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1 KODIAK/ALEUTIANS FEDERAL REGIONAL
2 ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 October 1, 2000

5
6 Cold Bay, Alaska

7
8 MEMBERS PRESENT:

9
10 Della Trumble, Chair
11 Paul Gunderson, Vice Chair
12 Gilda M. Shellikoff, Secretary
13 Pete Squartsoff
14 Alfred B. Cratty, Jr.
15 John A. foster
16 Speridan Simeonoff, Sr.
17 Richard M. Zacharof
18
19 Cliff Edenshaw, Coordinator
20
21 Susan Reilly, Recorder

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2

3 (On record)

4

5 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Call the meeting to
6 order, Kodiak/Aleutians Subsistence Regional Advisory
7 Council, Cold Bay, October 2nd at 2:35. We'll have roll
8 call. Secretary Trumble.

9

10 MS. TRUMBLE: Okay. Vincent Tutiakoff.

11

12 (No audible responses)

13

14 MS. TRUMBLE: Pete Squartsoff.

15

16 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Here.

17

18 MS. TRUMBLE: Al Cratty.

19

20 MR. CRATTY: Here.

21

22 MS. TRUMBLE: Della Trumble. Here.

23

24 Gilda Shellikoff.

25

26 MS. SHELLIKOFF: Here.

27

28 MS. TRUMBLE: Paul Gunderson.

29

30 MR. GUNDERSON: Here.

31

32 MS. TRUMBLE: John Foster.

33

34 MR. FOSTER: Here.

35

36 MS. TRUMBLE: Joe Allen.

37

38 (No audible responses)

39

40 MS. TRUMBLE: Speridan Simeonoff.

41

42 MR. SIMEONOFF: Here.

43

44 MS. TRUMBLE: Richard Zacharof.

45

46 MR. ZACHAROF: Here.

47

48 MS. TRUMBLE: Ivan Lukin.

49

50 (No audible responses)

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1 MS. TRUMBLE: We do have a quorum.

2

3 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Welcome everybody
4 here, thank you all for coming. A little bit late.
5 Introduction, I guess we can just start maybe back there
6 from Rick and go around so we know who everybody is.

7

8 MR. POETTER: Yeah, I'm Rick Poetter, I'm
9 the Refuge Manager for the Izembek National Wildlife
10 Refuge, welcome everybody to Cold Bay.

11

12 MR. CORIN: I'm Lenny Corin, I'm the Acting
13 Fisheries Supervisor out of Anchorage, Alaska, U.S. Fish
14 and Wildlife Service.

15

16 MR. SCHAACK: I'm Paul Schaack, public, I'm
17 a resident of Nelson Lagoon.

18

19 MR. STOVALL: Robert Stovall, Kodiak
20 National Wildlife Refuge, fisheries biologist.

21

22 MR. BOS: Greg Bos, I'm the Regional
23 Subsistence Coordinator for the Fish and Wildlife Service
24 in Anchorage and a member of the Interagency Staff
25 Committee.

26

27 MR. SHAUL: Arnie Shaul, Alaska Department
28 of Fish and Game, Commercial Fisheries Management
29 biologist.

30

31 MR. UBERUAGA: I'm Richard Uberuaga,
32 fisheries biologist with the Office of Subsistence in
33 Anchorage, I'm assigned to the North Slope, Northwest
34 Arctic, Seward-Pen regions and I'm temporarily working with
35 the Kodiak/Aleutians group.

36

37 MR. HUFF: Marvin Huff, President of the
38 Awgaw Tribe, King Cove.

39

40 MS. PETRAVELLI: Pat Petravelli,
41 anthropologist with the Office of Subsistence Management
42 Fish and Wildlife Service.

43

44 MR. HANNAN: I'm Richard Hannan, I'm with
45 Fish and Wildlife Service in fisheries and ecological
46 services in Anchorage.

47

48 MS. DETWEILER: I'm Sue Detweiler with the
49 Endangered Species Program with Fish and Wildlife Service
50 in Anchorage.

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1 MR. JENNINGS: I'm Tim Jennings, I'm a
2 Division Chief in the Office of Subsistence Management of
3 Fish and Wildlife Service.

4
5 MR. FISHER: Dave Fisher, Office of
6 Subsistence Management and a wildlife biologist there.

7
8 MR. GREEN: Vince Green, I'm with the
9 Izembek Refuge.

10
11 MS. REILLY: I'm Susan Reilly, I'm the
12 recorder.

13
14 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: All right. I'd like
15 to welcome our new members also Speridan Simeonoff from
16 Akhiok and Richard Zacharof, St. Paul, welcome.

17
18 Okay. We'll go to the election of officers, turn
19 it over to our coordinator. Cliff.

20
21 MR. EDENSHAW: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22
23 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: Perhaps you can
24 clarify for the Council what -- we spoke with Vince
25 Tutiakoff this afternoon about what would transpire at the
26 meeting.

27
28 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes.

29
30 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: It was okay with
31 Vince to go ahead and elect the officers.

32
33 MR. EDENSHAW: Okay. And then I just
34 wanted to clarify for the Council. Joe Allen called and
35 left a message with me last month and said that he would
36 not longer be able to serve on the Council, so in the
37 interim Ivan Lukin from Port Lions is going to serve in
38 until the nominations process starts up again. So Ivan
39 called and was unable to attend the meeting due to a prior
40 commitment, so I did speak with Ivan. And I called and
41 left messages with Joe Allen to follow up and ask him if he
42 was going to submit a letter of resignation, but he didn't
43 return my calls. But aside from the recorded message he
44 left with me that he'd be unable, by the end of September,
45 to make this meeting right here in Nelson Lagoon at that
46 the time that you thought it was going to be held. So, as
47 I said before, Ivan will sit in on this as a Council member
48 until that position or that seat has been filled in the
49 next nominations process.

50

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1 Then moving on into the election of officers, the
2 Chair does serve for a one-year term and at this time I'll
3 open the floor up for nominations for the position of Chair
4 for the Kodiak/Aleutians Subsistence Regional Advisory
5 Council. The floor is opened for nominations.

6
7 CHAIRMAN SQUARTSOFF: I nominate Della
8 Trumble.

9
10 MR. SIMEONOFF: Second.

11
12 MR. EDENSHAW: Della Trumble has been
13 nominated for the position of Chair of the Council. Are
14 there any other nominations?

15
16 MS. SHELLIKOFF: I move nominations be
17 closed.

18
19 MR. EDENSHAW: So moved. As the designated
20 Federal official, I move by unanimous consent that Della
21 Trumble is elected as Chair of the Kodiak/Aleutians
22 Regional Advisory Council.

23
24 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay, I guess we'll
25 move on here, we'll open the floor for nominations for Vice
26 Chair.

27
28 MR. GUNDERSON: I'll nominate Pete
29 Squartsoff.

30
31 MR. SIMEONOFF: Second.

32
33 MR. CRATTY: I'll second.

34
35 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I decline.

36
37 MR. GUNDERSON: I'll nominate Cratty.

38
39 MR. CRATTY: No, I was going to nominate
40 you, I'm too busy.

41
42 (Laughter)

43
44 MR. CRATTY: I'm too busy, I decline.

45
46 MR. GUNDERSON: I'll nominate Gilda.

47
48 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Al, did you nominate
49 Paul Gunderson?

50

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1 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, I was going to.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Oh, okay.

4

5 MR. FOSTER: Second.

6

7 MR. GUNDERSON: Did you also have a
8 nomination?

9

10 MR. FOSTER: No, I thought that he refused
11 it.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Any other nominations
14 for Vice Chair?

15

16 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I move that nominations be
17 closed.

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Paul Gunderson, I
20 believe that you're our Vice Chair.

21

22 MR. GUNDERSON: Yes, boss.

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I open the floor for
25 nominations for Secretary.

26

27 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I'll nominate Gilda.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Maybe just a point of
30 clarification, too. When they when through this process if
31 you went through your manual, in absence of the Chair the
32 Vice Chair and then in absence of the Vice Chair and the
33 Chair, the Secretary is.....

34

35 I'll nominate Gilda Shellikoff.

36

37 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I move nominations be
38 closed.

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I believe, Gilda, you
41 are Secretary.

42

43 MS. SHELLIKOFF: Okay.

44

45 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: At this time we'll
46 move to the minutes of March 21st, 22nd, 2000 in Anchorage,
47 Tab E. Any comments on this, Cliff?

48

49 MR. EDENSHAW: No, Chair. These are exact
50 minutes for review for -- to take action on -- if you

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1 haven't reviewed, look for any errors or clarifications
2 regarding your guys' last meeting in Anchorage.

3
4 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Are there any
5 comments?

6
7 MS. SHELLIKOFF: I'll move to adopt the
8 minutes, March 21st and 22nd.

9
10 MR. FOSTER: I'll second.

11
12 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Gilda moved to adopt
13 the minutes, John Foster second. Call for question.

14
15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Second.

16
17 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I only got comment.
18 In these meetings, I think John Foster had requested
19 someone to give a report, maybe, on the Steller's eider and
20 I noticed that there's not anything on the agenda in
21 reference to this, is there some time in the future for
22 that.

23
24 MR. EDENSHAW: Madam Chair, we do have
25 Richard Hannan and Sue Detweiler from the office and they
26 will provide a report on this. And that is listed on the
27 agenda, which we haven't got to and that under agency
28 reports, number 10.

29
30 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay.

31
32 MR. EDENSHAW: Under ecological services.

33
34 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay. Thank you. I
35 wasn't sure if that what was going to be covered there or
36 not. Given that and a motion to adopt and a second, call
37 for question. All in favor say aye.

38
39 IN UNISON: Aye.

40
41 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Opposed same sign.

42
43 (No opposing responses)

44
45 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Moving right along.
46 Review and adoption of agenda. Cliff, I think you
47 mentioned you had some changes on here. To change under 10
48 (a), number 2, migratory birds and number 3, ecological
49 services with a request to be moved to after we review and
50 adopt the agenda.

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1 MR. EDENSHAW: Madam Chair, number 2 is an
2 informational handout regarding migratory birds, number 3
3 is the proposed critical habitat for the Steller's eider
4 and Richard Hannan and Sue Detweiler have request it be
5 moved up to possibly after adoption of the agenda.

6

7 MR. GUNDERSON: So just number 3?

8

9 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Are there any other
12 items to be added to the agenda?

13

14 (No audible responses)

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I do have two items in
17 talking to Vince and maybe they can be added under 11,
18 additions of other new business. In discussing with Vince
19 this morning, prior to his leaving, there is the working
20 group at the Y-K and Bristol Bay and maybe this Council can
21 request a seat on that. I know we have discussed it in the
22 past a couple of times. That's one item.

23

24 And the other item, that would number B, is if it's
25 possible to have someone off this Council attend the
26 statewide Council meeting, because I know I sat in with
27 Vince on this the past couple of months ago and he thought
28 it's good experience that one of the Council members also
29 attend just to get a view of how that process works. I
30 know for myself it was an eye opener.

31

32 MR. EDENSHAW: Excuse me, Madam Chairman,
33 but that's the Federal Subsistence Board.

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Yeah.

36

37 MR. EDENSHAW: Federal Subsistence Board
38 meeting and this year, in December, the Federal Subsistence
39 Board will meet in December to address the fisheries
40 proposals, so that may be an opportunity to have to
41 individual, since Paul is the new Vice Chair for him -- to
42 put a request in for him to attend at that meeting.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Uh-huh.

45

46 MR. EDENSHAW: And then the Board will,
47 again, meet in May to address hunting and trapping
48 regulations, but the Board will meet in December to address
49 fisheries proposals that the Council is going to deliberate
50 this afternoon and make formal recommendations on.

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1 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: And his request was
2 the Chair or Vice Chair and one other person on the
3 Council.

4
5 MR. GUNDERSON: What dates in December
6 would this take place? Because I got some prior
7 commitments almost for the whole month of December so.....

8
9 MR. EDENSHAW: Tim, do you -- I think it's
10 December.

11
12 MR. JENNINGS: I believe it's the week of
13 December the 5th, I don't have a calendar in front of me.

14
15 MR. EDENSHAW: Yeah, that's what I was
16 going to say, I think it's the 5th through the 8th, I
17 believe, but it's during that week.

18
19 MR. GUNDERSON: I would have to look before
20 I would make a commitment to go or not.

21
22 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Well, then if you
23 can't, maybe if you'd let us know so then maybe John
24 can.....

25
26 MR. GUNDERSON: I'll let you know as soon
27 as possible, yeah, if I can't.

28
29 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Madam Chair, maybe we can
30 discuss that when we get there.

31
32 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Yeah, uh-huh. Is
33 there any other additions to the agenda or changes?

34
35 (No audible responses)

36
37 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: If not, let's have a
38 motion to approve the agenda as amended.

39
40 MR. ZACHAROF: So moved.

41
42 MS. SHELLIKOFF: Second.

43
44 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Call for question.

45
46 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Question.

47
48 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Hearing none, all in
49 favor.

50

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1 IN UNISON: Aye

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Opposed same sign.

4

5 (No opposing responses)

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: The agenda has been
8 adopted.

9

10 Now, I think we're going to move to.....

11

12 MR. EDENSHAW: Richard Hannan and Sue.

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I wonder how can we do
15 this because they should come up to the mike.

16

17 MR. EDENSHAW: They can squeeze in between
18 Richard and John.

19

20 MR. HANNAN: Madam Chairman, thank you very
21 much for letting me attend -- letting Sue Detweiler and I
22 attend today to talk to you about the critical habitat for
23 the -- that's been proposed for the Steller's eider. I
24 understand at your last meeting some questions were raised.
25 I don't know what you'd prefer, if you'd like I could kind
26 if identify what the sequence of events has been and what
27 the timetable is and then open it up for questions, it's
28 whatever you prefer.

29

30 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: If that's agreeable
31 with everybody we'll go with that.

32

33 MR. EDENSHAW: Excuse me, Madam Chair.
34 Could you please identify your name for the record, please,
35 for our recorder.

36

37 MR. HANNAN: My name is Richard Hannan and
38 I'm the Chief of Fisheries and Ecological Services with the
39 Fish and Wildlife Service in the Alaska region.

40

41 Here's some handouts concerning the proposal on the
42 Steller's eider. The Steller's eider and the specticled
43 eider are two ducks here in Alaska that have been protected
44 under the Endangered Species Act. The specticled eider was
45 listed in 1993, the Steller's eider was listed in 1997.
46 These are birds who both nest on the North Slope and also
47 the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta and then after breeding the
48 specticled eider moves down to Norton Sound and Legert (ph)
49 Bay and molts and then winters south of St. Mathews Island.

50

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1 Steller's eider, after it nests on the Y-K delta
2 and the North Slope moves down to the north side of the
3 Alaska Peninsula and molts in lagoons along the north side
4 of Izembek, Nelson Lagoon and several other lagoons along
5 the north side of the Alaska Peninsula. With freeze up and
6 movement of ice these birds in severe winters get pushed
7 out of those bays on the north side of the Alaska Peninsula
8 and move over to the south side of the Alaska Peninsula and
9 eastern Aleutians and that's where they winter. They also
10 winter along the shores of Kodiak Island and also Kachemak
11 Bay and some other locations.

12
13 At the time these birds were listed the Fish and
14 Wildlife Service had to make a decision of whether or not
15 it was prudent to designate critical habitat. Critical
16 habitat is the habitat that's identified in the Endangered
17 Species Act as the habitat that's necessary for the
18 conservation and the recovery of a listed species. Back
19 when these birds were listed the service made a decision
20 that it was not prudent to designate critical habitat for
21 these two birds. We didn't feel, at the time, there would
22 be any benefit afforded the bird by the designation of
23 critical habitat. Nor did we feel that its habitat was
24 threatened.

25
26 In 1999 the Fish and Wildlife Service was sued by
27 some environmental groups because we had not designated
28 critical habitat. I should put this in context, the Fish
29 and Wildlife Service has listed about 1,200 species under
30 the Endangered Species Act and up until 1998 we only
31 designated critical habitat to 116 of those species, so we
32 did it very, very seldom. It's very infrequently that we
33 felt that the designation of critical habitat afforded any
34 benefit to listed species.

35
36 Well, the conservation community and others have
37 disagreed with the Fish and Wildlife Service view point for
38 quite some time and they started suing us. And every time
39 we've been sued because we have not designated critical
40 habitat, the Fish and Wildlife Service has lost. And when
41 we've lost the judges have typically ordered us to
42 designate critical habitat in an extremely short period of
43 time. That was the backdrop.

44
45 So last year, 1999, when we were sued for these two
46 species and five others in California, that are found in
47 California, the Fish and Wildlife Service talked to its
48 attorneys and the attorneys say, guys, you can fight this
49 if you want to, but you're going to lose just like have
50 every other time you've fought it. As a result of that, we

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1 were advised to enter into a settlement agreement with the
2 plaintiffs. And that's what we did. And that settlement
3 agreement forced us -- or we agreed to re-look at the
4 critical habitat designation and, if appropriate, come out
5 with a proposal to designate critical habitat.

6
7 Well, we went back and we looked at the
8 information, we also looked at previous court rulings and
9 we knew how narrowly they were viewing this issue and so we
10 ended up proposing to designate critical habitat for both
11 the specticled eider and for Steller's eider. Of course
12 you here in the Kodiak Regional Advisory Council would be
13 mainly concerned about the Steller's eider because the
14 specticled eider isn't found in any of its life stages in
15 the area that you live and work and recreate in.

16
17 We came out with proposals in February 1st of this
18 year for specticled eider and March 1st for Steller's
19 eider. As a result of that we ended up -- we opened up
20 public comment periods on these proposals. These proposals
21 are quite extensive, as you can see, in the handouts that
22 I've provided you. We've opened up and we've had to reopen
23 up the comment period on three different occasion and the
24 public comment period just recently closed last Monday.
25 During that time period we went out, we've had several
26 meeting across the North Slope. I also went to Sand Point,
27 I think it was last week or the week before, and met with
28 the people out there to talk about what these proposals
29 mean, what the ramifications are and to solicit and receive
30 public comment.

31
32 I think we went to probably about seven or eight
33 meeting throughout the range of these two species and, as I
34 said, we had a public comment period. As a result of the
35 public comment period, and we don't have all of the
36 comments tallied yet, but we received about 300 comment for
37 the specticled eider and about 350 for the Steller's eider.
38 By and large, the majority of these comments, just like the
39 majority of the comments we heard at public meeting and
40 public hearings are generally negative, they don't want the
41 Fish and Wildlife Service to designate any critical
42 habitat.

43
44 And we've received some very valuable information,
45 we've received some traditional information from several
46 folks telling us about the life history of the eiders in
47 their communities. We've also received scientific input,
48 additional scientific input on the information that we
49 originally had to make our proposed decision on. And so
50 we're now in the process, Madam Chairman, of looking at all

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1 those comments, of tallying them, of looking at the
2 information that's been provided and we're in the process
3 of making decisions, as we speak, on what the final action
4 the Fish and Wildlife Service will take.

5
6 The courts and in settlement agreements have a time
7 frame of December 1st of this year for us to come out with
8 a final decision on this spectacled eider. And January 5th
9 of 2001 for the Steller's eider. And, as I said, we had --
10 we received a lot of fine input, a lot of good information
11 and we're in the process now of assimilating that and
12 digesting it and analyzing it and we will be coming out
13 with a final decision by the dates that have been dictated
14 by the settlement agreement.

15
16 And that's kind of the frame work of what's been
17 going on. If you would like for me to address specific
18 issues, I will certainly attempt to do that. Or if you
19 rather, we could open it up for questions and I can try to
20 respond as best I can to them.

21
22 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: If it's okay with
23 everyone, I'd agree to open it up for questions. And,
24 also, if there are people in the public that have
25 questions, too, just make sure you state your name and come
26 up to the mike.

27
28 MR. HANNAN: Certainly.

29
30 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Madam Chairman.

31
32 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Go ahead.

33
34 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I went through it real
35 quick here and I didn't see anything on egg take. Is there
36 any egg take on these Steller's eiders when they're
37 nesting?

38
39 MR. HANNAN: On both species, I believe,
40 since 1991 the State has made these off limits for all take
41 purposes, I believe. And, of course, when the species was
42 listed there are certain prohibitions that come against
43 take there. Now, Alaska Natives are specifically exempt
44 under the Endangered Species Act from the take provisions
45 of the Endangered Species Act. But there have been
46 prohibitions in place, I think, since 1991 and this
47 proposal would not alter the current regulatory framework
48 whatsoever. And we have asked -- both of these ducks have
49 declined dramatically over the last several years and we've
50 gotten tremendous cooperation from the Native community in

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1 not shooting these birds and we don't believe that
2 subsistence take is causing significant harm to either of
3 these birds.

4

5 And, of course, the Steller's eider, especially, we
6 think that the population here in Alaska only numbers in
7 maybe the high hundreds to the low thousands. There's a
8 significant Russian population that isn't protected under
9 the Endangered Species Act, but we continue to solicit help
10 from the Native Community against hunting or egg taking for
11 these birds because they are in a difficult position. We
12 also think that the Native community and the rural Alaskans
13 have done a great job in not shooting them and not taking
14 eggs and it's helping.

15

16 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, well, the reason I
17 ask that is because I live on Kodiak Island and I grew up
18 there and my dad and we never did hunt the Steller eider,
19 they've been there ever since I was a kid but we never did
20 eat them because they said they tasted to kelpy or
21 whatever, but that's why I was concerned about the egg
22 take. As far as I know there's no hunting them, I don't
23 know if anybody has ever hunted them on Kodiak.

24

25 MR. HANNAN: Well, we don't believe that
26 egg take is a significant concern. And, again, the bird is
27 so rare, I mean, on the Y-K delta it was fairly common and
28 now it's extremely rare and on the North Slope we're not
29 sure how -- whether the bird had declined on the North
30 Slope or not but it's so widely disbursed and so widely
31 scattered that there's -- I don't think there's even much
32 of a potential for the take of eggs just because it such a
33 rare bird.

34

35 Yes, sir.

36

37 MR. GUNDERSON: You say the large
38 population in Russia on the breeding range and there's no
39 international treaty of any kind with the Russians on this,
40 as a matter of fact, they're exempt from this whole
41 operation, aren't they?

42

43 MR. HANNAN: Well, the Russian birds aren't
44 listed under the Endangered Species Act.

45

46 MR. GUNDERSON: Well, they travel back and
47 forth though. They're the same birds that are down here
48 molting during the winter range.

49

50 MR. HANNAN: In fact, the majority of the

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1 birds that are down here molting and wintering are Russian
2 birds. The Russian population far outnumbers the U.S.
3 listed population of the bird.

4

5 And as far as treaties, I'm not sure -- there's not
6 any species specific for endangered species with Russia,
7 I'm not sure that our -- you know, through our Migratory
8 Bird Treaty, whether there is cooperation with Russia or
9 not.

10

11 MR. GUNDERSON: That's -- this area that is
12 designated at the present time or this whole area that's
13 been blanketed as a critical habitat, from what I
14 understand from what you were telling us earlier, you're
15 going to be looking at more specific areas and this will be
16 toned down, it will not blanket this area that you're
17 talking about.

18

19 MR. HANNAN: Well, first off, it's a
20 proposal, so it hasn't been finalized.

21

22 MR. GUNDERSON: Yeah.

23

24 MR. HANNAN: And, as I said, we've received
25 a lot of comments and we're in the process of going through
26 those comments. I can't tell you exactly what the final
27 will look like, but we have received a lot of comments and
28 a lot of good information and we're going to be looking
29 very closely at that and trying to analyze, you know, what
30 is appropriate. Is everything that we proposed really
31 appropriate for the bird? We have some information that
32 suggest that maybe we do need to narrow it down, but I
33 can't tell you exactly what that it because those decisions
34 haven't been fully made yet.

35

36 MR. GUNDERSON: Okay. Once it's been
37 decided what the area is going to be, then they're going to
38 come up with a criteria as to what can be done in those
39 areas, what kind of development can be done, if any, or if
40 there could be commercial fisheries in that area or -- at
41 this time you still don't know.....

42

43 MR. HANNAN: Well.....

44

45 MR. GUNDERSON:what's going to be
46 allowed and not allowed to happen in that area.

47

48 MR. HANNAN: I'll try to answer that in two
49 ways. First off, the designation of critical habitat
50 doesn't come with a new set of prohibitions, it doesn't

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1 come with a prohibition that says you can't do this or you
2 can't do that. The fact that an animal is listed under the
3 Endangered Species Act means that, for one thing, where
4 Federal money is involved or where there's a Federal
5 permit, that those agencies have to contact the Fish and
6 Wildlife Service and we have to look at those projects and
7 see how they're going to impact the listed species. It
8 doesn't mean the projects can't go through, but it means
9 that they have to be looked at for their impact on the
10 listed species. And right now the Fish and Wildlife
11 Service nationally looks at about 50,000 or so permits a
12 year and 99.9 percent of those permits are issued with very
13 few changes to them as a result of the endangered species
14 concerns.

15

16 We expect that will continue to be the case here in
17 Alaska. These birds have been listed for quite some time
18 and we have never stopped or tried to stop a project based
19 upon an endangered species concern. We don't believe that
20 that's going to change with the fact of critical habitat
21 being designated.

22

23 Now, that's what the Fish and Wildlife Service
24 says. You people down here, however, have experience with
25 Steller sea lion and the Steller sea lion -- and what's
26 happening there is there was a court decision, brought
27 again by Outside interest, with regard to the Steller sea
28 lion and they have alleged that fishing is competing with
29 the Steller sea lion for the food that it needs to survive.
30 As a result there's been a court decision that has been
31 rendered that, as I understand it, has put a prohibition on
32 fishing in certain areas until the National Marine
33 Fisheries Service comes up with a plan. That's supposed to
34 be published the month. After that plan is published then,
35 I guess, the National Marine Fisheries Service and the
36 courts will look at fishing and how fishing impacts the
37 animal and make a decision whether or not those closures
38 are going to be permanent or they're going to be shrunk or
39 they're going to be -- or they're not necessary.

40

41 So, I guess, my answer to you is that by the mere
42 fact of something being designated critical habitat doesn't
43 mean anything happens. It doesn't mean that fishing is
44 going to stop, it doesn't mean that boat harbors are going
45 to stop, it doesn't mean those things.....

46

47 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah.

48

49 MR. HANNAN:whatso -- pardon me?

50

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1 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, yeah.

2

3 MR. HANNAN: No, I'm just -- we have to
4 look at those projects even without critical habitat. Like
5 right now there's a project going on, we would be looking
6 -- and there's Federal involvement, we would be looking at
7 that project, even if there was no critical habitat. With
8 critical habitat it just means that we will look at and we
9 will look at it just the same as we've always looked at it.
10 Now what the fear is and what you've experienced here is
11 the courts coming in and re-interpreting, maybe, agency
12 positions for them. That's something that I -- you know, I
13 can tell you how we intend to implement the law, but I
14 can't tell you how the courts will rule on our
15 interpretation of the law, and that's impossible for me to
16 comment on that. But the critical habitat, in and of
17 itself, doesn't come with a set of restrictions that would
18 cause anything to stop from the way it's going right now.

19

20 MR. HUFF: Ms. Chairman.

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Go ahead, Marvin.

23

24 MR. HUFF: My name is Marvin Huff and.....

25

26 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Marvin, you might want
27 to come up to a mike.

28

29 MR. HUFF: My name is Marvin Huff and the
30 Seller's eiders they've been down here every winter
31 forever. We've been living with them, to me there's any
32 less or any more or anything else. Maybe they're all
33 Russian. If they're the Russian eiders and if you're
34 worried about the Alaskan eiders, the only critical habitat
35 you have to worry about, I think, is where they nest.
36 We're not taking them, nobody down here hunts them.
37 They've been here, they're in King Cove two, 300 of them
38 every winter, they're in every bay. You go up by Frank's
39 Point in the wintertime when they're king crabbing and
40 there are tens of thousands of them off the beach a ways.
41 The only critical habitat, in my way of thinking, that you
42 worry about is where they're nesting.

43

44 MR. HANNAN: Uh-huh.

45

46 MR. HUFF: If it's Alaskan ones that are
47 disappearing, that's where they're disappearing, right
48 there. The Steller sea lions, nobody's -- none of those
49 scientists on the Steller sea lions is serious about saving
50 the Steller sea lion until they go after the killer whale.

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1 We count them out here by the thousands. They're not
2 serious.

3

4 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Thank you, Marvin.
5 Anybody else. You might want to come up to the mike. And
6 then for the record you do need to say your name.

7

8 MR. SCHAACK: I'm Paul Schaack from Nelson
9 Lagoon and I have to concur with what Marvin said about,
10 you know, nobody -- I know in Nelson Lagoon nobody takes --
11 no one even touches the eiders. I do a lot of bird
12 watching and there's one thing I have observed is when the
13 ice cakes, you know, start forming in the lagoon I see a
14 lot of eagles swooping down and plucking them out of the
15 water. I mean there used to be a bounty on eagle, I think
16 there's too many eagle.

17

18 I was just looking for article in the Alaska
19 Geographic I saw a couple of days ago. A gentleman up
20 north there, and I'm not going to say what river or where,
21 boxes, Tide boxes, Tide soap boxes at that, full of eggs, a
22 variety of sizes of eggs, you know, what's that all about?
23 What kind of eggs are those? You know, the emperors, we
24 can't hunt those any more in Nelson Lagoon, why?

25

26 That's all I got.

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Thank you, Paul. Is
29 there any other comments? John.

30

31 MR. FOSTER: Thank you, Chair. I think you
32 probably got a pretty good earful out of us last week at
33 Sand Point, but -- I think you heard the same thing out of
34 us that Marvin said, I mean, you got hundreds of thousands
35 of these Steller eiders here and they all come here and,
36 you know, the Russian part of this is fine, they're doing
37 fine. For some reason the Alaskan part is not doing well
38 and, to me, it seems you need to look where they're
39 nesting, that should be the focus of where the problem is.
40 I mean, if you got two sets of birds here and one is doing
41 good and one is not doing good and they're feeding,
42 molting, doing everything in the same area, it just seems
43 like common sense that you have to look in the nesting
44 areas, there's got to be a problem there.

