are you going to work in
50 next? Where are you going after that, or are you going

1 to concentrate in that area throughout your research.

2

3 MR. COBB: Mr. Chair. As far as I
4 know, the plan is to stay within the Karluk area if the
5 study continues. And that's all funding contingent.
6 So it's an area that if we get an long-term data set,
7 it would tell us a lot more rather than moving to a new
8 area and starting up a new study site. So for that
9 particular study, I believe if it does continue beyond
10 this particular master's project, it would continue
11 within the Karluk drainage.

12

13 MR. SUNDSETH: And right now it's a
14 two-year project, so we don't have plans to continue it
15 further.

16

17 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Pat.

18

19 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair. I wouldn't
20 mind, and I'm sure some of our other Council members
21 would be glad -- I know Bill Pyle and Gary have my
22 email. And I missed the little notice on the talk,
23 because I didn't get my paper. And I'm always
24 interested in knowing what's going on at the Refuge,
25 but sometimes I'd sure like to get an email note on
26 your seminars when you're having something to do with
27 the research on on the refuge, because it's so
28 important to our whole community. So if you could plug
29 me in there and I don't know if Rick and Sam or anybody
30 else can let you know, but folks here in town, I'm sure
31 it would be handy to know when those events are
32 happening. Thank you.

33

34 MR. COBB: Mr. Holmes through the
35 Chair. Yeah, I will do that. Yep. We've been making
36 a strong effort to try to get the word out to the
37 public about these talks. It's been on the radio, in
38 the papers, and posted publicly. But I will add you to
39 the email and whoever else as well. And hope to see
40 you all there.

41

42 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Sam.

43

44 MR. ROHRER: Through the Chair, just
45 one more thing I was thinking. I was just sitting here
46 listening to Mitch's comments, and five minutes earlier
47 I was giving you guys a hard time for releasing
48 incomplete data a little bit early before the results,
49 and then Mitch is going, man, I'd just love to see the
50 data as soon as it comes out.

1 So I realize it's a bit of a balancing
2 act for you guys. And I do appreciate that as well.
3 So I just wanted to point that out.

4
5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Well, yeah, I was
6 getting at it that this is a thesis. It's somebody
7 from down in the Lower 48. He's coming up here,
8 gathering all this information and taking it back. And
9 they're not going to get it back for two years. And by
10 that time, you know, we need another research or
11 something, need another study, but if they had a
12 website, you know, take pieces of that information and
13 put it in the website, and people who look in there,
14 and say, okay, I understand what you're doing, but you
15 don't have to wait two years for some student to say,
16 okay, I'm done with your material. You can have it
17 back.

18
19 MR. SUNDSETH: Mr. Chair. Yeah, that's
20 a good point. This is a cooperative project between
21 the Refuge and ADF&G and the University of Idaho. And
22 we have all this information. It doesn't go away, just
23 down to the University of Idaho, and then we have to
24 ask for them to bring it back. We have the
25 information, but it's a partnership, so we all work
26 together as far as the analyzation of the data.

27
28 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you. Rick.

29
30 MR. ROWLAND: Yes. Thanks, Mr. Chair.
31 My question is, that this is a lot of information, and
32 it's great information. I'd like to know how it fits
33 to creating the subsistence as the priority.

34
35 MR. SUNDSETH: Are you talking
36 specifically about brown bears? That's what we're
37 talking about to this point. We haven't gone through
38 the rest of it. Okay.

39
40 I don't know that, you know, studying
41 brown bears makes it a subsistence priority, but
42 certainly there is an opportunity for subsistence take
43 of brown bears on the refuge. If you look at the
44 permits that are listed here in the first section,
45 you'll see that all of the communities in the Kodiak
46 area are provided with an opportunity to harvest bears
47 under subsistence regulations. And that's remained in
48 place for quite some time.

49
50 MR. ROWLAND: So I just heard you say

1 you don't know if it's a priority, but it's a research?

2

3 MR. SUNDSETH: I didn't say I didn't
4 know if it was a priority. Subsistence is a priority
5 on Refuge lands. Just like it says in Title VIII in
6 ANILCA. So does that -- it remains a priority, yes.

7

8 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
9 questions.

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: None. Please
14 continue.

15

16 MR. COBB: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
17 Moving on, Sitka black-tailed deer. We've been
18 conducting mortality surveys for quite some time. The
19 last survey was last spring, which showed -- and we
20 will be continuing -- the plan is to do a new survey
21 this spring, given we have the funds, which at this
22 point is still up in the air. If it does happen, the
23 survey areas will include Chief Cove, Sitkalidak
24 Strait, and west Olga Bay. And the data is used to
25 estimate annual levels of deer mortality and assist the
26 ADF&G with their harvest regulations.

27

28 We're also reexamining the over-all
29 deer research and management over-all picture for the
30 Refuge. And we're examining historic surveys and
31 methods and using these to try to improve the quality
32 of deer management in monitoring on Kodiak. So using
33 that, we're developing -- we're in the process of
34 developing a study plan to improve our understanding of
35 deer abundance and distribution.

36

37 For elk, it was already mentioned that
38 the ADF&G is planning to capture and equip 12 elk with
39 radio telemetry collars in June.

40

41 We're involved in four different
42 aspects of sea otter work. For the first time since
43 2004, this summer we'll be doing a survey for abundance
44 of sea otters on Kodiak. Past surveys have been
45 covering the entire island, entire archipelago;
46 however, for this summer survey we're going to be
47 redesigning the survey to cover a portion of the survey
48 -- or portion of the archipelago. And the advantage to
49 limiting the area being surveyed is that we can conduct
50 a survey every year, and so it will give us an annual

1 estimate of otter abundance. And that will happen in
2 June.

3

4 Marine Mammal -- is there a question.

5

6 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: No, I'll wait. Go
7 ahead.

8

9 MR. COBB: Okay. We are assisting
10 Marine Mammal Management in studying sea otter diets in
11 the Kodiak and Homer area by collecting prey species.
12 They're going to be using these prey species to analyze
13 from -- we're going to be looking at stable isotopes of
14 prey items in the archives. Sea otter whiskers
15 collected from beach cast, hunter harvested and live
16 captured animals. Monitoring change in diet can
17 facilitate management by providing a means of
18 explaining changes in reproductive fitness, survival,
19 abundance, and distribution.

20

21 Thirdly we're also collecting any sea
22 otter mortalities that are reported to us from the
23 public. And those otters are sent to Anchorage for
24 Marine Mammal Management to investigate what is -- what
25 they died of. This is more of regional study as well.

26

27 Within this reporting period we receive
28 necropsy results for two otters that were hit and
29 killed by boats within a few weeks of each other in the
30 Hidden Basin area, Kodiak. And test results have shown
31 that in addition to the trauma from the strike, they
32 also had very high levels of paralytic shellfish
33 poisoning.

34

35 We've collected two additional otters
36 and those have already been sent to Anchorage and we
37 haven't gotten the results yet for those. Those are
38 pending.

39

40 And fourthly with sea otters we're
41 involved in the marine mammal marking and tagging
42 program, which was established in 1972 under the Marine
43 Mammal Protection Act. At the Refuge we have two
44 taggers, myself and Tanya Lee, and then there's also
45 taggers in villages throughout the archipelago.
46 Fifteen.

47

48 During the reporting period we only
49 tagged a single otter hide and skull.

50

1 We've been involved in a number of
2 migratory bird studies. And I won't go into too much
3 detail, but we have done seabird colony surveys,
4 seabird nesting colony surveys. It was launched in
5 2008 and the recent results for that are in Table 2 on
6 Page 79.

7
8 In addition we've been working winter
9 seabird surveys on the west side and east side of
10 Kodiak Island, and we're evaluating these surveys for
11 their ability to detect changes in wintering population
12 levels of commonly observed sensitive species.

13
14 We're also involved in coastal water
15 bird surveys. which have been conducted since the mid
16 90s. Last summer they were conducted off Afognak
17 Island. And the results from that are from Figure 2 on
18 Page 80, showing the difference between the long-term
19 averages from 1994 to 1997, and more recently 2004 to
20 2010.

21
22 Currently we're working on a pilot
23 study to select random near-shore and pelagic transects
24 within that over-all study plan, which will be more
25 cost effective and give us also the same amount of
26 information.

27
28 And finally, this year we're working on
29 migratory bird subsistence harvest surveys. They were
30 initiated in the spring 2010 and expected to conclude
31 winter of 2011 harvest reporting period. Still being
32 worked on right now.

33
34 The goal is to assess trends in
35 subsistence harvest practices and facilitate management
36 and conservation of important subsistence species. So
37 we're surveyed areas along the road system of Kodiak in
38 four villages, including Akhiok, Karluk, Larsen Bay and
39 Port Lions.

40
41 The results from the last survey that
42 was conducted in 2006 are available on line on the
43 website listed.

44
45 And I'm going to skip fisheries. That
46 was discussed in pretty good detail by ADF&G. And feel
47 free to look at it.

48
49 Other activities and our new personnel
50 that we have.

1 Thank you.
2
3 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I got one
4 question. The past couple years we had a concern about
5 the harlequins over in Uganik. Has there been a final
6 report on those.
7
8 MR. HOLMES: On, in Uyak Bay.
9
10 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Uyak Bay, yeah.
11
12 MR. COBB: Our bird biologist, Robin
13 Corcoran is working on that currently, so we don't have
14 a final report at this moment, but it's something that
15 she's -- it's in the work.
16 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Sam.
17
18 MR. ROHRER: Through the Chair. Just a
19 quick question on the marine mammal marking and tagging
20 update. You said during the current reporting period
21 there was only one sea otter hide tagged. What's a
22 current reporting period? Is that just a one-year
23 period or what's that length of time.
24
25 MR. COBB: Mr. Rohrer through the
26 Chair. That's one sea otter skull and hide that was
27 tagged at the Refuge since September 2010.
28
29 MR. SUNDSETH: I'll add real quick,
30 Sam, that there have been a number of other otter hides
31 tagged in other areas, other than just at the Refuge.
32 We just got a all the other day from somebody over in
33 Port Lions that notified us of her activities over
34 there, and she's running short on tags and asking for
35 some additional ones. So we're not the only outfit.
36 You know, they talk about 15 different taggers here in
37 the archipelago that help us tag. They're folks that
38 live in villages and other areas and so we don't -- you
39 know, that information comes in during a certain
40 reporting period and that's just for the refuge.
41
42 MR. ROHRER: Okay. Okay. I was
43 thinking that -- I didn't realize it was just Refuge
44 Staff. I was thinking that was island-wide. So it's a
45 one-year reporting period.
46
47 MR. SUNDSETH: Right.
48
49 MR. ROHRER: Okay. Thank you.
50

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al.

2

3 MR. CRATTY: I have one question on the
4 tagging of sea otters. Do they ever look and see the
5 people that had them tagged, what they're doing -- I
6 mean, what -- I know it's legal to obtain the hides if
7 you're Native and everything, but what if there's one
8 waste on it? I mean, what if they're not -- they're
9 killing the otters and they ain't utilizing the hides.
10 They end up spoiling and stuff. Have you guys ever
11 tried to do a survey on that, that kind of -- I don't
12 -- when a person takes abundance of hides, 30 hides or
13 more, there's got to be some kind of concern, because
14 it costs you \$150 to \$125 to get them tanned. And to
15 go through all the fleshing procedures and skinning,
16 that's my concern. You know, I'm for the idea that,
17 you know, we're allowed to take them, but any kind of
18 waste I'm very against.