45

46 And, you know, I look at this chart and you got, I
47 think it says you got, like, 9,000 miles of coastline for
48 critical habitat for maybe 1,000 birds, it comes out a mile
49 of coastline for one bird. Somebody really needs to take a
50 good look at exactly where these birds are. But I

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1 understand, too, that you can't tell the two birds apart,
2 so how do you go about doing that, too.

3

4 This critical habitat is really scary to us, I
5 mean, who's to say that environmental groups don't come in
6 and push for refining or something and then we're right in
7 the same boat that we are with Steller's now. This is just
8 really serious. How about in Izembek here, how it would it
9 affect here, the hunting seasons that are here.

10

11 MR. HANNAN: Izembek is one of the areas
12 that the birds use for molting. Each year when the adult
13 birds come and they lose some of their flight feather and
14 are flightless for some period of time. And it is also is
15 used for wintering habitat until and/or unless the lagoon
16 freezes up. And it will not affect the hunting season.
17 The mere -- again, the bird is listed, it's not a legal
18 bird to shoot as is it right now. This critical habitat
19 designation will not affect the hunting season whatsoever
20 for the bird.

21

22 But let me just comment on one thing you mentioned.
23 We have heard time and time again about two things. One is
24 that if you're trying to protect the Alaskan birds, you
25 know, you need to find out where the Alaskan birds go. I
26 mean do they go to one specific lagoon or do they spread
27 out to all the lagoons. And we're trying to do that. We
28 don't have all the information we need right now, but we
29 are trying -- we're trying to get that. We're putting
30 satellite transmitters on some birds. We put them on four
31 birds this year, we weren't able to get as many as we had
32 hoped on the North Slope. And so we are getting some
33 information. So we are trying to discriminate, as best we
34 can, Russians versus U.S. birds, but unfortunately they all
35 look the same.

36

37 The second thing is that we also have heard time
38 and time again about the extensiveness of the proposal.
39 And people in your community and people in every other
40 community we went to said that we don't think you should be
41 painting with such a broad brush. That it's fine if they
42 are found only in this lagoon and that lagoon is critical
43 to their life stage, well designate that, but don't
44 designate the entire coastline from that lagoon to the next
45 on that may be a hundred miles away.

46

47 We've heard you loud and clear and we're looking at
48 that information, we're working with our Migratory Bird
49 Program to try to get that information, so that we come out
50 with a final decision that is reasonable and that focuses

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1 on where the birds are as opposed to where the birds could
2 be. Unfortunately with this bird, like with so many things
3 -- so many endangered species, we don't know all the
4 information that's out there. We could benefit from a lot
5 more years of research and we're trying to get that
6 information, but when a court gets into play and they give
7 you deadlines, you have to make the decision based on the
8 best information you have in hand. And that's what we
9 thought we did when we made the proposal. We've had people
10 tell us that they didn't think that that was the best
11 information and we're going back and looking at it and we
12 will be trying to look and see what is reasonable, what is
13 the information that's out there and we've heard the
14 communities loud and clear and the villages, saying if
15 you're going to designate it, designate it where the birds
16 are, don't designate it where the birds aren't and so we're
17 going to do the best job we can to try to come up with a
18 final decision that reflects all the people's comments.

19

20 MR. FOSTER: But what's scary is you guys
21 are not in charge, you're not in control. The courts can
22 step in and change it in a second.

23

24 MR. HANNAN: Sure.

25

26 MR. FOSTER: I mean with the Steller's you
27 can't drive within three miles of the rookeries because,
28 you know, you're disturbing their feeding habits. What's
29 to say that it won't happen right out here? I don't know
30 what the answer is. It's just scary. You're going to have
31 one critical habitat on top of another critical habitat
32 here now and whose to say in another year something else
33 comes along and we get another one and this whole area
34 turns into a critical habitat. I know the government now
35 is looking at national ocean preserves, so if you got three
36 or four critical habitats here, we'd be a perfect candidate
37 for that.

38

39 MS. SHELLIKOFF: Della.

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Gilda.

42

43 MS. SHELLIKOFF: You made the comment about
44 the critical habitat area not impacting the economic
45 development. I think that's already starting because in
46 False Pass we were working with EDA [sic] and trying to get
47 our water project upgraded and that got delayed and one of
48 the reason they listed was because they were studying the
49 critical habitat of the eiders, and the same thing with
50 boat harbor project, it's been put back in the time line

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1 because people need to look at these impacts of critical
2 habitat. So it's already starting to affect the economic
3 projects.

4

5 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: What I feel is really
6 strong here is the taking of the eggs. How much effort is
7 being done on that portion of it, on studying on the egg
8 taking?

9

10 MR. HANNAN: I don't know that there's any
11 specific emphasis placed on egg taking. Well, there are
12 two things that we tried to do, one is we think that both
13 of these birds, one of the reasons they might have declined
14 -- first off, we don't know why the birds have declined. I
15 mean I can't tell you that it's this, that or something
16 else. We have some ideas about why they might have
17 decline. We do know that when we've looked ducks and
18 ducklings that often, especially on the Y-K delta, they
19 have elevated levels of lead and that lead is lead that has
20 been deposited back when we used to be able to shoot ducks
21 with lead shot. And we all know that lead is basically a
22 poison to birds and it will kill them or it will cause
23 chronic debilitation so they can't survive the winter or
24 they can't nest effectively and a lot of other aspects of
25 their life history. So, you know, lead shot was outlawed.

26

27 We still have lead out there, we have it throughout
28 the United States, and our communities in Alaska are no
29 different, and what we have tried to do is we've had lead
30 shot clinics where we've gone out to villages and tried to
31 encourage folks to shift over to steel, to not use lead
32 because a continued deposition of lead in these wetlands
33 that these birds use is, in fact, a source of potential
34 poisoning for the birds. So we tried to do that. We've
35 also tried to work with the Native community and the
36 village just, you know -- to just ask them, you know, one
37 don't let your kids go out there with .22s and -- you know,
38 they don't have anything better to shoot, to shoot one of
39 these birds, you know. Let's stop the plinking because we
40 know some of that occurs, we've found some of that to
41 occur. And we've also asked people not to shoot them for
42 food. For the most part we're getting really great
43 compliance. We haven't really focused on eggs, in part,
44 because of, especially Steller's, is so rare, I mean,
45 there's just not many birds out there and fast majority are
46 so far away from communities and so we don't really think
47 that there's a great potential for egg taking.

48

49 Does some egg taking occur? Sure, it probably
50 does, but we don't believe that it's a major source of

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1 problems for these two birds. So we haven't done anything
2 really specifically but.....

3

4 MR. SQUARTSOFF: If it's a delicacy to some
5 people, I mean, the locals know where different birds nest
6 and their areas.

7

8 MR. HANNAN: Yeah.

9

10 MR. SQUARTSOFF: So the locals will know
11 exactly where those birds are nesting.

12

13 MR. HANNAN: They'll certainly know when
14 biologists won't be able to find them, there's no doubt
15 about that. But we have not gotten any indication, sir or
16 ma'am, you know, that this is a problem. And, you know,
17 we've not heard that when we've talked to folks in the
18 Native community. Nobody has indicated that, you know,
19 that, man, these eggs sure are good and, you know.....

20

21 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I think you're
22 probably not going to hear it.

23

24 MR. HANNAN: Well -- but, I mean, that kind
25 of word, it slips out if that's the case.

26

27 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I think why we're all so
28 concerned about it is that we all know that none of them in
29 any of our area hunt them.....

30

31 MR. HANNAN: Sure.

32

33 MR. SQUARTSOFF:and nobody touches
34 them.

35

36 MR. HANNAN: Sure, and so the problem is
37 someplace else.

38

39 MR. SQUARTSOFF: So it's not in the whole
40 map area.

41

42 MR. HANNAN: And you'd like us to focus the
43 effort where the concern is.....

44

45 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Right.

46

47 MR. HANNAN:and I understand that and
48 we're trying our best to get a handle on that kind of
49 information.

50

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1 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I would hope that it
2 gets across that there doesn't appear to be enough studies
3 done to find out even why there is a decline, that it
4 doesn't come across and affect the people out here.
5 There's enough issues out here already going on without
6 adding one more to it.

7
8 MR. FOSTER: How does critical habitat go
9 away?

10 MR. HANNAN: How does it go away?

11 MR. FOSTER: Yeah.

12
13 MR. HANNAN: It's -- the designation of
14 critical habitat, just the listing of the species is a
15 rule-making process and so to undesignate critical habitat
16 it would take a proposal to do away with the critical
17 habitat and then it would go through a public comment
18 period and then it would be -- you know, if the decision
19 was to undesignate it then that decision would be made, so
20 it's a formal rule-making process.
21
22

23 MR. FOSTER: Yeah, but wouldn't you get
24 certain groups in there saying that, well, the stock
25 rebounded and we think it was because of critical habitat,
26 maybe we should just leave it in there?
27

28 MR. HANNAN: I can't tell you all the
29 hypothetical things that could happen. I'll tell you one
30 thing, and that is that this region had really, I think,
31 had done a really good job in trying to work on endangered
32 species issues. And one of the things that we work very
33 hard on, we work with the Native community, we work with
34 folks in our own office, with the Alaska Department of Fish
35 and Game and many others, to try to recover the Aleutian-
36 Canada goose. Well, we've done it, we've succeeded, it
37 went from basically -- we thought the thing was extinct to
38 now, I believe, there's like 30 or 40,000 that are out
39 there. And so as soon -- you know, once we reached those
40 thresholds, we moved to take the thing off the endangered
41 species list. And so we proposed to take it off, I think
42 it was last year or maybe 16 months ago now, and we have a
43 final rule in Washington now to take that totally off the
44 endangered species list. And that only reason that action
45 hasn't taken place is because there's been a backlog,
46 primarily because of lawsuits, in Washington.
47

48
49 So I guess what I'm trying to say is that, you
50 know, we're not trying to keep a species on the list any

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1 longer than it has to. And if critical habitat gets
2 designated and it serves no purpose or it's done its job,
3 it's serves a purpose then, you know, I think this region
4 has shown that we will take steps to take this burden off
5 the public. We did it with Arctic Perigrine falcon also.

6
7 So, you know, I know it doesn't answer your
8 question and all kind of hypothetical things can happen and
9 you can have people that have never been to Alaska that use
10 the law to do things that can potentially affect your
11 lives, you know. All we can do as an agency is try to do
12 the best job we can and implement the law as fairly as we
13 can, but we can't predict what happens in the court system,
14 unfortunately.

15
16 MR. GUNDERSON: Well, how long hard has the
17 feed been looked at during the wintertime on these bird in
18 this area? When does most of these death occur, do you
19 know or do they -- when do these dead birds show up or.....

20
21 MR. HANNAN: You know, that's one of the
22 things that's been so difficult about dealing with this
23 bird, it's not like we find a lot of dead bodies. What
24 we're seeing is we're just seeing a continual decline,
25 especially on the Y-K delta of nesting. We're just not
26 finding them like used to. Are they being shot? Are the
27 eggs being taken? Are they dying of lead poisoning? Are
28 they starving to death on the wintering grounds? We don't
29 have all the answers to that. We don't believe -- we think
30 that -- you know, these birds feed on clams and snails and
31 things like that. And the areas they traditionally go to,
32 these bays and lagoons, one of the reasons they go there is
33 because it has real rich clams and snails and things like
34 that. We don't believe that the food supply on the
35 wintering grounds or molting areas are limiting. We don't
36 know that that's a fact, we don't have the data to say
37 undeniably that that's not the problem, but we don't
38 believe that that's what's causing the decline. But,
39 again, when pressed, we don't know exactly why they're
40 declining, it's -- you know, we just know they're not.....

41
42 MR. GUNDERSON: Well, probably one of the
43 reason you don't find too many of them during the winter
44 months, if that's when the deaths are occurring, is the
45 amount of high amount of scavenger birds in the area,
46 because a harsh winter they'll follow that shoreline,
47 they'll follow that ice edge and that's the same place them
48 birds are going to be. And, you know, Paul earlier, like,
49 you know, there's a real high take birds of prey from the
50 lagoon, you know, we see it all the time, but you wouldn't

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1 think the numbers would be that high.

2

3

4 MR. HANNAN: The folks at Sand Point were
5 saying that they have nearly a thousand eagles that winter
6 there and many of the folks mentioned that the eagle hammer
7 all the ducks pretty hard during winter and, you know, they
8 may like Steller's better than they do other ducks, for
9 that matter, but we do know that, you know, natural
10 predation, you know, probably plays a role. You know,
11 predation on the nesting grounds is also a concern. We
12 have worked with some of the folks in Russia and one of the
13 things that they found in Russia is that the ducks seem to
14 do better raising young when there's a high lemming year.
15 And part of the reason they think that might be the case
16 is, one, is the predation may be spread out to eating the
17 lemmings themselves and then also you get some of the --
18 like the snowy owl, they'll set up a territory and they
19 won't eat the ducks, but they'll eat the lemmings, but
20 they'll keep off some of the other predators, like yeagers
21 and ravens and gulls, out of the area. And so the ducks do
22 better raising a brood in those area. And so it's a -- you
23 know, nature is a complicated, you know, web of -- and you
24 all see it and live it every day and we're trying to tease
25 out why these ducks are going downhill and we don't have
26 all the answers.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Any other questions,
28 comments?

29

30 MR. FOSTER: I think just the best thing --
31 I don't know if I should say hopeful or what, but just let
32 us be involved in the process, keep us informed, let us be
33 involved as much as you can, you know. I was real happy
34 you came to Sand Point and was taking public testimony and
35 stuff, but you kind of took a beating that day.

36

37 (Laughter)

38

39 MR. HANNAN: That's okay.

40

41 MR. GUNDERSON: Brave guy.

42

43 (Laughter)

44

45 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: We're surprised you
46 made it back out.

47

48 MR. HANNAN: And, Madam Chairman, thank you
49 very much for allow us to go sooner on the agenda.

50

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1 MR. SIMEONOFF: I got a question.

2 MR. HANNAN: Yes, sir.

3

4 MR. SIMEONOFF: With Gilda's concern about
5 the critical habitat already affecting development, are you
6 going to review that designation? Because I see you have
7 all the coast of Kodiak Island there listed as critical
8 habitat and if it affects economic development, you know,
9 every community on Kodiak is built right on the shore. Are
10 you going to revisit that designation?

11

12 MR. HANNAN: First off, we're looking very
13 closely at the proposal right now, so we're trying to go
14 back and look at where do we have information of where the
15 birds actually winter. Where are major concentrations of
16 wintering birds? We know that there are some birds that
17 winter along the coast of Kodiak, we're looking at what
18 those numbers are, we're looking at how consistently they
19 use areas, things like that. So the first thing we want to
20 do is we want to make sure that anything that we go final
21 with is reasonable and that we have information upon which
22 to base that decision. It's not a predetermined decision
23 that there will be critical habitat finally designated on
24 Kodiak. So that's something we're looking at right now and
25 we haven't made a decision.

26

27 With regard to the economic development, when these
28 birds were listed, certain obligations and prohibitions and
29 restrictions come into play. And one of those things is
30 what we call Section VII of the Endangered Species Act and
31 it's what I mentioned before, when there's a Federal agency
32 comes in and if they give a community any -- or if there's
33 a permit involved or if there's some kind of authorization,
34 because an animal is listed, if they're going to do a
35 project that's within the area that the species utilizes,
36 they have to consider the impact of that project on listed
37 species. And that's been -- agencies should have been
38 doing that in False Pass or in Kodiak, in Sand Point or
39 here in Cold Bay since 1997 when the Steller's eider was
40 listed. They should have been looking at those projects.
41 I think, in many cases, they were doing that, they were
42 working with the Fish and Wildlife Service to look at the
43 impacts of that project on the animal. And, as I said, 99
44 percent of these projects go through and the permits are
45 let with very few accommodations having to be made for the
46 birds. That's what's supposed to be happening when a
47 species is listed.

48

49 Critical habitat doesn't affect that one way or
50 another. What it -- when we look at a project the first

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1 decision we have to make is this project going to
2 jeopardize the listed species? That means, basically, it's
3 going to push it closer to the brink of extinction. So
4 that species may not be able to survive. That's the
5 question that we have to ask and that we ask other Federal
6 agencies when a project comes up.

7
8 So like at False Pass -- I'm not familiar with the
9 two projects that you've mentioned, but since 1997 any
10 project that comes through there where Steller's eiders
11 could potentially live, they're supposed to ask those
12 questions. Now, if it's not going to jeopardize the bird
13 and I can't imagine one of these project jeopardizing the
14 continued existence of a bird that's scattered all across
15 the Alaska Peninsula and Eastern Aleutians and on up -- you
16 know, up in other place in Alaska. If it's not going to
17 jeopardize the species the project usually goes through
18 without many accommodations being made.

19
20 With critical habitat being designated we have to
21 answer a second question. Not only is it going to
22 jeopardize the bird, but is it going to so destroy the
23 habitat that the animal isn't going to be able to use it
24 any longer? And that's put into context of all the habitat
25 that is used. Unfortunately what we're seeing is -- there
26 are some instances where we've seen that Federal agencies
27 haven't been coming to us, like they should have been since
28 1997. Well, now, with this proposal they've looked at this
29 map and they go, oh, my goodness, I should have been
30 considering impacts on ducks, on these eiders, and so
31 they're coming to us and maybe that's what's happening in
32 False Pass, I don't know whether that's true or not, but
33 it's really more of a function that you have a listed
34 animal that's within the area that the project is taking
35 place that they have to -- the project needs to be
36 considered for its impact to the bird.

37
38 Critical habitat isn't adding a new layer of
39 protection, it isn't adding a new prohibition, but the
40 impression that people have is that, oh, yeah, until we had
41 critical habitat we never had to fool with this stuff
42 before. And that's not really -- you know, that may be, in
43 fact, what has happened, but that's not is what is supposed
44 to have happened.

45
46 Yes, sir.

47
48 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I have one more questions
49 for you. Has there been any research or study done or any
50 questioning done on the big boat crab lights? I know a lot

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1 of them are affected by the lights, the king eider.....

2

3 MR. HANNAN: Uh-huh.

4

5 MR. SQUARTSOFF:are Steller eider

6 affected the same way?

7

8 MR. HANNAN: First off, I don't know.....

9

10 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Their migration.

11

12 MR. HANNAN:if there's any research
13 that's been done on that, but one of the concerns that we
14 do have is on these -- on both lighting and structures and
15 how they affect migratory birds in general. Because I
16 think we found that, like, these big radio towers and
17 things like that that are going up all over the place, that
18 there are a lot of birds that run into those, both
19 waterfowl and other kind of migratory birds. And so I
20 think that as an agency we're looking at those things and
21 we're con -- we don't know enough to be concerned but we're
22 interested in finding out more information, just how many
23 birds are affected.

24

25 We did look at an oil project, one of the ones off
26 the coast of the North Slope, the Northstar Project, there
27 are specticled eiders that could potentially be affected by
28 that. And one of the things that we looked at is what
29 would be the impact, not only in case of an oil spill, but
30 also what is that structure going to do? With lighting and
31 stuff, are those birds going to run into it and kill
32 themselves? And I think that we've required some
33 monitoring from BP to try to evaluate what kind of risk is
34 associated with that.

35

36 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I just sort of felt that
37 some of our birds are starting to come back a little bit
38 after the crab season, the big boom, started to slow down.

39

40 MR. HANNAN: Oh, is that right? Huh.

41 Maybe there's a tie there.

42

43 MR. SQUARTSOFF: And then some other
44 species are -- like the king eider around Kodiak are almost
45 gone, where we used to have hundreds of them.

46

47 MR. HANNAN: Huh. I don't know, it's a
48 good observation, I'm not sure what the answer is.

49

50 MR. SQUARTSOFF: You know, you talk to a

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1 lot of fishermen and they'll tell you that the birds hit
2 the lights and the boats at night.

3

4 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: One of the things that
5 seem to come across a couple of time is it appears you're
6 getting a decline in a specific area and you're not sure
7 why, so if these birds are coming through the
8 Kodiak/Aleutians and back up, but the decline is happening
9 in the nesting area, I would hope that there is a lot of
10 focus on studying a little more of why that is, because
11 it's apparent from the people in the Kodiak and Aleutians
12 that we do not hunt or utilize these birds at all. And
13 that has come across strongly, I think, a number of times.
14 And I would hope that is strongly looked at. And I know
15 it's part of the decision-making process and sometimes we
16 are not people -- well, technically we end up being the
17 underdog in any kind of court system and we would hope that
18 you people would focus on that strongly and take what
19 people out here have said, what you've heard.

20

21 One of the things, Sue, you're also a part of this,
22 do you have any comments or anything that you want to add
23 to the report?

24

25 MS. DETWEILER: Thanks for asking, Della,
26 but I think Richard covered it pretty well. We'll know
27 more after we look through all the comments and shift what
28 people have said and just come up with the most appropriate
29 decision that we can. And I personally appreciate hearing
30 the comments and concerns that people have first hand today
31 from this region, so thank you.

32

33 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Anybody else have
34 anything to add to this?

35

36 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I just said the reason I
37 brought that up about the lights is because I've mentioned
38 to some people at Fish and Wildlife over two years now and
39 I haven't seen anything being done about it or anything.

40

41 MR. HANNAN: I will certainly make a note
42 of that and take it back, sir.

43

44 MR. ZACHAROF: Well, I add to that, since
45 Pete mentioned it. I'm from the Pribilof Island and this
46 is generally where a lot of the crab fishermen go. They do
47 bring a lot of king eiders on shore, you know, that hit the
48 lights. I mean, 20 to 30 birds to shore and you pick them
49 up and.....

50

00030

1 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Especially during a snow
2 storm.

3
4 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Yeah.

5
6 MR. ZACHAROF: Yeah, some kind of
7 attraction to the lights.

8
9 MR. HANNAN: Huh.

10
11 MR. GUNDERSON: It could be, you know,
12 maybe they get in a big flock of these Steller's, who
13 knows?

14
15 MR. HANNAN: It could possibly happen.

16
17 Again, thank you very much for altering your agenda
18 to allow us to go first, I appreciate it. And, again,
19 thank you very much for all your comments and Sue and I
20 will take them back with us and they'll go into the process
21 as we work on this rule.

22
23 Thank you very much.

24
25 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Thank you.

26
27 MR. GUNDERSON: Yeah, thanks for this
28 handout, it'll be helpful as to looking at some of this.
29 We had a small presentation last spring when John requested
30 that maybe somebody come down and do the questioning and
31 that.

32
33 MR. HANNAN: Thank you very much.

34
35 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Thank you, Marvin and
36 Paul, for your comments.

37
38 Okay, at this time what we will do is move to Item
39 number 6, which is the 805 letter and Board response to
40 Annual Report. And this letter is from Mitch -- oh, no, I
41 guess it isn't.

42
43 MR. EDENSHAW: Madam Chair, that's part of
44 the response to the Annual Report.

45
46 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Uh-huh.

47
48 MR. EDENSHAW: This is the individual
49 response regarding waterfowl hunting on the refuge, it's
50 included in the Annual Report that was submitted to the

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1 Board.

2

3

CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: All right.

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(Off record)

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1 (On record)

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I'd like to finish the
4 meeting up tonight if we can, maybe, I don't know if we
5 will. And then possibly, depending on flight schedules,
6 we'll have training in the morning.

7

8 Okay, I believe where we are is number 5, 805
9 letter and Board response to Annual Report. And talking to
10 Cliff, I think we'll cover this by each number. And the
11 first one on here is establishing a permanent hunting
12 season. Basically that did pass. We kind of covered these
13 in general. I don't know if there's any comments or
14 anything in regard to that.

15

16 (No audible responses)

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Hearing none, Item
19 Number 2 was Resolution 001, request involvement in future
20 decision-making issues surrounding Area M fisheries. And
21 that, basically, was a request from us asking to be
22 involved in any of the other regions that Area M is on
23 their agenda. And that did pass without any concerns from
24 the Yukon Regional Council, Interior and Western.

25

26 We do have another request later in the meeting in
27 regard to some of that.

28

29 Item Number 3, special use permits and request by
30 Regional Council, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
31 discontinuation special permits until an Environmental
32 Assessment is completed that addresses potential impacts to
33 the resources and displacement of traditional subsistence
34 users by sport hunters if special use permits are continued
35 to be handed out. And, to some degree, this is something
36 that Vince has sent in a letter, it was a request by him at
37 our last meeting and this letter does address that from Tom
38 Logan and I thought we'd have Rick Poetter make any
39 comments to that, but I see he's not in the room right now,
40 but we may have to go back to that one.

41

42 MR. EDENSHAW: Want me to go get him?

43

44 MR. GUNDERSON: I believe he was taking
45 someone to the airport, he'll be right back.

46

47 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Number 4, the
48 customary and traditional use determination for caribou in
49 Units 9(D) and 10, Unimak for the community of Akutan.
50 When I was at this meeting we had some letter faxed into

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1 [sic] Akutan that went into record for the full Subsistence
2 Board to review and that did pass.

3

4 Number 5, rural status for Adak. It's my
5 understanding from Cliff that this issue is technically on
6 -- there's still not nothing decided on it; is that right,
7 Cliff?

8

9 MR. EDENSHAW: There was a review and the
10 Board made a commitment to discuss this soon in a work
11 session and will provide an appropriate response to the
12 Council under separate cover, just as it states there.
13 And, also, some discussions they had previously that the
14 2000 census was recently completed so additional data
15 regarding that is on hold. And also the Board is going to
16 start its regulatory cycle in reviewing the whole state, so
17 instead of going ahead and looking at Adak in a separate
18 individual request here, they thought it was appropriate to
19 wait for this year's -- for the census data to become
20 available and also since they're going to review all the
21 C&T determinations statewide, it was appropriate for them
22 to do that.

23

24 And, Tim, can also address -- or he can add some
25 additional information regarding the discussion that ensued
26 there.

27

28 MR. JENNINGS: Madam Chair, Tim Jennings.
29 I don't have anything specifically to add on Adak. There
30 is a separate briefing in your book that I'll cover on
31 regarding the statewide rural determinations.

32

33 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay. Thank you.
34 Number 6, critical habitat. I believe we pretty much have
35 covered that issue in the last report.

36

37 Number 7, training session. General information and
38 future training session opportunities. I do believe we
39 have another statewide training coming up January 22nd to
40 the 26th of 2001.

41

42 MR. EDENSHAW: Madam Chair, that's included
43 in the portion that Tim's going to cover also under the
44 LSM, later on the agenda.

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay, thank you.
47 Number 8, Buskin River. This is also going to be covered?

48

49 MR. EDENSHAW: That's going to be covered
50 in our proposals. There's actually four proposals that

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1 Buskin River is in those.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay. And number 9,
4 customary and traditional use for salmon in Unit 8.

5

6 MR. EDENSHAW: That is also in.....

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: That's in a proposal
9 also.

10

11 The only thing that I didn't see added in there,
12 like I mentioned earlier, was the Kodiak elk and for a
13 subsistence hunt and that did pass at that meeting also.

14

15 MR. EDENSHAW: I think Robert will probably
16 give us an update on what's happening on that.

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Yeah. Okay, given
19 that is there any other comments to be added to number 7?

20

21 (No audible responses)

22

23 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: We're going to move on
24 to fishery proposals and review and Regional Council
25 recommendations. Tab E.

26

27 Who's going to do these?

28

29 MR. EDENSHAW: Madam Chair, on Proposal 41,
30 Rich Uberuaga will provide the introduction to this
31 proposal. From my understanding in speaking with Len
32 Schwartz in Kodiak, Mr. Shaul is available for ADF&G
33 comment when we get to that portion. At least that's what
34 Len conveyed to me when I spoke with him by phone.

35

36 MR. UBERUAGA: Madam Chair, members of the
37 Council, Richard Uberuaga with the Office of Subsistence in
38 Anchorage. Proposal 41 was submitted by Mark Olsen. And
39 when I first started working on this proposal I made the
40 mistake of not speaking to him right away and getting a
41 clarification on his proposal. And I ended up doing an
42 analysis, fairly detailed analysis, on something that was
43 not his proposal.

44

45 What Mark wanted was some technical clarifications
46 in the regulations. To spell out better in the regulations
47 just what areas were closed for fishing because the
48 regulations were confusing. And I looked at those
49 regulations and found them confusing also. So after
50 talking to him and several other people we made those

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1 regulations a lot clearer. And if you are familiar with
2 Chiniak Bay and the Buskin River mouth you know there is a
3 closure area right at the mouth of the Buskin, and that area
4 will remain closed to fishing. But the regulations will be
5 stated similar to what you have in front of you. There'll
6 be no mention of Chiniak Bay as being a closed area. It
7 specifically identifies that buoy are in the mouth. So we
8 felt that that would solve his technical concerns with
9 Proposal 41.

10

11 And then, if you have any questions about the
12 Buskin proposal -- this particular proposal, I'd be happy
13 to address them.

14

15 MR. GUNDERSON: Dick, one of the points of
16 interest was that that were a number of different groups
17 that were identified as managers of this system. I believe
18 the Navy was involved, the Coast Guard was involved, the
19 Native corporation, the State and the Feds.

20

21 MR. UBERUAGA: Uh-huh.

22

23 MR. GUNDERSON: And one of the questions
24 that we had was, who has the last word, does anybody? Or
25 does each group control a certain portion of this little
26 river system? And it was kind of a pilot project, I guess,
27 was to find out where the control was or is.

28

29 MR. UBERUAGA: There was a lot of confusion
30 on who was responsible for what in the mouth of the Buskin.
31 The area in salt water off the mouth of the Buskin is part
32 of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, okay? And
33 that area is on the maps that we got out here, it's a small
34 area covering Chiniak Bay, Women's Bay area, but it is
35 under Federal jurisdiction for -- whereas the Buskin River
36 itself is under State jurisdiction and the State does not
37 allow direct subsistence fishing with nets in the Buskin
38 River. So the Coast Guard residents do not have rural
39 priority, cannot fish in the -- subsistence fish offshore
40 in that Federal fishery.

41

42 MR. GUNDERSON: Okay.

43

44 MR. UBERUAGA: You know, we're trying to
45 make it clear exactly where you can and can't fish. Under
46 those old regulations it was confusing.

47

48 MR. GUNDERSON: So what you're saying is
49 the State has no jurisdiction over the subsistence
50 fishermen in that area, as long as their inside the.....