19

20 I just want to voice my opinion.

21

22 MR. SUNDSETH: I'll just comment real
23 quick, Al, through the Chair. We don't typically
24 follow up with folks after we tag. That's the
25 reporting requirement where we give them the tag, and
26 that's information we all take down. I mean, if we
27 were to hear something, that, you know, there were some
28 concerns about wanton waste, why, then we would follow
29 up. If we had a reason to be concerned. You know, we
30 have agents that can look into that sort of thing, so
31 certainly don't hesitate to contact us if you think
32 there's an issue. But to date we don't -- you know, we
33 don't follow up with folks after they get theirs
34 tagged.

35

36 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Al
37 again. Well, my concern is, you know, they're on the
38 Endangered Species List, and it could all hurt all of
39 us. I mean, me and my fishing industry, people that
40 want to subsist on them. That's why it's my concern.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
45 questions. Pat.

46

47 MR. HOLMES: I'd like to ask a couple
48 questions, one on otters and then one of sea ducks.
49 You know back in the early 60s when I moved down here
50 from Anchorage, you couldn't see a sea otter. I mean,

1 that was a pretty rare thing. And then by the early
2 70s there were a few showing up on Shuyak Island, and
3 then they moved down bay by bay down the west side.
4 And I used to spend quite a bit of time out on the ADF&G
5 small boats doing the marker surveys and checking
6 salmon fishermen.

7
8 And I guess this relates to looking at
9 one part of the of the island only on your survey. And
10 I've notice, and I'm sure Cratty would -- Al support
11 it, too, just in a few days they can move -- let's say
12 they're over by Uganik Island up by Halverson's, and
13 come back two days later, they're down in the pass
14 itself, another two days they're 20 miles away from
15 where they were, you know, in less than a week. And
16 those individuals, large numbers, I mean like big pods.
17 I don't know how you'd define them, but when they're
18 moving in those big aggregations, they can move quite a
19 large distance in a short period of time.

20
21 And our Council's had some chats with
22 some of the -- when the -- I don't know if it was AFA
23 office, who ever was doing otter surveys before, when
24 they were flying them, because where they are within a
25 bay depends on which way the wind's blowing and how
26 strong it is. And if you've had really strong
27 westerlies, then they'll be over on the lee side of the
28 bay, and yet you know, the discussions are in the past
29 is they'll just fly random selected classic survey
30 pattern, and it would seem that you'd want to be using,
31 and I'm sorry, it's my biology thing coming out, some
32 kind of adaptive random evaluative process where you go
33 fly a bay at higher altitude, get an idea of where the
34 distribution in, and then go in and look at that much
35 more intensively, because you can have -- in my
36 observations, you can have nine-tenths of our otters in
37 a three mile square area in Uyak Bay.

38
39 Am I right, Alex? I mean, the otters
40 move around a bunch and so you're going to have to be
41 pretty clever on your sampling design to find them and
42 get a good population estimate.

43
44 My other question, and it's a question
45 that's been raised by this Council a lot, and I know
46 it's still pending on the sea ducks, is as you folks
47 have advised us, the harlequin ducks, this is one of
48 the few places in the State where the wintering
49 population is fairly stable. But the one place that
50 you presented data in the past that has declined is in

1 Larsen Bay. And, you know, some folks eat harlequins,
2 some like other ducks. Sometime personally I'll tell
3 you my duck soup story with.....

4
5 But anyway, the point is, is we've
6 asked the Service to inquire with the commercial guided
7 folks that are doing the -- the sea duck guides. Some
8 of them are super ethical, probably most of them are.
9 And I know one fellow that says, okay, there's a
10 harlequin, you have it, you shoot. If you don't get
11 it, that's it. Whereas others, Alex might want to
12 address it, probably are a little more liberal. And I
13 can't help but think that in your sea duck studies,
14 particularly in Larsen Bay, it could be really
15 enhanced. You've got a harvest of subsistence, but it
16 would be really nice to know how many ducks are going
17 to Germany, you know. And I'd much rather Alex have a
18 harlequin or a suishcoter (ph) for a pot of soup or
19 whoever the eldest Agga is any more. I've lost track.
20 But rather than a duck going to Germany.

21
22 And granted, you know, there are folks
23 in those villages that are making money doing that,
24 but, you know, food for elders is -- I mean, that's
25 sacred. And you really need to look into how much is
26 being harvested in that commercial sector somehow.

27
28 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thanks, Pat.
29 Rick, did you have a.....

30
31 MR. ROWLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
32 Thank you for that information. This question is
33 relating to something that's not on here, and I'm
34 wondering how come you didn't put information about the
35 goats and the reindeer. Just simply.

36
37 MR. COBB: We didn't include those
38 because currently they're not listed as under Federal
39 subsistence, as Federal subsistence species. I'd be
40 happy to talk about them though if you had any
41 questions.

42
43 Thank you.

44
45 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead, Al.

46
47 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair. Yeah. Al
48 again.

49
50 I was wondering what is the take on the

1 harlequins? Is it still two birds, a male and female?
2 I haven't been into that. I've been out of the loop on
3 that for a year now. I know it used to be a pair or
4 something, and the concern over in Larsen Bay, they
5 were getting hunted too much, and it was dwindling the
6 stocks compared to everywhere else on the island. I
7 was just wondering if they reduced the bag limit or
8 what?

9

10 MR. SUNDSETH: Mr. Cratty, through the
11 Chair. Yeah, I'm aware of a specific regulation -- or
12 a regulation specific Uyak Bay. I think we just -- the
13 Kodiak archipelago files under Unit 8 under the State
14 regulations. And they're more liberal than a couple of
15 birds specific to harlequin, sea ducks, I believe the
16 bag limit is eight a day. Sam can probably tell you
17 all about this.

18

19 MR. ROHRER: Well, it's -- I've
20 seen.....

21

22 MR. ROWLAND: They're taking them out
23 -- they can take them out of the United States?

24

25 MR. ROHRER: Well, it's different for
26 residents and non-residents. I think non-residents
27 it's like eight, I think it's eight. Five or eight.
28 But for residents, yeah, I think it might be -- there's
29 a daily bag limit and a season bag limit, and I can't
30 remember.

31

32 MR. SUNDSETH: Yeah. Non-residents can
33 only take eight per year I think, and only two from a
34 certain species. I think that might be what you're --
35 maybe that's what you're getting at, Al.

36

37 MR. CRATTY: Yeah.

38

39 MR. SUNDSETH: Yeah. But for residents
40 it's a much more liberal season.

41

42 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
43 questions.

44

45 MR. ROWLAND: I'm thinking first.

46

47 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Did you have
48 something, Alex.

49

50 MR. PANAMAROFF: Thank you, Mr.

1 Chairman. Yeah, I'd just going from mind, which ducks
2 I hunted in my life that were harlequins, and I was
3 thinking what -- yeah, I know what they are now, but I
4 just -- I'm just trying to think what we used to call
5 them. Anyway, remember when I was growing up, and I
6 was probably in my early, mid 20s, and there used to be
7 thousands of them. I mean, thousands of them. You
8 could see them just almost like a seagull when they're
9 flying, they're just like waves. And it must have been
10 about 8 or 10 years ago I went out to get maybe a
11 couple for home to make some soup. I got out there,
12 and I couldn't find any. I mean they're just almost
13 none. They're non-existent down there around Uyak Bay
14 area now. And I don't know, and that, like I say, that
15 was about 8, 10 years ago the last time I went out to
16 try to get any. So I don't know what happened, but I
17 know we didn't kill them off. We don't eat that much
18 duck. And we don't go and shoot anything unless were
19 to eat it, put it on the table. So, you know, I was
20 very surprised when I went out there trying to get one
21 or a couple, and go to the areas where we used to hunt
22 all time, they used to be there all the time. Now
23 they're not there at all.

24
25 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Della, are you
26 still on the line?

27
28 MS. TRUMBLE: Yes, I'm still here.

29
30 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay, just heard a
31 beep on there. I don't know who we lost.

32
33 Do you have any questions for Kodiak
34 Fish and Wildlife.

35
36 MS. TRUMBLE: No. Good report.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Thank you.
39 Any other questions.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Continue
44 unless you're done. Thank you very much.

45
46 Do you want to take a short break
47 before we get into the end of our agenda.

48
49 MR. ROWLAND: Let's get to the end of
50 our agenda. Let's do it.

1 (Simultaneous speech, microphones not
2 on)
3
4 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: All right. Get
5 her done.
6
7 MR. ROHRER: Yeah, we're still here.
8
9 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: We're here, Della.
10
11 MR. SHELIKOFF: Yes, I am. You didn't
12 lose me.
13
14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: We have one more
15 report from the Aquaculture. Go ahead, George.
16
17 MR. PAPPAS: Let me indulge you real
18 quick here. I believe Council Member Cratty asked a
19 question about what they can do. I got an answer from
20 Staff. Old Harbor, coho run conservation concern, can
21 you shut down just the charter boats. Or someone here
22 asked that; I don't remember exactly who it was. The
23 response was the current fish and game authority is if
24 there is a conservation concern and they have to close
25 the sportfishery, everybody gets closed down. They
26 don't have the allocative authority to pick a
27 particular user group amongst the sportfishermen unless
28 authorized by the Board of Fish. And they don't have a
29 management plan in place to select who gets to get shut
30 down and who doesn't on the sportfish side.
31
32 So that's all I have for that.
33
34 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
35
36 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair.
37
38 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Al.
39
40 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, I have a question.
41 Why is that? I mean, that's a commercial entity. You
42 shouldn't be shutting down the subsistence deal because
43 you've got commercial sports charter operators out
44 there making money and they're bringing more and more
45 people in every year to me as a commercial fisherman,
46 I'm cut off in the area from fishing, which it doesn't
47 bother me, because I know it's for the benefit of the
48 people. We just move out of the area and on.
49
50 But when you've got commercial

1 operators running sports charter boats and they're
2 doing it for money, I mean, they're making good money,
3 and your limit's five fish a day. You could put the
4 village in a position where if there isn't a big enough
5 run, they could take the subsistence fish away from the
6 people.

7
8 MR. PAPPAS: Through the Chair, Mr.
9 Cratty. I understand what you're saying. The question
10 I posed to Staff was do they have the ability to
11 separate out guided anglers and non-guided anglers just
12 in the sportfishery, not the subsistence fishery
13 itself. The answer that I received was with the
14 sportfishing, whether you're guided or unguided, it
15 doesn't matter. The only switch they have is off or on
16 for the sportfishery.

17
18 Now, there is a subsistence priority,
19 you know. There is a subsistence priority, so they
20 could and have in other area shut down a sportfishery
21 first, and then if it's really a bad conservation
22 concern, then a subsistence fishery.

23
24 Does that help, Mr. Cratty?

25
26 MR. CRATTY: Okay. You're saying then
27 they could shut down a sportfishery if it was indeed a
28 problem.

29
30 MR. PAPPAS: Through the Chair. Yes,
31 Mr. Cratty, they can turn -- but I guess the question I
32 received, that I understood was can you shut down only
33 guided anglers and non-guided anglers, can you separate
34 the two. Fish and Game does not have the regulations
35 for this area in place. Other places they do have
36 allocative management plans where sport anglers get --
37 or guided anglers get X, non-guided anglers X, time,
38 area, et cetera. So at this time in Kodiak, the area
39 managers just have to pull the switch and shut all the
40 sport fisheries down. I didn't say the sport and
41 subsistence, but subsistence is the priority.

42
43 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

44
45 MR. CRATTY: So in other words, the
46 sport would be shut down, but the subsistence would
47 still be open, if that was to ever happen?

48
49 MR. PAPPAS: As I understand, that is
50 correct. Mr. Chair.

1 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, that was my concern.
2 Thank you.

3
4 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, George.

5
6 We have one more report from the
7 Aquaculture Association. Information.

8
9 MR. BYRNE: Mr. Chair. Members of the
10 Council. Thanks for having me. I'm Gary Byrne. I'm
11 the production operations manager for Kodiak Regional
12 Aquaculture Association.

13
14 I kind of got informed about the
15 meeting a little bit late. Pat, Mr. Holmes, invited me
16 to come speak to you guys a little bit.

17
18 KRAA has been kind of maybe running
19 under the radar here for a long time. We've been
20 operating real long-running consistent projects. Most
21 of them were actually continued from almost 20 years
22 ago when we still had ADF&G FRED Division.

23
24 So I think we're going to be in the
25 public eye a little bit more, because we're going to be
26 proposing some new projects here in the near and maybe
27 not so near future, and we just want to go ahead and
28 make our presence known, talk about the projects we
29 have that are going now, what we do, why we're doing
30 it, and what we're looking at to the future, and that's
31 why I decided I'd like to speak to you guys today, if
32 you'd entertain me.

33
34 Starting off, I know a lot of people
35 think of KRAA when I go out in the public, they think
36 of it primarily as a commercial fishing operation. It
37 is true that the majority of the members of our board
38 are commercial fishermen, but we also have a
39 subsistence seat, we have a sport fishing seat, a
40 processor and a marketing seat on our board of
41 directors. And everyone has a voice in the direction
42 of the company, what kind of projects they'd like to
43 see us do, how we're going to manage our budgets and
44 such.

45
46 Our two longest-running projects are
47 the two hatcheries we operate. We have Kitoi Bay
48 Hatchery on Afognak Island. It's a very large project
49 on pink salmon, produces returns -- they generally fall
50 between 4 and 14 million returning adults a year. They

1 also have a chum project out there, and coho and
2 sockeye projects. The majority of the fish that are
3 generated from that hatchery return and are harvested
4 on their way back into Kitoi Bay.

5
6 Pillar Creek Hatchery is right here on
7 the road system in town. It operates a little bit
8 different model. We collect eggs from remote sites,
9 incubate them, and hatch them at the hatchery. And
10 until this spring we will never have released fish into
11 Pillar Creek. Most of our fish are flown out to remote
12 areas. Our largest project is the stocking of sockeye
13 into Speridon Lake. We also stock sockeye into lakes
14 on northern Afognak Island. That would be Hidden Lake,
15 Big and Little Waterfall Lake, some lakes around Kitoi
16 Bay, and sockeye also into Crescent Lake. It's the
17 only other lake we stock on Kodiak Island.

18
19 Pillar Creek Hatchery also is in
20 collaborative projects with the ADF&G Sport Fish
21 Division, and on the road system here we stock king
22 salmon, coho salmon, and rainbow trout. All those are
23 -- actually the king salmon project is just about 11
24 years old, and rainbow trout, although they've been
25 stocked into lakes here on the road system since at
26 least the 50s, Pillar Creek just became involved with
27 those in the last three or four years.

28
29 A couple of those projects I want to
30 highlight. Oh, I actually neglected one. All the fish
31 we release, it's a common property, everyone has an
32 opportunity to catch them if they're in the area. We
33 are primarily funded by the commercial fishermen and
34 the opportunities are very good for them, especially in
35 the terminal harvest areas where those fish are
36 returning to. But a lot of fish are intercepted by
37 sport and subsistence users on their back to those
38 points of origin.

39
40 We do have a few projects that are more
41 specifically targeted to a subsistence user group. One
42 is the stocking of Kitoi Bay coho pre-smolt. That's
43 about how big they are in the fall. They will go into
44 Katmai Lake over on Spruce Island. They've been doing
45 that since I think 1987. Just a couple of years ago
46 Pillar Creek got involved in that project, because it's
47 a pretty cool deal. They would bring those fish over
48 from Kitoi Bay on a plane and then off load those fish
49 from a plane into a tank mounted on a four-wheeler
50 trailer, and then take that ATV up to Katmai Lake and

1 the school kids will get involved and everything.

2

3 But the trail became so degraded they
4 couldn't get a four-wheeler there any more. And since
5 Pillar Creek stocks most of its fish by aerial
6 stocking, most of them are actually dropped out of a
7 crop duster, you don't need a trail to reach the lake
8 in a crop duster. So we took over that stocking part
9 of the project from the Kitoi Bay Hatchery at Pillar
10 Creek just because we had better access to the lake.
11 That's also a larger plane so we're able to stock more
12 fish into Katmai Lake using that bigger plane.

13

14 And Crescent Lake, above the Community
15 of Port Lions, is stocked with coho, juvenile coho from
16 Kitoi Bay Hatchery, and also early run sockeye from
17 Pillar Creek Hatchery. Those sockeye are of Afognak
18 Lake origin.

19

20 So both -- Pillar Creek Hatchery uses
21 two sockeye stocks. Both of those are -- rather than
22 taking eggs on site like they do at the Kitoi Bay
23 Hatchery, since Pillar Creek does not release fish at
24 the site, we don't have adult fish returning to the
25 site. So we go remote to get our egg takes. Our early
26 run sockeye take is typically conducted in Afognak
27 Lake. Our late run sockeye take is typically affected
28 at Saltery Lake, although we've been working to develop
29 a brood stock near Kitoi Bay Hatchery.

30

31 So just to give you a little background
32 of the on-going projects.

33

34 We also fund cooperative projects with
35 Fish and Game for monitoring of mainly our sockeye
36 projects. Most of our sockeye are stocked into lakes.
37 It's just little guys, little juveniles, and they're
38 going to rear in those lakes for about a year. So we
39 need to make sure that each lake we stock fish into has
40 the resources to support them. And that requires a
41 fair bit of monitoring. And we also fund operation of
42 the fish pass at Frazer Lake. And we've been doing
43 that years and years.

44

45 So that's a lot of the stuff we've been
46 doing for a long time.

47

48 We're looking into some new operations
49 right now. There's a lot of demand in the market for
50 increased pink production, which 10 years ago no one

1 ever would have believed, but that has come to pass.
2 And so there's been interest actually from processors
3 asking us to look into maybe even building a new pink
4 hatchery, if not expanding production at Kitoi Bay.
5 Those are some issues that are going to take a long
6 time to figure out, and we're certainly going to give
7 them some thought.

8
9 But just about the time that the
10 processors and other people were coming to us with
11 their concerns about pink production, potentially
12 increasing it, certainly they'd love to see it be more
13 consistent, you know, the year to year fluctuations in
14 salmon returns are hell on the market there for the big
15 processors.

16
17 But while they were discussing that
18 with us, there was a fair bit of agitation over a big
19 drop in sockeye productivity in the lakes on Kodiak
20 Island, especially some of our bigger ones. And so we
21 decided we'd look into seeing if there was something
22 our organization could do. We hired or we contracted
23 with Golder & Associates, which is a huge, multi-
24 national company, that has consultation arms in
25 anywhere from building to fisheries to what have you.
26 And it just so happens that the Department of Fish and
27 Game used to have a chief limnologist, someone who
28 studies lakes and lake water and lake productivity. We
29 don't have a limnologist hired in that capacity in the
30 Department of Fish and Game any longer, but our former
31 chief limnologist is employed by Golder & Associates.

32
33 And we asked him to look at a number of
34 lakes. I think he examined data from 17 lakes on the
35 archipelago that we have long-running data sets for to
36 see if anything could be done, that these lakes would
37 be candidates primarily for a lake fertilization
38 project. And he found that several of them are very
39 strong candidates. It just so happens that the three
40 biggest lakes on the island all appear to be very
41 strong candidates to have increased sockeye productions
42 from lake fertilization.

43
44 And so KRAA is proposing to move ahead
45 with those projects. And the lakes, anyone who's
46 familiar with what's been going on in the fishery
47 probably wouldn't be surprised, are Karluk, Frazer and
48 Speridon Lakes.

49
50 Speridon like I mentioned before,

1 that's kind of the flagship of Pillar Creek Hatchery
2 production. It has Barrier Falls and no adult fish
3 ever get back into it. It's stocked every year.
4 Initially they thought we could put 11 million fry into
5 that lake. As it turned out, it was only ever
6 productive enough to absorb six or seven million. And
7 in the past decade that number's been more like two
8 million.

9
10 Frazer Lake is also, although a lot of
11 people don't think of it as such, it is an enhancement
12 project. If there wasn't a fish past there and if fish
13 had not been introduced in the 50s and 60s, there would
14 be no sockeye return into Frazer Lake. It's been a
15 very successful project, but it's never been very
16 stable. And a lot of that has to do with, well, luck
17 of the draw. If it's a good weather year and warm
18 water and good sunshine, you have better productivity
19 in lakes, and all lakes are subject to the vicissitudes
20 of Mother Nature.

21
22 But also to achieve good, stable
23 sockeye production in a lake, and I'm sorry to go into
24 too much biology here, but I just want to give enough
25 background that you guys can understand why we would
26 like to do what we want to do. In order to achieve
27 relatively stable sockeye production, you need to have
28 a stable profile of nutrients that are the foundation
29 of productivity in a lake. And in these clear water
30 lakes on our archipelago, the majority of them, that
31 generate sockeye, the primary deliverer of those
32 nutrients is actually the carcasses of the spawning
33 fish that make it back into the system. They spawn and
34 they die. And as they decompose, you know, most of the
35 size of these fish, when they left the system, they
36 were this big, and when they come back, they're this
37 big. That's nutrition they're bringing back into the
38 lakes. And if you can't get the right number of fish
39 in the lake, you're never going to get an adequate
40 nutrient profile for proper lake productivity.

41
42 So Frazer I think has been a case where
43 Fish and Game has had a real hard time finding the
44 exact escapement that's going to basically do the job.
45 And it's not a stable number. It moves. It moves with
46 climatological changes. If you get too many fish in
47 the lake, it's a negative thing. If you get too few
48 fish in the lake, it's a negative thing. And the
49 impacts of any of these negative impacts can last for
50 years.

1 Karluk is the lake that really drew
2 people's attention to what's happening in the sockeye
3 production right now. It's a very important system to
4 all user groups. Chinook production has been falling
5 off terribly in the last decade. It's actually
6 rebounded a little bit in the last year or two.
7 Sockeye production crashed there in 2008. And our data
8 sets on Karluk, which is the most studied sockeye
9 production system in the world has shown that it can do
10 a lot better.