00036

1 MR. UBERUAGA: If they're inside the
2 Federal waters.....

3
4 MR. GUNDERSON:Federal waters?

5
6 MR. UBERUAGA:the Federal regulations
7 apply. And the differences between the Federal and State
8 regulations, as you probably know, are the hours of fishing
9 and the methods and means -- rod and reel fishing. So if
10 you are in Federal waters you can use rod and reel to
11 harvest -- subsistence harvest fish and you can leave your
12 nets out 24 hours. Those are the only two difference
13 between the State and Federal regulations.

14
15 MR. GUNDERSON: But you can also still get
16 a State subsistence permit to fish in the river?

17
18 MR. SQUARTSOFF: No.

19
20 MR. UBERUAGA: No.

21
22 MR. GUNDERSON: No?

23
24 MR. SQUARTSOFF: You know, whatever --
25 because you get a State permit -- you get the permit from
26 the State, there is no Federal permit.

27
28 MR. UBERUAGA: You do get a State
29 permit.....

30
31 MR. GUNDERSON: To fish in the Federal
32 waters?

33
34 MR. UBERUAGA: That's right.

35
36 MR. GUNDERSON: Okay.

37
38 MR. SQUARTSOFF: But the only thing is the
39 State can't enforce it in those Federal waters.

40
41 MR. UBERUAGA: They can enforce the rod and
42 reel and.....

43
44 MR. GUNDERSON: It sounds like the
45 fisheries I'm in.

46
47 (Laughter)

48
49 MR. UBERUAGA: And we hope to make those
50 regulations clearer by this and I think Mark had a good

00037

1 idea to make it clearer, and I appreciate his concern with
2 that proposal.

3

4 And then the next proposal follows in step with
5 this proposal. Both 42 and, I believe, 43 also. And if
6 you have [sic] any more questions we can go to 42.

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Technically.....

9

10 MR. JENNINGS: Madam Chair.

11

12 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Go ahead.

13

14 MR. JENNINGS: Point of clarification. In
15 the Federal waters -- this is Tim Jennings. In the Federal
16 waters the State still has -- you can still fish under a
17 State permit using State subsistence regulations, so the
18 Federal waters have not been closed exclusively to the
19 Federally qualified subsistence users. It's similar under
20 the game management unit where sometimes we have both State
21 regulations applying and also Federal regulations until
22 such time when there might be a shortage and the rural
23 priority would come for the Federally qualified users.
24 It's similar under the fishing side, so.....

25

26 MR. SQUARTSOFF: So what you're saying,
27 Tim, is that you have to still pull you net out by 9:00
28 p.m. at the Buskin River?

29

30 MR. JENNINGS: If you're fishing under
31 State regulations.

32

33 MR. SQUARTSOFF: You have a State permit.

34

35 MR. JENNINGS: If you're under -- if you're
36 fishing under State regulations, then the State subsistence
37 fishermen.....

38

39 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Permit.

40

41 MR. JENNINGS:then you follow the
42 State's regs. If you're a Federally qualified user, then
43 you can fish under the Federal regs and follow those
44 regulations, so there's -- in essence.....

45

46 MR. SQUARTSOFF: In other words,
47 residents.....

48

49 MR. JENNINGS: The rural residents that
50 qualify for that area, yes.

00038

1 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Did you say there was
2 regulations, Federal, for fishing or for subsistence or
3 there isn't?

4
5 MR. UBERUAGA: There are Federal
6 regulations for fishing in the booklet, the Federal
7 regulations booklet, and we're trying to clarify them as to
8 what the closed waters are opened and which ones are not.

9
10 MR. JENNINGS: No, I was just trying to
11 clarify that Rich said that in Federal waters we had
12 jurisdiction. We do, but the State still has jurisdiction
13 for commercial fishing, sport fishing.....

14
15 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Right, right.

16
17 MR. JENNINGS:and also State
18 subsistence fishing.

19
20 MR. GUNDERSON: That's why I say, it's
21 clear as mud.

22
23 (Laughter)

24
25 MR. UBERUAGA: You can fish under Federal
26 jurisdiction, but you have to get a State permit.

27
28 MR. GUNDERSON: But we're not recognized
29 without net and don't pull it in then it must be okay.

30
31 (Laughter)

32
33 MR. UBERUAGA: But this will clear it up
34 somewhat.

35
36 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Maybe let's back up a
37 little bit here. Do we need to do anything with this at
38 this time? Does this Council need to act on this or just
39 leave it as is right now?

40
41 MR. UBERUAGA: No, it's an administrative
42 correction that we're making to the regulation.

43
44 MR. ZACHAROF: They're just rewording it.

45
46 MR. UBERUAGA: No action is required on
47 that.

48
49 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Is there any other
50 discussion on Proposal 41? Besides that we're all a little

00039

1 more confused.

2

3 (No audible responses)

4

5 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Proposal Number 42, if
6 we'll move on.

7

8 MR. UBERUAGA: Proposal 42 was also
9 submitted by Mark Olsen. And this proposal basically asks
10 for a Federal permit system to be instituted, to be put in
11 place. And I believe Mark's feelings on this were that if
12 you're going to fish under Federal system, have a Federal
13 permit. Simple as that, in his mind as far as what he
14 wanted.

15

16 The differences, again, between the Federal and
17 State permits in these waters are the use of rod and reel,
18 which is allowed under the Federal system and not under the
19 State and the timing when you can fish. You can fish from
20 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. for the State and you can fish 24
21 hours a day for the Federal regulations. Our position is
22 that we're trying to keep our regulations similar to State
23 and Federal regulations at this time to minimize confusion.
24 We felt that the small difference with the rod and reel and
25 the hours fished can be better stated in the regulations
26 and we recommended not to institute a separate Federal
27 licensing for subsistence fishing.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Comments?

30

31 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Well, I don't really don't
32 have any problem with the way the State regs are because I
33 personally don't really fish the Buskin, so I'm not, you
34 know. And the State regulation does have -- I don't know
35 what the fishing pole deal the State has, it's legal to
36 snag salmon in salt water.

37

38 MR. UBERUAGA: Under the sport fishing
39 regulation, yes.

40

41 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Under sport fishing
42 regulation, so I don't know. But, yet, I think maybe his
43 concerns was the amount of fish you could take with the rod
44 and reel.

45

46 MR. UBERUAGA: He didn't express that to
47 me, but.....

48

49 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Buy I mean that would mean
50 the only thing I could think of.

00040

1 MR. UBERUAGA: My understanding is that
2 you're going to be allowed 25 fish

3
4 MR. SQUARTSOFF: You're allowed five a day
5 on State regs.

6
7 MR. UBERUAGA: With no -- yes, that's
8 right, under sport fishing.

9
10 MR. CRATTY: Under sport fishing, but under
11 subsistence you're allowed 25 per household.

12
13 MR. SQUARTSOFF: But you can't do it if
14 you're under the State regulations because the Federal part
15 of this deal.

16
17 MR. CRATTY: If you're subsisting under the
18 State regulation you can do it, 25, but if you're sport
19 fishing you can't do it.

20
21 MR. SQUARTSOFF: But you can't use a rod
22 and reel for subsistence under State.

23
24 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, I know that, but you're
25 still allowed 25 fish.

26
27 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Right. Right.

28
29 MR. UBERUAGA: See, the mouth of the
30 Buskin, there's a small area there, it's about five to 10
31 acres, it's pretty small. If you're sport fishing you can
32 snag fish in that closure area, five a day.

33
34 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Right.

35
36 MR. UBERUAGA: But you cannot subsistence
37 fish there.

38
39 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Right.

40
41 MR. UBERUAGA: And that's a pretty
42 important area for that stock of fish.

43
44 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Right.

45
46 MR. UBERUAGA: So they do need a little
47 sanctuary area, if you will. So at this time we felt the
48 current permit system is the best way to go.

49
50 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Name tag.....

00041

1 MR. CRATTY: That's -- excuse me, that's on
2 the river mouth though. Is that inside the river?

3
4 MR. UBERUAGA: It's just right at the river
5 mouth.

6
7 MR. CRATTY: Oh, okay.

8
9 MR. UBERUAGA: Just right offshore.

10
11 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Subsisting offshore is
12 still.....

13
14 MR. UBERUAGA: Yeah, there's some markers
15 there, there's two or three markers there.

16
17 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, I don't have any
18 problem with the State regs.

19
20 MR. CRATTY: I don't either.

21
22 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: So it's the Council's
23 recommendation to leave this as the current permit system
24 then?

25
26 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I guess do not support.

27
28 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Do not support.

29
30 MR. EDENSHAW: Excuse me, Madam Chair.

31
32 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Yeah.

33
34 MR. EDENSHAW: What the Council may want to
35 -- if look at the beginning of the agenda here, you perhaps
36 wish to clarify that on this here is that when we go
37 through these proposal, he is the individual who did up
38 this biological analysis and provides what the
39 recommendation of the staff is on this proposal and then if
40 Mr. Shaul, if you go through this in the order, is going to
41 provide ADF&G comments on what their recommendations are
42 regarding this proposal and then the Council can take
43 action in the form of a motion whether to support or accept
44 what the staff recommendation is on this proposal or also
45 if they choose to do whatever they please with it.

46
47 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay.

48
49 MR. EDENSHAW: But that should be the
50 procedure for them.

00042

1 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay. So if anybody
2 else has any questions or comments to Rich at this time, if
3 not, we will move on to Arnie Shaul of ADF&G for any
4 comments in regard to Proposal 42.

5
6 Arnie, you want to come up to the mike.

7
8 MR. SHAUL: I'm not really all that
9 familiar with the Kodiak area, although I live there over
10 30 years in the winter time, but there was official
11 comments, there is -- listed here is do not -- this was
12 made by a blue ribbon committee that I understand didn't
13 get a lot of input from the local lodges but the official
14 position was that they do not support institut -- separate
15 Federal subsistence permits is not supported since it
16 duplicates the State permit program. State regulation
17 requires subsistence permit for salmon. In order to
18 minimize confusion for the public, the Federal Assessment
19 Program needs to be carefully coordinated with the State
20 program already in place under the terms of protocol
21 agreement in operation. An option is to note differences
22 in Federal regulations and State permit or to require a
23 Federal permit only for rod and reel fishing. The State
24 permit sufficient if subsistence fishing only with a with a
25 gill net or a seine. Data complication permits would be
26 coordinated if more than one permit is established.

27
28 I understand that in talking to Len Schwartz that
29 it would be desirable to get sort of get information
30 perhaps, on the amount of fish that were caught using rod
31 and reel for subsistence. The kind of, you know, only real
32 benefit that I thought there might be with requiring a
33 Federal permit, you don't really know how much fish are
34 currently being caught in rod and reel under Federal
35 subsistence.

36
37 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Any questions for
38 Arnie? Any more comments?

39
40 (No audible response)

41
42 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Guess I'll let you off
43 the hot seat there. Okay, were there any summary of
44 written comments, Cliff, at this time.....

45
46 MR. EDENSHAW: No.

47
48 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE:in regards to
49 Proposal 42?

50

00043

1 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I just have one, Arnie, on
2 this marine waters in Chiniak Bay are part of Alaska
3 Maritime National Wildlife Refuge and are under Federal
4 jurisdiction. Map one, residents of Kodiak area may fish
5 other than salmon, steelhead, trout and rainbow trout for
6 customary and traditional uses. What does it mean by
7 salmon? Other than salmon? We can't take salmon?

8
9 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Pat?

10
11 MS. PETRIVELLI: There's a different
12 customary and traditional use determination for salmon and
13 that's with -- it's all the residents of the Kodiak Island
14 Borough except for the Coast Guard.

15
16 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Oh, I see.

17
18 MS. PETRAVELLI: So that's why it's
19 different.

20
21 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Okay. Oh, okay. Residents
22 of the Kodiak.....

23
24 MS. PETRIVELLI: Yes, see it keeps going
25 on, residents of the Kodiak Island Borough except those
26 residing in the Coast Guard.

27
28 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Oh, okay. Well, just the
29 way it said here, other than salmon.

30
31 MS. PETRAVELLI: Yeah.....

32
33 MR. SQUARTSOFF: What's that supposed to
34 mean?

35
36 MS. PETRAVELLI:because it's a little
37 different for salmon because they leave out the Coast Guard
38 people.

39
40 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Oh, okay.

41
42 MR. SHAUL: Then Proposal 41 is this closed
43 waters thing, and that it real -- what I understood was it
44 caused a lot of the confusions behind this besides the
45 State/Federal waters. The thing is under commercial salmon
46 regulations, we have two things you can do. One is, you
47 got, let's say the Chiniak Bay section and if the Chiniak
48 Bay section is closed to commercial salmon fishing, that's
49 one thing -- it's the area's closed to commercial salmon
50 fishing but it's not -- the closed waters is a whole

00044

1 different thing and there's certain terminal waters that
2 always closed unless changed by emergency order.

3

4 And we ran into the same thing here between the
5 herring and salmon. We had a regulation where you couldn't
6 herring fish in closed waters in the Alaska Peninsula
7 during the summertime. And there were waters that were
8 closed to commercial salmon fishing. The way we clarified
9 it was described the commercial salmon closed waters under
10 5 AAC 350 and that way so that people know that you're
11 dealing with the closed waters listed in the book and not
12 just the section or the district where the fishing period
13 may be closed. So I don't know, the State regulations
14 could probably be just clarified a little bit to clean that
15 up.

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Thank you.

18

19 MR. EDENSHAW: Madam Chair, there weren't
20 any written public comments regarding Proposal 42.

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: So we've got open
23 floor if public comments -- have any comments in regard to
24 Proposal 42?

25

26 (No audible response)

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Not hearing or seeing
29 any, I guess it's Regional Council recommendation and
30 justification.

31

32 (Whispered conversation)

33

34 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Well, I'll make a motion
35 that we do not support Proposal 42.

36

37 MR. FOSTER: Second.

38

39 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Motion made and
40 second. Call for question?

41

42 MR. GUNDERSON: Question.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Hearing none, all in
45 favor say aye.

46

47 IN UNISON: Aye.

48

49 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Opposed, same sign.

50

00045

1 (No audible response)

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Motion carried. With
4 that we move on to Proposal 43. Pat Petrivelli.

5

6 MS. PETRIVELLI: I'm Pat Petrivelli, the
7 staff anthropologist for the Kodiak/Aleutians Region team.
8 And Proposal 43 was submitted by Mark Olsen. And it
9 requested that a new subsistence regulation be added for
10 the Kodiak area to establish the distance between set gill
11 nets at 150 feet. And on the second page of that proposal
12 it shows the marine jurisdictions besides Chiniak Bay, it's
13 a mile around Afognak Island and then also 1,000 feet
14 outside of that border of Karluk in that white triangle
15 there.

16

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible).

18

19 MS. PETRIVELLI: Yeah, so there's marine
20 jurisdictions under the Alaska Maritime Wildlife Refuge in
21 those three areas. And in looking at this regulation, Mark
22 Olsen informally said, what's happening at Chiniak Bay
23 before locally when it was mostly local residents setting
24 their nets there you would go -- people would respect
25 common courtesy distances between set gill nets. But now
26 you can go out early in the morning and set your net in a
27 good place and then later in the day someone will put their
28 net too close to the first net and then it cuts them off
29 from catching fish. So he wanted to put into regulations a
30 distance.

31

32 And in looking at the regulations currently in
33 effect there is no distance. In subsistence regulations,
34 there are some the Y-K area, which is 150 and I think in
35 Bristol Bay we have 300. And in State regulations in Cook
36 Inlet, they have 600 feet between nets but there's just all
37 different areas. But in discussions with people in the
38 Kodiak region at the refuge in the State, they thought 150
39 was a reasonable distance to start with because the area is
40 not very big and there's a lot of users. And just to start
41 off with -- to start with 150 feet between nets.

42

43 And the number of users in the area -- Table 1 on
44 Page 18 -- there's like 6,893 people in Kodiak. Of course
45 in the smaller villages there's not that much but usually
46 the Kodiak people fish Chiniak Bay on Afognak. And so --
47 which would be in our marine jurisdiction so this
48 regulation would help out the subsistence users that live
49 in the Kodiak city area. So their recommendation was to
50 adopt a regulation. And probably in the villages people

00046

1 wouldn't set their nets closer than 150 feet anyway,
2 so.....

3

4 MR. SQUARTSOFF: No, I support this
5 proposal. I spoke with Mark about it just a few days ago
6 and this was one of the ones he was mostly concerned about
7 from all his proposals. And he told me he would like to
8 see a distance limit set but he had also mentioned to me
9 that it would be no problem if somebody tied their net off
10 of yours then went in the same direction, I mean to extend
11 it further, that would be no problem. But when you come
12 and set right in front of your net then you're cutting off
13 that other fish -- person's net. But you can tie on and
14 extend so I'd like to make a motion to amend that proposal
15 to add.....

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I think that, Pete,
18 maybe we'll go through the.....

19

20 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Go through the whole thing
21 before we.....

22

23 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE:the different --
24 yeah, and then a recommendation and motion at the end.

25

26 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Okay. But anyway, that's
27 what he told me. He said that he feels there's no problem
28 if somebody would come and tie off of your net instead of
29 going in front of your net.

30

31 MS. PETRIVELLI: Oh, so like just being to
32 the side?

33

34 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Right, like your net is
35 set -- his net is set.....

36

37 MS. PETRIVELLI: Yes.

38

39 MR. SQUARTSOFF:here and somebody
40 comes and ties off here and goes this way. But he doesn't
41 want anybody to come on either side of it.

42

43 MS. PETRIVELLI: Oh, yeah when we were
44 talking on the phone -- I understand that now. Maybe I
45 could talk with Tim and we could figure ways to -- well
46 I'll do that while you're discussing other things.

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Any other questions of
49 Pat Petrivelli?

50

00047

1 (No audible response)

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Hearing none, we'll on
4 to ADF&G. Arnie, do you want to make comments on Proposal
5 43?

6

7 MR. SHAUL: The official comments where it
8 does -- neutral, there's no minimum distance between --
9 requirement State regulation, however I talked to Kevin
10 Brennan the Kodiak area manager/biologist and he felt that
11 there really wasn't a problem there and that if you had a
12 minimum distance it was going to require a lot more
13 enforcement effort.

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Are there any
16 questions for Arnie or comments?

17

18 MR. SQUARTSOFF: What do you mean, they're
19 worried about people will be complaining that somebody came
20 and set their net too close and.....

21

22 MR. SHAUL: Yeah, I guess.....

23

24 MR. SQUARTSOFF:and enforcement has
25 to.....

26

27 MR. SHAUL: Right, if you had a certain
28 distance here that you'd have somebody complaining that
29 somebody's.....

30

31 MR. SQUARTSOFF: But if it's only on
32 Federal waters then the State can't enforce it. So then
33 that wouldn't have to be up to the Federal?

34

35 MR. SHAUL: Yeah, I guess your Federal
36 would have to.....

37

38 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Robert?

39

40 MR. SHAUL:to enfor.....

41

42 MR. STOVALL: Yeah, I would.....

43

44 MR. GUNDERSON: Get down there with a
45 yardstick.

46

47 MR. STOVALL: I'm Robert Stovall of Kodiak
48 National Wildlife Refuge. There would probably have to be
49 a Federal enforcement of any of these regulations if it's
50 in Federal waters. I don't know what the refuge would have

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1 planned for that. That and the mere fact that it's also
2 Alaska Maritime Refuge, that would be the lead refuge to be
3 doing the enforcement and they're kind of far away from us.

4

5 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Al?

6

7 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, I agree with Mark and
8 Peter, I think it's a good idea because there is problems
9 starting in Kodiak there with subsistence use and that's --
10 I think it's a way to solve it.

11

12 MR. SHAUL: And I think once most people
13 get it and realize it and start telling each other about
14 it, it'll take care of itself. I really don't feel that
15 it's going to be an enforcement problem. I guess they felt
16 that because you get -- it might be different subsistence
17 but I know in Nelson Lagoon, for example, you got 1800 feet
18 between set nets and they keep getting -- protection always
19 get reports -- problems and they went up there and they
20 measured.....

21

22 MR. EDENSHAW: That's commercial though.

23

24 MR. SHAUL: Right -- measured and found,
25 you know, one was 50 feet, you know, closer than is
26 recommended.

27

28 MR. GUNDERSON: Yeah, I could just see that
29 would -- with that many users in that small area, 150 feet --
30 if somebody would put a net 150 feet away from me, I think
31 I'd get a little panicky right there but.....

32

33 MR. SQUARTSOFF: But there is people that
34 do come out there.....

35

36 MR. GUNDERSON: Oh, I can see where that
37 would happen.

38

39 MR. SQUARTSOFF:and don't set their
40 net from here to Arnie away from your net. And I mean, you
41 know, and that's ridiculous.

42

43 MR. GUNDERSON: I worked at drift fisheries
44 and that happens to us all the time.

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Al, you had one more
47 comment did you?

48

49 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, this is just going to
50 deal with Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge

00049

1 jurisdiction. Women's Bay and Afognak?

2

3 MR. SQUARTSOFF: And as far as I've seen
4 over the years, nobody has a problem at all with that on
5 Afognak. Everybody respects somebody's net and they don't
6 set it right in front. The only place there is a problem
7 is at the Buskin itself.

8

9 MR. BOS: Thank you, Madam Chair. Greg
10 Bos, Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Subsistence
11 Coordinator. Now you were speaking to the enforcement
12 question and I just wanted to point out that enforceability
13 of this regulation might be a problem because it only
14 applies to Federal subsistence users and people fishing
15 under State regulations would not governed by this Federal
16 regulation. I just think it's probably a good regulation
17 if the Federal Board adopts it and I think we should work
18 with the State and try to get a similar regulation in place
19 through the Board of Fisheries so that it's consistent
20 regulations between the State and the Federal programs.

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Thank you.

23

24 MR. SQUARTSOFF: But it doesn't state
25 anywhere at all, only in Federal waters?

26

27 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, that's the maritime.

28

29 MR. BOS: This regulation would only apply
30 to waters that the Federal government has jurisdiction
31 however the State has overlapping jurisdiction there for
32 its own users. So people fishing under State subsistence
33 regulations would not be subject to the gill net distance
34 requirement.

35

36 MR. SQUARTSOFF: But if they're fishing in
37 Federal waters?

38

39 MR. BOS: The Federal program would have to
40 close those Federal waters to non-eligible Federal
41 fishermen in order to effect this closure. And it's
42 possible the Board could adopt a regulation that
43 establishes gear restrictions on State fishers but it
44 hasn't done so up to now and so there's some question about
45 whether they want to set that precedent. But I think the
46 State would probably look -- I would guess that the Board
47 of Fisheries will certainly consider a proposal made to
48 them when the Kodiak area comes up on their regulatory
49 cycle to make a change that would also establish this
50 requirement.

00050

1 MR. GUNDERSON: I just attended the State
2 meeting in Anchorage and there was some discussion as to
3 this particular problem. The State Board of Fish was doing
4 some housecleaning, regulatory stuff and they wanted to
5 find out where this board sat on this issue before they
6 made a decision on it. So they already discussed it. So I
7 think they would go along with whatever recommendations
8 that come from this group.

9
10 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Any other discussion
11 before we move on?

12
13 (No audible response)

14
15 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Anybody in the public?

16
17 (No audible response)

18
19 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Given then not hearing
20 any, I guess we'll go ahead and move on Regional Council
21 recommendation justification. Thank you, Arnie. This is
22 where we can make a motion.

23
24 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Well, I don't know exactly
25 how to word it but I'd like to make a motion to add to this
26 proposal -- amend this proposal to that you can extend
27 another net from the net that's already set.

28
29 MR. GUNDERSON: Are you going to put a
30 limit on this how far you can go?

31
32 MR. ZACHAROF: Yeah and how many nets are
33 you going to be able to extend -- five or ten?

34
35 (Simultaneous conversations)

36
37 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Did you come up with
38 any with any wording -- Pat you were talking about trying
39 to come up with some wording to amend this proposal?

40
41 MS. PETRIVELLI: And we decided to leave it
42 to regulatory people.

43
44 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Well right now there isn't
45 any regulation you can -- so anyway you want off of another
46 net. Maybe.....

47
48 MR. EDENSHAW: Madam Chair, perhaps in
49 Pete's motion he can address the first portion of it to
50 support Proposal 44, which is to restrict the.....

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1 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Forty-three.

2

3 MR. EDENSHAW: Or Proposal 43 -- the
4 distance between set nets of 150 feet and then go ahead and
5 possibly add a -- and to modify or to say that you can
6 extend on to an existing net. But that would probably be a
7 good start to go ahead and start first with what Proposal
8 43 is.

9

10 MS. PETRIVELLI: And maybe just one
11 additional net, how about that?

12

13 MR. SQUARTSOFF: One additional net. Okay,
14 we'll make a motion in support of Proposal 43 with an
15 addition of you can add one net on to that existing net.

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Al?

18

19 MS. SHELLIKOFF: Second it.

20

21 MR. CRATTY: I wonder if there's going to
22 be a problem with protection on this?

23

24 MR. SQUARTSOFF: No, it's already legal.

25

26 MR. CRATTY: Oh, it is?

27

28 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Uh-huh (affirmative).

29

30 MR. CRATTY: Well, you're only allowed so
31 long of a net.

32

33 MR. SQUARTSOFF: No, you can tie all your
34 -- you're allowed -- your own net, you're allowed 50
35 fathoms per person.

36

37 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, but if you're tying off
38 the other one, that's 100 fathoms.

39

40 MR. SQUARTSOFF: You can tie all you want
41 off all you want on it. You could tie 5 nets on to each
42 other, if you want.

43

44 MR. GUNDERSON: Not under the State
45 regulations, you're only allowed 100 fathoms maximum in
46 length. Which is 600 feet.

47

48 MR. SQUARTSOFF: No, it's not. State
49 regulation is 50 fathoms per person.

50

00052

1 MR. CRATTY: No, what I'm looking at is
2 what are the Federal regulations. Can you get in trouble?
3 That's what I'm trying to.....

4
5 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Well, I guess list it and
6 then we'll go into discussion.

7
8 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Yeah, we do have a
9 motion to accept it and amend and it was seconded by Gilda
10 Shellikoff so I guess we're in call for question at this
11 time and discussion -- discussion at this time.

12
13 MR. CRATTY: Is there anybody here that can
14 answer my question?

15
16 MR. SHAUL: What was the question?

17
18 MR. GUNDERSON: Well, I don't know what
19 the State -- State regs.....

20
21 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: (Indiscernible -
22 simultaneous speech) existing regulations are.

23
24 MR. CRATTY: I want to know is it legal to
25 do it and what is the length?

26
27 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Cratty, I think in the
28 past what would be best to answer that is to go ahead and
29 if that's the Council's desire to sit there and say you may
30 extend out from an additional net already to go ahead and
31 do that and the Staff Committee or the Board would go ahead
32 make a decision on that. So if that's the wish of the
33 Council then they should go ahead and do that and the Board
34 would make that decision at that level. Irregardless if
35 it's -- it's not -- inside our regulations or not. But we
36 have a copy of our fishing regulations that I have and I
37 think Tim and I were going through them but that's what I
38 would recommend the Council do. And when Mark first --
39 when we were having these jurisdiction problems, they
40 thought that the best case scenario was for them to go
41 ahead and submit a proposal and let that fall through the
42 sister [sic] and those questions would be answered. And
43 I'd probably sit there and say that's probably the best
44 thing for the Council if that's what they choose to do in
45 terms of a recommendation would be to do so.

46
47 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Tim, do you have
48 anything to add right now?

49
50 MR. JENNINGS: Madam Chair, Tim Jennings.

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1 I can clarify what the Federal regs state for the length of
2 the net. It's on Page 5 in our regulations under general
3 provisions. Gill net restrictions for salmon. You may not
4 use a gill net over 50 fathoms long. So Mr. Squartsoff was
5 correct. And it says further, unless otherwise noted under
6 a specific fisheries management areas regulation. And
7 under Kodiak, it doesn't go any further in providing any
8 further restrictions.

9

10 MR. SQUARTSOFF: See what Mark is
11 saying.....

12

13 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, I understand what he's
14 saying, Pete.

15

16 MR. SQUARTSOFF:you can set your net,
17 drop your anchor out and somebody else could come right
18 there and drop their anchor and set their net out.

19

20 MR. CRATTY: Well, they can't tie it off.

21

22 MR. SQUARTSOFF: It's not one net. It's a
23 separate net.

24

25 MR. CRATTY: Well, they can't tie it off to
26 the other net.

27

28 MR. SQUARTSOFF: You could just -- yeah.

29

30 MR. CRATTY: Oh, okay. Well, that good.
31 Because I know guys that would do it. I'm just, you know,
32 looking at the legal side.

33

34 MR. SQUARTSOFF: And you see Athabasca all
35 the time -- let's tie off to each other.

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I think John has some
38 wording here that might -- do you want to read that John?

39

40 MR. FOSTER: Yeah, okay. How about
41 something like, set nets must be 150 feet apart except that
42 no more than two gill nets may be tied in them.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I think it covers
45 that. Very well done. Do you want to add that to your
46 motion then?

47

48 MR. SQUARTSOFF: That's the motion.

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: So a motion was made

00054

1 by Pete Squartsoff to accept Proposal 43 with amendment
2 that set nets must be 100 feet apart except that no more
3 than two gill nets may be tied end to end.

4

5 MR. SQUARTSOFF: That's 150 feet.

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Yeah, 150 feet.

8

9 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Oh, I thought you said
10 100.

11

12 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Gilda Shellikoff
13 second. Any more discussion?

14

15 (No audible response)

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Hearing none, call for
18 question.

19

20 MR. ZACHAROF: Question.

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: All in favor of the
23 motion (indiscernible - coughing) saying aye.

24

25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Opposed same sign.

28

29 (No audible response)

30

31 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Motion carried. Thank
32 you everyone on that one. Continue on, I believe it's a
33 Proposal 44. Pat Petrivelli?

34

35 MS. PETRIVELLI: Proposal 44 was also
36 submitted by Mark Olsen and it was to allow the use of
37 vessel skiffs, seine vessel skiffs, pursing vessel skiffs.
38 And it turned out -- it ended up being withdrawn because in
39 review of the regulations, we do allow the use of those
40 skiffs. It was just a making sure that we -- it's what it
41 is, is you may not use the salmon seine vessels for
42 subsistence fishing so we were proposing to add this
43 clarifying -- well, we will be adding this clarifying
44 wording.