11
12 The limiting nutrient in that system is
13 phosphorus. If there's not enough phosphorus, you
14 don't get enough algae and phyto or plant-based
15 plankton. And that's what the zooplankton, little
16 crustaceans, feed on. And the zooplankton is what the
17 fish feed on. So it's just a classic food web right on
18 up and it goes all the way up to bears, eagles, otters,
19 everything. It depends on a good stable base.

20
21 And so that's the project. Those three
22 lakes are the lakes that KRAA is going to propose
23 fertilizing.

24
25 We thought -- when the sockeye runs
26 crashed in Karluk in 2008, it generated some strong
27 will to move quickly. And by spring of 2009, we
28 actually had contracted this limnologist. But Fish and
29 Game had a lot of data and KRAA had some data, but it
30 had never really been collected into a strong, unified
31 data set or database. I mean, we had 150, 160, I don't
32 know how many files that had to be integrated. And it
33 just took a long time. So we finally got a final
34 report from this limnologist in January of this year.
35 It was a long and frustrating wait.

36
37 We hoped once we had that in hand we'd
38 be able to hop to, but things don't really work quite
39 that quickly. There's a lot of people that need to
40 have a look at these projects and make sure they feel
41 that they're going to be accomplished in a safe manner,
42 make sure that we are making correct decisions and, you
43 know, both the State and the Federal government and
44 Fish and Game and the Refuge have a permitting or at
45 least -- not a permitting, an informational and vetting
46 process.

47
48 And so we're involved in that now, and
49 it's very, very unlikely, to say the least, that we're
50 going to get anything done in 2011. So realistically

1 we're looking at 2012.

2

3 And each of these lakes is different
4 and there's going to be different obstacles both
5 physically and also in regulation, whether we'll be
6 able to do one, two or all three of them, but we are
7 moving in that direction.

8

9 And I think back in the day when we had
10 the FRED Division, that was Fisheries Rehabilitation,
11 Enhancement, Development, they would have been the
12 party to act on this. And I think that once it was
13 dissolved, it kind of took a long time for -- there's
14 other regional aquaculture associations, but we didn't
15 really realize that the mantel has fallen largely on
16 us. And so maybe we didn't respond quite as quickly as
17 we might have, but we're going to try to carry the
18 water now.

19

20 And if you guys have any questions for
21 me, I'd be happy to try to answer them.

22

23 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I have a couple
24 questions. One is, have you received any requests from
25 the Moser Bay setnetters down south Kodiak.

26

27 MR. BYRNE: Mr. Chair. Specifically to
28 the organization, we have not. There is a south end
29 setnetter who sits on our board of directors, and I
30 think he carries some of the messages from that group,
31 but we haven't received, that I'm aware of, you know, a
32 letter requesting or of support. But I do believe that
33 they are interested in certainly seeing Frazer
34 productivity restored.

35

36 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Another
37 question then. When you stock a river or a lake,
38 where do you get your fish from?

39

40 MR. BYRNE: Mr. Chair, it's specific to
41 each project. The Speridon Lake fish are a late run
42 sockeye salmon, for example, that are from Saltery
43 Lake, or some of those are from -- we're developing a
44 brood stock at Little Kitoi Lake. It's Saltery Lake
45 fish progeny that return to Little Kitoi Lake.

46

47 The Crescent Lake fish, Crescent Lake
48 is sockeye, are of Afognak Lake origin. So our egg
49 take at Afognak Lake will generate the fry that will
50 stock into Crescent Lake. The coho that go into

1 Crescent Lake are from Big Kitoi Creek. That's Kitoi
2 Hatchery. Afognak Lake sockeye also support stocking
3 of the Waterfall Lakes, Big and Little Waterfall and
4 Hidden Lake on northern Afognak. And other lake stock,
5 the Saltery stock include Ruth and Jennifer Lake near
6 Kitoi Bay Hatchery.

7

8 On the road system stocking of Chinook
9 salmon, king salmon, they're of Karluk descent. We've
10 got egg takes in the Karluk in 2000 through 2004. In
11 2005 we had the first adult returns to Monashka Creek
12 which was stocked with those fish, and that became our
13 brood source, and we have not been to Karluk since then
14 for Chinook salmon.

15

16 The coho stocked on the road system are
17 from Buskin Lake. That's very small, I think we
18 usually use under 50 fish for that egg take.

19

20 Rainbow trout that get stocked on the
21 road system are actually from Anchorage. And curiously
22 they are all females and they are all infertile fish.
23 They're put through a process so that they cannot
24 spawn. So they're stocked into landlocked lakes. But
25 all of our projects kind of are created with the idea
26 in mind that if someone decides that why do we ever let
27 you put rainbows into that lake, for example, if we
28 stop, then the fish won't be there any more. So since
29 those rainbows can't spawn and create another
30 generation, they'll live out their life span and then
31 be erased.

32

33 All of our sockeye stocking is into
34 lakes with what we call a barriered system. It has a
35 waterfall that serves as a block to any returning adult
36 spawners, so if we were to stop stocking Speridon Lake,
37 we'd have returns there for the next three years, maybe
38 a small return the fourth year, and then that would be
39 it, because there's no spawners and thus not a next
40 generation. So it's almost like it will leave no
41 imprint or footprint kind of camping I think.

42

43 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: The returning
44 salmon would eventually stop?

45

46 MR. BYRNE: If we stopped stocking,
47 none of our projects, I don't think any of our projects
48 would be self-sustaining. If you stopped production at
49 Kitoi Bay Hatchery, there would be -- the Kitoi Bay
50 pink run, which is huge, was built up from pinks in

1 Kitoi Bay Creek from a very small number to, you know,
2 as you take more and more eggs, and get larger and
3 larger returns, it's been built up to what it is now.
4 So there would still be a return of pinks into Kitoi
5 Creek, but, I mean, it wouldn't be 14 million.

6

7 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. And last
8 question. Would you tell me a little bit about the
9 thermal marking? Do you have thermal marking of salmon
10 to a specific area?

11

12 MR. BYRNE: We actually -- Kodiak is
13 the only operator of hatcheries in the state with the
14 possible exception of one other that does not thermal
15 mark fish.

16

17 Thermal marking is of real interest in
18 Southeast. There are so many hatcheries down there and
19 they've got different fisheries in different regions.
20 There's a Northern Southeast Region, there's a Southern
21 Southeast Region. There's hatcheries not associated
22 with regional aquaculture associations. And I think
23 for a long time there was actually some quarreling
24 about, well, those guys caught our fish from my
25 hatchery; and someone else says, no, those fish were
26 from our hatchery. So then one they started marking
27 their fish, it was real easy to sort out what their
28 contribution to the fishery was.

29

30 But since our Kodiak Regional
31 Aquaculture's projects are all in fairly isolated
32 areas, one of the reasons -- and run timing is taken
33 into consideration. One of the reasons that Saltery
34 Lake fish, sockeye, are stocked into Speridon, because
35 their run timing is between -- it kind of fills a gap
36 in the fishery so that it provides opportunity to fish
37 when there wouldn't be any natural fish running by.
38 But being able to fish those, to focus on those fish
39 during that period also reduces bycatch of other fish.
40 So our contribution is much more clearly understood
41 than it would be if we were enacting a similar project
42 in Southeast.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. One more.
45 You said you were going to some stocking in Frazer?

46

47 MR. BYRNE: Mr. Chair. We won't stock
48 Frazer. We'd like to fertilize Frazer.

49

50 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Fertilize.

1 MR. BYRNE: And that's adding the
2 essential nutrients, phosphorus and nitrogen to the
3 system. Just like -- I was focused on Karluk when I
4 was speaking of that project, but Karluk, Frazer and
5 Speridon, we would all like to have the opportunity to
6 do that in. And that would stimulate productivity from
7 the bottom up, just like if you grow good grass, you
8 can graze good herbivores.

9
10 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Yeah.
11 Okay. Understood.

12
13 Rick, did you have a question.

14
15 MR. ROWLAND: Yes. So you mentioned
16 that KRAA is what type of entity?

17
18 MR. BYRNE: Mr. Chair. Mr. Rowland.
19 It's a private non-profit regional aquaculture
20 association, and the State established.....

21
22 MR. ROWLAND: Thank you. That was a
23 good answer. I mean, I appreciate that. I don't need
24 to be (indiscernible, microphone not on).....

25
26 MR. BYRNE: Oh, okay.

27
28 MR. ROWLAND: And then I have a follow-
29 up question or comments. Is that, the ability to
30 create fisheries enhancement is available to all
31 organizations if they're able to create this system.
32 And two in fact that have done it are Wrangell area who
33 are doing the fisheries enhancement in incubation and
34 reinjection into the streams, and Chickaloon Tribe.

35
36 And also within the last year I've had
37 someone write a grant to do a fisheries enhancement
38 project out at the Buskin River under the Sun'aq Tribe.
39 And so if it's funded, that will be implemented here in
40 this area.

41
42 And so it's possible that other groups
43 other than Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association
44 could apply and implement this type of process into the
45 system. So it's all for the benefit of the fish. That
46 fish will be public fish.

47
48 And what spurred my memory about it is
49 the thermal marking. That's related to the temperature
50 that's sent when they're incubating in the

1 refrigerators. There's a process they go through. And
2 so thanks for the information. Appreciate it.

3

4 MR. BYRNE: Sure. Mr. Chair, through
5 the Chair, Mr. Rowland. You're right. There are
6 mechanisms by which to enact fisheries, all kinds of
7 fisheries projects. KRAA is a willing sponsor. We do
8 know the ropes obviously. Funding and permitting are
9 the two biggest challenges to fisheries projects,
10 certainly depending on the scale. But there also are
11 projects that are stand-alone and do not cooperative in
12 nature with the regional aquaculture associations.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any other
15 questions. Pat.

16

17 MR. HOLMES: A question. I assume on
18 the fertilization of Karluk, with Chinook being in dire
19 straights, that they would probably also benefit from
20 the fertilization, not only in their earlier fry stage
21 on consuming copepods and crustaceans, but later on
22 having a few more fry to munch on as they're hanging
23 around us. Smolt or pre-smolt. So I'm hoping that
24 that would provide some help there.

25

26 I'm really impressed with the projects.
27 A lot of them you named I didn't even know about. And
28 I think that it's really great, because you folks
29 certainly have greatly assisted subsistence,
30 particularly with the Crescent Lake coho and the
31 project at Port Lions there. And then funding of the
32 Saltery weir. That was closed for a while. And with
33 the Buskin being down, there's been folks I know that
34 have enough money for four-wheelers are regularly
35 harvesting their subsistence fish at Saltery Cove.

36

37 So I think you guys are doing some
38 great work, and I'm really glad you made this
39 presentation to our Council, so that we know your role,
40 even though you're identified as a commercial
41 enhancement thing, that you're really doing a lot for
42 subsistence. And I thank you.