45

46 And that's on Page 23 and the current regulation
47 says from June 1 through September 15th, you may not use
48 salmon seine vessels to take subsistence salmon for 24
49 hours before, during or -- and for 24 hours after any open
50 commercial salmon period and we'll add in the words, use of

00055

1 skiffs from any type of vessels. Any type of vessel are
2 allowed so that skiffs can be used. So if there's -- so we
3 are going to clarify the wording on that. So I don't know
4 if there are any questions?

5

6 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Questions? Comments?

7

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: A clarification.

9

10 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: It's basic
11 clarification, yeah.

12

13 MS. PETRIVELLI: And that language would be
14 added for correction.

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Mr. Shaul, ADF&G.

17

18 MR. SHAUL: The State's comments on this
19 one was, let me see, neutral and if I can find it.

20

21 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: It's page -- well, it
22 must be 22.

23

24 MR. SHAUL: Yeah, and it says under State's
25 comments on this one there's.....

26

27 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Neutral.

28

29 MR. SHAUL: Neutral.

30

31 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Neutral, uh-huh.

32

33 MR. CRATTY: I now make a motion to accept
34 this.

35

36 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay, Cliff were there
37 any written public comments, it says none here?

38

39 MR. EDENSHAW: None.

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay, given that, I
42 guess Kodiak Aleutian Regional Council recommendations --
43 this looks like administrative correction.

44

45 MR. GUNDERSON: As long as those ain't 58
46 foot skiff they're using.

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: So noted. We don't
49 need to do anything on this do we?

50

00056

1 MR. EDENSHAW: No, Madam Chair, the
2 proposal was withdrawn as Pat stated. So this won't appear
3 when the Board takes action in this December meeting.

4
5 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay. I guess that
6 basically covers all the proposal at this time. What I'd
7 like to do if everybody agrees, is to go back to the letter
8 of Todd Logan. We kind of passed through this because Rick
9 Poetter wasn't available at the time. Rick have you
10 reviewed the letter from Todd Logan to Vince Tutiakoff in
11 regards to the -- Vince's concern about user conflict
12 hunting bird?

13
14 MR. POETTER: Rick Poetter, manager Izembek
15 National Wildlife Refuge. Yeah, I helped draft it,
16 actually.

17
18 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay, you can sit down
19 now.

20
21 MR. POETTER: Pretty well clears that up.

22
23 (laughter)

24
25 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: If you want to make
26 some comments in regard to this (indiscernible - coughing).
27 And I guess given this -- I don't know how much time the
28 Council here has to read over this. I know it's the first
29 time I've seen it, this afternoon it was handed to me. So
30 if there's any questions of Rick or comments in regard to
31 this letter. I do know this was a concern that Vince had
32 voiced numerous times and I know it's a concern that does
33 come out of King Cove, so -- on a frequent basis.

34
35 MR. CRATTY: It was a concern in our last
36 meeting.

37
38 MR. POETTER: I could probably add a little
39 bit of information because some of it had changed. It was
40 sort of tenuous at the time as to how many permits were
41 going to be issued. I can tell you now exactly, now that
42 we're into the throws of the season, how many were -- under
43 sport fish we had, let's see, one, two, three, four, five
44 permits issued and they had requested 210 clients.
45 Probably the biggest user, Bill Martin, he had requested
46 80. He hasn't geared up at all this year, he's very
47 limited. I think his building activity went a little
48 slower than he was predicting so he's really not going to
49 have the number of clients that he was envisioning.

50

00057

1 And under -- probably importantly what you were
2 looking at was water fowl. We did only get four permits
3 issued this year. Our person that normally would get a
4 permit, Chuck Nearing (ph), he estimated about 35 clients.
5 Then there were three other entities, Bill Martin again
6 being one of them again, as I said, he's not really geared
7 up this year. He's not showing much of any activity at all
8 utilizing that permit. Total number of clients they
9 projected was 160. So what the actual use will be I'm sure
10 will be much, much less than that but, you know, it's
11 really hard to tell at this point.

12
13 MR. SQUARTSOFF: 160 clients?

14
15 MR. POETTER: 160 clients. And you can see
16 the chart -- or the graph in there that I had basically
17 based on use days, not so much number of clients.

18
19 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Now this one you have on
20 Number 4, that's just for one guide, right?

21
22 MR. POETTER: Let me find it.

23
24 MR. SQUARTSOFF: It's on '95, '96 and 7, 8,
25 '99.

26
27 MR. POETTER: That's correct.

28
29 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Do you have the
30 figures of how many clients in 1999 there were?

31
32 MR. POETTER: Basically, I think the first
33 -- let me see up above here.

34
35 MR. SQUARTSOFF: You have client day -- use
36 days but how many.....

37
38 MR. POETTER: Yeah, the form didn't
39 actually have how many clients. He is to report each day
40 how many people he takes out. It could have been four
41 people the entire period or it could have been twenty
42 people during an entire period. So our form was a little
43 skewed and we've made some corrections in that so now we'll
44 be getting a little better data on it.

45
46 MR. GUNDERSON: So this is a tally sheet of
47 one individual from '95 to '99?

48
49 MR. POETTER: That's correct.

50

00058

1 MR. GUNDERSON: Okay.

2

3 MR. POETTER: One guide's activity.

4

5 MR. SQUARTSOFF: You go five or six times
6 that -- whatever.

7

8 MR. GUNDERSON: And how many are operating
9 out here at the present?

10

11 MR. POETTER: Four.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Four.

14

15 MR. GUNDERSON: Four.

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: 160 clients of four
18 guides. Is that.....

19

20 MR. POETTER: That's correct. That was
21 projected. What they had requested.

22

23 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: So that technically,
24 if you look at these figures, to some degree in the last --
25 at least in the last two years, that number has increased.
26 And that's the concern that -- around 120 to a potential
27 160.

28

29 MR. POETTER: These are use days that are
30 on this chart here.

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay.

33

34 MR. POETTER: Those are different than
35 number of clients.

36

37 MR. SQUARTSOFF: And maybe there are just
38 as many clients now but they're just not getting as many
39 birds.

40

41 MR. POETTER: Or they're not out as much.

42

43 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Right, I mean you know, as
44 '96/'97.

45

46 MR. POETTER: Right.

47

48 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Maybe the birds
49 (indiscernible -interrupted).

50

00059

1 MR. POETTER: See he could have had 35
2 clients go out for one day or he could have had five of
3 them go out.....

4
5 MR. GUNDERSON: Seven days.

6
7 MR. POETTER: Yeah. It's actually maybe,
8 as far as looking at the effects on subsistence users,
9 probably a more accurate way of gaging anyway. Because you
10 know, okay there were -- we had 35 days of clients out
11 there, you know, what period it was, you know, don't know.
12 I mean, we've got those figures but we didn't spell them
13 out in this obviously.

14
15 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I think a lot of the big
16 concern was the impact by putting a lot more people out in
17 such a -- actually a small area. There's only so much area
18 you can go from the road system.

19
20 MR. POETTER: Right.

21
22 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Only so far.

23
24 MR. POETTER: There was also some intended
25 use, for instance, by Bill Martin to fly people out to
26 other areas. He'd go land on the beaches out there and
27 then hunt across the islands and then hunt the lagoon from
28 that side. Of course, he again, he hasn't geared up to do
29 that this year because he doesn't have his facilities
30 ready. So that's -- would not concentrate all the use off
31 the road system, he was intending on spreading out some.
32 In fact, they did also request some client use or client
33 numbers for like the Pavlof Unit of the Alaska Peninsula
34 Refuge and then also on Unimak Island.

35
36 Now there was some other issues as far if he was
37 going to use St. Catherine's Cove, that's owned by the
38 Izanoski Corporation so what he's arranged there, I don't
39 know. Whether he's going to stay below mean high tide or
40 what. They may have some other areas that he was thinking
41 of too, I don't know.

42
43 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I think we should kind
44 of continue along with this. I know I for one -- Marvin
45 Huff, go ahead.

46
47 MR. HUFF: I have a question, Madam
48 Chairman. Can you hear me? Okay. I have a question here.
49 You people that are flying up around lagoons, dropping
50 people off to hunt and stuff. You're saying they're not

00060

1 disturbing the birds. You won't let us put a seven mile
2 piece of road through there and you're allowing all this
3 here to go on. You're getting hundreds of more hunters up
4 here -- fishermen. They're fishing down on our land and
5 you won't allow us to go out and get a subsistence goose.
6 There's something wrong with the whole picture here. And
7 King Cove has really, really had it. We got people dying
8 trying to get over here, trying to get to a hospital -- you
9 won't let them build a seven mile road. You got people
10 flying over the same places, bringing hundreds of hunters
11 out there. There's something wrong with the whole picture.
12 Maybe you could tell us about it.

13

14 MR. POETTER: That's a pretty big picture
15 and a pretty tall order to sort of hit. It'd be easier to
16 go point by point, try a little bit. The refuge is, you
17 know, open for -- based on ANILCA the enabling legislation,
18 for current or ongoing activities that were present before --
19 hunting, fishing, whatever. You know, our responsibility
20 is key in managing the resources and as they're available,
21 allowing for the uses that the enabling legislation allows
22 for. So as far as disturbance, that is critical to what
23 our mission is and what we're about. And that's what we
24 look at. As of giving my report on the refuge, we have the
25 US Geological Survey out working on studying the effects of
26 disturbance to waterfowl on the lagoon by boat --
27 watercraft. That's probably of most concern to us.

28

29 Air traffic is basically uncontrolled by us. We
30 don't control the airways. We have recommended elevations
31 for planes to fly over to reduce disturbance but those are
32 only recommendations, those are not enforceable if somebody
33 flies 50 feet over the -- or less than 50 feet. There is a
34 harassment factor in there so it's sort of complicated, but
35 anyway. The landing on beaches is currently administered
36 by the Izembek State Game Refuge because those are quote
37 lands administered by them. We administer above mean high
38 tide. So sort of a cooperative kind of a deal.

39

40 I guess, you know, our biggest concern is
41 disturbance and that's where the crux of bringing traffic
42 and roads and hovercraft, whatever, up near the Kinzarof
43 Lagoon area is of biggest concern. All in favor of any
44 kind of access that would, you know, help mitigate that by
45 coming directly from King Cove to Cold Bay as in short of
46 route as possible. Which obviously if we can't fly it, it
47 would probably be a water access. And I guess that's sort
48 of the bottom line although, you know, we'll wait and go
49 through the EIS process on the proposal that's before us
50 now and see how it shakes out.

00061

1 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I think, Rick, I'm a
2 little confused here. I know when we brought this up the
3 concern from the communities in the region was the impact
4 of having more hunters in the refuge. As people in the
5 region don't --aren't allowed to hunt, you know, and there
6 can -- you can only get so many birds and it's hard for
7 people just to get from King Cove to Cold Bay to hunt and
8 the amount of money it costs for them to spend here. Then
9 you read through this and the question is a study on boat
10 traffic going into these areas when how do we get over --
11 there's only one way we can get over here to hunt and that
12 is by boat -- lagoon.

13

14 So you look at to some degree, this thing got
15 turned around on us and the real reason that we wanted it
16 was not to impact the bird population any more than it is
17 because of the issue of the egg taking up north reflects
18 back on us and no matter what happens, we're the people
19 that get -- are the brunt of all of this whenever there's a
20 decision-making process being made. So I guess -- I don't
21 know, what are your guys thoughts on this?

22

23 MR. POETTER: Well if I can.....

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Go ahead.

26

27 MR. POETTER:add in, the water
28 disturbance is on the lagoons not out in Cold Bay that
29 we're looking at. It was geared towards the sport hunting
30 activity.

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay.

33

34 MR. POETTER: Yeah, the King Covers, I
35 don't know of any that really go up into Izembek Lagoon
36 with boats or anything.

37

38 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, well the concern was
39 the disturbance on the land also. People going out in the
40 different areas and we were concerned why there isn't
41 support for the road which is just a short distance coming
42 through the refuge to get to the runway. And yet you're
43 allowing these permits to bring more people to go out on
44 the land disturbing or hunting the birds. Yet the impact
45 from the road would be minimal comparing to putting a lot
46 more hunters out there.

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Given that it would be
49 a seasonal issue, you're looking at the fall and spring.

50

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1 MR. POETTER: Yeah, of course the road
2 through that part of the refuge dealt with wilderness which
3 is a whole other ball of wax. Congress set aside that area
4 as wilderness and said, you know, part of wilderness is
5 there's no roads in wilderness. And so that whole crux,
6 you know, was debated in Congress again and, you know, the
7 net result was they said, well here's 20 million dollars to
8 try it for a different kind of an access other than going
9 through the wilderness. I guess that's -- if it truly
10 probably would have been just a regular refuge like where
11 the current roads are now, it very well may have come out
12 different. You know, I don't have a crystal ball to say
13 but it could have. But wilderness really put it into a
14 different category because that's an national picture kind
15 of an item, not just this refuge here.

16
17 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Are there any plans to
18 limit the amount of people that -- the hunting guides that
19 can come in besides studying?

20
21 MR. POETTER: Generally, whenever you set
22 limits it's due to resource shortages or impacts to
23 habitat. It's generally not because of user conflicts so
24 much. Those tend to sometimes be self limiting and so --
25 I've sort of seen that this year already. There were a lot
26 of other folks that came in and looked at this area.
27 What's driving that, I can only assume that the other areas
28 up north of us are already getting crowded with the guides
29 and stuff and they're sort of pushing themselves out
30 looking for other public land, State lands -- whatever that
31 they can go to and utilize to earn a living. So I guess
32 I'm going to -- I sort of lost my train of thought there.

33
34 But anyway, to answer question Della, where -- if
35 there would be any limits, yes potentially there would be.
36 I can easily probably predict limits being placed,
37 particularly on boat use on the lagoon. Beyond that, as
38 far as limits to number of clients and guides to utilize
39 the refuge lands -- I mean just to access via the roads and
40 stuff, which would of course be conflicts with not only
41 King Cove subsistence users but also Cold Bay subsistence
42 users. And any other -- Nelson Lagoon if they come down
43 here. That's probably a little harder to control -- not
44 control but to come to a point of setting a limit.

45
46 And basically they'll rely on having folks, you
47 know, come in and say, hey I had a bad experience here;
48 here's what the deal was. It sort of has to happen first
49 before I can really hang my hat on it to do something about
50 to be honest with you. And then, you know, once we get to

00063

1 that point, again I believe and I've seen it elsewhere,
2 that the use tends to sort of balance out at a certain
3 level because clients don't want to pay. You know there's
4 \$700 to get here, they don't want to pay, you know, to put
5 up for lodging and go out and rub elbows with anybody out
6 there. They want their own good quality experience just as
7 subsistence users do.

8

9 So it may go through this cycle of coming up and
10 there will be an increase and then they'll find out that
11 they can't get any more clients anymore and it may drop
12 back down. I say may because I don't know but until
13 something really gets to be a conflicting kind of a use
14 with users, then I can do something or start working
15 towards that. And the way that would work would be
16 identifying the problem and then implementing a prospectus
17 system like had been done with the big game guides.
18 Basically you would submit a proposal then only so many --
19 based on clients or whatever it would be based on. We'd
20 have to do a complete in-depth analysis of it.

21

22 MR. SQUARTSOFF: On that Rick, I guess one
23 of my concerns is for -- to me, all my hunting is
24 considered as subsistence hunting whether it's -- you know,
25 everybody does the same thing. You go hunt birds to take
26 home and eat.

27

28 MR. POETTER: Right.

29

30 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Whether you have a little
31 piece of paper or not, you're doing the same thing. So --
32 but I'm concerned, I guess, about the resource. I've been
33 hunting here for many years now and I feel there is a
34 decline and by putting more people out there, there's going
35 to be more of a decline and maybe the birds will move to
36 different areas and then I don't want to see it happen like
37 it has in some like the eider stuff for instance. It goes
38 from five or 10 or 15 birds to zero. And then there's no
39 even subsistence hunting allowed on some birds. I mean it
40 goes from a big hunting limit to nothing. So there should
41 be a subsistence priority. That's the way the Federal
42 regulations read right?

43

44 MR. POETTER: Yeah, and I think some of our
45 subsistence books probably have a.....

46

47 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Like on the emperor geese
48 now.

49

50 MR. POETTER: Somebody was telling me --

00064

1 currently waterfowl, other than the spring season, aren't
2 regulated for subsistence uses. So that sort of creates a
3 problem. You're looking at.....

4

5 MR. SQUARTSOFF: But the way the law reads,
6 subsistence has priority.

7

8 MR. POETTER: No, I don't think so for that
9 species, that's what I'm understanding. You know, caribou
10 sure or fox.

11

12 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I mean it goes from
13 hunting to nothing, like on your emperors. That's a good
14 example. Now there's no -- there's not even any
15 subsistence hunting.

16

17 MR. POETTER: I think one of the reasons
18 for that may be that these are shared resources. It's a
19 international population. You know, they got United
20 States, Canada, Mexico -- we all share these resources.
21 And so it depends upon everybody's use, how much it is. So
22 we may very well could increase our take of Canadas here.
23 It may not effect the population at all but if they
24 increase egging in the Yukon, it very well could. So I
25 don't know that you can say by stopping permitted use of --
26 you know, people coming in from outside and hunting
27 alongside you is going to negatively effect the population.
28 Those regulations are set through a different process of
29 setting limits, bag limits, etcetera. Yeah, as a species
30 declines, limits have to be invoked and, you know, the
31 number of available take is reduced. So I agree with you
32 but I don't that.....

33

34 MR. SQUARTSOFF: But never did get any
35 subsistence hunt on emperors.

36

37 MR. POETTER: Yeah.

38

39 MR. GUNDERSON: Well the number keeps --
40 they keep losing track of those geese. Well you take it
41 and make it about 90,000 and they lose them again.

42

43 MR. SQUARTSOFF: (Indiscernible --
44 Simultaneous speech) it would be a Statewide opening
45 probably. So that's what I'm saying.

46

47 MR. POETTER: Yeah, I know what you're
48 saying it's just I don't think our effect is going to.....

49

50 MR. SQUARTSOFF: When there's a decline the

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1 State's hunting should be shut down and there should be a
2 subsistence hunt for local residents.

3

4 MR. POETTER: Yeah, and that -- what I'm
5 saying is a whole other issue.

6

7 MR. GUNDERSON: Well, that's one of the
8 things that's really hard to explain in each one of these
9 communities. We've got the job as the RAC members. There
10 is an increased amount of activity in this refuge. As a
11 matter of fact, the guy that -- the biologist that works
12 our fisheries up there, is setting up a hunting lodge down
13 there. And we see the influx of these people coming into
14 Cold Bay, they're packing out all these birds and stuff and
15 the simple thing as Marvin pointed out earlier is putting a
16 road system to save lives.

17

18 And it all boils down to specific regulations and
19 obligations by the government to have these lands open to
20 the general public. It's really hard for a lot of people
21 to swallow and to watch the increased effort going on down
22 in this part of the country. And being dictated to that we
23 cannot do -- we can and cannot certain things. It doesn't
24 set very well and that's what we're sitting here trying to
25 make sense out of all of this. And be able to make some
26 sense to communities when we talk to them. You'll notice a
27 lot of times I'm scratching my head also as to what's
28 happening. And it gets a little frustrating at times.

29

30 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I agree. I think it's
31 going to get worse before it gets better too because
32 recently with the King Cove Corporation charging \$100 per
33 day to hunt, fish or pick berries on any of their lands
34 when their lands -- the majority of their -- or a good
35 chunk of their lands butt up against the refuge lands and
36 some State lands over here. And that is creating quite a
37 big problem. But -- and I don't, in talking to various
38 people, I just -- I don't see answer -- I don't technically
39 have an answer. I think there's a lot of options to try to
40 work together as best as you can with the people in this
41 region.

42

43 And like Butch said, we can only bring forth
44 people's concerns and try to go back and answer them and
45 it's really hard sometimes when you don't have an outright
46 answer. You're looking at various regulatory agencies and
47 you just scratch your head sometimes thinking about it.
48 But I really think this is going to get worse, I think,
49 before it gets better. There's a lot of people that are
50 angry about increasing the amount of people for

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1 (indiscernible) for two reasons. Number one, that, you
2 know, the subsistence users should get first. Number two,
3 the access to that refuge when you're allowing -- more
4 people are being allowed in there.

5
6 MR. POETTER: Yeah, subsistence is a
7 priority but it's not an exclusive use. So there you got
8 a.....

9
10 MR. SQUARTSOFF: No, that's not what I'm
11 saying.

12
13 MR. POETTER: Because it's like the folks
14 around Yosemite saying well, don't, you know, don't come
15 down and see our park because.....

16
17 MR. SQUARTSOFF: No, that's not what I'm
18 saying at all. I'm just saying because (indiscernible --
19 interrupted).

20
21 MR. GUNDERSON: That's the way we want it
22 to be but it's not going to.....

23
24 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: We know you have to
25 allow people because of your public (indiscernible --
26 interrupted).

27
28
29 MR. POETTER: Well, you know, I think the
30 people of Cold Bay are glad we have the Federal lands here
31 because otherwise they'd have been totally excluded from
32 use of -- for subsistence uses.

33
34 MR. EDENSHAW: Madam Chair, also we've
35 tried to get members from this Council to serve on this
36 Native Migratory Bird working group and they're getting
37 ready to -- they've meeting to draft spring hunts in the
38 State regarding migratory birds.

39
40 MR. SQUARTSOFF: If I remember correct,
41 there was a few of us that volunteered and we haven't heard
42 anything from anybody.

43
44 MR. EDENSHAW: But then I'd call and --
45 well, I won't go into what happened but I called both of
46 you guys and -- you know, I think that's one avenue that
47 this Council can take. Because they're going to implement
48 and submit draft proposals for migratory bird hunts in the
49 spring. And -- but I can certainly listen toward what Rick
50 is stating regarding jurisdiction over migratory birds.

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1 The refuge -- you know, that's another step that the
2 Council could yield to, this Native Migratory Bird working
3 group, is submit proposals because they're submitting a
4 framework of how they can have Natives be involved in the
5 regulatory process. And I'm not sure when they're going to
6 meet again but they've been meeting and Robert has his hand
7 up back there but, you know, that's just some information
8 that, you know, I've come across since the Council started
9 addressing this. And also Rick's response here -- or not
10 Rick's but Todd Logan's response to this issue in their
11 annual report.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Do we still have
14 representation on that?

15

16 MR. EDENSHAW: I don't have it before me
17 but I know that the regional director made a recommendation
18 on the Native Migratory Bird working group and how that
19 structure was going to be set up and I'm certain that
20 they're -- yes, that the region does have representation
21 within that management body. And my understanding
22 regarding the Native Migratory Bird working group, the
23 current individuals who are on that are going to serve
24 temporarily until those management bodies have formally
25 made their recommendations to have individuals serve
26 permanently on this under that structure that was
27 recommended by the regional director regarding
28 implementation of spring hunts here in the State.

29

30 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Go ahead.

31

32 MR. BOS: Madam Chair, Greg Bos again.
33 You're addressing a number of issues that overlap here and
34 are fairly important to this region. You do have a Tab H,
35 a very brief summary of where things stand in the
36 implementation of the treaty amendments to the Migratory
37 Bird Treaty Act -- or the Migratory Bird Treaty with Canada
38 and Mexico. And that gets at something what Cliff was
39 speaking to. And if you want, maybe I could just fairly
40 briefly summarize what this says at this point or if you'd
41 rather wait until it comes up on your agenda. But it seems
42 to tie in very closely with the discussion you've been
43 having on waterfowl hunting here. But the Treaty
44 amendments were ratified by the Senate in 1997 and since
45 that time, the Service has gone through a very broad
46 ranging public involvement process in Alaska, exploring
47 several options for the establishment of what's called
48 management bodies that would implement the amendments to
49 the Migratory Bird Treaty.

50

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1 Those amendments call for the development of
2 management bodies that would have participation by Federal,
3 State and Native organizations -- or Native groups with
4 equal representation to develop regulations for subsistence
5 hunting in spring and summer recognizing traditional
6 subsistence uses that time of year. And also addressing
7 other issues such as enforcement policies, habitat
8 protection issues, education, traditional knowledge -- all
9 these things that tie together in subsistence waterfowl
10 hunting and management. After considering the public
11 comments and reviewing the options, the Service has decided
12 to establish a statewide management body and seven regional
13 bodies that would provide recommendations to the statewide
14 body. And that's described again under Tab H.

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Maybe if I interrupt
17 you for a second, we've got this on this agenda here.

18

19 MR. BOS: Yeah, at any rate, that will be
20 addressing the spring and summer subsistence waterfowl
21 hunting and what you've been speaking to here is, I think,
22 more the hunting that occurs in the fall. That will not be
23 addressed by the subsistence regulations that are going to
24 be limited to the spring and summer period. So that
25 hunting in the fall is under the existing system of
26 regulation that's been long established with Flyway
27 Councils and regulations that proposed, reviewed in public
28 meetings and hearings and adopted by the Fish and Wildlife
29 Service. There is no subsistence priority established in
30 that fall waterfowl hunting regulation process. And the
31 subsistence management program established under ANILCA
32 Title VIII does not apply to waterfowl.

33

34 In other words, waterfowl are managed under a
35 separate system and are not managed by the Federal
36 Subsistence Board. So that the priority for subsistence
37 uses that's built into Title VIII doesn't apply directly to
38 waterfowl. So for waterfowl hunting in the fall,
39 subsistence users are recognized as a user group but
40 they're treated, along with other hunting groups, in
41 allocation decisions and the regulation that come forward
42 for those fall seasons. Much of what you were discussing
43 about the disturbance and increasing use of hunters of
44 Izembek Refuge -- I think Rick, you may have touched on
45 that -- it's in the letter that the refuge will be revising
46 the refuge's comprehensive conservation plan in May of 2000
47 -- beginning in May of 2001. An important part of that
48 plan, I think an element of that would be a public use
49 management plan which will address hunting of waterfowl as
50 one of the issues that's important for the refuge.

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1 And I think the Council will have a big role in
2 bringing forward comments and reviewing draft documents and
3 providing input in that planning process that can address
4 the specific concerns you have with respect to increasing
5 use among local hunters of the refuge and its effects on
6 subsistence uses and on the resource itself. And I think
7 that would be a very good opportunity for this Council to
8 be fully involved in the development of a long term
9 management plan for the refuge.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Thank you. I think
12 we'll all be here with Rick for an amount -- as long as
13 takes him.

14

15 MR. GUNDERSON: And I think that is one of
16 the biggest concerns of locals that live in the area, is
17 that they do not want to see it hit its saturation point
18 before something is ever done. I want to start to try to
19 do some check and balances and look what the -- what
20 resources are here and make sure that it's not going to go
21 beyond the point of -- ending up with not having a hunting
22 season at all like has had in the past with the caribou
23 seasons and things like. Has to make, you know -- we're
24 going to have feast one day and famine the next.

25

26 You know, like the last time that county caribou
27 crash because of the big numbers that went down, it was
28 seven or eight years -- eight years, I think it was, before
29 we had another season. The subsistence season for two
30 years -- the subsistence requirements weren't fully met yet
31 and boom, they got a State season, you know, for trophy
32 hunts. But fortunate, the weatherwise and the animals and
33 everything else, they rebounded. Now we've got a fairly
34 stable caribou herd again so it was just luck was on our
35 side at that time. It worked out but we don't want to see
36 that happening on other species. And we'd rather see some
37 checks and balance early and make sure that doesn't come
38 about.

39

40 MR. FOSTER: Just on this spring and summer
41 bird hunts, is the Fish and Wildlife Service -- are they
42 for that?

43

44 MR. HANNAN: Oh, absolutely.

45

46 MR. FOSTER: Why?

47

48 MR. HANNAN: Well they want to recognize
49 the traditional subsistence hunting that has been taking
50 place. They want to make it -- establish a system where it

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1 can be regulated. Where there's involvement and commitment
2 by the users themselves to support hunting and waterfowl
3 throughout the year because through regulated hunting I
4 think the agencies and the users have a much better
5 prospect of insuring the conservation of the resource. It
6 will provide an opportunity to obtain much better harvest
7 information, for example, so we know what the impacts of
8 hunting in various areas are on specific populations or
9 sub-populations of bird.

10

11 MR. FOSTER: But isn't there a bigger
12 impact when the birds have young than hunting later when
13 the birds are all grown? I mean, let's say if somebody
14 went out and killed a couple birds and they were a mother
15 -- you know, the parents of some chicks or something. Then
16 you've not only lost those two birds but you lost all those
17 chicks too.

18

19 MR. HANNAN: That's a consideration. I
20 think what's being proposed here isn't something that's
21 going to increase use, it's only to recognize harvest
22 levels that have been ongoing and that the resources have
23 been able to sustain that level of use, even though it
24 comes at a critical time of year. It's also a critical
25 time of year for people in the bush who have been without
26 fresh meat for much of the winter and it's the first source
27 of fresh meat they can get in the spring when other
28 resources aren't available. So I think it's not going to
29 increase the level of use or the impacts on the resource.

30

31 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, I had the same
32 concern as John did too but then you stop and think about
33 it and I found out that those birds are only there for a
34 short period each year too. But we're lucky they pass by
35 in the fall and the spring but they're in their area just
36 for that short period. So that's why they take them then.
37 They don't have any choice.

38

39 MR. FOSTER: I was just thinking more along
40 the lines of the eiders and (indiscernible -- simultaneous
41 speech).....

42

43 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I agree with you a hundred
44 percent but.....

45

46 MR. FOSTER:or some of the species
47 that are having some trouble. I mean if you can't really
48 keep track of what people are taking or control what
49 they're taking, then it gets a little harsh. One other
50 thing I too don't want to lose, you're going to do this

00071

1 comprehensive conservation plan this spring, how much of an
2 involvement will we have on this thing?

3

4 MR. HANNAN: Oh, a lot. It's a public
5 process. We'll sit down and formulate a basic outline of
6 them and actually we have an old comprehensive conservation
7 plan in effect right now and it's due for renewal. That's
8 why we're going to be going through the process.