43

44 MR. BYRNE: Through the Chair, Mr.
45 Holmes. Thanks for bringing up those points. I
46 appreciate that.

47

48 I would like to elaborate just a bit on
49 what you said about Chinook salmon. The Karluk Chinook
50 was just this year by the Board of Fish declared a

1 stock of concern. One more year of not meeting its
2 escapement goal by the early run Karluk sockeye will
3 also qualify it as a stock of concern.

4
5 And I've been asked if the Chinook
6 being in such a precarious position right now, such low
7 returns, if we increase sockeye returns, would that
8 threaten the Chinook further through interception in
9 commercial nets on their way back to Karluk. And all I
10 can say to respond to that is a few things. It's going
11 to be a numbers game. Right now when the Board of Fish
12 recognized they were a stock of concern, they made a
13 non-retention ruled for all Chinook over 28 inches I
14 think returning to Karluk once you get close. I forget
15 where the exact boundaries were.

16
17 But in B.C. and I think the Lower 48
18 there are in-stream fertilization programs specific to
19 trying to increase production of steelhead and Chinook
20 salmon.

21
22 And I also neglected to mention that
23 Karluk Lake was fertilized from 1986 to 1990, as was
24 Frazer from 1988 to 1992. And then as now the focus
25 was primarily on sockeye salmon productivity. And they
26 worked real nicely. Those programs had a great pay-off
27 for sockeye production.

28
29 But once I was asked the question would
30 this negatively -- or potentially have a negative
31 impact on Chinook, I went back and looked at the return
32 figures from 1975 through 2010. And although Chinook
33 and sockeye returns don't track arm in arm, they do
34 seem to share a general trend of abundance or lack or
35 abundance. And in the years following the
36 fertilization of Karluk Lake, the Chinook returns
37 actually showed a bigger spike than the sockeye
38 returns. And that was despite very robust fishing on
39 the west side for those Karluk-bound sockeye.

40
41 So there is non-retention rule in place
42 for Chinook. Of course, some will be caught in nets.
43 But for the greater benefit -- I believe the greater
44 benefit of fertilization on Chinook will in balance
45 provide more upside than potential bycatch, if you want
46 to call it that, provides downside. And I think it
47 will increase Chinook abundance although that's not the
48 focus of our study, enough data to prove it, but that's
49 my opinion.

50

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you. Alex,
2 have you got.....

3
4 MR. PANAMAROFF: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
5 Chairman.

6
7 Yeah, you know, I was born and raised
8 in Karluk. And there's one thing that happened,
9 probably I can remember it was -- I believe it was
10 1970. We had a big storm down there. And what the
11 storm did is blocked the entrance to the river. It
12 blocked the river off. And the river opened way up
13 above, probably about half a mile up the spit. It
14 broke an entrance over up there. And for the first two
15 years there was no change in the Lagoon. You know,
16 water flow was the same.

17
18 And I went down there probably 15 years
19 later, and I noticed big change in there. There was no
20 water in the Lagoon. I mean, we used to get water
21 probably this deep in a lot of areas. And when I went
22 down there later on, I could even walk across the
23 river, almost any place you wanted to, any place you
24 go, with hip boots on and not get, you know.....

25
26 So I'm wondering if that may be one of
27 the causes. And like actually right now, I should go
28 further on. A few years ago I was down there. You can
29 go across the river, just before tide's coming, starts
30 coming in, in a lot of areas you can walk across with
31 knee boots on. I mean, every time I've gone there, the
32 water level in the lagoon when the tide runs out, it's
33 lower. There's less water.

34
35 Now, I'm wondering that may make a
36 difference. Because I know the last time when they
37 came in the lagoon when I was growing up down there,
38 they stayed in the lagoon for several days, up to maybe
39 a week or 10 days, before they went up. Now there's
40 not enough water for them to do that.

41
42 MR. BYRNE: Through the Chair, Mr.
43 Panamaroff. I have been informed by folks who have
44 been associated with that return and that system over
45 time that the Lagoon has filled in a lot. Some of
46 stories were red salmon hold down there, I am not
47 intimately familiar with it. I guess they must hold a
48 little further out before they move upstream. But I
49 don't believe that it would compromise their ability to
50 get in-stream. The most recent, and rather dramatic

1 crash of that red, of the sockeye return there in 2008,
2 I mean, it fell from average returns in 2000 to 2007
3 around 1.5 million and now we're barely getting 400,000
4 in there over the last three years. That is primarily
5 associated with an over escapement. They got more fish
6 in the system than you want to have in there. And
7 their spawn was very successful. But then they
8 basically, all those fry in the lake, they'll hold, and
9 the sockeye fry will hold in Karluk Lake for two or
10 three years, and they basically ate themselves out of
11 house and home. There wasn't enough nutrients in
12 there, there wasn't enough food to support them.

13

14 And in 2006 when the State was still
15 operating a smolt project where they counted smolt
16 coming out of there, and they also looked at them to
17 see how big they were, what kind of shape they were in.
18 There was a very, very low smolt count, and the worst
19 condition of those smolt they had seen since 1920s.
20 And so that was -- if you just jump forward a couple of
21 years, you see those terrible data points borne out in
22 the terrible return.

23

24 So I think that what we're seeing now,
25 although that near shore marine environment does have
26 an impact, I think the real dramatic drop in production
27 we just saw is more related to the freshwater
28 conditions right now.

29

30 MR. PANAMAROFF: All right. Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Any further
33 questions.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: No further
38 questions. Thank you very much for coming.

39

40 MR. BYRNE: Thank you very much.

41

42 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Appreciate it.
43 Okay. That's the end of our business agenda. Why
44 don't we take a short break before we get into
45 elections and dates of our next meeting.

46

47 (Off record)

48

49 (On record)

50

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: All right. Let's
2 call the meeting back to order.
3
4 Della, are you still on the phone?
5
6 MS. TRUMBLE: Yeah, I'm still here.
7
8 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. How about
9 Antone. Did we get Antone back?
10
11 MR. SHELIKOFF: For the time, I'm here.
12
13 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: There you are.
14 Okay. We are -- do you think before we get into
15 election of officers, do you think we should go over
16 the resolution we wrote up.
17
18 MS. WILKINSON: Whichever way you want
19 to do it.
20
21 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I think we should.
22
23 MS. WILKINSON: Okay. Just go over the
24 resolution?
25
26 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah. We'll do
27 that resolution we wrote up for Izembek.
28
29 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair. The only thing
30 I could see to add to that would be under resolution
31 11-01, would be to have a line that says, censure of
32 Izembek Refuge, and then a little line under that
33 saying Unimak Caribou so the person who gazes upon it,
34 and they know right off the bat what the problem is.
35
36 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I had a copy
37 yesterday. What happened to it.
38
39 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: This is the
40 resolution.
41
42 MR. HOLMES: Yeah. This is one we
43 started at our last meeting, and it starts out, it
44 says, draft, and Ann emailed it to everybody.
45
46 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair.
47
48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Della.
49
50 MS. TRUMBLE: Do we have a copy of that

1 resolution or information on this that Pat is talking
2 about.

3

4 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I'm trying to find
5 mine. I can't even.....

6

7 MS. WILKINSON: It's in the green
8 packet. I put it in there. But I also mailed this out
9 some weeks ago when I sent out the annual report draft.

10

11 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. I remember
12 taking it out of there.

13

14 MS. TRUMBLE: I've got it some place
15 else. I don't have it with me.

16

17 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Here it is. I've
18 got it.

19

20 (Indiscernible, microphones not on,
21 people looking for their copies)

22

23 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Did you
24 find a copy, Della. Resolution 11-01.

25

26 MS. TRUMBLE: No, I don't have one with
27 me. I unfortunately left it in one of my offices.

28

29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Do you want me to
30 read it to you?

31

32 MS. TRUMBLE: That would be good. We
33 need to probably try to explain to Antone a little bit
34 of why we're doing what we're doing.

35

36 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Remember at
37 our last meeting which I attended telephonically, we
38 weren't very happy with the way Izembek presented their
39 information, and from that meeting came out a
40 resolution. It's Resolution 11-01. It doesn't have a
41 title. And there also came a letter. I could read
42 them both to you if you'd like.

43

44 MS. TRUMBLE: If you would, please.

45

46 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. I'll start
47 with the letter. Okay. It's addressed to Todd Logan,
48 Regional Chief, National Wildlife Refuge System,
49 Kodiak. I mean, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, 1011 East
50 Tudor Road, Anchorage Alaska.

1 Dear Mr. Logan. For the past several
2 years the Kodiak/Aleutians Subsistence Regional
3 Advisory Council has requested the manager of the
4 Izembek National Wildlife Refuge to conduct population
5 surveys of the Unimak Caribou Herd on a regular basis.
6 The Refuge manager repeated promised to do so, but has
7 not kept that promise. At the Council's meeting in
8 September 2010 in Cold Bay, the Refuge manager again
9 told the Council that complete surveys had not been
10 done.

11
12 The Council is extremely displeased by
13 the Refuge manager's failure to fulfill her management
14 duties and by her dismissive treatment of the Council.
15 By unanimous consent the Council elected to sent the
16 enclosed resolution censuring the Refuge manager and
17 requesting that your office take action.

18
19 If you have any questions please
20 contact me directly or through Ann Wilkinson in the
21 Office of Subsistence Management at 786-3676.
22 Sincerely, Speridon Simeonoff, Chair, Kodiak/Aleutians.

23
24 The resolution.....

25
26 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair.

27
28 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Della.

29
30 MS. TRUMBLE: While you read that, one
31 of the things I think I want to bring forward is if you
32 look at the surveys they were complete in '07, '08,
33 '09, and '10. Nancy has been with the Refuge, I think
34 she's probably getting close to be on a two-year
35 period. So this has been an issue that's been on-going
36 prior to Nancy going being there. I think Sandra
37 Siekaniec was the manager before her, and before that
38 was Greg Siekaniec.

39
40 But I'm thinking that maybe we reword
41 this, because I think there's been issues -- two
42 things. Number 1, and we talked a little about this in
43 Cold Bay, it was the availability of an aircraft to
44 conduct these surveys. And, number 2, is the weather
45 conditions. The weather conditions as we all know out
46 here are, you know, not good. And I think we should
47 address this in a way that we -- recognizing that we've
48 got problems, and that they need to be addressed for us
49 to make good decisions, because of the impact on the
50 subsistence caribou.

1 I mean, I guess that's where I'm kind
2 of headed with this. This has been an on-going
3 problem, and I'm not sure -- you know, if you look at
4 the 2007, 8, 9, 10 and now we're into '11 and there
5 hasn't been a survey. And they are conserving this
6 year, I think, because of no snow coverage, and then,
7 of course, the weather. But we did talk about doing
8 these surveys in other times of the year.

9
10 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. So the
11 changes you would request then would not be in the --
12 like it doesn't use names, but it used the manager of
13 the Izembek National Wildlife, so we just say the
14 Izembek National Wildlife Refuge.

15
16 MS. TRUMBLE: And that it's been the
17 protocol of the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge to
18 conduct these surveys in the winter, which they've not
19 been able to, you know, fulfill that obligation. And
20 that has contributed to some of the problems of where
21 we are today.

22
23 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. We have
24 comments here, starting with Rick.

25
26 MR. ROWLAND: Yes, this is Rick
27 Rowland.

28
29 I think that was the letter that he was
30 reading, and we haven't read the resolution yet, and
31 quite possibly the resolution may address these
32 concerns, because on the back of the resolution it
33 talks about having a plane available.

34
35 So that's the comment I wanted to make.

36
37 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Before we
38 get into further discussion then, should I just read
39 the resolution and then work on both on them? Does
40 that work with you, Della.

41
42 MS. TRUMBLE: Yes, that sounds good.
43 Thank you.

44
45 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. The
46 resolution reads, it's Resolution 11-01. It does not
47 have a title and it's not dated.

48
49 It says, whereas the Kodiak/Aleutians
50 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council was established

1 under authority of Title VIII of the Alaska National
2 Interest Lands Conservation Act to advise the Federal
3 Subsistence Board, acting for the Secretary of the
4 Interior, on proposals for regulations, policies,
5 management plans and other matters relating to
6 subsistence use of fish and wildlife, and to provide a
7 public forum for the expression of opinions and
8 recommendations by persons interested in any matter
9 related to the subsistence use of fish and wildlife;

10

11 And whereas ANILCA Title III, Section
12 .303, Subsection (3), Sub-subsection (B), described the
13 process for which Izembek National Wildlife Refuge was
14 established, and for which it shall be managed to
15 include the opportunity for continued subsistence uses
16 by local residents;

17

18 And whereas the local subsistence users
19 interests are best served by cooperative efforts of the
20 Council and Refuge Staff;

21

22 And whereas the local subsistence users
23 are culturally and nutritionally dependent on the
24 Unimak Caribou Herd;

25

26 And whereas the Unimak Caribou Herd is
27 in severe decline and requires diligent attention and
28 proactive management to recover;

29

30 And whereas accurate detailed
31 information regarding population status is vital to the
32 responsible management of wildlife resources and the
33 Council has repeatedly over a period of several years
34 asked the Refuge to conduct thorough population surveys
35 of the Unimak Caribou Herd;

36

37 And whereas the Refuge has many times
38 promised to do so and has promised that alternatives
39 for monitoring would be developed for surveys and that
40 there would be surveys conducted each year, but has not
41 fulfilled or seemingly made any attempt to fulfill
42 those promises;

43

44 Now therefore be it resolved that the
45 Kodiak/Aleutians Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
46 expresses its extremely disappointment caused by the
47 lack of monitoring of the Unimak Caribou Herd by the
48 repeated unfulfilled promises of the Refuge Staff;

49

50 And be it further resolved that the

1 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Region 7 office make it
2 the highest priority to assure that there is a pilot
3 and plane and personnel to do adequate caribou surveys
4 for Unit 9D and for Unimak Island.

5
6 And it has certifications after that.

7
8 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair.

9
10 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Della.

11
12 MS. TRUMBLE: I would add both Unimak
13 and the South Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd, because
14 that's where we're getting at, that that time frame,
15 there has not been -- the surveys haven't been
16 complete. They had a partial one in 2009/10 on Unimak.

17
18 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. You were
19 suggesting that we add the Alaska Peninsula on there;
20 is that correct, Della?

21
22 MS. TRUMBLE: I'm sorry. I just got an
23 emergency call here. What did you say? That includes
24 both 9D and 10.

25
26 MR. HOLMES: So it would be South
27 Peninsula.

28
29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: 9D and 10. But I
30 heard her say Alaska Peninsula.

31
32 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, but there's two
33 herds on Alaska Peninsula. There's South Peninsula,
34 North Peninsula. Oh, excuse me, Mr. Chairman. There
35 are two herds on the Alaska Peninsula. One's the South
36 Peninsula, Unit 9D, and then there's a North Peninsula,
37 9E, so you'd want to specifically state Unimak,
38 parenthesis, Unit 10, and South Peninsula, Unit 9D.

39
40 Mr. Chair. I might suggest, you know,
41 some of our other comments that we had that we -- oh,
42 I'm sorry. Mr. Chair.

43
44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead. Go
45 ahead, Pat.

46
47 MR. HOLMES: I'm getting awful tired.
48 One of the comments that we discussed with Mike Boylan,
49 and also with Nancy and also with Nancy's predecessor,
50 that I think we could insert this short phrase after --

1 on the last whereas, and after it says, and there would
2 be surveys conducted every year, and then put in,
3 insert and no contingency plans were developed in a
4 timely manner, because that was one of the things
5 everybody said, well, we'll do it, we'll do it, we'll
6 do it. And, you know, I know it's tough to fly out
7 there, but if you don't have a contingency plan or
8 alternate planes, or when planes break, or your pilot's
9 sick, I mean, you need to have some kind of other way
10 to look at it, and so I would feel that inserting, and
11 no contingency plans were developed in a timely manner
12 would be appropriate.

13

14 MS. WILKINSON: Excuse me. And then
15 continue the rest of the rest of the sentence?

16

17 MR. HOLMES: And then the rest of the
18 sentence would read, but it has not fulfilled or even
19 seemingly made an (microphone not on).

20

21 If it would meet your pleasure, I have
22 some possible ways to adjust the letter to meet Della's
23 concerns.

24

25 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead.

26

27 MR. HOLMES: What the letter would
28 read, and I'll just read the letter again with the
29 insert.

30

31 For the past several years the
32 Kodiak/Aleutians Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
33 has requested the managers, an S there, of the Izembek
34 National Wildlife Refuge to conduct population surveys
35 of the Unimak and South Peninsula Herds on a regular
36 basis. Okay. I don't need that, because that's
37 redundant. Okay.

38

39 Then it would read, the Refuge
40 managers, S inserted, repeated promised to do so, or
41 have repeatedly -- managers have repeatedly promised to
42 do so, but have not kept that promise.

43

44 Then, at the Council's meeting in
45 September 2010 in Cold Bay, the Refuge manager again
46 told the Council that complete surveys for Unimak had
47 not been done.

48

49 The Council is extremely displeased by
50 the Refuge managers', and again it's S with a little

1 (makes sound) on the end, failure for several years to
2 fulfill their management, instead of her, it would say
3 their, management duties.

4
5 And I'm wondering if we want to have
6 this or not. I go both ways, because particularly with
7 the testimony we had this morning, it kind of made me
8 feel awkward, but, you know, they are trying, we have
9 right now the words and by her dismissive treatment of
10 the Council. And I'm wondering if we should just do,
11 fulfill their management duties, period, and just.....

12
13 MR. ROHRER: Scratch that.

14
15 MR. HOLMES: Strike that, because
16 that's -- I kind of feel that's occurred, but that's
17 getting a little personal, but I don't know what the
18 Council feels. Mr. Chair.

19
20 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah, I feel the
21 same way.

22
23 MR. ROHRER: I do, too.

24
25 MR. CRATTY: I feel the same. We don't
26 want to just beat (indiscernible, loud noise). We need
27 to let them know how we feel, but we don't need to be
28 mean.

29
30 MR. ROHRER: Yeah, we don't need to be
31 beating on her.

32
33 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Sam.

34
35 MR. ROHRER: Well, I just want to say,
36 Mr. Chair, I was sitting here thinking, boy, this is a
37 little bit rough treatment on her; however, at the last
38 meeting I sat at with her, when I left, that's exactly
39 how I felt. I was really, really frustrated with her.
40 I mean, she -- it was pretty bad I thought, but it was
41 much better today and yesterday. Of course, her boss
42 was sitting her listening, so that might have had
43 something to do with it. But my anger and frustration
44 has cooled a little bit since then. And I think she
45 got our point, how frustrated we were, and certainly
46 her boss got our message, how frustrated. So strike it
47 I guess.

48
49 MR. HOLMES: Okay. Then we'd go on and
50 say, by unanimous consent the Council elected to sent

1 the enclosed resolution censuring the Refuge managers,
2 or censuring the Refuge. I don't know what you think
3 on that part. But anyway what I'd like to add on the
4 end of that, it would go on and say, and requesting
5 that your office take action. And then add, to assure
6 surveys take place, exclamation point. So I guess
7 whatever you folks feel's appropriate on that earlier
8 part of the sentence could be discussed some more. So
9 it would be by unanimous consent, dah-dah-ta-dah, the
10 enclosed resolution censuring the Refuge manager, the
11 way it is, and requesting your office to take action.
12 Or censoring the Refuge.

13

14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Censoring the
15 Refuge?

16

17 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, because it's been
18 more than one manager, and the Refuge is not only here,
19 but Mike Boylan, and you know, Mike should have by this
20 time made sure there were extra planes or something.
21 And so maybe strike manager. I never thought as
22 secretary I'd end up writing so much. But does that
23 seem like a good way to put where we're at.

24

25 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair.

26

27 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Sam.

28

29 MR. ROHRER: It seems to me that we --
30 the centering part was aimed more directly at the
31 Refuge manager, and since we're dropping that portion
32 about her dismissive treatment and so on and so forth,
33 and kind of including this has been -- and recognizing
34 that this is more than one manager that this has been a
35 problem with, maybe we should just drop the center
36 language and just say, by unanimous consent the
37 Council's sending you this letter expressing our
38 extreme frustration and asking or requesting that your
39 office take action. And just drop the center language.
40 And at this point it's just a letter expressing our
41 extreme frustration. Just a thought.

42

43 MR. HOLMES: So a carrot and stick.
44 Mr. Chairman.

45

46 MR. CRATTY: A carrot and a stick might
47 not work.

48

49 MR. ROWLAND: Get a bigger stick.

50

1 (Laughter)
2
3 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Della, are
4 you getting all this? And Antone?
5
6 MS. TRUMBLE: Yeah, it sounds fine.
7 Mitch, I'm going to have to go shortly, probably at
8 least within the next 15 minutes, just so you know.
9
10 MR. HOLMES: Okay. We're almost done.
11 How about Antone?
12
13 MR. SHELIKOFF: Yeah. Along with that
14 TSN (ph) send.
15
16 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. We've read
17 the resolution. The resolution is okay, the letter is
18 edited. Is that -- submit it to Ann for retyping.
19 I'll sign it and then it'll be done.
20 Ann.
21
22 MS. WILKINSON: I have a question. If
23 you're taking the word censure out of the letter, but
24 you've made a title that says censure of Izembek
25 Refuge.
26
27 (Indiscernible, microphones not on)
28
29 MS. WILKINSON: Drop it out of there
30 to?
31
32 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, that's where we
33 discussed about (indiscernible, microphone not on). So
34 maybe just have it read (indiscernible) resolution --
35 oops. Have it read Resolution 11-01, Unimak Caribou,
36 rather than have censure in there. Here. We were
37 going to insert censure.
38
39 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Oh, you were going
40 to give it a title.
41
42 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, I was giving it a
43 title. So with Council Person Rohrer's comments, and
44 maybe trying to recognize they are doing things, then
45 just make the title say Resolution Number, Unimak
46 Caribou, or how about -- it should be Unimak/ Peninsula
47 Caribou. Unimak/Peninsula Caribou.
48
49 MS. TRUMBLE: Yeah. Unimak and
50 Peninsula Caribou.