9

10 MR. SQUARTSOFF: In your plan you can
11 establish guidelines for uses of the -- I mean for limiting
12 the amount of use?

13

14 MR. HANNAN: Can. I think the first step
15 of the process would be to lay out some questions. One, do
16 we want to. Probably the answer would be yes, from your
17 perspective. Somebody else, maybe not. And then we'll go
18 back and sort with the public comments, help line out an
19 implementation plan and again submit that for review and
20 approval and comments. It'll be a multi-meeting process.
21 It lasts several years to get through this because people
22 are busy in summertime and you can't hold meetings in the
23 summer. It sort of delays the process. And that's sort of
24 when we get busy and try to do our work and then in the
25 winter we come out to the villages and try and explain
26 where we're at and gather comments. And these will be
27 official comments, it will be a full recorded meeting kind
28 of a thing.

29

30 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: That's basically when
31 you go to each of the communities too.

32

33 MR. HANNAN: That's correct. Yeah,
34 definitely. We'll have meetings in each of the surrounding
35 communities. Probably in Anchorage. I don't think we do
36 Kodiak here. We did Kodiak when we were up in Alaska
37 Peninsula because they had -- the Koniag Corporation owned
38 lands on the Pacific Coast side. They'll all be laid out --
39 figured out. Those comments could be added too. I mean
40 if somebody said, hey, you forgot our village -- Akutan or
41 something like that and we didn't have that on the list
42 then we'd add it in.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Anything else?

45

46 MR. HANNAN: No.

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Does anybody else have
49 any comments?

50

00072

1 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I (indiscernible) when you
2 called me last summer, right in the middle of the season,
3 and oh, there's going to be a meeting day after tomorrow or
4 something like that he told me, so there's no way I could
5 get away and go to that meeting. It was the middle of
6 charter season.

7
8 MR. GUNDERSON: You said you did call us.

9
10 MR. EDENSHAW: Yeah, I did.

11
12 MR. GUNDERSON: Yeah, but it was only a
13 couple of days before the meeting too.

14
15 MR. EDENSHAW: Madam Chair, that's
16 something I could look into regarding that working group
17 because I know in the past few months they've put on hold
18 or, you know, they were awaiting what the regional
19 director's decision would be on this management bodies and
20 Greg shared some information regarding that and I think to
21 -- I think regarding Pete's and John's concerns about
22 possible increases if they go ahead and implement -- not if
23 it's a matter of when they implement spring waterfowl
24 hunting. You know, that's why they have these working
25 groups that are in place and they're going to make
26 recommendations on what -- just what those seasons and the
27 harvest limits should be before they become regulations.
28 So when I get back to Anchorage I follow with Mimi Hogan.
29 And Mimi has been the individual that's been responsible --
30 she and Bob Stevens and both those two were at the meeting
31 in King Cove when we were there last year and so those two
32 could -- I'll contact them and see where they're at in this
33 process.

34
35 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: That's basically when
36 we voted on one of the options.

37
38 MR. FOSTER: Correct.

39
40 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay, anything else
41 anybody?

42
43 (No audible response)

44
45 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: So we all know and
46 understand when Rick comes to town, you don't let him leave
47 until you get what you want.

48
49 MR. HANNAN: Pull my ear, it doesn't hurt
50 too much. Thanks Madam Chair.

00073

1 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Thank you. What would
2 we like to do at this time, continue on?

3
4 (Multiple simultaneous conversations)

5
6 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: If it's okay with
7 everybody, maybe we'll go ahead and recess until 6:00 and
8 continue on at 6:00.

9
10 MR. CRATTY: I agree.

11
12 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Do we need a motion to
13 recess?

14
15 MR. GUNDERSON: No, that's if everybody is
16 agreeable.

17
18 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: The time is about
19 4:40, we'll recess until 6:00.

20
21 (Multiple simultaneous conversations)

22
23 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: All right, what would
24 you like to do? Let's -- do you want to just.....

25
26 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Recess 'till six.

27
28 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Recess until six and
29 continue on or if we find out you're going to leave
30 tomorrow afternoon, we can continue on in the morning. But
31 we do have the training too and that's also in this.....

32
33 MS. SHELLIKOFF: What's that training?
34 What does that consist of?

35
36 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: How long will the
37 training take?

38
39 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Isn't the training mainly
40 set up for new members?

41
42 MS. SHELLIKOFF: Is that for everybody or
43 is that for new members or what does it consist of?

44
45 MR. SQUARTSOFF: It's for the whole
46 Council. And then there was.....

47
48 MR. EDENSHAW: It's at the Council's
49 discretion in terms of what you would like us to present.

50

00074

1 MR. GUNDERSON: I thought when the training
2 issue was brought up we're about the -- in Anchorage,
3 January or February.

4
5 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: No, we're all supposed
6 to have board training. One of the things on the board
7 training too, for new Council members, sometimes if we miss
8 -- I know I've missed it -- but we arranged it when we were
9 in Anchorage and were able to spend some time with Cliff.

10
11 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Right.

12
13 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: My recommendation,
14 let's go ahead and break until six then we can try to get
15 an idea on what this plane schedule is going to be
16 tomorrow.

17
18 MR. EDENSHAW: I don't think you'll hear
19 that something that quickly.

20
21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I got some
22 connections so.....

23
24 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Let's just recess
25 until 6:00.

26
27 (Off record)

28
29 (On record)

30
31 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: If we can, come back
32 to order. Just for information, if the floor's open to
33 public comments and if you have anything to say or would
34 like to say, there's a blue form that you can fill out or
35 if you come up to the mike, please state your name for the
36 record. And at this time we are to Number 10, agency
37 reports, Tab G. With that, we'll send this over to Tim.

38
39 MR. JENNINGS: Madam Chair, did you want to
40 cover Item 9 at this time?

41
42 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay, thanks for the
43 correction.

44
45 MR. JENNINGS: That's all right.

46
47 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Call for wildlife
48 proposal, open floor to change Federal subsistence hunting
49 and trap and regulations and customary and traditional use
50 determination. So if anybody has something to come forward

00075

1 at this time, they can. If not, we will move on to Item
2 10.

3

4 MR. JENNINGS: Madam Chair, thank you. My
5 name is Tim Jennings from the Office of Subsistence
6 Management and I'm going to cover the first items under 10
7 for the Subsistence Management Office, items A through E.
8 And you'll find some of the briefing materials under Tab G
9 in your booklets. For the first briefing, I have an
10 additional handout. Susan, would you like one?

11

12 MS. DETWEILER: Yes, please.

13

14 MR. JENNINGS: Okay.

15

16 MS. DETWEILER: Thank you.

17

18 MR. JENNINGS: And there are extras for the
19 rest of the group. Okay the first briefing, Madam Chair,
20 is in regards to the cooperative projects for resource
21 monitoring the fisheries studies. And for the new Council
22 members, what this part of the briefing is about is when
23 the Federal program implemented fisheries beginning this
24 last year, some monies were set aside and earmarked for
25 studies -- research studies to help gain information
26 regarding subsistence fishing. Recognizing there may be
27 some gaps in knowledge that would need to be filled so that
28 the regional councils could make recommendations and the
29 Federal Board could take appropriate action on fishing
30 regulatory proposed changes.

31

32 So as background, the fisheries resource monitoring
33 program -- I'm going to use this handout if you want to
34 follow along with me and it covers some of the briefing
35 material in the book that I'll point to. So the resource
36 monitoring program identifies and brings together
37 information on subsistence fisheries. It funds studies to
38 collect information which is needed but not available
39 related to subsistence information and is tied to Federal
40 lands so that it occurs -- fishing would occur on Federal
41 lands or the studies would need to occur on Federal lands.
42 And the information in these studies is generally of three
43 types: either of harvest patterns -- subsistence harvest
44 patterns; a stock status in abundance trends, the health of
45 the resource itself or traditional ecological knowledge.

46

47 And the program had some broad goals to include a
48 wide diversity of users and also of participants in this
49 program so we are encouraging subsistence users, villages,
50 Native organizations, tribes, rural groups and the councils

00076

1 and government agencies to all be involved in this program.
2 And for those of you on the Council last year, you'll
3 recall that we got started on kind of a short time frame.
4 We wanted to get fisheries studies funded and going for the
5 2000 summer season and we had some short time frames in
6 which to get that done. We did have Council involvement
7 last year with the fisheries training session, where we
8 talked about the monitoring studies. But generally we look
9 for all these groups and including the Council to identify
10 issues and information needs and that's an ongoing goal of
11 the program as we all identify new issues or additional
12 information needs.

13

14 The Councils and others will also review annual
15 studies plans and I'll talk about the upcoming 2001 study
16 plan here in a moment. And then another item was to -- we
17 had a preference to hire locally for the studies and this
18 year there were 83 local residents that were hired, 69 of
19 which were Alaska Natives. And these were in the nature of
20 temporary seasonal jobs around the state that helped
21 accomplish these fisheries studies in 2000.

22

23 So on the next page of my handout, you'll see what
24 this last year, fiscal year 2000 program looked like. The
25 Federal Board received 160 proposals to do different
26 fisheries studies around the state, 45 were funded. A
27 total of 5.6 million dollars in funding and you can see the
28 split between the Department of Interior budget, 3.5
29 million and 2.1 million was funded through the Department
30 of Agriculture Forest Service. And at the bottom of the
31 page you can see who received the of the page you can see
32 who received the funding in the Year 2000. Approximately
33 38 percent of the funding went to Alaska Native and other
34 organizations and local hires. Forty percent roughly to
35 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and 22 percent to
36 Federal agencies.

37

38 Before we move on to the 2001 studies, I wanted to
39 bring your attention to some information under Tab G in the
40 book. If you'll go back about oh a half a dozen pages
41 you'll see where we start with project Number 10. There's
42 a summary of each project. And these are the projects 10,
43 11, 12, 17, 31, 32, 33 and 42 that were in the
44 Kodiak/Aleutians, the Alaska Peninsula and the Bristol Bay
45 region. And I'll bring your attention to Project 32, that
46 was the sockeye salmon escapement on the Buskin River. And
47 so these are the projects that were funded in this past
48 season.

49

50 Okay, and then looking forward to next year, to

00077

1 continuing this program, an important date for the 2001
2 studies that's coming up is in January of 2001 there will
3 be a statewide meeting in Anchorage the week of January
4 22nd through 26th, where we will bring all the regional
5 councils together for two purposes. The first purpose is
6 to obtain advice from the Councils on next year's fisheries
7 studies. There are currently for 2001 in the neighborhood
8 of over 200 fisheries projects that have been proposed for
9 funding studies. And they were -- our staff in the
10 Anchorage office is putting together a summary of this --
11 what we call resource monitoring plan and we will be
12 sending that out to the Councils at the end of December so
13 that you'll have a chance to see the studies that are being
14 proposed and recommended for funding for 2001. And then at
15 this January meeting, we would seek your advice and input
16 on those study plans. It will be -- there will be more
17 studies that will be proposed this year than we will have
18 the ability to fund. And so it will be important to obtain
19 Council input and other input in terms of which projects
20 represent the best studies to be done that relate to your
21 needs in your areas for subsistence.

22

23 In looking at the 2001 schedule and following
24 behind the 2000 as well, we recognize that there were
25 certain problems with this schedule. We're still ramping
26 up into the full swing of this program and we're not yet --
27 even with the 2001 cycle -- we're not in sync with the
28 Regional Advisory Council meetings. And so once again,
29 we're going to have this special meeting in 2001 but
30 ultimately we want to get away from these special meetings
31 for resource monitoring and have it coincide with the
32 normal Council meetings in the spring and the fall. So
33 looking into the future to 2002 on Page 4, we're going to
34 go to a schedule where the studies plan will actually fit
35 into the Regional Council meeting schedule. And so we will
36 be bringing to you next September and October -- whenever
37 your next fall meeting is a year from now, is when we
38 intend to bring to you the proposed studies for 2002. And
39 in your book under Tab G, there's a couple of -- if you go
40 back prior to the summary of those projects for this year,
41 there's a couple of pages about the second and third page
42 in. Schedule for new projects starting 2001 and the new
43 schedule for 2002 and beyond. That lays out the current
44 schedule for 2001.

45

46 So you can see that we've currently passed the
47 deadline for studies to be submitted, which is September
48 15th, they're called the pre-proposals are due. And now,
49 during the next couple of months, our staff will be going
50 back and asking those pre-proposal submitters to submit a

00078

1 more detailed plan which we can evaluate. And then you can
2 see what we've laid out for 2002. A couple of other quick
3 notes on this and then I'll stop for questions. In the
4 future the program and the Federal Board wants to build
5 capacity in the local regions and we have received approval
6 to establish nine positions that will contracted positions.
7 They will not be Federal employees, they'll be contracted
8 positions and that these will be placed -- the nine
9 positions would be placed out in the regions and they would
10 be contracted through a competitive process through Alaska
11 Native or other local organizations.

12

13 And since there are currently only nine positions
14 that are being funded, there's obviously not enough
15 positions for each organization to have one of these
16 positions contracted for each organization. So what we're
17 hoping will happen is that by the regions, that there will
18 be a collaborative effort among some of the local
19 organizations and Native groups to go together and to have
20 one of these positions contracted and placed in the region.
21 The idea here is, as I've mentioned, is to have expertise
22 at the local and the regional level that can help parties
23 who are wanting to submit projects, to help develop the
24 projects and to be a resource of some expertise. And so
25 there would be six fisheries positions -- fisheries
26 biologists and three social scientists or anthropologists
27 that are currently envisioned. And you'll hear more about
28 this over the upcoming months. The goal is to have these
29 positions in place by the next fishing season. And so this
30 is an initiative the Federal Board has taken to try to help
31 some of the local and regional organizations build some
32 fisheries expertise at the local level.

33

34 The last item I have is in regards to a statewide
35 working group that is currently involved with one of the
36 projects that have been funded for the Year 2000. It's a
37 working group of tribal, State and Federal members that are
38 looking at a subsistence fisheries harvest assessment on a
39 statewide basis. If you go back into your manual under Tab
40 G and go beyond the summary of those projects that have
41 been funded for the Year 2000 and then there's a table also
42 that summarizes the Year 2000. The next page after that is
43 a letter that's dated September 5th. Are you all following
44 along with me? Yes, okay. This letter, as you'll have
45 time to read and you can see it, it was signed by Jim Fall
46 of Fish and Game and Roland Shanks of AITC, they're the co-
47 principal investigators of this study. And what they're
48 attempting to do here on this study is to develop a
49 statewide set of guidelines for how to handle the statewide
50 harvest monitoring data so that there's some consistency

00079

1 and there's a unified approach on a statewide basis. So
2 there are some draft guidelines that have been developed by
3 this working group and what they're now asking is for
4 feedback and comments on the draft guidelines. So as time
5 allows for you individually or as a council, you could take
6 this up and if you want to provide comments, the comments
7 are due by October 25th. And I'll stop there, Madam Chair,
8 and see if there's any questions about any of what I've
9 covered to this point under the fisheries studies program.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I think maybe -- I
12 know I do have one question. On these proposals, I know
13 that we don't have copies of them in our packet but we
14 might want to discuss them and I know there's another one
15 that King Salmon put in. And I know that the deadline is
16 September 15th however, being that this Council hasn't met
17 to discuss these, can we still send in a letter approving
18 or opposing or supporting the projects at this point?

19

20 MR. JENNINGS: Madam Chair, that's what we
21 intend to gain at the January session, is the Council
22 recommendations at that time and you can -- when you see
23 we'll have the more detailed plans developed and then a
24 package call the resource monitoring plan will be sent out
25 to each Council members and at that time you can -- you
26 could submit a letter at any time if you have support of a
27 particular project. The time when we're asking for the
28 formal advice or recommendation is at the January session.

29

30 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I guess my question
31 was, because we wouldn't be discussing it possibly as a
32 full council if everybody's not here as to maybe just look
33 through some of these and get their comments in on them.
34 Because I know these are three here for Kodiak and I know
35 there's, I think two, one or two for the Aleutians.

36

37 MR. JENNINGS: This is a part of the
38 program I don't work in on a day to day basis so all I've
39 been told is that there's over 200 projects proposals that
40 have been received for the fisheries studies on a statewide
41 basis. If the Council has specific projects that they'd
42 like to support, you can do so at any time along the way.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Paul?

45

46 MR. GUNDERSON: Last January, I believe it
47 was, or maybe a little later, during that training session
48 there was an effort for a memorandum of agreement between
49 the State of Alaska and the Feds that shared the
50 information on -- both on commercial and on subsistence. I

00080

1 see James Fall's name on this one particular report. Had
2 this memorandum of agreement been put into place and -- or
3 is this happening? Is there a shared job information
4 between both groups now or -- I noticed when I was at the
5 State meeting here the other day, a number of times there
6 were issues that were brought up by Board members and they
7 were wanting to know what the RAC's position were on these
8 so that they could parallel their regulatory comments and
9 stuff to, you know, so everything would coincide so there
10 wouldn't be no duplication. But I didn't see very many
11 people from the Fed division attending that meeting. I
12 believe Pete Probasco is a liaison between the State and
13 the Feds. I spoke with him a couple of times and neither
14 one of us really knew exactly where this -- where it lied
15 [sic] so.....

16

17 MR. JENNINGS: Yes, Mr. Gunderson, the
18 memorandum of agreement was finished in terms of it was
19 approved and initialed by both the State and the Federal
20 Boards and that's the subject of my next briefing. I'll
21 give you an update on that MOA and where we're going. As
22 you mentioned, Pete Probasco is now working for our office.
23 He is the Federal/State liaison for fisheries. So one of
24 his primary duties is to track with the Board of Fisheries,
25 the State process and State proposals and to let the State
26 be aware of where we stand with the Federal process. So he
27 was attending the recent work session of the Board of
28 Fisheries in Anchorage.

29

30 MR. GUNDERSON: Oh, okay.

31

32 MR. JENNINGS: Yeah. But if there aren't
33 any other questions on the studies program, I can go on to
34 the MOA update.

35

36 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Any questions from the
37 public?

38

39 (No audible response)

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay, with that we'll
42 continue on.

43

44 MR. JENNINGS: Okay, if you want to turn in
45 your booklets under Tab G -- actually it's -- there's one
46 in between. There's a briefing on staffing and I'll do
47 that next because it's in sequence. There's a table called
48 Staffing to Implement Federal Subsistence Fisheries
49 Management. It's like this. It's probably the other way,
50 Pete.

00081

1 We wanted to bring you up to date with where we
2 stand with staffing because there's been a lot of interest
3 in having adequate staffing available to assist the
4 Regional Councils and also to implement the fisheries
5 program. And we know there's been a lot of interest and
6 also a lot of support from the Councils. So this one page
7 summary brings you up to date with what we've done
8 collectively. To date there's been 21 new Federal
9 employees. I mean you can see the breakout by agencies.
10 In our office, the Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of
11 Subsistence Management, that's the first line there -- to
12 date we've hired nine new employees and we plan to hire an
13 additional six. One of our new hires in fisheries is here
14 at the meeting, Richard Uberuaga, he's a fisheries
15 biologist.

16

17 And you can see the breakout by the other agencies.
18 Fish and Wildlife Service, excluding OSM or Office of
19 Subsistence Management, the National Park Service, Bureau
20 of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management and the USDA
21 Forest Service. And so among the Federal agencies, we
22 still plan to hire 22 additional employees for a total of
23 43. And out of that total of 21, we've hired 18 Alaskans,
24 7 of which have been formally with the State and have
25 extensive backgrounds with the State. And then underneath
26 the table there's a couple of other updates regarding local
27 hires. I already mentioned from the cooperative studies
28 program for fisheries, through temporary hires and seasonal
29 employment this summer, we had 83 local hires of which 69
30 were Alaska Natives that helped with the fisheries studies.

31

32 And I also mentioned the plans to hire the nine
33 technical positions for contracting to help develop and
34 build capacity in the regional organizations. And we hope
35 to have those in place by next fishing season. And then
36 the last item here is the Native liaison position for our
37 program. There was a decision made by the Board to go
38 through the Bureau of Indian Affairs to hire that position
39 because there could be a Native preference given through
40 BIA for that position. And the vacancy announcement has
41 closed on September 18th and we're expecting a list of
42 qualified candidates in the near future. That will go to
43 the head of BIA, Niles Cesar, who is on the Federal Board
44 and Niles will work closely with Tom Boyd to make a
45 selection. And that employee will be a BIA employee but
46 will be working closely with our office and the Federal
47 Board to further strengthen our coordination with the
48 Native community.

49

50 So I'll stop here on the staffing and see if

00082

1 there's questions and then the next topic is the MOA, the
2 consultation coordination with the State.

3

4 MR. GUNDERSON: Well, a lot of these people
5 on this local hire that you're talking about -- those 69
6 Alaska Natives and stuff -- my understanding is there's a
7 number of agreements between the Feds, State and Native
8 Corporations or profit and non-profit that are working in
9 some of the -- in the northern regions gathering
10 information -- setting the towers or weirs and things like
11 that. I spoke with some of these people last year and it
12 was real interesting to find out that they're gathering
13 this information on fisheries -- it's something that
14 databases, they never had. It was non-existent. And what
15 they've been working on it now for what? This is the third
16 year on some of these projects, isn't it?

17

18 MR. JENNINGS: It could be the third year
19 for some of the projects however, in terms of our program's
20 funding, this year was the first year.....

21

22 MR. GUNDERSON: Yeah, the first year but
23 there were other programs.....

24

25 MR. JENNINGS:where we added some on.

26

27 MR. GUNDERSON:that you were
28 involved.

29

30 MR. JENNINGS: Some of it was already
31 ongoing. Yes.

32

33 MR. GUNDERSON: Yes. And some of the
34 information that's coming out of some of these programs
35 that they've already started, I can see it's going to be a
36 big plus in this fisheries argument -- this ongoing
37 fisheries argument we had going for years. Because they're
38 starting to collect data showing that some areas may have
39 not been as productive as they thought they were or they
40 don't have the capabilities of producing as much as they
41 thought they could. So, some of these things, I think,
42 it's already starting to show the benefits.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Any other comment?
45 Public?

46

47 (No audible response)

48

49 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: That's a good point.
50 If not, go ahead and continue on.

00083

1 MR. JENNINGS: Okay, the next briefing is
2 on the next page there -- Consultation and Coordination
3 with the State. And this is in regards to the issue Mr.
4 Gunderson raised about the Memorandum of Agreement between
5 the Federal Agencies and the Federal Subsistence Board,
6 State of Alaska Fish and Game, Board of Fisheries, Board of
7 Game. The Regional Advisory Councils have expressed a
8 great deal of interest in this area, in tracking our
9 working relationship with the State. And so we wanted to
10 bring you up to date with the current status.

11
12 The MOA, this interim MOA was finalized in April
13 and then immediately a Federal and State working group
14 began to focus on in-season management protocols and
15 agreements for the Yukon River drainage. Because we
16 believe that the Yukon River was going to be at highest
17 risk because of the dual management throughout that
18 drainage and that there was a potential for conflict and
19 disruption to the fisheries within the Yukon. And, you
20 know, hindsight proved out this year because as you all
21 probably are aware, that this year on the Yukon River was
22 one of the worst on record in terms of the return for
23 Chinook and also for chum.

24
25 And so it really very quickly tested the ability of
26 the Federal managers to work with the State managers to
27 effectively manage that fishery throughout the Yukon as
28 well as there's an international treaty with Canada. So it
29 tested the ability and there was a few bumps, apparently
30 early in the summer that quickly got worked out and we're
31 reporting that the coordination with the State this year
32 went very well as a whole. And each opening and closure
33 and gear restriction or modification that occurred on the
34 Yukon occurred jointly between the Federal Subsistence
35 Board and State managers. And so there was a unified press
36 release and there was an attempt to make both the State
37 regulations and the Federal regulations consistent
38 throughout the drainage so that it would reduce any
39 conflict and confusion with subsistence users.

40
41 So the Yukon was the primary place where this was
42 tested this year. Also on the Kuskokwim there was some
43 early issues relating to Chinook salmon. And then there
44 was an in-season management action in Southeast Alaska in
45 relation to a sockeye run. But generally fishing this
46 year, in terms of our coordination with the State, went
47 very well. In terms of this MOA, you can see in your book
48 that the MOA laid out some mutual responsibilities and
49 goals was under these first bullets: Continued
50 conservation of the resource; avoiding duplication in

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1 management and research; minimizing disruption to the uses
2 of fish and wildlife; continuing subsistence uses
3 consistent with our mandates, both State and Federal; using
4 the best available information for decision making and
5 ensuring the exchange of fisheries and wildlife
6 information. So that's, as you may recall, the MOA laid
7 out kind of a large, broad set of goals. And then beyond
8 that we were going to work and are working on more specific
9 agreements or protocols.

10

11 And if you'll look at the next set of bullets,
12 those are the protocols -- is the terminology that being
13 used for these more specific agreements. In-seasons
14 fisheries management is one where there's a working group.
15 I mentioned that there's the -- there was a Yukon River
16 specific protocol this season that will be again updated
17 and modified and then there's a working group that is going
18 to look beyond the Yukon River. Another area for a
19 specific agreement is date and data management and then
20 regulatory processes including coordination with the
21 respective Boards: the Federal Subsistence Board as well as
22 the Board of Fisheries and the Board of Game.
23 Identification of subsistence use amounts and fisheries and
24 wildlife management planning.

25

26 So there's a Federal/State MOA working group that's
27 currently now back meeting again and initiating some work
28 on these protocol areas. And we know that there's specific
29 interest in some of these topics by the regional councils.
30 And so we would like you to think about involvement in this
31 in terms of if you have some interest for having one of
32 your members sit in on one of these protocol working group --
33 either through teleconference or whatever -- the Chair can
34 let us know and we would be happy to do the coordination to
35 make that happen. And then of course when these draft
36 protocols are developed before they are finalized, we want
37 to gain input from the Councils. And so then we would be
38 making the draft documents available to you for comment.

39

40 So that's where we stand with the MOA and its
41 implementation. The next phase is the specific agreements
42 in development of these protocols and that will be
43 happening over the next several months through the winter.

44

45 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I think if we can --
46 be sure to give us notice of what's coming up when so that
47 if we feel that we need to be involved that we can make
48 sure and have someone at these meetings.

49

50 MR. GUNDERSON: You said they'd be sometime

00085

1 this winter, we got that big meeting coming up with the
2 State Board of Fish in January. Do you think they would be
3 in place before then or.....

4

5 MR. JENNINGS: I don't know if they'll be
6 done at that time. I think that might be an optimistic
7 schedule. I'm not sitting on that Federal joint work
8 group.

9

10 Greg, are you on that work group or not?

11

12 MR. BOS: Yes, I am and.....

13

14 MR. JENNINGS: Can you give any further
15 update in terms of where we stand? Is there a time frame
16 that's laid out for any of these protocols? Is there a
17 priority about which one may be addressed first?

18

19 MR. BOS: Yeah, we have several of these --
20 several protocol working groups starting to work on some of
21 the subject areas that you've listed there, Tim. The first
22 one off the block is really the in-season management
23 protocols Tim mentioned. There's the interim one for this
24 year only on the Yukon, that'll be made more permanent and
25 expanded to other parts of the State. And that group, I
26 think, should have -- is intending to have at least the
27 Yukon and several other regions done before next fishing
28 season. A protocol working group on the coordination of
29 the regulatory processes, we see that as a longer term
30 project because of some significant issues related to
31 coordination between the Federal and State Boards.

32

33 And aligning regulatory cycles between State and
34 Federal programs because, you know, the State's on a three
35 year cycle and the Federal program is on a one year cycle
36 and if there's a way we can bring those together so when
37 issues come up, they can be dealt with by both Boards at
38 the same time. Some way of addressing at least those
39 proposals that both sides have concern about. And so we
40 see that involving a lot more of the Regional Council input
41 and several stages of review and making sure that
42 everybody's comfortable if any changes are proposed.

43

44 There's a protocol on data sharing -- data
45 information sharing. Mr. Gunderson, I think you had a
46 question about that. And that group is fairly well along.
47 So far they've inventoried the databases that are available
48 within the Department of Fish and Game and the Federal side
49 is doing the same. And they will be discussing ways of
50 making it more centralized and accessible to not only the

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1 agencies but the original Council so that you can access
2 some of that information on fish and wildlife harvests.
3 The other protocols are not as far along in terms of laying
4 out a schedule.

5
6 The umbrella working group -- that's what we call
7 the MOA working group that's overseeing the implementation
8 and the establishment of these more specific protocol
9 working groups -- is meeting on a fairly regular basis. I
10 think our next meeting is later on in October to review
11 work charges for some of these protocols and to establish
12 time lines for some of these. And I think we'll be able to
13 report to you at the January meeting, the training session,
14 and have more details on schedules and progress reports on
15 the various protocols that are just now getting under way.

16
17
18 MR. GUNDERSON: And I guess one of my other
19 questions would be is, any of the other RACs have asked you
20 to look at any more implementation of the extra territorial
21 jurisdiction? Maybe we're just a little gun shy down in
22 this neck of the woods, I guess, in terms with some of the
23 things that's happening with the State but.....

24
25 MR. JENNINGS: Yeah, nothing has been
26 received in our office from any party that I'm aware of
27 that asks the Federal program to extend jurisdiction in any
28 -- into currently non-Federal jurisdiction.

29
30 MR. GUNDERSON: That's next -- I guess so.
31 Okay, I just thought I'd ask. I just kind of wondered on
32 that one.

33
34 MR. JENNINGS: Yeah. Yeah.

35
36 MR. GUNDERSON: Yeah, thanks for the input
37 on that.

38
39 MR. JENNINGS: So that's where we stand,
40 Madam Chair, with the development of these specific
41 agreements. If you have any members who want to
42 participate, if you could let Cliff your coordinator know,
43 and then we'll make the appropriate arrangements to
44 teleconference those interested parties in.

45
46 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: And if you could let
47 me know so I can let everybody else know or maybe -- I had
48 a note to try to get a list of everybody's e-mail
49 addresses, if you have them, before we leave today. So we
50 can get a hold of the various people to make sure people

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1 can attend these.

2

3

MR. JENNINGS: And it sounds like from
4 Greg's summary that several of these are going to be a lot
5 longer term initiatives that's going to go on for several
6 months or even multi-years. And so we'll be giving you
7 periodic updates, I imagine, at this January session where
8 we're bringing everybody together. We'll give you another
9 update next spring. We'll give another update as we work
10 through all this.

11

12

CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Just so that we have
13 some notice of some of this stuff that's going on so if we
14 need to get involved we can and not hear about it after
15 it's already done and passed.

16

17

MR. JENNINGS: Right.

18

19

CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Any other comments
20 from the public?

21

22

(No audible response)

23

24

Council?

25

26

MR. EDENSHAW: I'll just add a little bit
27 on what Tim was saying. At that last training session in
28 January, you know with the materials that you had, it
29 included copies of that draft MOA that became a part of the
30 in-season management that was completed and done by these
31 individuals who were serving on that committee regarding
32 just in-season management. And then the other portion of
33 that draft MOA has these other issues on here that will be
34 addressed, as Greg said before, the next fishing season.
35 And so, you know, when you get back home, just remember
36 that those packets, those big thick packets when they had
37 that training session this past year, has a copy of those
38 items in there that will be addressed, you know, just as
39 Greg said.

40

41

MR. JENNINGS: Well, I might mention then,
42 in that regard, the MOA at that time had not been finalized
43 and they were some minor adjustments that were made and the
44 final interim agreement, the MOA, is in your updated
45 Regional Council operations manual. And it's -- if I can
46 borrow yours Madam Chair -- it looks like this. I think
47 all Council members should have received one. And if we
48 have some training tomorrow for one or more of the Council
49 members, we'll talk about this booklet and we'll point out
50 where some of the information lies. But the MOA is one of

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1 the appendices too, in this updated manual. And so you'd
2 find the approved version there.

3

4 MR. GUNDERSON: Now that we got all of that
5 MOA in that training session, we're going to be taking down
6 everything that everybody was saying it, then it would be
7 as big as the Sears and Roebuck catalog.

8

9 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay, anything else?

10

11 (No audible response)

12

13 MR. JENNINGS: Ready to move on, Madam

14 Chair?

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Move on.

17

18 MR. JENNINGS: Okay, the next topic that I
19 have for a briefing is the Regional Council Fisheries
20 Training Phase III and that's the next page in your
21 booklet. It's got the title Regional Council Fisheries
22 Training Phase III. By way of background for the new
23 Council members and the benefit of others, I'll let you
24 know what Phase I and Phase II was all about. In terms
25 of fisheries implementation when the Federal program
26 assumed management of subsistence fisheries on Federal
27 lands, there was an implementation plan that was laid out
28 and one of the pieces of that plan involved training. And
29 it recognized the need to train Council members, to train
30 Board members and to train staff in regards to some of
31 these key fisheries issues. Phase I of the training plan
32 occurred during the summer of 1999. Several Federal Board
33 members took an orientation along the Yukon River and
34 elsewhere to see subsistence fishing. Some of the Board
35 members apparently hadn't, you know, observed first hand
36 subsistence fishing.

37

38 Phase II was last January. We had a statewide
39 gathering of all Councils, so there was about 100 Council
40 members plus we had Federal staff and State staff in
41 Anchorage. I think all together there was between 3 and
42 400 people involved in a week long training session in
43 Anchorage where we talked about the MOA, we talked about
44 the resource monitoring study plans for 2000 season and
45 some concerns relating to in-season fisheries management.
46 You'll recall we had some prepared presentations and
47 speakers and then we had some caucuses, some breakout
48 groups -- an opportunity for Regional Councils to meet by
49 themselves or to meet with neighboring Councils that has
50 some mutual interests. And so that was Phase II. And

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1 right before the fishing season this year we had also a one
2 day training session in Anchorage at the end of May for in-
3 season fisheries management. And I'm not sure if your
4 Council was represented at that -- I think Vince Tutiakoff
5 was -- attended there. It was primarily for Council Chairs
6 or for the designated Council members related to in-season
7 fisheries management.

8

9 So that's by way of background and that brings us
10 to what we're calling Phase III as part of this
11 implementation plan. And Phase III of this training is to
12 look back and reflect on what happened during the first
13 year of Federal involvement with subsistence fisheries,
14 i.e. the 2000 fishing season, and to look at what went well
15 and what may need further improvement. And what you have
16 before you in your booklet is a draft agenda of possible
17 topics. What we envision is three days involvement. It
18 would be the week of January 22nd through 26th. We
19 envision Monday and Friday being travel days and so the
20 actual meeting days would be Tuesday, Wednesday and
21 Thursday. One of those days, and tentatively right now
22 it's scheduled for Wednesday, is when we would address the
23 fisheries study plans. And obtaining Council input and
24 advice on the fisheries study plans for 2001. And that's
25 the first item here on the agenda, review of the draft
26 fisheries study plan.

27

28 The rest of these below that: in-season fisheries
29 management, status of Western Alaska salmon runs, the
30 fisheries assessment methods, developing fisheries study
31 proposals and the fisheries regulatory process -- those are
32 all draft topics. And what we're doing through the fall
33 meeting cycle with each Council is taking this briefing to
34 each Council and saying -- and asking the question, do
35 these topics have benefit for your Council? If not, tell
36 us what you'd like us to present, how do you want to
37 organize this training session? Do you prefer the caucus
38 orientation? Do you want some prepared presentations?
39 Right now we're seeking input on how to develop and put
40 together this three days so that we can best meet your
41 needs. We envision this being a smaller group than the
42 last January training session. It'll bring together all
43 the Council members, so there will be a hundred or so
44 people there but we don't envision two to three hundred
45 Federal employees this time. We only really want to
46 involve the key staff and -- it is still going to be a
47 large group but we want to try to get it to those players
48 who are really implementing the program on a day to day
49 basis.

50

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1 MR. GUNDERSON: Well at this date, from the
2 22nd to the 26th, the State Fish Board would be meeting at
3 the same time.

4
5 MR. JENNINGS: Correct.

6
7 MR. GUNDERSON: And status of Western
8 Alaska salmon stocks you got here, those are listed under
9 their agenda -- stocks of concern. And they've got a whole
10 list of criteria that they just put together here in the
11 last couple days. I think it's getting to be one heck of a
12 learning process for all of us and we're having this one
13 get shook out on both sides of the fence.

14
15 MR. JENNINGS: Obviously that topic cannot
16 be dealt with effectively in a two hour session.....

17
18 MR. GUNDERSON: No.

19
20 MR. JENNINGS:or even a one day
21 session or a week long session.

22
23 MR. GUNDERSON: No, no. And so they're
24 going -- the way it's structured to go right now, they've
25 got Alaska Peninsula, Bristol Bay and Y-K area all going to
26 be taken up at one time.

27
28 MR. JENNINGS: Right.

29
30 MR. GUNDERSON: So we're going to end up --
31 some of us are going to end up sharing time between both of
32 these meetings. If we ain't confused now, we sure as hell
33 probably would be at that point but.....

34
35 MR. JENNINGS: Yeah, we understand that
36 there's that Board of Fisheries meeting that could go on
37 for several weeks during that time frame.

38
39 MR. GUNDERSON: Uh-huh.

40
41 MR. JENNINGS: And we recognize that some
42 Council members may have a dual commitment there.

43
44 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Just about everybody.

45
46 MR. FOSTER: On these meeting dates, we're
47 going to be right in middle of our -- the 22nd through the
48 26th, we're going to be right in the middle of this area --
49 Area M. I mean we're going to be at the back end of the
50 meeting. They're going to do us last, so. But we are

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1 going to be there for 21 days.

2

3 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Twenty-one days.

4

5 MR. GUNDERSON: That's what we got it
6 scheduled for so -- pull us in and torture us while out
7 there in the sloughs.

8

9 MR. FOSTER: So we're going to be pretty
10 numb by the time this meeting is closed out.

11

12 MS. SHELLIKOFF: Is there a way you can
13 schedule this for like March or something later in the
14 year? This training?

15

16 MR. JENNINGS: There's one piece of this
17 that requires input in this time period in order to get the
18 new fisheries studies in through the process and approved
19 for 2001. And if we delay input from the Councils until
20 March, it pushes that process because those projects to be
21 funded still have to go to the Federal Board for ultimate
22 approval. And that's the part of the timing that drove the
23 meeting dates to January, is allowing time to finish that
24 process, get Board approval. And then for any studies
25 projects, you know, there's the lead time of logistics and
26 if you're putting in a weir you have to buy materials and
27 hire staff and all that has to be done early enough so that
28 by May and June you get the project in the water. That's
29 the primary thing that drove the timing of this, from my
30 understanding.

31

32 What I'll do is, I will go back and one of the
33 things I'll provide as feedback is that this Council would
34 like to see the dates shifted or is -- does everybody agree
35 on that or is it -- should I report some members of the
36 Council would like to have it shifted later?

37

38 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I think everybody
39 would agree to it.

40

41 MR. JENNINGS: And I'll provide that input
42 and see where it goes. I think -- I don't hold out much
43 hope that it'll be shifted because of the scheduling that's
44 required to approve the projects.

45

46 MR. GUNDERSON: Well then what about
47 sooner?

48

49 MR. JENNINGS: Sooner -- I'm not sure if
50 that would work either because for the studies program, we

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1 have the pre-proposals that were due 15th of September.
2 And now over the next two months there's a time period to
3 go back and develop the more in-depth study plans. And so
4 we're not able to compress that enough to have a complete
5 package together to present to you in order to get the
6 feedback.

7
8 MR. GUNDERSON: I think the possibility of
9 this portion of it and our portion showing up during that
10 meeting in a 21 day period is pretty slim so I think we
11 could probably juggle it back and forth. And John and I
12 figured we'll have to take it on the chin anyway on this
13 one so.....

14
15 MR. FOSTER: Oh well, why don't you look at
16 it this way, you guys will save a whole lot of money on
17 airfare here because there's going to be an awful lot of
18 RAC members.....

19
20 MR. JENNINGS: Everybody will already be
21 there.

22
23 MR. FOSTER: Yeah, from all over so.

24
25 MR. EDENSHAW: Madam Chair.

26
27 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Uh-huh.

28
29 MR. EDENSHAW: I think one -- just had a
30 comment with what Tim is stating regarding the regulatory
31 process and that's why I'd encourage the Council to -- Jim
32 Larson, he's not here but I'm not sure if he had some --
33 and I tried to -- that's why I just made copies of these
34 pre-proposals and granted those are only pre-proposals.
35 You know the individuals called me and asked me what they
36 could do. And then from hearing John Foster's concerns --
37 for this guy -- this one individual Bradley Stevens with
38 NMFS he called me up in Kodiak and asked, well what can I
39 do with the proposal. Well, you can send it to the Council
40 members and ask them, you know, what is their wishes to
41 submit a letter of support regarding the spring king crab
42 fishing on Kodiak Island. And then Len Schwartz faxed me
43 over these and I received a call from them and these are
44 all on Kodiak Island. So if John is not going to be in
45 Anchorage in -- you know, when the Council addresses this
46 one whole day of addressing these pre-proposals and Paul's
47 going to be at the Board of Fish -- or is it Board of Fish
48 that's going to meet in January?

49
50 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

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1 MR. EDENSHAW: Then, you know, I spoke with
2 Taylor Brelsford who's acting in this capacity as the FIS
3 coordinator and, you know, any letter or correspondence
4 supporting some of these projects that have been sent in
5 would certainly -- wouldn't hurt that pre-proposal but it
6 would be good for the individuals that chose to do that,
7 whether it's individually or collectively.

8

9 MR. JENNINGS: Yeah, you could do that at
10 any time.

11

12 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: And we might want to
13 go ahead and just consider doing that before we finish
14 because I know there is one from King Salmon for Mortinsens
15 (ph) and -- I can't even think right now.....

16

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thin Point -- Thin
18 Point Lake.

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Thin Point that is a
21 cooperative effort between the King Cove Corporation, the
22 tribe and ADF&G and King Salmon. We're just putting in the
23 weirs. And the one proposal that, I think, Cliff did call
24 me about a month ago, yes.

25

26 MR. SQUARTSOFF: That was with Bradley
27 Stevens with National Marine Fisheries.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: And Vince said to hold
30 off until our meeting so we can act out on -- and that was
31 the fluid question, should we just call the Council members
32 individually and ask them whether they support it to get a
33 letter of support from this Council to go in with them.
34 I'd recommend given all the schedules and things coming up
35 that maybe we're going to look at these before we adjourn.

36

37 MR. SQUARTSOFF: And I agree Della, I think
38 we should look at them first.

39

40 MR. GUNDERSON: Do you have some copies of
41 those to go around there.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Yeah, we don't have
44 the one from King Salmon but they did go back to King
45 Salmon today. They've been in King Cove and then they
46 spent some time here but we can give you a general rundown
47 on what that progress is. So without -- if there's no
48 opposition we'll go ahead and add this to maybe C on other
49 business.

50

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1 MR. GUNDERSON: Under 11 (c)?

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: 11 (c). Is there any
4 more discussion on this specific item? Comments? Arnie.

5

6 MR. SHAUL: Della, on this proposal there's
7 also -- the King Salmon office have a Mortinsens (ph)
8 and.....

9

10 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Thin Point.

11

12 MR. SHAUL:Thin Point but under
13 Unalaska there's at least one proposal there that Gary
14 (indiscernible - away from microphone) in the Soldotna or
15 Kenai office (indiscernible - away from microphone).

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Maybe when we get you
18 these proposals, Arnie, if you can just give a verbal
19 rundown on them and we can take some action on them if
20 that's agreeable with everyone. If not, we will continue
21 on.

22

23 MR. JENNINGS: Okay, Madam Chair, the last
24 item that I will give you a briefing on for now is the
25 statewide rural determination's update, it's the next page
26 in your packet under Tab G following the fisheries training
27 page. It's near the end of Tab G. The title is Statewide
28 Rural Determinations. The purpose of this briefing is to
29 give the Council an update on the statewide rural
30 determinations process. In our regulations there's a
31 requirement that every 10 years that there will be an
32 evaluation of those of the rural determinations, those that
33 are -- communities that are rural and those that are non-
34 rural. And so we're at that stage where we're 10 years
35 into the program and the 2000 census has been taken and the
36 2000 census data will be coming available in the next 18
37 months or so. And that information will be used along with
38 some other methodology to make rural determinations on a
39 statewide basis.

40

41 And the Federal Board, in planning for this
42 statewide review, has directed staff in our office to
43 initiate a third party contracting effort in order to look
44 at the methodology and criteria used in rural
45 determinations. And part of this is an outgrowth of the
46 Kenai rural determination that the Board made recently.
47 During our review of that issue, it became apparent that
48 the methodology and the criteria that were being used could
49 benefit from improvement. And so the Board directed staff
50 to initiate a third party contract because we don't have

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1 the expertise in our office in order to tackle that kind of
2 an issue. We don't have rural sociologists and such in our
3 office currently on staff. And we also wanted -- the Board
4 I think wanted to have a kind of a hands -- an arm's length
5 review -- an objective review of the criteria. Because the
6 Kenai process had been somewhat contentious. And so this
7 is an update to let you know that we're in the early
8 process of initiating this third party contract and
9 currently there's a group -- a technical group -- made up
10 of Federal employees and I think there's one State
11 representative on the work group -- to develop a scope of
12 work for this study.

13

14 And then, over the next several months, we would
15 work with the Board -- staff would work with the Board and
16 the Councils as we go through this process to develop the
17 new criteria. Such that we'd be bringing the information
18 along to the Councils for your review and input because we
19 recognize that the Councils have a lot of interest in this
20 initiative. And one thing that we envision and we think
21 we'll be taking up at the Chair's meeting in December -- in
22 December the Board will meet, in early December, to discuss
23 the fisheries proposals and to take final action on the
24 fisheries proposals for the regulatory processes. And
25 there's a Chair's meeting similar to the Chair's meeting
26 that Della attended on the wildlife side in May. And at
27 that meeting, what we envision is a discussion of having a
28 couple of representatives from the Council sit with the
29 Board in discussions on statewide rural process. You'll
30 recall that from implementing fisheries there were two RAC
31 Chairs, Regional Advisory Council Chairs that sat with the
32 Board in discussions on implementing fisheries. Dan O'Hara
33 from Bristol Bay and Willie Goodwin from Northwest Arctic.

34

35 And so we envision a similar type of a possible
36 scenario on statewide rural. And this is early in the
37 process, so this briefing is an update to give you kind of
38 the road map in terms of where we're heading after the
39 contracting part of it is done with the study for the
40 methodology. Then the data would become available from the
41 census -- from the 2000 census in about 18 months. And
42 then the final determinations on rural/non-rural would be
43 made, we think, in late 2002 or early 2003. And that
44 process will go through the Regional Advisory Councils for
45 input and recommendations and then to the Federal Board for
46 final determinations. So that's where we stand currently
47 on statewide rural determinations and I'll stop and see if
48 there's any questions.

49

50

MR. GUNDERSON: You know, it sounds like

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1 it's got to go a ways yet before they get all the criteria
2 laid out -- exactly what's going to be and what's not.

3

4 MR. JENNINGS: Yeah, we're very early in
5 the process but we wanted to let the Councils know and make
6 them aware of where we stand so that you'll be along with
7 us every step of the way.

8

9 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay.

10

11 MR. JENNINGS: Okay, Madam Chair, the next
12 briefing will be done by Cliff on the art contest.

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay, thank you, Tim.

15

16 MR. EDENSHAW: Madam Chair and Council
17 members, if you -- I don't have the copy of the current
18 hunting and trapping regulations before me but if you look
19 at our operations manual we used last year, this was the
20 first one distributed in '98 but currently all hunting and
21 trapping regulations in the fisheries ones you'll see that
22 in the past they had contracted it out to individuals to
23 develop artwork and some of this stuff was just passed on.
24 And also if some you have seen some correspondence that was
25 sent out by the Native Migratory Bird working group, that
26 artwork on the latest correspondence from that group was
27 sent out and it was -- I believe it was done through a
28 contest but they received the -- I asked Mimi and Bob who
29 did the design and -- it's in there but they utilized that
30 artwork in correspondence they have to other communities.
31 And here in this application -- and really this is for
32 grade schools, kindergarten through second -- you know,
33 four different grade groups from kindergarten through
34 sixth.

35

36 MR. JENNINGS: Actually there's a mistake,
37 it's K through 12.

38

39 MR. EDENSHAW: K through 12.

40

41 MR. JENNINGS: Yes.

42

43 MR. EDENSHAW: But anyway, in the past in
44 these old regs books we've used pictures of these and they
45 thought it was in our best interest to update these -- you
46 know, get some new artwork in there. And hopefully some of
47 these -- go on to the next page here, there's the
48 application and on the bottom some of the requirements are
49 the student and a teacher filling out (indiscernible) as it
50 says and it's from K through 12. And, you know, we send

00097

1 out various correspondence and (indiscernible) to my
2 recollection, I haven't seen much correspondence sent out
3 to Council members that has artwork kind of like the Native
4 Migratory Bird has but, they'll be used heavily in our
5 regulations books for both fisheries regulations and
6 hunting and trapping for the upcoming year. And if you
7 read further on there, the Regional Council Chairs, when
8 they meet in Anchorage, those individuals will be the
9 judges. And it says a little bit down there, what they'll
10 receive -- the high school students and the young kids who
11 do win, there will two grand prize winners and then eight
12 other winners, two from each of the four different grade
13 groups.

14

15 So I'd just encourage you guys, when you guys go
16 back home to -- and also Karen Wilenstein (ph), who's the
17 public affairs -- who's an information specialist in our
18 office -- they did a large mailing of this out to the --
19 statewide to garner individuals at the schools -- students
20 to participate in this project. So hopefully in 2000 by
21 then it'll be 2002, we'll have some new artwork in there
22 from students here or throughout rural Alaska.

23

24 MR. GUNDERSON: Yeah, that's a good idea.
25 Just take it out and turn it over to their teacher and they
26 could copy off a bunch of the forms and let the kids have
27 at it.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Anything else on it,
30 Cliff?

31

32 MR. EDENSHAW: No.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: We will continue on to
35 10-2, which is migratory birds. Greg, I know we've covered
36 a lot of this earlier today.

37

38 MR. BOS: Yes, I'm not going to repeat all
39 of that. I think maybe just to summarize that following
40 the process of getting public input to several options, the
41 Service established a single statewide management body
42 called Alaska Migratory and Bird Management Council. It
43 will have representation by Federal, State and Native
44 organizations. And when they develop recommendations to
45 the Fish and Wildlife Service for regulations, they will --
46 each of those three parties will have equal influence. And
47 the goal is to develop recommendations to consensus.

48

49 Supporting the statewide management body will be
50 seven regional management bodies. And at Tab H on the

00098

1 second page of that part you'll see the fall partner
2 organizations are merely made of organizations that will
3 constitute the seven regional management bodies. So these
4 organizations, these regional management bodies will
5 develop recommendations for each of their regions and they
6 will be forwarded on to the statewide co-management council
7 to develop the formal recommendations to the Fish and
8 Wildlife Service.

9

10 The Native Migratory Bird working group has been
11 working with the Fish and Wildlife Service and will
12 continue to serve, at least initially, to represent
13 migratory subsistence users on the co-management council --
14 the statewide management body -- until the regional bodies
15 appoint or select their representatives. The Native
16 Migratory Bird working group held a meeting in Girdwood in
17 April and drafted a set of bylaws for the Council and this
18 Council is scheduled to meet in November of this year.

19

20 MR. STOVALL: I have a correction there,
21 that's been set for October 30th and 31st and the 1st.

22

23 MR. BOS: Oh, thanks. Where?

24

25 MR. STOVALL: In Anchorage, I don't know
26 where.

27

28 MR. BOS: One of the purposes of the
29 Migratory Bird Co-Management Council would be to provide
30 statewide guidelines for regulations that would be followed
31 by the regional management bodies. And this process,
32 starting with the regional management bodies and then up
33 through the statewide Migratory Bird Co-Management Council,
34 will open to recommendations from all user groups. The
35 goal is to have proposed regulations developed this coming
36 year, 2001, for regulations to be in effect in the spring
37 of 2002. And that concludes the summary of the handout in
38 your book.

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Any comments/questions
41 from Council? Paul.

42

43 MR. GUNDERSON: A couple of years ago we
44 had brought up in one of the meetings about a couple of
45 questions on the emperor geese and why couldn't they -- I
46 think we approached the migratory bird people about it
47 being exempt from the Pacific Flyway Treaty or whatever it
48 was. And they said, no it was impossible because of bird
49 not leaving the state -- being stubborn as I am, I couldn't
50 -- I still don't understand why it can't be. But things

00099

1 like this could be addressed through this Council and
2 directed through the right direction I guess if we keep
3 pursuing it.

4

5 MR. BOS: Yes, I think that would be a good
6 forum for that. I can't -- probably I'm not the best
7 person to answer the questions that you have and Rick
8 Poetter may be able to provide additional insight. What I
9 would suggest as a Council, establish population objectives
10 for these populations of birds, like emperor geese and
11 brant and cacklers and white-fronts. When those
12 populations of geese decline, pretty drastically in some
13 cases, some of them have come back. Emperor geese have not
14 fared so well, I don't have current estimates on those
15 populations but until those populations reach a level that
16 they feel they can sustain hunter harvest, the Pacific
17 Flyway Council I think is going to be conservative in
18 managing that population. However that doesn't mean that
19 for subsistence purposes you can't develop recommendations
20 and see if they'll consider them. Because the participants
21 in a subsistence hunt, you know, are much more limited --
22 not all users will be able to take advantage of subsistence
23 regulations for spring and summer hunts.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Al. I'm sorry --
26 Paul, are you done? Were you done with your questions?

27

28 MR. GUNDERSON: No, we still haven't
29 got.....

30

31 MR. CRATTY: I had a question for Robert.
32 Robert, who's representing us in the Kodiak Area Native
33 Association?

34

35 MR. STOVALL: No one is.

36

37 MR. CRATTY: I thought we were going to
38 have somebody off the Board or the Council go to these
39 meetings also. Or we requested to have somebody.....

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: We requested to have
42 representation from this Council.

43

44 MR. CRATTY: Yes.

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: And I think there was
47 some conflicting dates for both Paul and Arnie.

48

49 MR. CRATTY: Well, I know there was on that
50 one but this one, I think somebody could make it to it. I

00100

1 think it's -- somebody should go to it.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: And that was one of
4 the things we had asked is the representation come off of
5 this Council or the appointment maybe come off of this
6 Council. And in talking to Pete earlier also, we need to
7 try to find out who the APIA rep and the Kodiak or KANA rep
8 is and maybe request that they appoint people from this
9 Council if at all possible.

10

11 MR. CRATTY: Because if they're going to be
12 setting rules or adopting regulations, I think I'd like to
13 have somebody from here going, you know, voice our
14 opinions.

15

16 MR. EDENSHAW: Madam Chair, in the past
17 when this all starting coming about here with the Council
18 and with this working group when it was -- when they began
19 work, Gloria Leginoff (ph) was serving as APIA and Mimi
20 Hogan conveyed to me and Bob Stevens that there was very
21 little participation or involvement by APIA and that they
22 would call up and state when they would meet and they would
23 -- when the Native Migratory Bird working group was going
24 to meet and APIA didn't send anyone to those meetings.
25 KANA and Bob Stevens and Mimi Hogan conveyed to me also
26 that they contacted KANA but they didn't have anyone
27 working in the natural resources, so nobody from Kodiak
28 Area Native Association attended any of the working group
29 work meetings. So Mimi and Bob conveyed to me that it was
30 very difficult for them to get anyone from either of those
31 two organizations to attend those meetings for -- you know,
32 to get involved with what they were doing.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Robert, I think is
35 coming back here.

36

37 MR. STOVALL: Robert Stovall, Kodiak
38 National Wildlife Refuge. Bob Stevens and Mimi Hogan had
39 been discussing their problems that they were having being
40 in contact with KANA and with APIA. They had a person --
41 KANA had a member of their Board who they wanted to attend
42 those working group meetings and that was David Eluska. He
43 wasn't able to attend the meetings and that's probably the
44 reason why that KANA wasn't represented there. Since the
45 April meeting that they had where the working group more or
46 less came together and formed the management body which is
47 now called the Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council,
48 the subsistence migratory birds folks, Mimi and Bob, have
49 gone through the process of trying to get more
50 participation from those two groups.

00101

1 I've been helping them in that endeavor and I'm
2 pretty sure that they have finally got KANA to actually
3 appoint someone to that. And that's probably going to
4 happen at KANA's next meeting on the 12th of October. So
5 from that standpoint, at least KANA has been -- gotten more
6 into the migratory bird management business, I guess.

7
8 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Should we recommend
9 maybe someone for APIA at this point off of this Council?
10 If anybody would like to volunteer? Let's put it that way.

11
12 MR. EDENSHAW: Madam Chair, and also in
13 speaking with Bob and Mimi, they both said that the
14 Migratory Bird Group would pay for their travel. You know,
15 that was at that last meeting when they held it and it was
16 such a short notice when they met at RuralCap's offices in
17 Anchorage during June, I think it was June or May was that
18 last time that they met. So whatever the Council so
19 chooses, we could forward that on to those individuals at
20 Migratory Birds and see, you know, because both Bob and
21 Mimi said they would just welcome some participation from
22 the region out there.

23
24 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay. Al?

25
26 MR. CRATTY: Well, I'd like to volunteer
27 Paul.

28
29 MR. GUNDERSON: Somehow I thought he was
30 going to do that. Is this military style or what?

31
32 MR. CRATTY: We got to have somebody there
33 and if they're.....

34
35 MR. GUNDERSON: I would participate in
36 those meetings if I get job -- if that happens at a time
37 where I could make it but the last two times, I think, that
38 Cliff got a hold of me it was right -- one time I was a
39 hundred miles out fishing and the other time was -- it was
40 an opener or something in the next day and couldn't make it
41 so.....

42
43 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Can we possibly
44 recommend Paul Gunderson and an alternate off of this
45 Council so that we -- because one of the concerns we've
46 always had is given how busy everybody is, is not having
47 any representation. Paul and have Pete as an alternate.

48
49 MR. GUNDERSON: There's an avid bird hunter
50 right there, he knows.

00102

1 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Well, I definitely would
2 have went to it but they -- course I only got a couple days
3 notice and I was like -- and I was busy so. I also thought
4 we were going to have somebody from this Board.

5
6 MR. CRATTY: I did too and.....

7
8 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I didn't know that they
9 recanted that.

10
11 MR. CRATTY:if KANA hasn't had
12 somebody there in the last meeting, I don't really trust
13 them to have anybody there in the next meeting.

14
15 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I think maybe if we
16 just go ahead with those recommendations of names and get
17 notice to both non-profits and hopefully see if we can get
18 some follow through. Maybe get some notice in a more
19 timely manner so people can work their schedules around it
20 instead of last minute. If not we always try to make
21 sure at least someone can attend.

22
23 MR. GUNDERSON: Robert said that they're
24 going to meet up, what October 30th and 31st?

25
26 MR. STOVALL: October 30th, 31st and the
27 1st of November.

28
29 MR. GUNDERSON: And November 1st. Okay, so
30 that's quite a bit of notice there. That's a whole month
31 ahead of time. But the only times we've heard of it before
32 was within one or two days, so.....

33
34 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Apparently when they
35 couldn't get their representatives from AIPI or KANA.

36
37 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: We need to get a
38 letter to them. Is there anything else on this right now?

39
40 (No audible response)

41
42 If not, does anybody want to take a five minute
43 break?

44
45 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

46
47 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I already had a
48 request over here.

49
50 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oh, okay.

00103

1 (Off record)

2

3 (On record)

4

5 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE:continue on. I
6 believe at this point we are to ecological services and we
7 had already covered that earlier in our meeting. So if we
8 are at Number 4, Izembek National Refuge. Rick Poetter?

9

10 MR. GUNDERSON: Is that for donations?

11

12 MR. POETTER: Help the poor.

13

14 MR. GUNDERSON: Shotgun shells.

15

16 MR. POETTER: Madam Chair, Council members,
17 thanks. And actually I can start with this. This is our
18 berry buckets that we've sponsored. It was sort of a
19 Western Alaska effort to raise the emphasis on helping to
20 conserve the emperor geese. And so each of the refuges
21 produced a certain number of these to be distributed
22 amongst the local villages. And with thanks or help with
23 the -- Della and other Council members -- got these
24 distributed and hopefully folks now have their buckets to
25 put berries in. They don't work very good for marinating
26 emperor breasts though.