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I didn't get that,
2 Della.
3
4 MS. TRUMBLE: The Peninsula Caribou is
5 referred to as a southern herd, so it's the Unimak and
6 the Southern Alaska Peninsula Herd.
7
8 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Does that
9 complete it.
10
11 SEVERAL: Yeah. Uh-huh.
12
13 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: All right. It's a
14 resolution. So I would need a motion to submit that to
15 Todd Logan.
16
17 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chairman. I move that
18 we submit our letter and resolution.
19
20 MS. TRUMBLE: This is Della Trumble. I
21 will second.
22
23 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: It's moved and
24 seconded. Is there any discussion.
25
26 (No comments)
27
28 MR. CRATTY: Call for the question.
29
30 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: The question is
31 called. All those in favor of the question please say
32 aye.
33
34 IN UNISON: Aye.
35
36 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Those opposed.
37
38 (No opposing votes)
39
40 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Discussion
41 is stopped. all those in favor of the main motion
42 please signify by saying aye.
43
44 IN UNISON: Aye.
45
46 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Those opposed same
47 sign.
48
49 (No opposing votes)
50

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Motion carries.
2 Okay. Ann.
3
4 MS. WILKINSON: Mitch.
5
6 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: You're on. We're
7 up for elections.
8
9 MS. WILKINSON: Okay. Right. Yes.
10 Mr. Chair. During this part of the election, the Chair
11 will step down and I will conduct the nominations and
12 election of the Chair. And then whoever is elected as
13 Chair will take over the rest of the meeting.
14
15 MR. ROHRER: Madam Chairperson, I
16 nominate Speridon Simeonoff for Chairperson.
17
18 MR. PANAMAROFF: I second.
19
20 MS. TRUMBLE: Della Trumble. I make a
21 motion that nominations cease for Chair.
22
23 MR. ROWLAND: Second.
24
25 MS. WILKINSON: Okay.
26
27 MR. CRATTY: Madam Chair. I nominate
28 Della Trumble for Vice Chair.
29
30 MS. WILKINSON: Just a moment please.
31 One thing at a time.
32
33 (Laughter)
34
35 MS. WILKINSON: We could take and vote
36 on the Chair if you want to to make it official, yes,
37 because there was a motion to cease the nominations,
38 but that isn't enough.....
39
40 MS. TRUMBLE: I think you've got a
41 motion to close the nominations is what you'd be voting
42 on.
43
44 MS. WILKINSON: Right. Right.
45
46 MR. HOLMES: I move we close -- or I
47 guess Della closed it.
48
49 MS. WILKINSON: Yes, she made the
50 motion.

1 MR. HOLMES: Call for question.
2
3 MS. WILKINSON: Okay. All those in
4 favor of Mr. Simeonoff carrying on as chair.
5
6 IN UNISON: Aye.
7
8 MS. WILKINSON: Any opposed.
9
10 (No opposing votes)
11
12 MS. WILKINSON: Then Mr. Simeonoff is
13 again Chair and will take over the rest of the
14 elections.
15
16 Thank you.
17
18 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I'd open the floor
19 for nominations for Vice Chair.
20
21 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair. I nominate
22 Della Trumble for Vice Chair.
23
24 MR. ROHRER: I second it.
25
26 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Della Trumble has
27 been nominated.
28
29 MR. HOLMES: Move we close nominations.
30
31 MR. ROHRER: Second.
32
33 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Nominations have
34 been closed. I would think that makes it unanimous,
35 that Della is Vice Chair.
36
37 Nominations are now open for Secretary.
38
39 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chairman. I nominate
40 Grampa Holmes for Secretary.
41
42 MR. CRATTY: I'd second.
43
44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat Holmes has
45 been nominated. Is there other.....
46
47 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chairman. I'll make
48 a motion that nominations for Secretary/Treasurer
49 cease.
50

1 MR. ROWLAND: Second.
2
3 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Who did she
4 nominate?
5
6 MR. CRATTY: This guy.
7
8 MR. HOLMES: Me.
9
10 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: This guy. There
11 were two.
12
13 MR. CRATTY: You know, next time, too,
14 excuse me, Mr Chair. But next time you should sit him
15 close to Ann so he doesn't have to be passing paperwork
16 back and forth.
17
18 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, but if I'm there,
19 how -- if I'm sitting next to Ann, how am I going to
20 exchange insults with you?
21
22 MR. ROWLAND: Call for the question.
23
24 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Question. Sorry.
25 We had a motion on the floor. The question is called.
26 There's no discussion then. Whenever I get into a
27 situation like this, I've always got to point out that
28 when somebody calls for a questions, I've got to vote
29 on the question, then I've got to vote on the motion.
30 So voting on the question just ends the debate on the
31 motion.
32
33 So those in favor of calling for the
34 question say aye.
35
36 IN UNISON: Aye.
37
38 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Those opposed.
39
40 (No opposing votes)
41
42 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Debate is ended.
43 Now, the main motion was electing Mr. Pat Holmes as our
44 Secretary. Those in favor say aye.
45
46 IN UNISON: Aye.
47
48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Those opposed.
49
50 (No opposing votes)

1 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Congratulations.
2 Congratulations, Della.
3
4 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair.
5
6 MS. TRUMBLE: I wish I was there, but
7 maybe next winter.
8
9 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes. We'll be
10 over there next time.
11
12 MR. HOLMES: Well, I think this will be
13 excellent having the Chair and Vice Chair in two
14 different parts of our region so that if we end up some
15 people don't make it out west, then we've got Della,
16 and if Della can't make it in, we've got you.
17
18 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. The last
19 item on our agenda is the confirmation of our fall and
20 winter meetings.
21
22 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair. I think we
23 should try to see if we can accommodate our meeting
24 time so that Al Cratty can make it, because I know he
25 fishes silvers in the fall and needs to make a couple
26 extra bucks. And so I'd like to find out whatever date
27 would work for him, and then go for that.
28
29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Right now we have
30 September 7th and 8th in King Cove. Are you still
31 fishing then, Al?
32
33 MR. CRATTY: Yeah. I was thinking more
34 or less September 15th or 16th or the 19th or 20th.
35 But I know Sam's busy, too. So, you know, whatever we
36 could do. Basically I don't think I'd make it on the
37 7th and 8th, to be honest. I just wanted to.....
38
39 MR. ROHRER: Yeah, me, too. 7th or 8th
40 is bad. That next week I think would be better for me.
41 The closer to the end of the week we go would be
42 better. 15th, 16th, 17th, or even the next week after
43 that.
44
45 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, that's the way I
46 feel.
47
48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Can we have two in
49 one week?
50

1 MR. CRATTY: 19th and 20th. Yeah.
2
3 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, they do that.
4
5 MR. CRATTY: How about the 19th, 20th.
6
7 MR. HOLMES: Or the 20th, 21st, because
8 usually you need to get a travel day because we'll
9 separate from the Nome.
10
11 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair.
12
13 MR. HOLMES: So we could overlap them,
14 couldn't we?
15
16 MS. TRUMBLE: Just so you know, there's
17 no flights on Sundays into King Cove. So if you were
18 flying into there, you'd have to probably get in here
19 on a Saturday if you were going to start on a Monday.
20 Of if you were flying in on a Monday, we could start
21 later Monday afternoon.
22
23 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: How about if we
24 chartered on Sunday right out of Kodiak straight to
25 King Cove.
26
27 MS. TRUMBLE: That works for me.
28
29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Got to get
30 permission though.
31
32 MR. CRATTY: They ain't going to do
33 that.
34
35 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Would that work,
36 Ann? Would you check that out or would that work at
37 all?
38
39 MS. WILKINSON: Well, what we have to
40 do for charters is we have to run a cost analysis for
41 charters, and that goes to Washington, D.C. for
42 approval. I'm not kidding you, it's the truth. And
43 the thing is, they never tell us whether it's approved
44 until about a week before the meeting. So I wouldn't
45 have time then, or not much time to make other
46 arrangements if they said no. That's just the caveats
47 there.
48
49 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah. Okay. Any
50 time in there is fine. Pat.

1 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair. I was
2 wondering if it would be possible for Ann to explore,
3 and perhaps yourself, whether we could have an option
4 in there -- I mean, we have a two-way option of trying
5 for King Cove and end up in Cold Bay.

6
7 I think Tom Hoblet would be really
8 interested, and folks in False Pass, if we could at
9 least explore the options of False Pass for this
10 meeting, because the caribou thing will still be a hot
11 item, and it will probably be the hottest item we'll
12 ever have to deal with on the Peninsula, and that would
13 get us to that remote community, and, you know, if they
14 don't have the.....

15
16 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: They don't have
17 the facilities.

18
19 MR. HOLMES: Well, I'll sleep on the
20 floor, you know.

21
22 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, I know, but you
23 might not share your duck soup and then what am I going
24 to eat.

25
26 (Laughter)

27
28 MR. HOLMES: Well, we'll find something
29 on the beach for you. You say you can eat there all
30 the time. I'll get you some alaticks (ph) and what
31 not, and we'll get some grub.

32
33 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: We still
34 haven't.....

35
36 MS. TRUMBLE: Mr. Chair.

37
38 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Della. We
39 still haven't picked a date.

40
41 MS. TRUMBLE: Yeah, I do have to go.
42 I've got a bit of an emergency. Whatever you guys
43 decide, just let me know. I'll make sure my calendar's
44 clear.

45
46 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. We'll be in
47 King Cove and we'll give you a date as soon as figure
48 them out.

49
50 MS. TRUMBLE: Okay. All right. Thank

1 you, guys.
2
3 MR. HOLMES: Bless your heart for
4 hanging in there, Della.
5
6 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I hope it's
7 nothing serious.
8
9 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair.
10
11 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Al.
12
13 MR. CRATTY: I would suggest September
14 20th, 21st.
15
16 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Does that
17 work for you, Sam.
18
19 MR. ROHRER: I think it will.
20
21 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Does it work for
22 you, Rick?
23
24 MR. ROWLAND: (No audible answer)
25
26 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Pat.
27
28 MR. HOLMES: You betcha.
29
30 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Alex.
31
32 MR. PANAMAROFF: I hope so.
33
34 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: There's two.
35 There's a maybe and a I hope so. We've got to be sure.
36
37 MR. CRATTY: Well, Mr. Chair, I'd like
38 to say we're all not sure. We don't know what's going
39 on in September. I mean, you know, it's just we're
40 trying to get a date locked in so we've got something
41 to work with.
42
43 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. We'll
44 just.....
45
46 MR. ROWLAND: Mr. Chair.
47
48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes.
49
50 MR. ROWLAND: I wonder what Alex's

1 reservation is. I mean why is he reserved in saying he
2 hopes so.

3

4 MR. PANAMAROFF: You're asking me?

5

6 MR. ROWLAND: Yeah.

7

8 MR. PANAMAROFF: Mr. Chairman. Yeah,
9 Mr. Chair. Yeah, I do have two travel dates in
10 September, and I'm not sure exactly what dates they are
11 yet. I should have brought my calendar with me, and I
12 didn't. I should start packing around a pocket
13 calendar so I can, you know, get the dates. But I'm
14 pretty sure the date's okay for me, but I would have to
15 double check to make sure.