27

28 MR. SQUARTSOFF: All you sent up north are
29 for picking eggs.

30

31 MR. POETTER: They're picking eggs, yes.
32 Anyway.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Yeah, put a little
35 note in the back next time.

36

37 MR. POETTER: Yeah, no eggs. We already
38 talked a little bit about -- and I gave a flyer or a
39 summary of everything that I'm going to talk about to each
40 of your Council members. We already talked a little bit
41 about the US Geological Survey, the Biological Research
42 Division, conducting a study analyzing boat disturbance to
43 waterfowl on the Izembek Lagoon. So we'll sort of pass on
44 that one. They're also continuing with their efforts
45 regarding the use of the uplands -- of the berries by the
46 geese. And so that will continue on. They've been doing
47 that in September and then also into this month of October.
48 And this is the second year of that research.

49

50 Let's see here. Regarding Steller's eiders, in

00104

1 September each year we go out and we try to handle about
2 2,500 Steller's eiders. Of course they're in their molted
3 stage when they come here. Primarily these are Russian
4 birds and these year we handled 2,530 and about 1,170 of
5 these were new birds that we put brand new bands on and
6 then the rest, 1,360 were previously banded birds that are
7 returning. I'm told these birds, particularly the hens,
8 tend to live about 24 years so -- or up to 24 years. So
9 they're a fairly long lived bird and probably partly why we
10 get a lot of recaptures. What's sort of really interesting
11 was Dr. Diana Solov (ph) -- I have trouble with her last
12 name but -- a Russian researcher. She's got her Ph.D in
13 Steller's eider. She traveled from the Leena Delta of
14 Siberia where she conducts her research for her government
15 out there. And regarding the Steller's eider. And that's
16 where a lot of these birds come from and so over 95 percent
17 of our birds found along this area of Alaska are coming
18 from Russia. And in fact, the area where she does a lot of
19 her work. And you heard mention earlier about how some of
20 her work is correlating with the rises of the lemming and
21 how their production is a little higher during those high
22 lemming years because the predator prey are going to those
23 species versus the birds. Sort of significant use.

24

25 Also in addition to her helping us out, this was
26 the second year that we did this, we brought down five
27 students and a teacher from Barrow. Obviously the local
28 Steller's eider from Alaska come from partly that area.
29 And they participated in nest searches up in around Barrow
30 looking for birds and put some satellite transmitters on a
31 couple birds and did some other work with them. And so
32 they -- as a sort of an exchange in a learning program to
33 see just what the birds do when they come down here and to
34 actually handle more birds and see more birds -- they came
35 down and helped us during our banding effort. And I think
36 when they were here, we didn't do too well in our roundup.
37 We generally herd the birds in the low tide when they're
38 concentrated into the channels, and sort of herd them
39 towards our banding site where we've got a corral basically
40 set up. And we just sort of herd them up and they walk
41 them into shore and band them. And unfortunately we only
42 got about -- conditions just weren't right that day, tides
43 wrong, etcetera -- but we got about 25 birds that day. Our
44 biggest catch was when we caught 800 at one time, so it
45 really varies. When you get it good, it all comes
46 together.

47

48 We're always looking for volunteers so if anybody
49 is available in September on the Council, we'd be glad to
50 take you out there and let you help us out a little bit.

00105

1 It's good to have extra people because once you get them
2 closer to shore, you know, you need the extra people to
3 keep them in a confined area and sort of just work them in
4 and get them into the net and then close it off. And then
5 once that's done then you've got them. You can just go
6 ahead and take your time putting bands on and reading
7 current ones.

8

9 Okay, on caribou as you all know, the Federal
10 Subsistence Board approved Unit 10, hunt of two caribou
11 during the August 1 through September 25 and then again
12 November 15 to March 31. And open to residents of False
13 Pass, King Cove, Sand Point and now Akutan, which is the
14 first time this year -- or first time. That C&T
15 determination was approved by the Board, so. And then also
16 in 9-D, a similar matching season, as was recommended by
17 the Council to the Board, passed. Subsistence permits were
18 sent out to various communities that were eligible. Both
19 Unit 10 and Unit 9-D to some villages. And in Sand Point,
20 the -- I'll probably get this wrong, but I'll try -- the
21 Qagan Tayagungin.....

22

23 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Tayagungin.

24

25 MR. POETTER: Tayagungin -- okay. I'm
26 working on it -- tribe of Sand Point. In King Cove, the
27 King Cove Tribal Council helped us out. False Pass, the
28 False Pass Tribal Council and then Akutan, the Akutan
29 Tribal -- Traditional Council. Nelson Lagoon, it was
30 recommended by Mr. Gunderson to utilize the village
31 protection safety officer, Layton Lockett (ph) and
32 hopefully that's working out good. I haven't talked to him
33 since he got those but -- and then of course locally we're
34 doing it at our office. But I really appreciate all the
35 assistance from these various groups in the communities
36 because it really makes the program work good so that
37 everybody's getting their permit. And I think everything's
38 going well and if there's any shortages, all they need to
39 do is let me know and we'll get some more printed.

40

41 Brown bear. As you're probably aware, Unit 9-D had
42 a season last fall and then this past spring and in August
43 we do bear stream surveys, basically along northeast part
44 of Unimak Island and the Joshua Green River valley. And we
45 came up with a total of 74 bears were counted in the
46 northeast portion on Unimak and that compares with 128
47 counted last year. And there's a 72 bear 10 year average
48 so it falls right in with the average count. The Joshua
49 Green River valley count, 144 compared to 189 last year,
50 which was one of our record -- or probably -- well, it was

00106

1 our top count that we've had in 20 years. And 125 10 year
2 average. Relating to what we've seen in the village right
3 here in Cold Bay is last year we were, you know, bears all
4 the time. We'd see them come through, they'd try -- we had
5 a couple of troublesome bears and, you know, pushing on
6 windows and breaking into trailers and stuff. This year
7 it's been very rare to have a bear even sighted in town.
8 So it's really helped out a lot. But there are a
9 significant number of bears out. You go out waterfowl
10 hunting you'll see numbers of them wandering around so.
11 Apparently our bothersome bears were either eliminated or
12 they moved on or whatever. But that two season hunting
13 seemed to take care of a lot of our problems here in this
14 village.

15

16 Moose. As you know the State had a resident
17 drawing for 10 bull moose. One of the Nelson Lagoon --
18 actually the VPSO, he's the one that took the only moose
19 during that season. And hopefully there will be a -- I
20 haven't seen who got permits this year and I haven't had
21 the time to check with the State and see how it laid out.
22 But hopefully most of the local villagers got those permits
23 this year.

24

25 MR. GUNDERSON: I hadn't heard or seen
26 either. I've been meaning to check on it. And then I
27 think it's posted someplace there and I never did look.

28

29 MR. POETTER: Yeah.

30

31 MR. GUNDERSON: Never did take time to look
32 for it.

33

34 MR. POETTER: Though hopefully more than
35 one moose will get harvested this year. Things will work
36 out.

37

38 And lastly, we're a little short staffed now. Our
39 wildlife biologist who you may know in Pilot, Mike Roy
40 transferred to the Anchorage regional office in July and
41 we're still in the process of trying to refill his
42 position. In the meantime we're getting flight assistance
43 from our regional folks, our Flyway type biologist,
44 Migratory Bird folks are doing our waterfowl survey. And
45 as they come through to do emperor goose surveys or
46 Steller's eiders surveys or brant surveys -- they're
47 picking those things up for us. So we're doing okay. And
48 I hope to get some real assistance and be able to get the
49 caribou survey accomplished this year. So we'll see how
50 that goes again. Hopefully we won't have the fourth worst

00107

1 winter in the decade.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I hope not either.

4

5 MR. GUNDERSON: I was watching the weather
6 channel a while back and it says, chances are we're going
7 to have another nasty one. Maybe not so long, but it will
8 be fast and furious.

9

10 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: It's called a Pacific
11 Decadal Oscillation. We into the next 10 to 15 years of
12 cold winter.

13

14 MR. GUNDERSON: You must have been watching
15 the same program.

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: No, actually -- I
18 can't remember what we were doing but it was kind of a --
19 they were talking about -- maybe in the borough last night
20 in King Cove they were talking about it.

21

22 MR. CRATTY: They figured 30 years.

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: No, 10 minimum. Was
25 there any questions or comments for Rick Poetter?

26

27 MR. POETTER: If any of the Council members
28 didn't get their bucket and would like a couple of them or
29 something to take home with them just let me know. There's
30 a few out front there.

31

32 MR. SQUARTSOFF: When in September do you
33 capture them Steller's?

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: He said September.

36

37 MR. POETTER: Yeah, we get our folks in
38 here first week of September and put them through --
39 actually we get them here for the Silver Salmon Derby
40 basically, the holiday, what's it -- Labor Day. Then we
41 spend a week with them giving them boat training so we've
42 got boat operators and watercraft safety kinds of things.
43 And then we start right in. The birds are in their molted
44 stage by then and in good numbers where we can get at them.
45 That last -- we went through the 25th. I think the 23rd
46 was the last capture day this year because a lot of times
47 the weather hampers us. We won't do it when -- or we try
48 not to do it when it's really windy and then also if
49 there's any kind of moisture in the air we won't do it
50 because you get those birds rounded up and if mists on them

00108

1 or rains on them, they get wet and they get soaked in their
2 feathers and they lose their insulating capabilities and
3 get stressed really hard. Our goal is to lose no bird and
4 so far we haven't. Been doing good.

5

6 MR. GUNDERSON: Is that why you pack that
7 gunny sack around?

8

9 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Maybe just to comment
10 on the caribou. It's been open August 1st this year for
11 the first time and that was a really -- a good thing
12 because people have been able to get out and harvest
13 caribou. And the weather has cooperated and opening
14 earlier helped a lot. Some of the guys used their boats
15 before they put their boats and their gear away for the
16 winter. That was a positive thing.

17

18 MR. POETTER: Keep encouraging them to
19 report their harvest.

20

21 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Yeah, I have been.

22

23 MR. POETTER: That would be great.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: And those permits you
26 said you're going to have Anchorage send me didn't show up
27 and I'm getting low.

28

29 MR. POETTER: Uh-oh. I'll fix that.

30

31 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Any other comments?
32 Is anybody in the audience? Marvin.

33

34 MR. HUFF: How come they don't open up the
35 moose season at the same time? We're only talking 10
36 moose. We could probably harvest them then. It's so late
37 in the winter and you can't get out.

38

39 MR. POETTER: Dick Sellers helped set that
40 up and what his logic was was trying to keep it in that
41 December, January period where you would not get any -- the
42 locals would not get any competition from visiting guides
43 or people in the area. We wanted to the 10 moose to go to
44 locals, not to outsiders. So that was the logic behind it.
45 Hopefully somebody with a boat would be able to get it
46 because a lot of those moose are pretty close to the
47 Pacific side.

48

49 MR. HUFF: There's a lot of moose in this
50 area.

00109

1 MR. POETTER: Yeah. And also.....

2

3 MR. FOSTER: They stay up in the alders.
4 They're all up in the alders, including.....

5

6 MR. POETTER: Also if we did it earlier,
7 like right now for instance, last year when Pete was here,
8 he saw two moose right around here. And those aren't the
9 ones that we want harvested. We want ones north of Pavlof
10 Bay. There's not enough of them down below Pavlof.

11

12 MR. FOSTER: Can I ask you a question on
13 the tagging on the Steller's?

14

15 MR. POETTER: Sure.

16

17 MR. FOSTER: Have you found any in the
18 nesting sites from Alaska?

19

20 MR. POETTER: They put a few -- you know,
21 there's fewer numbers of those bird up there and similarly
22 Diana has been banding them in Russia and as we were going
23 through this looking for, you know, recording band numbers,
24 trying to find ones for Russia plus find some from up
25 there. To my knowledge, I don't think we have. I'd have
26 to go back in the data and see if any had been found from
27 the Barrow birds. I don't think so though.

28

29 MR. FOSTER: Since you're doing all this
30 stuff in Russia, I hear you're going to give them little
31 stamp with a red star on it so you can tell them apart.

32

33 MR. POETTER: Well they trailed little red
34 flags behind them.

35

36 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay, any other
37 questions?

38

39 (No audible response)

40

41 If not, we will continue on. Robert Stovall,
42 Kodiak Island National Wildlife Refuge.

43

44 MR. STOVALL: Thank you, Madam Chair.
45 Robert Stovall with Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge and I
46 gave each of the Council members a copy of some items that
47 I thought that they should have. I've got the actual
48 report that I'm going to be talking on -- a copy of that.
49 Some of the fisheries projects and also -- some of the
50 fishery pre-proposals actually, I realized I -- also

00110

1 information on the genetic testing that been being done.
2 And on the sturgeon fish weir. And then the final thing I
3 have is -- that I handed out to all Council members -- is a
4 kind of a series of abstracts and summaries from harlequin
5 ducks -- their studies and surveys that have been done.
6 Bald eagle surveys and studies and then of course the brown
7 bear surveys, studies and they're work that's been being
8 done. If you want to follow along, I'm going to be
9 basically talking on this sheet here that hopefully you all
10 have a copy of.

11

12 The Kodiak brown bear status is considered stable.
13 The year we were able to do intensive aerial surveys on
14 population of bears on the Spiridon Peninsula. The survey
15 is done in different areas and basically the overall brown
16 bear population estimates, it remains around 27 to 2,900
17 animals. Stream surveys are done in 10 river systems on
18 the southern end of the Kodiak Island and they include the
19 Thumb River and O'Malley River systems off of -- in Karluk
20 Lake. The Sturgeon and Dog Salmon systems -- the
21 Connecticut and Pernel Creek systems on Red Lake and
22 Frazer Lake areas and Red Lake systems.

23

24 And on the back of your sheet that has the picture
25 of the harlequin duck on it, the last sheet is kind of a
26 letter that went out to -- from the State on what was the
27 results of the -- right there --- what were the results of
28 the -- and the various surveys for this year. That last
29 sheet that you have Paul, I've got -- most everybody else
30 doesn't have that but I do have copies of that. That's
31 actually a summary of all the surveys that have been done
32 in the last -- oh, the last nine years and where they were
33 done at. What was found. And the sheet next to that is
34 the actual results. That sheet. State of Alaska it says
35 on it, for you it's the last page. Paul's got the only
36 mistake. I hadn't meant to have that in yours but you got
37 lucky.

38

39 And I'm going to talk next on -- is there any
40 questions about the brown bear studies or surveys that we
41 do on the refuge?

42

43 MR. GUNDERSON: You had a season, too, in
44 the last year, didn't you?

45

46 MR. STOVALL: Yes. Yeah, a Federal
47 subsistence bear hunt season, yes.

48

49 MR. GUNDERSON: Yes, and there was also a
50 State hunt -- wasn't it? Or a guide hunt?

00111

1 MR. STOVALL: Yeah, every year there's
2 guide hunts and State hunts. The guided State hunts on the
3 refuge. That has been going on forever.

4
5 MR. GUNDERSON: Yeah, what's their average?
6 What's been their average take on the island?

7
8 MR. STOVALL: It's broke into the fall and
9 spring seasons. A fall season is usually a lower number
10 and it can be anywhere between 40 to 60 animals. And the
11 spring season is usually a larger number, anywhere to 100
12 to 120 animals are taken. But those are rough estimates.

13
14 MR. GUNDERSON: Yeah, but those numbers
15 have really been stable for a number of years though.

16
17 MR. STOVALL: Yes.

18
19 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I have a little concern on
20 the subsistence brown bear hunt. Is there any thought
21 about a size limit on those bears? The reason I'm asking
22 that is I'm concerned because I was told a lot of times but
23 -- I've never eaten brown bear -- but the old people talked
24 about when they ate brown bear, they subsistence hunted
25 them, they shot a young bear in the spring of the season.
26 And now during this.....

27
28 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Not that young.

29
30 MR. SQUARTSOFF:(indiscernible -
31 laughter). But now they're taking 10, 11 foot bears for
32 subsistence and I'm understanding that the people -- the
33 older people who want to eat that.

34
35 MR. STOVALL: There is no size limitation
36 right now. It's a one bear season. If that's something
37 that you think the Council should address here, I would go
38 ahead and put it in the form of proposal and run it through
39 the system. That would be my suggestion.

40
41 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah, I think we'd have to
42 do a little more research on it or whatever but, you know,
43 it's for subsistence use. It's for subsistence use, it's
44 not to take a trophy bear.

45
46 MR. STOVALL: Uh-huh. It makes perfectly
47 good sense to me. And the younger animals are usually
48 tastier animals for most of the other species, so.

49
50 MR. SQUARTSOFF: And I've heard it from a

00112

1 couple of people wondering why there isn't a size limit on
2 those.

3

4 MR. STOVALL: The bears that I've -- and I
5 haven't really summarized all the subsistence bears that
6 have been taken so far through Federal subsistence permit
7 system.....

8

9 MR. SQUARTSOFF: They don't have to be
10 measured or (indiscernible - interrupted).

11

12 MR. STOVALL: They are being measured and I
13 do have the records for all of those. I haven't really
14 summarized them but I could do that.

15

16 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Maybe next time you could
17 have a.....

18

19 MR. STOVALL: Yeah, I could do that. So
20 far -- I was going to talk about that a little bit further
21 on in my report but I can talk about it now.

22

23 One bear was taken for this last winter and spring
24 season and that was taken from -- for the Old Harbor
25 village. Before that in the winter of '98 and the spring
26 of '99, there hadn't been a -- there wasn't a bear taken.
27 Though I'd better double check that myself. I'm sorry, one
28 bear was taken and that was in the Larson Bay. Any other
29 questions?

30

31 (No audible response)

32

33 Okay. We are still continuing to do harlequin duck
34 surveys. They're use -- they're conducted on the -- we've
35 been doing them for the last six years on the west side and
36 this is the third year on the east side that they've been
37 completed. And then we tried to do some late summer
38 banding. In your handout that I gave you, the harlequin
39 duck pictures shows the executive summary and/or results
40 from those surveys. And I won't go into detail about them.
41 Most of this material that I have is from 1999 -- the
42 winter of 1999 is when it was completed. When the reports
43 were completed. The reports for this year haven't been
44 completed yet for the most part.

45

46 Seabird winter surveys, we don't really actually
47 come up with a report. The data is summarized but it's not
48 put into report form, at least not that I can give to you
49 folks to review. What I can say is that we -- they're
50 usually done on the west side and east side along the

00113

1 waterways and bays on the refuge. We don't really do a lot
2 of it outside of the refuge boundary areas. And this year
3 what they found were -- once again, and this is probably
4 from last year, higher murre numbers and loon numbers,
5 especially the loons and all species of loons. Crested
6 auklets and goldeneyes were higher, common merganser
7 numbers were higher.

8

9 And the east side also had higher loon numbers and
10 goldeneye numbers, but a little bit lower murre numbers.
11 And this seabird winter survey is done in February each
12 year and it's been done for the last 15 to 20 years, so
13 it's got a large database of information and it's kind of a
14 spot check because it's only done once, but it does give
15 you an idea of some type of trends and that's what it's
16 best used for.

17

18 MR. GUNDERSON: And then they all appear to
19 be pretty stable, huh, and just small numbers?

20

21 MR. STOVALL: Yeah, certain species are
22 showing signs of decline and other species, of course, are
23 showing signs of increase, but for the most part they're
24 stable.

25

26 MR. SQUARTSOFF: The ones I'm most
27 concerned about are the sea ducks.

28

29 MR. STOVALL: Right.

30

31 MR. SQUARTSOFF: And the scoters mainly and
32 the king eiders.

33

34 MR. STOVALL: You mentioned that the king
35 eiders were much suppressed in your area?

36

37 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Oh, definitely. See, on
38 the north end where we're at, it's not refuge and that's
39 where.....

40 MR. STOVALL: That's where the survey.....

41

42 MR. SQUARTSOFF:the main traffic of
43 boats go through.

44

45 MR. STOVALL: Uh-huh.

46

47 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I mean they go through
48 that little passage which is very, very narrow and that's
49 where all the birds feed. That's their wintering feeding
50 area.

00114

1 MR. STOVALL: Do you have the same problems
2 in areas where the -- does the population seem lower in
3 areas that don't get the boat traffic or is it about the
4 same?

5
6 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I have no idea what they
7 are down around Akhiok or Old Harbor, if they're the same,
8 but I know Kodiak.....

9
10 MR. STOVALL: How about in Kizhuyak Bay and
11 Marmot Bay?

12
13 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Well, that's
14 (indiscernible) area.

15
16 MR. STOVALL: Yeah. In the inner bays, do
17 you ever keep count of.....

18
19 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Oh, definitely,
20 (indiscernible - cough) and the sea ducks.

21
22 MR. STOVALL: Uh-huh.

23
24 MR. SQUARTSOFF: That's been for quite a
25 few years now. But the one that I see the most of would be
26 plenty of the king eider.

27
28 MR. STOVALL: Is the king eider.

29
30 MR. SQUARTSOFF: And also they little, we
31 call them sea quail, they look just like a quail, a little
32 quail.

33
34 MR. SIMEONOFF: They're murrelets, that
35 certain type of.....

36
37 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah.

38
39 MR. CRATTY: What do you call them?

40
41 MR. SQUARTSOFF: We call them sea quails.
42 They look just like quail.

43
44 MR. STOVALL: Like crested auklets?

45
46 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah. Yeah, there used to
47 just be flocks of them out there.

48
49 MR. STOVALL: Uh-huh, and now there's not
50 that. When do you think it was that you noticed a.....

00115

1 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Oh, quite some time ago.

2

3 MR. STOVALL: Quite some time ago?

4

5 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Oh, yeah.

6

7 MR. STOVALL: Has the numbers gone up and
8 down at all or.....

9

10 MR. SQUARTSOFF: They down, they're down to
11 where, yeah, we hardly see any anymore. There used be big,
12 big flocks of them. In fact, last year they were up a
13 little bit from what they have been.

14

15 MR. STOVALL: Huh, they were up a little
16 bit.

17

18 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Yeah.

19

20 MR. STOVALL: Yeah, that's what this survey
21 is showing us, too.

22

23 MR. SQUARTSOFF: And I think that's because
24 of the decline in the crab seasons, the boat traffic.

25

26 MR. STOVALL: Uh-huh. If you have any
27 other information like that, I know that he'll be glad to
28 get it from you, especially if got some specific numbers
29 that we can work with. I know he does do the surveys
30 occasionally in the Kupreanof Strait area and -- but I
31 don't think he's ever -- I mean, we always go through there
32 or always -- you know, when I go through there I count
33 whatever I see, but it's not an official count.

34

35 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Go through there at night
36 with the lights on, huh?

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 MR. STOVALL: No, not with the lights on.
41 Don't like to travel at night unless you have to.

42

43 MR. FOSTER: Pretty easy to count without
44 (indiscernible - laughter)

45

46 MR. STOVALL: Also in your packet is bald
47 eagle information, once again it's surveys and reports that
48 were completed in 1999 and the year 2000 reports haven't
49 been done yet.

50

00116

1 The stratified random plot surveys that are
2 completed every year were done again this year and there
3 was what would probably be considered a noticeable eagle
4 die off. I'm sure a lot of folks found more dead eagles.
5 And the reason -- the most logical reason was that the bald
6 eagle population has expanded dramatically in the last --
7 well, the last five to eight years, 10 years. And with
8 that expansion, of course, there's more opportunity for
9 eagles to die off and often the productions of bald eagles
10 is tied into deer numbers and if there's a large deer die
11 off you have a good production year for eagles. If you
12 don't have a large deer die off, you have less eagles,
13 because they're scavengers and they scavenge the deer
14 winter kills a lot. And that's what we found -- this year,
15 basically the nest occupancy was much lower in the plots
16 where there's normally a lot of nests located that are
17 occupied by bald eagle pairs.

18

19 Where the eagles were nesting at there was higher
20 -- there was the similar type of success that you would
21 have for any other given year and what that tells you is
22 the bald eagle population is probably not rising any more,
23 but has leveled off and that's probably a good thing from a
24 status standpoint.

25

26 Are there any questions on either waterfowl
27 seabirds or bald eagles?

28

29 MR. FOSTER: This is kind of a technical
30 question. What's this riparian, what does that mean? I
31 figure they're either habitats or.....

32

33 MR. STOVALL: They're wooded stream side
34 areas.

35

36 MR. FOSTER: Okay.

37

38 MR. STOVALL: Either conniverous or a
39 broadly forested areas, they're along stream sides, they're
40 called riparian areas.

41

42 MR. FOSTER: Okay.

43

44 MR. STOVALL: Fisheries, we do aerial index
45 stream surveys, concentrating on early chum and minor
46 sockeye and late coho salmon systems on the refuge, in and
47 around the refuge. And we operated the Sturgeon River weir
48 for the third year and this is the final year of it.
49 Basically we did this to look at the chum salmon runs up at
50 that system and also to look at steelhead runs in the same

00117

1 systems. The weir was run from May 25th to July 22nd this
2 year and counted 14,333 chum through the system and 302
3 steelhead downstream.

4
5 The summary is in the fisheries package I have for
6 you that has these prefocals [sic] on it, so there should
7 be something that has something like that. And in that
8 you'll see the progress report from 1999 for this
9 particular Sturgeon River weir surveys that have been
10 completed. And this year the final report is to be
11 completed and that hasn't happened yet. It should be
12 completed sometime by December or January.

13
14 There's been non-lethal genetic sampling that's
15 been going on in conjunction with the State and Fish and
16 Wildlife Services Genetic Lab, and also in your packet
17 you'll see information about some of the things that they
18 found out on these surveys. In a nutshell, I'll make it
19 real simple, these surveys were done in the Karluk and
20 Ayakulik River systems and other river systems, but
21 primarily in those two because they're the two largest most
22 productive salmon stream systems.

23
24 Looking at chinook, the determination was that
25 there's two genetically distinct populations for the Karluk
26 and Ayakulik River systems. So there's a set of chinook
27 that are just for that -- for the Karluk area and a set
28 just for the Ayakulik River. Also the other thing is at
29 the Ayakulik, the Ayakulik chinook are composed of two
30 genetically distinct subpopulations. So in the Ayakulik
31 River, the chinook salmon there is two separate
32 subpopulations. I don't know what that mean, behaviorally
33 speaking, but there -- and I don't know what the exact
34 differences are besides that mere fact that they're
35 different genetically speaking.

36
37 MR. CRATTY: They're two different kind of
38 fish.

39
40 MR. STOVALL: Well, they're the same.....

41
42 MR. CRATTY: Yeah, same kind of fish, but
43 two different.....

44
45 MR. STOVALL: There's two different
46 populations of them.

47
48 MR. GUNDERSON: One green eye, one brown
49 eye.

50

00118

1 MR. STOVALL: Is there any questions on
2 fisheries? I being brief because I got a lot of this
3 already written down and you can go ahead and review it at
4 your leisure. If not, then we'll talk about the blacktail
5 deer and elk.

6
7 This year we surveyed our wintered mortality survey
8 areas that we do every year since I've been here. And in
9 1999 we had a total of 150 carcasses that were found and
10 about 28 miles of shoreline that is covered. And this year
11 in the same amount of area we found 10 carcasses. So you
12 can see a dramatic difference between the two years. And
13 the difference is completely weather driven, it was a lot
14 milder in the year 2000 winter than it was in the 1999
15 winter.

16
17 The die off that did occur probably occurred in
18 December or January, but after that the weather got very
19 mild, the deer basically ended up moving away from the
20 areas where they had been concentrated, which is the
21 coastal areas, which is where we do the surveys at. That,
22 coupled with the mere fact that there's probably less deer
23 to die, due to the year before -- previous very large die
24 off is the reason why we had so few carcasses found this
25 year. And the brow surveys that we completed were also --
26 it was most obvious that there wasn't as much activity in
27 those brow survey areas that we done because, in general,
28 and I haven't been able to summarize it all yet, but in
29 general, the brows percent was a little bit lower this
30 year. We didn't do deer aerial surveys for the mere fact
31 that we weren't finding many of them on the ground. No use
32 wasting our airplane time.

33
34 We haven't done any specific elk survey, but the
35 State did. And their numbers are a little bit lower than
36 what they have been in the previous years. For the
37 waterfall herd area on Afognak Island normally the
38 population for the waterfall herd had been averaging around
39 120 animals and this year they only found about 50. So
40 subsequently they will have a lower allowable harvest in
41 the area. They allowable harvest was around 15 to 20
42 animals, this year it's going to be eight animals, so that
43 season may be closed depending how soon those eight animals
44 are harvested.

45
46 MR. CRATTY: Where's that at?

47
48 MR. STOVALL: That's in the northwestern
49 corner of Afognak Island.....

50

00119

1 MR. CRATTY: Oh, yeah, it the Federal.....

2

3 MR. STOVALL:where the refuge is
4 located at.

5

6 MR. CRATTY: Peter's brother and my uncle
7 and my little brother went up there and they couldn't find
8 nothing, it was too tough an area, they were up there for a
9 week.

10

11 MR. STOVALL: They told me that actually
12 could see them, but they weren't sure if whether they were
13 on the refuge or not, so they didn't shoot them.

14

15 MR. CRATTY: The refuge plane was flying
16 around them, that's why.

17

18 (Laughter)

19

20 MR. STOVALL: They did a good job, I didn't
21 see them. I did see elk, though. Is there any questions
22 on deer and elk before I proceed?

23

24 (No audible responses)

25

26 MR. STOVALL: Okay. I'll talk about or
27 designated hunter permits program. So far this year we've
28 only issued seven permits and I have not gotten information
29 that summarizes 1999's harvest. In 1999 we only had a
30 total of 24 designated hunter permits issued.

31

32 I did talk briefly on brown bear subsistence
33 permits, so I'll go straight to the elk permits. This year
34 was the first year that the Federal Subsistence Board had
35 allowed or removed the marine access restriction for the
36 Federal subsistence hunt. And as of last week we had 22
37 permitted hunters who had an opportunity to go hunt for the
38 early season, from September 1 through September 25. I was
39 able to contact 17 of those folks and out of that 17 only
40 seven of those hunters actually went out and physically
41 tried to hunt during the September 1 through September 25
42 time frame, early hunting time frame, and they were not
43 successful. The other 10 either had not gone out or did
44 not get an opportunity to go out and will not go out later.
45 So, as far as I know, from the reports that I've gotten, no
46 elk have been harvested off of the refuge.