16

17 MR. HOLMES: Mr. Chair, if it's a day
18 or so one way or the other, can we just shuffle it
19 between them, because I think the later we get in the
20 month, the better off we are for Al and Sam, and then
21 I'm also thinking the later in the month we go, the
22 better chance we have of missing the usual fall
23 southeaster that comes ripping into the Peninsula,
24 because that usually hits, you know, around the 15th,
25 thereabouts.

26

27 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Antone, does
28 September 20th and 21st work good for you.

29

30 (No response)

31

32 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. It will
33 work I guess. Okay. Ann.

34

35 MS. WILKINSON: And just to make clear,
36 that's either in False Pass, that's your first choice,
37 second choice is King Cove, third is Cold Bay, right?

38

39 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yeah. Winter
40 schedule. We're open from February to March.

41

42 MR. HOLMES: Pretty much any time for
43 me, Mr. Chairman. Let's work it around Al and.....

44

45 MR. CRATTY: Mr. Chair. Ann. My
46 seat's up. There's three of us on here that our seats
47 are going to be up, so what is -- because we didn't put
48 in for applications this spring, we'll be out for next
49 spring. But if we were to put in our applications in
50 next spring, we won't be in until 2013 if we are

1 reseated. So the three people that sit on the Council
2 right now, me, Alex and Rick won't be at the meeting
3 next spring, the way I take it. Unless, did you.....

4

5 MS. WILKINSON: Yeah, he did.

6

7 MR. HOLMES: I'm wondering -- excuse
8 me, Mr. Chair.

9

10 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Go ahead.

11

12 MR. HOLMES: You know, I know we're all
13 just totally wiped out, and I've got a big long list of
14 things to the Board, but I'm wondering if there's some
15 way that we can ask them to have this process where
16 we've got protected members where they can be
17 automatically renewed unless they deny it, you know,
18 say, geez, I'm tired of this, I'm out. Because we've
19 had problems with people that renew every time, but
20 don't come to meetings, and then we've got people that
21 really try to make it that have tremendous knowledge.
22 And I'm just wondering is that something we could put
23 in our note to the general Board as to how can we just
24 reverse the process on once a person's on the Board,
25 that they're on until they quit or to where we can have
26 something where if somebody forgets, then the Chairman
27 can say to the Board Chair that, gee, you know, this
28 person had a reasonable excuse for not getting their
29 application in on time, and this is such a ponderous
30 process, that we'll lose them for two years before we
31 can get him back. Is there some way we can do that.

32

33 MS. WILKINSON: Well, just right off
34 first, you'd lose him for one year.

35

36 The Secretary has reserved to himself
37 the right to appoint Council members. So any part of
38 the process leading to that, we can do pretty much
39 however we want. But he or she has always reserved
40 that right. And I'm not sure how that would work. I
41 guess the Board could recommend to him that they would
42 like to do it that way, but it still would be the
43 secretary's decision there.

44

45 MR. HOLMES: Okay. That might be a way
46 around. Mr. Chairman, I'd like to have a letter to the
47 Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Salazar, with a copy to
48 Pat Pourchot and whoever else is appropriate, that Al
49 Cratty and Alex Panamaroff -- and who else was only --
50 it that.....

1 MR. CRATTY: Rick's going to get back.
2
3 MR. ROWLAND: I already submitted and
4 interviewed.
5
6 MR. HOLMES: Okay. He's been
7 interviewed.
8
9 MR. ROWLAND: If you want to throw my
10 name in there, go ahead.
11
12 MR. HOLMES: Okay. And Rick Rowland,
13 be renewed for the -- whatever is appropriate for
14 verbiage there, on our Council, and that the often
15 ponderous process of reapplication, they've had some
16 difficulties with, and we'd like to retain them as
17 valuable members of our Council.
18
19 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Is this something
20 I could bring forward at the meeting next month?
21
22 MS. WILKINSON: If the Board has that
23 time set aside for the Council Chairs, you could.
24 Yeah. It's also something I can bring up at the time
25 the Staff Committee and the Board meet about the
26 nominations. Yeah.
27
28 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Yeah, we'll
29 also get a letter to Salazar and Pat Pourchot. And if
30 Tim will have time for it, I could mention it there,
31 too.
32
33 Does that cover it pretty good, Pat?
34
35 MR. HOLMES: Yeah. Yeah, I hope that
36 would achieve it, because I'd really like to keep those
37 folks on. I think we feel that way. I certainly do.
38
39 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Board
40 comment.
41
42 MR. PANAMAROFF: Mr. Chairman.
43
44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Alex.
45
46 MR. PANAMAROFF: Mr. Chairman and the
47 Board members. I'd like to really -- you know, I feel
48 kind of -- I don't know, I feel like I should be
49 participating more than I am, although this is my
50 second meeting, so I'm still kind of a little loss and

1 catching up on what the procedures are and what
2 materials and stuff I need to know to do my job. And I
3 know that I do my best and I want to do my best, if,
4 you know, I ever come back on again. But I just want
5 to let you know that I feel real bad about not
6 participating as much as I feel I should be. And I
7 want to apologize to the Board for that. If I do make
8 it back on again, I promise to do my best to, you know,
9 participate more and get more involved in discussions
10 as I normally am. I normally do get involved in
11 discussions when I'm sitting on the boards that I've
12 been on before. like I say, I'm pretty new on this
13 one, so I just wanted to apologize to Board that, you
14 know, I plan on participating more in the future.

15

16 Thank you.

17

18 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thanks, Alex. Any
19 other Board comments. Sam.

20

21 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. At some point
22 I still -- we talked just briefly, and I mentioned
23 about the idea of a letter to the Big Game Commercial
24 Services Board, and it's not something we would
25 probably have to write here, but it was maybe the
26 Secretary and I could get together and do. I don't
27 know that would work. Is that a possibility.

28

29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I think so. But
30 if it's coming from this Council, you'd draft a letter,
31 get it to Ann. If it needs my signature, she'd make
32 sure it gets my signature.

33

34 MR. ROHRER: Do we need to vote on the
35 contents of the letter? Do we vote by email
36 afterwards? How will we handle that.

37

38 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I think Ann would
39 poll the Board once she received the letter.

40

41 MS. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman. You can
42 do it one of two ways. Generally when the Council --
43 well, always, when the Council Chair sends out a
44 letter, it must reflect the Council's decision or
45 action, whatever, however you want to say it. The
46 Council has to have discussed it and made clear their
47 intent. So if the Council didn't discuss it here too
48 much, you know, and you haven't reviewed the letter,
49 say, and you want to, then, yes, I can send it out to
50 everybody and have you look at it and edit it,

1 whatever, you know, before the Chair signs it. But it
2 really needs to be discussed on the record either way.

3

4 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair. If you'd like
5 I can take two minutes and explain it into the record
6 if that would work, if that would be sufficient.

7

8 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: In order to get
9 back on record -- we haven't adjourned have we?

10

11 SEVERAL: No.

12

13 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Fine. Go
14 ahead.

15

16 MR. ROHRER: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
17 Chair. The letter in effect would be written to the
18 Big Game Commercial Services Board stating that the
19 Kodiak/Aleutians RAC supports their efforts in
20 regulating water-based transporters. We recognize that
21 there's an issue in Kodiak around several of the
22 villages. It's directly competing with subsistence
23 users, and I think primarily we would like to see the
24 Board limit the number of water-based transporters
25 allowed in specific areas. And I.....

26

27 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I don't know.
28 I've got a question here. To limit the number of
29 transporters?

30

31 MR. ROHRER: That would be water-based
32 transporters. So that would refer to charter boards
33 that are coming in primarily -- well, it would limit
34 any water-based transporters that are coming into
35 areas, limiting how many boats can go into each area.
36 And I can tell you that they don't have the mechanism
37 to do that right now. It's going to require statute
38 changes, but it's something that's been talked about,
39 and our support will help move them in the right
40 direction. We're a long ways from that point, but at
41 least this will help them realize that there's support
42 out there for this idea, and it's a good idea.

43

44 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: I've got you.
45 Yeah. Understood.

46

47 MR. ROHRER: Thank you. Are there any
48 other questions.

49

50 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. And you

1 would draft that letter you can get it to Ann and she
2 can get it to me.
3
4 MR. ROHRER: Okay. Pat will draft the
5 letter and we'll get it to Ann.
6
7 MR. HOLMES: Okay.
8
9 MR. ROHRER: I'll help you, and we can
10 do it later.
11
12 MR. HOLMES: Yeah, send me an email.
13
14 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Other Board
15 comments. Rick.
16
17 MR. ROWLAND: Yes. I'd like so say I
18 appreciate spending the last couple days with you,
19 being important consultants to the information that
20 goes to the Board decision in the best interest of the
21 ultimate users, the subsistence users as a priority.
22 So I appreciate being able to sit here and communicate
23 openly with all of you.
24
25 And I know at times it gets a little
26 frustrating and tiring, but I appreciate all your
27 understanding and communication. Thank you.
28
29 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Thank you, Rick.
30
31 I'd like to say just thank you to the
32 Board for giving me your vote of confidence for serving
33 you and the people of the regions we all represent. I
34 do appreciate that.
35
36 I guess if there are no other Board
37 comments. Pat.
38
39 MR. HOLMES: We had Ann over there.
40
41 MS. WILKINSON: Sorry. I just wanted
42 to make something clear here for the record. When we
43 were discussing the winter 2012 meeting, you got
44 started talking about how some of the Council members
45 sitting here now may not be here for that meeting, but
46 never did pick a date or a place.
47
48 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Oh, that was the
49 20th and 21st.....
50

1 MS. WILKINSON: Well, that's fall.
2
3 MR. HOLMES: We need to go back and
4 come up with a date for our winter meeting for next
5 year and location.
6
7 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: It's wide open in
8 March.
9
10 MR. ROHRER: Mr. Chair.
11
12 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Yes, Sam.
13
14 MR. ROHRER: The later the better in
15 March the better for me.
16
17 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay.
18
19 MR. HOLMES: How about March 20th and
20 21st or 21st and 22nd. Mr. Chairman.
21
22 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: 22nd and 23rd.
23 Thursday and Friday.
24
25 MR. HOLMES: How about the middle of
26 the week. Yeah. Wednesday and Thursday.
27
28 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Wednesday and
29 Thursday. Okay. March 21 and 22.
30
31 MR. HOLMES: And I'd like to -- maybe I
32 shouldn't. Well, I have to do this on the record.
33 Just to tease Pete a little bit. I'd like to propose
34 we go to Old Harbor with Kodiak as a fall back.
35
36 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Old Harbor
37 and Kodiak.
38
39 MR. HOLMES: Yeah. Because we'll be in
40 Kodiak, but anyway.
41
42 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: No, we'll be at
43 Al's house.
44
45 MR. HOLMES: Yeah. Gotcha.
46
47 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: He's got a big
48 house.
49
50 MR. CRATTY: I'll take out the karaoke

1 mic and get Grandpa singing.
2
3 (Laughter)
4
5 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: Okay. Is there
6 anything else.
7
8 (No comments)
9
10 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: If not, do I have
11 a motion to adjourn.
12
13 MR. CRATTY: Make a motion.
14
15 MR. ROWLAND: Second it.
16
17 CHAIRMAN SIMEONOFF: It's been moved
18 and seconded. We're adjourned at 6:49.
19
20 (Off record)
21
22 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