47

48 I'm going to skip down to the sportfish guide
49 prospectus proposals. The refuge has put out prospectus
50 and request for proposals to sportfish guide on the refuge,

00120

1 similar to what they did with the big game guides. They're
2 due back into the Kodiak office by November 30th, at the
3 very latest, hand delivered, or postmarked by the 25th of
4 November. I'm not 100 percent sure, but I think the refuge
5 manager is planning on having a training on how to put
6 these prospectuses proposals together and if anybody's
7 interested they need to call the refuge and ask that type
8 of question. I think it's planned for sometime in October
9 or early November. And we do have these prospectuses in
10 the refuge headquarters office if anyone is interested in
11 those.

12

13 Our CCP planning process is ongoing, but is sort of
14 being delayed to allow the State to complete a Kodiak Brown
15 Bear Management Plan. The status of our CCC [sic], our
16 refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan, which is what CCP
17 stands for, we have gone through and drafted alternatives
18 after getting input from a review of those alternatives
19 from the public meetings that we had in Anchorage and in
20 Kodiak. Our plan is to go out with draft alternatives
21 after the brown bear planning process has been completed
22 and with more public meetings and public review of those
23 draft alternatives. This is the same process that Izembek
24 is going to start next year, we're halfway through it
25 already.

26

27 A letter is going out, probably this week, on the
28 reason why it's being delayed. And that should go to
29 everybody who's on the mailing list in the Kodiak area.

30

31 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Well, isn't it, Robert,
32 that more people are wanting more information to be
33 involved in the planning process in Kodiak?

34

35 MR. STOVALL: More information?

36

37 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Of the Comprehensive Plan,
38 more public meetings?

39

40 MR. STOVALL: Yeah, I, it was.....

41

42 MR. SQUARTSOFF: That's why it's been
43 delayed.

44

45 MR. STOVALL:rather obvious, it's --
46 the primary reason why it's being delayed is the State
47 doesn't want our CCP planning process to be out of sorts
48 with what their -- what will be produced in the Brown Bear
49 Management Plan for Kodiak Archipelago. And because the
50 two plans are very similar in the type of public review

00121

1 process that that has to go through and the type of
2 information used to produce the plans. From that
3 standpoint it's a good idea to go ahead and give time for
4 that -- for the State process to go through and then we can
5 kind of compare notes and put ourselves on the same sheet,
6 so to speak.

7

8 Any questions on that, any other questions?

9

10 (No audible responses)

11

12 MR. STOVALL: Okay. Last year I wrote and
13 implemented a Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest Survey
14 Plan and we've gone through a whole year of survey time and
15 I've gotten the results back and I've completed the
16 subsistence migratory bird harvest survey report. Mitch is
17 one of my surveyors and I gave him a copy, I gave Pete a
18 copy of the plan. I gave Al a copy and what I'll end up
19 doing is giving a copy to each of the villages that
20 participated and to each of my harvest surveyors that also
21 participated, did the work actually of surveying the folks
22 in their village.

23

24 This information is vital in the planning process
25 for spring and summer subsistence migratory bird seasons,
26 harvest seasons, so that information has been forwarded to
27 the Migratory Bird office. We've already started the
28 second year survey, so it's going to be at least two years of
29 data that we used in creating those seasons and then that
30 will, hopefully, be able to include Kodiak information
31 that's specific to Kodiak area.

32

33 If any of the other Regional Advisory members want
34 a copy of the report, I can give you a copy of that, too.
35 It might be something you might want to consider doing
36 here, if you have an opportunity to, because all that
37 information is going to be used the same way when the
38 Migratory Bird Co-management Council meets.

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: We can get a copy to
41 everyone just to take a look at.

42

43 MR. STOVALL: Okay. And last, but not
44 least, our Kodiak Summer Science Salmon Camp completed its
45 fifth year. It was a banner year, we were able to get
46 matching funded cost sharing dollars and we put on a salmon
47 camp that was very successful and well appreciated in the
48 community.

49

50 That's all I had. Is there any questions?

00122

1 MR. SIMEONOFF: I got one.

2

3 MR. STOVALL: Sure, Mitch.

4

5 MR. SIMEONOFF: Is the refuge running

6 studies on the pigeon guillemots?

7

8 MR. STOVALL: They show up in the seabird

9 surveys and so we have a lot of information on the numbers

10 that we do on the east side and on the west side of the

11 refuge. We haven't produced any reports from those

12 informations specifically to pigeon guillemots, though.

13

14 MR. SIMEONOFF: Can those birds be

15 classified? Because the reason I'm asking is we have an

16 old cannery in Olga Bay.....

17

18 MR. STOVALL: Uh-huh.

19

20 MR. SIMEONOFF:and there's a bunch of

21 those pigeon guillemots that nest in an old building and

22 that's going to fall down soon.

23

24 MR. STOVALL: They actually are nesting

25 there at the Olga Bay cannery?

26

27 MR. SIMEONOFF: They've been their for

28 years, I'm sure that Denny has got to know that, there's a

29 lot of them.

30

31 MR. STOVALL: They're actually nesting in

32 the building?

33

34 MR. SIMEONOFF: In the building, it's part

35 of a dock that sits out in the water.

36

37 MR. STOVALL: Uh-huh. I'll alert Denny to

38 that and see what he says about that. There's another area

39 that there's a bald eagle nest on pilings, too, that he's

40 looking at that's over by the.....

41

42 MR. CRATTY: It's Ward's Cove piledriver.

43

44 MR. SIMEONOFF: It's Ward's Cove cannery.

45

46 MR. STOVALL: Right.

47

48 MR. SIMEONOFF: It's right on their pile

49 driver.

50

00123

1 MR. CRATTY: They couldn't use it all
2 summer.

3
4 (Laughter)

5
6 MR. STOVALL: Right. There is something
7 afoot to try to change that, either move the nest or
8 convince him to go someplace else. But I will tell Denny
9 about the pigeon guillemot colony on -- I'm pretty sure
10 he's aware of it, I'm not sure we plan on doing about it.

11
12 Any other questions?

13
14 (No audible responses)

15
16 MR. STOVALL: Thank you very much.

17
18 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Thank you, Robert.

19
20 Now, let's see, we will move on here, we have the
21 king salmon fisheries, Jim Larson. It's my understanding
22 there's no one available.

23
24 And the next item would be Alaska Department of
25 Fish and Game, Larry Van Daele and I believe he's not here.
26 Arnie Shaul, would you be willing to take that one?

27
28 MR. SHAUL: Madam Chairman, you know, I
29 can't speak for what Larry Van Daele was going to speak on.
30 I'll give a brief summary of the commercial salmon season
31 in this area. The South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June
32 fishery scheduling harvest level for sockeye salmon was
33 1,650,000 in South Unimak, 363,000 in the Shumagins for a
34 total of 2,013,000. The Shumagins came real close to
35 harvest level and that fishery was closed down after the
36 18th of June. Both fisheries got started on the 13th.
37 However, in South Unimak the catch was a lot slower and
38 they fished continually through the end of June and only
39 caught 892,000 sockeye, just a little over half the
40 guideline harvest levels. Total catch of both fisheries
41 combine of sockeyes was 1,251,000.

42
43 The chum salmon cap was 350,000 to 400,000 and the
44 actual catch was 239,000. In the Southeast district
45 mainland fishery I don't have those figures in front of me,
46 John may have them, got them from Mark up there, but it
47 really feel, I think, just a little short on the Chignik
48 allocation. They came fairly close but it was a little --
49 six percent was the allocation, I think it was five and a
50 half or something like that that they ended hitting.

00124

1 Moving to the post-June fisheries, the South
2 Peninsula pink salmon harvest was three and a half million,
3 that was for the season, just about 400,000 were taken in
4 June. This was far below the 1999 harvested eight and a
5 half million. South Peninsula post-June chum salmon
6 harvest was about 800,000, which is a little above the 1999
7 harvest of 572,000. The South Peninsula coho catch was
8 approximately 250,000 and that -- they stayed barely under
9 that cap there for the last -- 60,000 cap for part of the
10 year in July 22nd to 31st we caught about 56,000 and then
11 those areas had to close down, so there was fish time lost
12 because of the coho cap.

13

14 The season for chinook salmon harvest was about
15 5,400 fish, it was well below the 1999 catch of 10,000.
16 And the entire seasonal fisheries combined, sockeye salmon
17 harvest for the South Peninsula was just under 2,000,000,
18 it was 1,990,000. Areawide South Peninsula pink salmon
19 index total escapement was 2.8 million fish, the goal was
20 about 1.9 to 3.7 million for even numbered years. South
21 Peninsula chum salmon index escapement was 522,000, the
22 goal was approximately 350,000 to 700,000. And the South
23 Peninsula sockeye salmon escapement was estimated to be
24 about 70,000 which is on the lower end of the 67,000 to
25 124,000 goal. So the runs weren't that strong.

26

27 We ended up at Trazinski (ph) with -- pretty much
28 on the goal there, we have a weir about 21,500, the goal is
29 20,000. It's really rough trying to estimate the other
30 major systems. There's Thin Point and Little Lagoon and it
31 looks like it was down from the previous years, both of
32 those systems. And some of the other smaller systems
33 weren't too bad, but it was kind of down from what we'd
34 seen in previous years. And the coho -- I don't have
35 complete coho escapements, we never do, but we did some
36 surveys this fall here and we documented about 38,000 coho
37 in about 31 streams.

38

39 On the Short Peninsula the sockeye harvest is about
40 1,985,000 fish, slightly above the 1999 catch of 1,784,000
41 and escapement was about 920,000 and we achieved escapement
42 goals in all major systems with weirs and without weirs.
43 And a few places went quite a ways over.

44

45 There's very little fishing aimed at the North
46 Peninsula chum salmon due to low prices and total harvest
47 was about 91,000 fish, most of that was taken incidental to
48 sockeye fish in the Bear River section and the escapement
49 was estimated at 595,000. The coho harvest was also low,
50 due to poor markets. Coho harvest was 83,000 fish,

00125

1 combined peak counts from 18 streams totaled 146,000 fish.
2 This is probably not more than half the actual total
3 escapement due to some major streams not being surveyed and
4 just little ones that -- and a lot of creeks were surveyed
5 at all and some of the major ones that were surveyed the
6 counts were, like, partial.

7
8 And the Aleutian Islands, a strong pink run at
9 Unalaska this year and a good survey at McLease (ph) Lake
10 support subsistence system out there and this made 4,400
11 sockeye which is the goal there, it was a lot healthier
12 than the last time I looked at it two years ago. It was a
13 system we tried to -- quite concerned about, keep a close
14 eye on. We would like have a weir in there.

15
16 And that pretty well summarizes it. If I can
17 answer any questions.

18
19 MR. GUNDERSON: So they pulled in about
20 4,000,000 fish this last season in the Pacific north -- the
21 south side and the north side.

22
23 MR. SHAUL: Right, sockeye, yeah.

24
25 MR. GUNDERSON: Roughly, yeah. And the
26 total escapement for the whole are from those numbers you
27 say 900,000 on the south side?

28
29 MR. SHAUL: Nine hundred and twenty on the
30 north side and about 70,000 on the south side.

31
32 MR. GUNDERSON: That 920,000, does that
33 include -- how many of those did you say were chums that
34 were in escapement out of that?

35
36 MR. SHAUL: Well, that's just the sockeye.

37
38 MR. GUNDERSON: Yeah, okay. And then
39 chums?

40
41 MR. SHAUL: Chums is 595.

42
43 MR. GUNDERSON: Is that what you figured
44 was in the river systems on the north side of the Peninsula
45 in escapements?

46
47 MR. SHAUL: Right, the north side.

48
49 MR. GUNDERSON: Okay. Come pretty close to
50 your prediction, 2,000,000 for that north side, huh?

00126

1 MR. SHAUL: Yeah, it's kind of funny, we do
2 that two years in a row, it's been about -- actually,
3 Marjorie and I sit down and spend about 10 minutes coming
4 up with that.

5
6 (Laughter)

7
8 MR. SIMEONOFF: We heard you had a dart
9 board, you guys are just getting to be a better shot.

10
11 (Laughter)

12
13 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Any other questions
14 for Arnie? John.

15
16 MR. FOSTER: For not having any of our own
17 fish, it looks like we had over a million red escapement
18 and one point million [sic] chum escapement this year out
19 of this area not counting the Aleutian Islands.

20
21 MR. SHAUL: Uh-huh.

22
23 MR. FOSTER: Do you guys do surveys out in
24 the Aleutian Islands for.....

25
26 MR. SHAUL: It's really difficult. I did
27 one out there this year at Unalaska. The problem is
28 getting a decent survey plane out there and having somebody
29 out there that had any experience in surveying. You know,
30 if you had a Super Cub or something like that you could
31 take an inexperienced observer and send them out. The best
32 thing you got is a Goose. And I feel comfortable doing it
33 myself in a Goose, but to send somebody who doesn't have
34 any experience surveying it's -- you know, so I go out
35 there in with Protection's Caravan and it's so darn hard to
36 get out there and get back, except that I don't out there
37 myself. But there's a number of sockeye streams around
38 there and there's not too many major ones, but there's a
39 bunch of small ones and there's also a fair number of coho
40 streams throughout the Aleutians and, you know, they could
41 all add up to -- you know, like on the South Peninsula here
42 Thin Point is the only thing that we found that's really
43 gotten coho, where you may have a commercial fishery
44 targeted, but it's a larger run, but all the rest of them,
45 you know, you get a thousand here, 500 there, and you add
46 all those creeks up and you come up to a pretty good
47 figure.

48
49 MR. FOSTER: Uh-huh.

50

00127

1 MR. SHAUL: I think it's -- throughout the
2 Aleutians it's -- there's a lot of streams out there in the
3 Aleutians, actually a lot more than you have on the
4 Peninsula.

5
6 MR. FOSTER: On the cohos, you think we had
7 about 190,000, but it could be higher than that escapement?

8
9 MR. SHAUL: Yeah.

10
11 MR. FOSTER: Yeah.

12
13 MR. SHAUL: I would say, you know, on the
14 south side it's -- Thin Point counts for a lot of that, but
15 I think it's, you know, way, way over, I mean, probably two
16 or three times what we documented. On the north side, you
17 know, it's probably, you know, we probably didn't document
18 more than half. I mean, you're probably looking at
19 somewhere up around 300,000 over there, you know, some of
20 the major -- there's a lot of real major systems in that.
21 Some of the places we missed and we had partial counts.
22 You never can get surveys of Caribou and David's Rivers,
23 they're always murky, you know, these are sapsuk rivers and
24 index and Illnik (ph) is a real major system. We were two
25 times unable to see fish in there, you got to have really
26 good conditions to see them and it's -- I saw nothing
27 there, I knew there was -- they had a lot of fish in there,
28 but couldn't get accurate count. And then you have Port
29 Heiden, you know, there's a -- we had a really good survey
30 on that one, I think it was, like, 44,000. The Meshik and
31 the other systems up there you can't survey because you
32 don't have enough gas or time.

33
34 MR. FOSTER: You know, I mean, like -- most
35 of these -- I mean, these numbers kind of come out right,
36 don't they? You know, maybe two to 300,000 escapement
37 versus 350,000 catch. I mean, those numbers come out
38 right, don't they, I mean for a run. What is that one and
39 a half to one or something?

40
41 MR. SHAUL: Yeah. What you can say about
42 it is that, you know, as far as these come through here in
43 July and stuff, you know, the timing's off, you know, for
44 the South Peninsula producing a lot of one in July because
45 it tends to peak and then it declines and you have a
46 September fishery, but the North Peninsula could very well
47 account for a substantial part of them. And also the
48 Aleutian Islands could.

49
50 MR. FOSTER: All right. The other thing is

00128

1 on the chums, I mean, you know, we can't sell them any
2 more, are we overescaping?

3

4 MR. SHAUL: We've had some huge
5 escapements, I think it's -- because we did have more
6 effort this year than we've had, you know, I mean, Peter
7 Pan kept buying chums, you're not paid much for them, but
8 they didn't quit buying them this year and, you know, we've
9 had way more chums than we needed in the rivers, especially
10 in the bays, you know, a lot over here.....

11

12 MR. FOSTER: Yeah, but does it hurt or does
13 it.....

14

15 MR. SHAUL: I don't -- it's -- the runs
16 stay healthy.....

17

18 MR. FOSTER: Yeah.

19

20 MR. SHAUL:you know, I think that you
21 could get maybe a bigger run occasionally off smaller
22 escapements, more the goal -- I think just a lot of wasted
23 fish. We've been really dumping a lot of fish in Canute
24 (ph) over the years there and the run always comes back
25 healthy but we don't have any super large runs come back.

26

27 MR. FOSTER: Thanks, Arnie.

28

29 MR. GUNDERSON: By talking to some of the
30 guides and stuff, they were working in the latter part of
31 the month of September, I guess it is, and we had a lot of
32 dry weather and a lot of the streams kind of stabled up and
33 cleared out and stuff and they were able to see a lot more
34 fish than you were able to earlier. And I think by what
35 your estimate could be anywhere from a half to a third of
36 what the actual escapement was on the coho. I think it
37 would be pretty close numbers from what I've been hearing.
38 They didn't have anything around to even get up there and
39 look there towards the end of the month, did you?

40

41 MR. SHAUL: No, not towards the end of the
42 month, we -- toward the middle of the month there. There's
43 one place Joshua Green over here we looked at that in the
44 past and we never -- you'd see a few fish in places, it was
45 always too murky and the conditions were absolutely perfect
46 this year and, you know. At least we determined it was a
47 major coho system, you know, in the past there, you'd only
48 see four or 5,000 fish and there's got to be more than
49 that. This year, I think, it came to 23,500.

50

00129

1 MR. FOSTER: On Thin Point, is there
2 anything that's going to be happening to that weir or is
3 there any help that.....

4
5 MR. SHAUL: Yeah, that was -- this Federal
6 proposal, hopefully, you know, we're trying to get -- put
7 that weir back in operation. Yeah, everything is in place,
8 it only needs some more lumber because the stuff is getting
9 pretty rotten, yeah, down there, and it should cost much.
10 But everything is ready to go there, we got a cabin and a
11 lease and everything is ready to go, we just need the money
12 to operate it. And then there's a lot of subsistence
13 fishing on Mortinsens done here and looking to putting a
14 weir somewhere in the creek or the lake and the lagoon
15 there. And at McLease (ph) in Unalaska is another one
16 there that -- funding put a weir in.

17
18 MR. FOSTER: I mean, ADF&G doesn't have the
19 money, I mean this is something.....

20
21 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: A proposal that's
22 going to go in.

23
24 MR. FOSTER: A proposal.

25
26 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: In fact, they have
27 gone in.

28
29 Any other questions? Anybody in the public?

30
31 (No audible responses)

32
33 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Everybody still awake
34 back there?

35
36 (Laughter)

37
38 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Thank you, Arnie,
39 appreciate it.

40
41 MR. GUNDERSON: I don't know about this new
42 Chairperson, going to be a slave driver.

43
44 (Laughter)

45
46 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: You should never put a
47 woman in the front seat. Okay. Actually we're just about
48 done. And when we get down to these proposals I think we
49 kind of got a different plan of action, if everybody agrees
50 on it, so that's not going to take too much time.

00130

1 The first item that Vince talked about before he
2 left today was the Y-K and Bristol Bay Working Group. And
3 I know that we've discussed this issue before a couple of
4 times over the last year and a half about trying to get
5 representation from off of this Council. And I don't know
6 what can be done toward that effort, if maybe someone can
7 shed some light on that.

8

9 MR. EDENSHAW: Madam Chair, we -- after the
10 last winter's meeting in March, we drafted up a memo that
11 was sent to the Board and nothing was -- we never heard
12 anything further about action regarding the request from
13 this Council. But just prior to coming out here the
14 Eastern Interior Council is meeting this week and I spoke
15 with the coordinator and he was -- he wanted to include a
16 copy of this resolution in their booklet, so that was done.
17 And I do know that the coordinating committee is comprised
18 of individuals from the Eastern Interior, Western Interior
19 Councils, there's two from each of those and one from the
20 Y-K group. And what you may consider doing is the Y-K
21 going to meet until after AFN and then Western Interior is
22 going to meet -- Tim, do you remember when they're going to
23 meet? Next week?

24

25 MR. JENNINGS: It's in the next week or so.

26

27 MR. EDENSHAW: Yeah, it's the next week or
28 two, you know, there's an opportunity for the Council to
29 submit a request through the office to have them attend
30 their meetings there. And, also, I can just alert you to
31 the next time this working group is going to meet.

32

33 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: I think it would be a
34 good idea and at least give some time so we can find
35 someone off of this Council or in the region to attend
36 these. You know, it's kind of one of those things, like
37 the migratory bird, you get a two-day notice, it's kind of
38 hard to plan around this.

39

40 Anybody else want to add anything else to that?

41

42 (No audible responses)

43

44 MR. GUNDERSON: Send Della.

45

46 (Laughter)

47

48 MR. FOSTER: I'd recommend the Chair or
49 Vice Chair.

50

00131

1 MR. GUNDERSON: When in doubt, send Della.

2

3 (Laughter)

4

5 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: (Indiscernible -
6 laughter) represent Chair at the statewide Board and we
7 kind of covered this a little bit. And the dates of the
8 next Chair meeting, I believe is December 4th or something,
9 what is that?

10

11 MR. EDENSHAW: December 5th to 8th.

12

13 MR. GUNDERSON: 5th to 8th.

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: 5th to 8th or.....

16

17 MR. EDENSHAW: Actually Monday would

18 be.....

19

20 MR. JENNINGS: Monday would be the Chairs

21 meeting.

22

23 MR. EDENSHAW: Monday would be a Chairs

24 meeting.

25

26 MR. JENNINGS: I think Sunday would be the

27 travel day.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Okay. Anyway, I guess
30 it's my point on this, and Vince and I also talked about
31 this today, is to have another Council member attend that
32 with the Chair or Vice Chair or if not both because it
33 really is a good insight to how that process works and it
34 is a good thing to attend. And if anybody is in Anchorage
35 at that time, if we can notice people, the time and the
36 agenda, too, they can step into it every now and then just
37 to see.....

38

39 MR. GUNDERSON: What days are those?

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: 5th through the 8th.

42

43 MR. FOSTER: Well, it said the 5th through

44 the 8th, I guess a couple of them are travel days?

45

46 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: What day is the 5th,

47 is that Tuesday?

48

49 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes, it is.

50

00132

1 MR. GUNDERSON: Of what month?

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: December.

4

5 MR. GUNDERSON: Well, that's what I was
6 talking about, I don't know, I have to check with my boss,
7 but I think she's already made commitments for those days
8 to be someplace or another halfway across the world, so.

9

10 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Maybe John.

11

12 MR. FOSTER: What was the date?

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: December 5th through
15 the 8th.

16

17 MR. EDENSHAW: 4th through the 8th.

18

19 MR. FOSTER: December 5th through the 8th?

20

21 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

22

23 MR. EDENSHAW: 4th through the 8th.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: 4th through the 8th.

26

27 MR. FOSTER: Yeah, I think I'm free.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Then Item number C is
30 proposals and what we talked, maybe, with Cliff and Tim a
31 little bit is that fact that the Councils really need to
32 review these proposals because they're recommendations do
33 carry weight on this. And since this will be happen in
34 January, the end of January, what we kind of thought might
35 work at this time is to get a copy of all of these
36 proposals out to everybody and so they can review them and
37 with the recommendation that if you're not going to be able
38 to attend the meeting, the statewide meeting, in January to
39 please get back to either myself or Cliff any
40 recommendations or information or anything you'd like to
41 add to these proposals. Or if you don't accept them, if
42 you're not going to attend, please let somebody know.
43 That'll take out quite a bit of our time, too.

44

45 MR. JENNINGS: Madam Chair, follow up on
46 that would be for us to send each member a copy.....

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Of all the proposals.

49

50 MR. JENNINGS:of all the proposal for

00133

1 your region.

2

3 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Well, I have the ones for
4 Kodiak area.

5

6 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: There's a few other
7 ones floating around, you might want to get them all
8 together.

9

10 MR. SQUARTSOFF: I'm just saying I did get
11 the ones for the Kodiak area.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Yeah, I did, too.
14 There's an Unalaska one and there's one out of King Salmon.

15

16 Okay, time and place of next meeting. I believe
17 this calendar has between February 18th and March 24th.
18 Anybody have any ideas? Also on location. I've been told
19 to bring to your attention that we need to have this next
20 meeting in Kodiak region, let's keep that in mind.

21

22 MR. JENNINGS: Madam Chair, one item is Pat
23 Petravelli, your staff anthropologist also serves the
24 Southcentral Council and they have scheduled their meeting
25 for the 20th and 21st, I believe that's the only staff
26 conflict.

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Of February?

29

30 MR. JENNINGS: The 20th and 21st of March
31 is Southcentral meeting in Copper Center.

32

33 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: March. Okay.

34

35 MR. GUNDERSON: You got one clear week in
36 there, we don't want to disrupt that. Actually two week
37 there, right in the middle of it.

38

39 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: It probably works out
40 for Monday, not matter what we do, being a travel day and
41 having a couple days of meeting and then try to get back
42 for the end of the week. I don't know what your thought
43 are, but I know out there we don't have any flights on the
44 weekend anymore at least, I don't know how long that's
45 going to last.

46

47 MR. GUNDERSON: Mondays are no fly days,
48 too, so it's got to be Tuesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays, I
49 think.

50

00134

1 MS. SHELLIKOFF: Tuesdays there's no
2 flights.

3
4 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Tuesdays there's no
5 flights, they changed the schedule.

6
7 MS. SHELLIKOFF: They changed today.

8
9 MR. GUNDERSON: I just figured it out.

10
11 (Laughter)

12
13 MR. GUNDERSON: I thought I figured it out.

14
15 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: No, there's no.....

16
17 MS. SHELLIKOFF: There's no flights.

18
19 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE:Tuesday, Saturday
20 and Sunday flights starting today.

21
22 MR. GUNDERSON: Oh, no wonder.

23
24 (Laughter)

25
26 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: So maybe Monday will
27 be a travel day and then.....

28
29 MR. SQUARTSOFF: First week of March?

30
31 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: March 5th through the
32 8th.

33
34 (Simultaneous talking about dates)

35
36 MR. JENNINGS: The meeting starting on the
37 6th?

38
39 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Uh-huh, starting on
40 the 6th. And what we could possibly do is pick from one
41 site and then an alternate site.

42
43 Al, do you want to go to Old Harbor?

44
45 MR. CRATTY: That's up to you guys. I'd
46 got to Larsen Bay.

47
48 (Laughter)

49
50 MR. CRATTY: No, you can come over by me,

00135

1 you're welcome.

2

3 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Old Harbor and Kodiak.

4

5 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Kodiak as an

6 alternate.

7

8 MR. SQUARTSOFF: Same dates. Down to Old
9 Harbor on the 5th.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: And the meeting start
12 on the 6th and 7th and travel date on the 8th.

13

14 MR. SQUARTSOFF: So moved.

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Motion made by Pete

17 Squartsoff.

18

19 MR. SIMEONOFF: Second.

20

21 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Discussion?

22

23 (No audible responses)

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Question.

26

27 MR. ZACHAROF: Question.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: All in favor say aye.

30

31 IN UNISON: Aye.

32

33 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Opposed same sign.

34

35 (No opposing responses)

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Motion carries.

38

39 Is there any other thing, any public comments?

40 Robert.

41

42 MR. STOVALL: I just got a few things.

43 Robert Stovall, Kodiak Refuge. I just wanted to mention

44 that we do have one new person on our staff, he's a

45 supervisory wildlife biologist and his name is William

46 Pyle. He came up from the Graze Lake National Wildlife

47 Refuge, Southeast Idaho, National Wildlife Refuge complex

48 area and he's not Vick Barnes' replacement, he's a new

49 position and working with Denny and myself trying to bring

50 our biological shop into some type of rational order and

00136

1 help out with the programs that we have started and would
2 like to start.

3

4 And that's all I had. Oh, is there -- if there's
5 any wildlife proposals that would affect the refuge, we
6 would probably want to know right away so we can do our own
7 analysis. Thanks a lot.

8

9 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Any other items?

10

11 (No audible responses)

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Do we want to try to
14 come back in the morning at 9:00 o'clock for training and
15 then if you leave, if you can get out, you can work around
16 that. We got a couple of new members.

17

18 MR. SIMEONOFF: I'm open.

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: You want to just come
21 here at 9:00 o'clock? It's my understanding if you do
22 leave it'll probably be in the afternoon.

23

24 MR. POETTER: Yes.

25

26 (Various affirmative responses)

27

28 MR. CRATTY: Peter's got to be trained, he
29 can't go hunting, huh?

30

31 MS. SHELLIKOFF: I've never had the
32 training actually.

33

34 (Laughter)

35

36 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: The only other item
37 I'd like to mention is, just for the record, is to thank
38 Vince Tutiakoff as our President [sic] and Pete Squartsoff --
39 or not President, but Chair and Vice Chair last year and
40 I'm just going to be looking for a lot of help from
41 everybody here.

42

43 With that, a motion to adjourn.

44

45 MR. SQUARTSOFF: So moved.

46

47 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Motion made by Pete
48 Squartsoff.

49

50 MR. SIMEONOFF: Second.

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1 MR. CRATTY: Second.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Two seconds.

4

5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: That was quick,
6 fastest I moved all day.

7

8 (Laughter)

9

10 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: All in favor say aye.

11

12 IN UNISON: Aye.

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN TRUMBLE: Thank you, everybody.

15

16 (MEETING ADJOURNED)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska and Owner of Computer Matrix, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 137 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the KODIAK/ALEUTIANS FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically by Susan Reilly on the 1st day of October 2000, beginning at the hour of 2:35 o'clock p.m. at the City Library in Cold Bay, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by under my direction and reduced to print to the best of our knowledge and ability;

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 14th day of October 2000.

Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 4/17/04 _